



ThirdPlace COMMONS

Real Community • Real Space





Progress

- Expanded our community programming & engagement
- Strengthened community partnerships
- Increased connection to youth & young families
- Increased our organizational capacity

20th Anniversary Celebration!



Join us to kick off the market day with music, special guests, and a commemorative bell ringing!

Sunday, June 15 • 10:00 a.m.



THIRD PLACE COMMONS
25
2000-2025

Celebrate 25 Years of Third Place Commons!

Birthday Weekend • Sept 26-28, 2025

Live Music • Family Fun • Founders Forum
Kids' Activities • Sidewalk Sale • Farmers Market

Join us all weekend to celebrate
25 years of connection, creativity & community!







27,000 people participated in Commons programming in 2025!



***Since 2023, we have more than doubled our programming, growing from 68 stand-alone and recurring events serving more than 20,000 participants to 138 events in 2025.**



Public Events – 2025

Community Programming:

- 100 live music & dance nights (Fri. & Sat.)
- 51 community music performances
- 11 community dance performances
- 23 teen/youth events
- 9 senior events
- 38 assorted one-time community performances & events





Public Events – 2025

Weekend Music Program

- 100 live music & dance nights (Fri. & Sat.)
- Big band, jazz, funk, blues, soul, Americana, country, rock & roll
- 100-150 dancers each night



“I went alone once to hear a jazz band and ended up hanging out with a friendly and welcoming bunch of dancers – I had a great evening! That’s what communities need more of!”



“A top destination for dancing in the Seattle area. Great bands and a friendly environment make it perfect for dancers and we go there often. It’s a treasure.”



Commons Stage – 2025

➤ 56 music performances

- Solo & group (all ages)
- Amateur & professional
- *Incl.* Steel Magic NW, solo pedal steel guitar, Emerald CityVoices, NW Scottish Fiddlers, native flute, Milner Family Fiddles, Dickens Carolers & WA Trumpet Guild

➤ 11 dance performances

- *Incl.* Flight Feathers Ballet, In Folkmotion Cloggers, Cladach Irish Dancers, Keiki Hula Showcase, NW Dance Collective & Carroll-Henderson School of Irish Dancing





Community Events

Wide range of community events including:

- Art Adventures with Laura
- Cub Scout Pack 850 Pinewood Derby
- Town Hall with Rep. Jayapal
- Swing Dance Lessons
- A People's History of LFP – Honoring David Buerge
- Community Reading of the Constitution
- Commons Community Action Fair
- Financial Literacy series
- Choral Skills Workshop series



Ongoing Community Groups

Our Community is Growing: 22 Recurring Groups

- +8 new in 2025
- +4 more in early 2026

Including:

- Fiber Social
- American Mah Jongg
- Commons Chess Club
- Star Trek Fans of Seattle Meetup
- STRUM ukulele jam
- Sunday Sings
- ASL Board Game Social
- French Hikers & Gamers
- Cribbage in the Commons
- LFP for Peace
- LGBTQ+ Hang Out
- Start Liners Writers Group
- Brushwielders Guild
- Computer Q&A's
- TPC Movie Club
- Commons Community Book Club
- Weekly and Monthly Art-Ins
- Garden Club
- League of Women Voters
- French, Spanish & German Language Conversation Groups



Celebrating Holidays





Partnerships – Prominent Annual Events

Secret Gardens of Lake Forest Park

- Lake Forest Park Garden Club
- Lake Forest Park Stewardship Foundation
- Shorelake Arts
- LFP Climate Hub



Secret Gardens
of Lake Forest Park
Garden Tour & Market



Earth Smart Green Fair

- City of Lake Forest Park
- Republic Waste & Recycling
- Community organizations

Farmers Market

- Farmers Market (May-Oct.): ~120,000
- 2 Holiday Crafts Fairs (Nov. & Dec.)
- ~38 vendors per week
- 22,000 lbs. donated to local food bank



Nutrition Assistance

2025 Redemption

- \$10,481 SNAP Benefits (Food Stamps)
- \$9,311 SNAP Market Match (fruits & vegetables program)
- \$5,890 Market Bucks (locally funded Commons program)

\$25,682 total nutrition assistance provided in 2025





Goals

- Expand our community programming & engagement
- Strengthen community partnerships
- Increase connection to youth, young families & seniors
- Ensure a vibrant and engaging community center at
The Commons

Goals

- Data Collection
 - Participant/program surveys
- Improving our physical space
 - Kids corner, games cabinet, murals, sound mitigation in Stadler Room
- Increase connection to youth, young families & seniors
 - Youth Advisory Council starting August!

Request

- An additional 10k/per year to support:
 - L&I required minimum staff salary increases
 - Physical space improvements (e.g. sound mitigation in Stadler Room)
 - Expansion of our Market Bucks program



**ThirdPlace
COMMONS**





Thank you!

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director@thirdplacecommons.org



Secret Gardens
of Lake Forest Park
Garden Tour & Market



