



QUEEN ANNE FARMERS MARKET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Queen Anne Farmers Market Announces Leadership Team for 2011 Season Community Advisory Board Formed to Guide Sustainable Growth

Seattle, WA – April 11, 2011 – Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth (QANRG) today announced the leadership team to guide the upcoming season for the Queen Anne Farmers Market (QAFM). The market will run Thursdays, June 2 - October 6, 3:00-7:30 p.m. at Queen Anne Ave. and West Crockett St. This year's market builds on a successful 2010 season that saw customer attendance increase by 94 percent and the growth of a dynamic vendor roster of 64 farmers and prepared food vendors. In its fifth year as the fiscal sponsor, QANRG remains steadfastly committed to creating a sustainable market that can continue to serve the community for years to come.

To ensure another successful season, the market will be run by a group of Queen Anne staff and volunteers, many of whom have served the market in previous years. Jaime Collado, will serve as the market's manager and brings more than nine years of experience managing local restaurant operations. Jaime is passionate about nutrition and has completed a preceptorship with Seattle Nutrition Action Consortium, Seattle and King County Public Health, where she taught healthy eating classes for local teens. Jamie attended Bastyr University completing undergraduate and graduate work in nutrition and exercise. Amanda Cross will serve as the market's assistant manager, a position she held in the 2010 season. Amanda is committed to assisting people of all income levels gain access to healthy, local food and was instrumental in implementing the market's government-funded food assistance programs. Amanda is a graduate of the University of Minnesota.

The market staff will report to the QAFM Steering Committee, a group of former market staff, volunteers, and other community members who will oversee market operations, community outreach and planning for long-term market sustainability. This volunteer committee will be led by Dr. George Counts, market founder. Members include Maria College, market founder and five-year volunteer; Maggie Cuevas, QAFM manager, 2010 season and 2009 volunteer; Elizabeth Kruse, Chef Demo Series co-lead in 2010; Sarah Holt, Chef Demo Series co-lead in 2010 and four-year volunteer; Amy Pennington, local author, chef and gardener; and Laura Levy, four-year market volunteer who was responsible for implementing government-assisted food programs for the market in the 2010 season.

“We are so excited about returning to the vibrant, community-driven QAFM,” said Diane Szukovathy, owner of Jello Mold Farms. “The market is such an important asset to Queen Anne and the broader community and it’s great to know that such a strong leadership team is in place to continue guiding its growth.”

In addition to the market’s leadership, the Seattle Office of Economic Development (OED) is forming a QAFM Advisory Board, consisting of a broad representation from the Queen Anne community. The Board’s main function will be to develop, recommend, and implement plans for the long-term health of the market, including financial self-sufficiency and adapting to the needs and desires of the community as necessary. The Seattle Office of Economic Development has oversight responsibility for the farmers markets in the city.

“The Seattle Office of Economic Development has provided invaluable support for the Queen Anne Farmers Market,” said Scott Smith, president, QANRG. “We are looking forward to another great market season in Queen Anne.”

About the Queen Anne Farmers Market

The Queen Anne Farmers Market takes place every Thursday from June 2-October 6, 2011, at West Crockett St. at Queen Anne Ave. N., 3:00-7:30 p.m. and features local food producers and vendors as well as live music, chef demos, and children’s activities. QAFM is sponsored by Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth.

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