



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free Admission to the Portland Aquarium with a School Supply Donation for Underprivileged Kids

“Shark Drive for School Supplies” will be held on August 23rd at the Portland Aquarium. It is a school supply drive to benefit underprivileged youth administered by the Salvation Army. One free admission will be given for every school supply item donated.

“We have a saying locally at The Salvation Army that it is “All About Kids,” and truly it is. What better way to effect change than to empower them with the tools they need at an early age,” says Major Kenneth Perine, Corps Officer at The Salvation Army Portland Tabernacle. “Every day we see families struggling to put food on the table, so your donation of school supplies will also take some stress off of parents trying to provide for their children. We are so grateful for this partnership with the Portland Aquarium and for their generous donation this day!”

You can change a child’s life, one ruler or box of crayons at a time! Join The Salvation Army and the Portland Aquarium for the Shark Drive for School Supplies! On August 23, 2014, drop

off a donation of new school supplies at the Portland Aquarium and receive 1 free aquarium admission per item donated! For example, if you are a family or group of 5, bring 5 school supply items and you will all get in for free! What a great deal! PLUS, these donations will help provide the tools needed to succeed for underprivileged kids in the Portland area, which will be distributed through The Salvation Army Portland Tabernacle social service offices. You can drop off the donations anytime during normal business hours (10am-5pm) on Saturday, August 23rd when you bring your family to the Portland Aquarium, located at 6323 SE McLoughlin Blvd, Milwaukie, OR 97267.

Back-to-school shopping can be financially challenging, especially when budgets are already tight. In many cases, families are struggling to put food on the table, so when back-to-school season rolls around, finding the extra money to buy pencils and paper is difficult. Together, The Salvation Army and the Portland Aquarium want to make it easier on families, so they don't have to choose between food on the table and purchasing needed supplies to succeed in school. "What better way to effect change than to empower them with the tools they need at an early age," says Major Kenneth Perine, Corps Officer at The Salvation Army Portland Tabernacle.

So as you gear your kids up for school, throw a few extras into the cart and head on down to the Portland Aquarium on August 23rd for a fun, family outing! Your donation will make a difference to a child in need this school year.

A few links to local school websites reveals some of the needs for K-8. This list is not exhaustive and does not include needs for grades 9-12.

<http://www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/laurelhurst/1780.htm>

<http://www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/glencoe/365.htm>

<http://www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/abernethy/613.htm>

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About Portland Aquarium:

[Portland Aquarium](#) provides children and families access to the excitement and learning opportunities of the ocean without the long trip to the coast. Guests can watch jellyfish float and glow, admire the bright and colorful corals, feel the soft ray on their fingertips, interact with tropical birds and reptiles, ... all within easy reach of home. Portland Aquarium offers multiple educational programs and events for kids, as well as [Behind-the-Scenes tours](#) for those curious about what it takes to keep an aquarium in good working order. Favorite programs include [Birthday Parties](#), [Sleep with the Sharks](#), [Octopus Encounters](#) and [Morning Rounds](#).

About The Salvation Army:

The Salvation Army, an evangelical part of the universal Christian church established in London in 1865, has been supporting those in need in His name without discrimination for 130 years in the United States. Nearly 30 million Americans receive assistance from The Salvation Army each year through the broadest array of social services that range from providing food for the hungry, relief for disaster victims, assistance for the disabled, outreach to the elderly and ill, clothing and shelter to the homeless and opportunities for underprivileged children. 82 cents of every dollar The Salvation Army spends is used to support those services in 5,000 communities nationwide. The Salvation Army works in 126 countries worldwide. For more information, or to make a donation, visit us online at www.salvationarmyportland.org. People wishing to make monetary donations can do so by calling 503.238.GIVE (4483), or by mail, The Salvation Army, 8495 SE Monterey Avenue, Happy Valley, OR 97086-7844. Friend them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SalvationArmyPortland.