

2026-2027 East Portland PRO Chapter Calendar

Meetings are generally held on the fourth Monday of the month with a few exceptions such as November and December. Please check the [online](http://oregonpro.org/pro-chapters) calendar (<http://oregonpro.org/pro-chapters> for any updates and more information.

Dinner is provided and, unless indicated otherwise below, meetings are held at:

Thriving Wildflowers
5995 SE Tolman Street
Portland, OR 97206

Each month we will provide a book list of children's books and resources pertaining to the topic. Your suggestions to add to the list are always welcome.

We also hope to have a recipe exchange. Bring a recipe you like to serve to children. We can make copies at the meeting or send it to me ahead of time and I'll have copies ready to share. (Jeanne@thrivingwildflowers.com)

Date/Place	Topic
Aug 24, 2026	Tell Me What You Think: Surveys and Beyond <i>Carole McMurdie Set 2</i> In this "Make It & Take It" session we will be focusing on how to better engage the families in our programs. How do you find out what your families are thinking and whether or not you are addressing their needs? Examine a variety of ways to gather information on an ongoing basis and ways you can use this information to respond to their input. Leave with a personalized survey tool that is a fun new way to gather information. Trainer: Carol McMurdie Set 2 FCS
Sept 28, 2026	Folksongs & Puppetry in the Classroom <i>Red Yarn (Andy Furgeson)</i> In this workshop for preschool teachers & childcare providers, teaching artist Red Yarn (aka Andy Furgeson) will share accessible strategies for bringing music & puppetry into the classroom. From simple songs to support classroom routines to songwriting activities for nonmusicians, from easy puppet-making projects to tips for tackling challenging topics with puppetry, Red Yarn will draw on his 20 years of experience in arts education to inspire workshop participants. Teachers will explore new ways to integrate music & puppetry into their teaching practices, all while singing, dancing, stomping, clapping, laughing & learning with Red Yarn.
Oct. 26, 2026	Open-Ended Art—Celebrating Uniqueness

Nov. 16, 2026 Note this is the <u>second</u> Monday. We moved the date to avoid Thanksgiving week.	Using And Adapting Music To Strengthen Children's Learning & Development Joy Aronson Set 2 Music geared for preschoolers and adaptable for toddlers. Jory provides approaches and strategies for strengthening music in the classroom and other settings, as well as sharing a wealth of material and songs. She examines brain development and developmental areas strengthened through music, how songs are adapted for specific goals, and how curriculum can be connected to music. Participants bring a recording device or a recording app on their cell phone.
Dec. TBA	Social Event Details and date to be announced
Jan. 25, 2027	Science
Feb. 22, 2027	Loose Parts—Infants to Preschoolers
March 2027	PRO Conference—No chapter meeting
April 26, 2027	Working with Clay with Children: Benefits and Methods
May 24, 2027	Challenging Behaviors
June 28, 2027	Environments: Indoors and Out