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Local Tech Leaders Celebrate Open Movement with Two-Day Festival

EUGENE, Ore. (Nov. 30, 2018) — Rooting in the tech world, the open movement is now popular in project leadership, media, and even government models around the world. In December, Eugene community leaders are hosting a two-day event showcasing open models and providing an immersive educational experience. Participants will engage with experts and community leaders on topics related to "working in the open", a concept made popular by Mozilla.

Nearly $175,000 was awarded by Mozilla Foundation to local organizations over the past four years, with a focus on those that support working in the open. Initiatives like this have increased awareness of a need to further public education efforts. This event is designed to support comprehension of open licensing and how it can be applied as well as improving participation in Open Source communities.

Anyone interested in learning more is encouraged to register and attend regardless of experience level.

When: December 14 and 15, 2018 - Doors open at 5pm Friday.

What: Open Eugene Festival - a two day immersive learning event.

Where: Trifoia, 1203 Willamette Street, Eugene, Oregon 97401

Register: Register here to attend - bit.ly/openeugene

Program: The event begins on Friday at 5pm and ends at 5pm on Saturday.

> **Introduction by:** Mark Davis, co-founder of EugeneTech and recent graduate of Mozilla open leadership initiative

> **Breakout Workshops hosted by:** Heather McFarland from Propeller PDX, Nikole Gipps from The Eugene Coding Initiative, Nate Otto from Badgr and Concentric Sky

> **Networking Reception:** Directly following the program on Saturday 5PM; register for details.

Mark Davis, Co-founder, EugeneTech, said: "Open Source and 'working open' are at the heart of efforts like Hack-for-a-Cause and the Mozilla Gigabit City grant programs. Working on these projects with our community made us realize we needed an event to galvanize open enthusiasts and build stronger ties between the tech community, civic organizations, and local government agencies."

About EugeneTech
EugeneTech is a co-op and volunteer-run program that seeks to elevate and amplify awareness of all the elements of Eugene's tech community. We foster open and inclusive tech community by supporting events related to technology, innovation, and education.

Press interviews will be scheduled after the event during the networking reception, or before the event. Please contact Lauren Jerome at 503.902.4739 or lauren@redefiningwomenintech.com to schedule time with the Open Eugene team and/or the participants of the event. We look forward to seeing you there!