



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PORTLAND FIREFIGHTERS, IAFF Local 43, TO SERVE SPECIALTY BEER & WINE AT FESTIVAL TO HELP SEND LOCAL KIDS TO MDA SUMMER CAMP

OREGON CONVENTION CENTER – FESTIVAL DATES: APRIL 22nd & 23rd

New this year – The Portland Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 43, will join forces with the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the Spring Beer & Wine Festival to raise public awareness about neuromuscular diseases and help send local kids, living with neuromuscular disease, to MDA Summer Camp this July.

Multiple craft breweries and wineries have generously donated one-of-a-kind specialty beers and wines to MDA, which will be available exclusively at the MDA Booth as part of this year's festival.

Festival attendees can help send MDA kids to summer camp by donating 5 tokens for a 14oz beer or 5oz glass of wine. Off-duty Portland Firefighters will be the official servers at the MDA Booth. 100% of the proceeds will be donated to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. In addition, the Spring Beer & Wine Festival will convert all unused tokens, donated to MDA by festival attendees, to a cash donation in support of charitable cause.

Participating Breweries

BridgePort Brewing Company
Firestone Walker Brewery
Full Sail Brewing Co.
Hopworks Urban Brewery
Lompoc Brewing
Ninkasi Brewing Co.
Rock Bottom Brewery
Stone Brewing Co.
Widmer Brothers Brewing Co

Participating Wineries

Barefoot Wine & Bubbly
Maryhill Winery
Naked Winery
Nehalem Bay Winery
Noble Estate Vineyards
Seufert Winery
Spangler Vineyards
Vitis Ridge

In 2010 the MDA partnership with the Spring Beer & Wine Festival yielded \$4,565 to benefit local families affected by neuromuscular diseases as a result of the generous support by local brewers, vintners, F.H. Steinbart Company which

provides the necessary draught equipment to serve the craft beer and Sign Wizards which donated high-quality signage to promote the campaign.

The Portland Firefighters Association IAFF Local 43 has been supporting the Muscular Dystrophy Association through Fill the Boot for over 30 years and has raised over \$250,000 to find causes, treatments and cures for neuromuscular diseases. “Over fifty off-duty firefighters have volunteered their time to support this new fundraising campaign on behalf of MDA. We are committed to helping local families served by MDA until neuromuscular diseases are eliminated”, stated Sean Fogarty, Portland Firefighter, IAFF Local 43.

Festival-goers will enjoy samples of more than 100 craft beers, 30 regional wineries and many local artisan spirits, plus delectable tastes of specialty cheese and handcrafted chocolate, all while mingling with brewers, winemakers and other craftspeople. In addition, the festival will also offer a global shopping marketplace, cooking demonstrations and educational seminars on the Chef’s Stage, and live music featuring Northwest bands.

“As the Spring Beer & Wine Fest continues to evolve each year, we are able to bring even more of the best artisan food and drink under one roof for everyone to enjoy,” says festival founder and director Steve Woolard. “Plus, while eating, drinking and being merry, we are also strengthening our commitment to the community, with a generous portion of proceeds benefiting local charities such as MDA and AHA.”

The Spring Beer & Wine Fest will be open **Friday & Saturday, April 22nd & 23rd** from Noon – 11 p.m. both days at the Oregon Convention Center (777 NE MLK Jr. Blvd., Portland, Ore.).

Admission is free the first 1,000 guests each day, or \$5 after 2 p.m. Tasting packages are available for \$20, which includes admission, a wine glass or plastic beer mug and 10 tokens. Purchased individually, sampling tokens are \$1 and may be used for beer, wine, spirits and food. A mug or glass is required for beer tasting. The festival features Rastal glasses. Minors accompanied by an adult are permitted until 7 p.m. each day; children ages 12 and younger are free. For more information about specific vendors and a detailed event schedule, visit the Spring Beer & Wine Fest website: <http://www.springbeerfest.com>.

MDA is a voluntary health agency working to defeat muscular dystrophy and related diseases through programs of worldwide research, comprehensive services, advocacy, and far-reaching professional and public health education. The Association’s programs are funded almost entirely by individual private contributors. For more information contact:

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