

# Press Release

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THE OREGON ENCYCLOPEDIA



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A partnership of Portland State University, the Oregon Historical Society, and The Oregon Council of Teachers of English

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## The OE History Night at the Mission in August

The Oregon Encyclopedia (The OE) continues its monthly series of History Nights at McMenamins pubs with programs at the Mission Theater in partnership with the *Northwest Examiner*. At each History Night, The OE will look back at the people and events that have shaped our communities. Visit [www.oregonencyclopedia.org](http://www.oregonencyclopedia.org) for History Night locations and more details.

**“Oregon’s Versatile Stylist: The Architectural Legacy of John V. Bennes”**

**Presented by Larry Landis**

**Monday, August 6, 2012**

**7:00 p.m., doors open at 6:00 pm**

**McMenamins Mission Theater, 1624 NW Glisan Street, Portland**

**Free and open to the public**

Did you know that John V. Bennes was one of Portland’s most prolific architect from 1906 to 1941? Bennes and his firm not only designed famous Portland landmarks such as the Hollywood Theater, but also created hotels, movie theaters, warehouses, and other commercial buildings in a variety of styles, throughout Oregon including Baker City, Astoria, Ashland, La Grande, Monmouth, Prineville, Coos Bay, and Corvallis. At the August Oregon Encyclopedia History Night at the Mission, Larry Landis will showcase the rich architectural legacy that John V. Bennes created and will share new information about some of his design projects. Born in Illinois and raised in Chicago, Bennes brought his knowledge of the work of Frank Lloyd Wright to Oregon in 1900. After six years in Baker City, Bennes moved to Portland, where he introduced the Prairie Style to residential construction. Bennes also designed at least 35 buildings on the Oregon State University campus and the administration buildings at Southern Oregon, Eastern Oregon, and Western Oregon universities.

Larry Landis is the Director of the Special Collections and Archives Research Center for Oregon State University (OSU) Libraries. He was instrumental in establishing the Oregon Multicultural Archives at OSU and the Northwest Digital Archives. He is an author and editorial board member of The Oregon Encyclopedia and is a recent recipient of the Oregon Heritage Excellence Award.

The OE is an online resource for information on the state’s significant people, places, events, institutions, and biota. Over 1000 entries and essays have been published online and new entries are added every day. For more information visit [www.oregonencyclopedia.org](http://www.oregonencyclopedia.org).

The OE is a partnership between Portland State University, the Oregon Council of Teachers of English, and the Oregon Historical Society. The OE has received support from a collaborative of the state’s five cultural partners—the Oregon Arts Council, Oregon Council for the Humanities, Oregon Heritage Commission, Oregon Historical Society, and the State Historic Preservation Office—with funding from the Oregon Cultural Trust. The Oregon Council of Teachers of English, the Oregon State Library, the Oregon Heritage Commission, the Oregon University System, Willamette University, and private donors have provided additional support.