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## NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE USE

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### **Portland Marathon's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Half sold out, Marathon selling quickly**

**PORTLAND, Ore.—14 March 2011**—The Portland Marathon, which will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the weekend of Oct. 9, 2011, has announced the general public offering for the Second Annual Portland Marathon Half has sold out.

A limited number of charity entries for the Half are still available through the Portland Marathon Official Charities. Those interested can learn more by visiting [www.portlandmarathon.org](http://www.portlandmarathon.org).

Registration for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 26.2-mile Marathon is running at a rapid rate. The event is three months ahead of where it was at this time last year for number of people registered. In 2010, the Portland Marathon sold out in July.

“The pace of registrations will only increase from here on out,” said Les Smith, Portland Marathon Event Director. “Anyone interested in participating in our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Marathon should not wait, but sign up now. If not, they will be disappointed,” he added.

This year as part of their special 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities, the Portland Marathon will offer a **competitive “Downhill 10K Dash”** as well as their 10k-Walk as a non-competitive fun family event.

The Portland Marathon will also host their **Second Annual Kids' Run and Festival** (ages 2-12) on Saturday, October 8, 2011. Registration for this event opens in August.

According to Smith, participants of the Full and Half Marathon will receive a lot of goodies this year. Both will be given a long-sleeve and a short-sleeve performance shirt. The event will again give out a beautiful commemorative pendant necklace (about 3/8" in diameter), which was very well received last year. These will be silver for Half and gold for Full.



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Again this year, all finishers will receive one of the event's traditional award-winning medals, silver for the Half and gold for the Full. They will also receive a 50mm Challenge Coin, which is now part of nationally recognized collector's series.

As usual, finishers will receive a wide variety of food and drink at the finish area, the traditional rose, a seedling tree, commemorative space blanket, poster and certificate. Results will be live and online.

"We will again have more music on the course than any event we know of. Over 80 music and entertainment venues will be present to encourage and cheer on all the runners along the course," said Smith. "This will be a great year, so get ready for our 40<sup>th</sup> on 10-9-11."

The Portland Marathon is a non-profit event that boasts more than 12,000 participants, over half of which are women, and is produced with the help of 4,500 volunteers. The Portland Marathon donates revenue back to charities, schools, and non-profits in the Portland Metro area.

The event has been called the "best-organized marathon in North America"; one of the Top 10 International events; and, was recently recognized as one of the 10 Best Marathons for First-Timers by *Runner's World*. It has also gained national attention for its medal and for being one of the first eco-friendly, "green" marathons. The event continues to be an MP3-player friendly. For more information, visit [www.portlandmarathon.org](http://www.portlandmarathon.org), e-mail [smith@bullardlaw.com](mailto:smith@bullardlaw.com), or call (503) 816-3777.