******FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE******

January 11, 2017

Womxn’s March On Seattle Expects Thousands in Support of Equality

All are welcome to join the peaceful march for equality in a display of unity with marches around the world

**Seattle, Washington** — The [Womxn’s March on Seattle](https://www.facebook.com/events/375089479298759/) in solidarity with the [Women’s March on Washington](https://www.womensmarch.org/), will take place at 10 a.m. on Jan. 21. It begins with a rally at Judkins Park and concludes at Seattle Center. There are eleven sister marches in Washington State.

More than 200 events are planned on Jan. 21 in 46 states and 30 countries. This was a grassroots response to the 2016 election, according to Paula Goelzer, a Seattle-based birth doula, who started the Facebook event for the Womxn’s March on Seattle after she and her colleagues heard about the march in Washington D.C.

Goelzer said, “We all agreed it would feel good to march, to be enveloped by likeminded community members spurred into action by the rhetoric of the election, but our jobs made the DC march impossible. The response on the Facebook event was instant, and overwhelming, with thousands signing up the first day.”

**Why we march**
Organizers of the Womxn’s March on Seattle recognize that this groundswell of activism is a continuation of the work that marginalized groups have undertaken for decades. The organizers hope that the event can serve as a catalyst for participants to become involved with existing social justice groups. The fight for
peace and equity is long; the Womxn’s March on Seattle is a loud, proud, and forceful step on this journey.

Silent march
The Womxn’s March on Seattle is a silent march. After the initial rally, marchers will walk quietly along the route. The silent march is a political statement modeled after the rich tradition of the Civil Rights Era. It is a statement of solidarity and unity; it is a rebuke of violence and anger. The silent march is a way to ensure attendees words are not used against them, nor that any one voice is prioritized over the other. Attendees are encouraged to bring art and signs, and there will be some ready-made signs available at the rally. Attendees will be encouraged to chant, sing, and shout at the end of the route and into Seattle Center.

What to expect on January 21
Community activist Charmaine Slye is Mistress of Ceremonies and will kick off the rally at Judkins Park at 10 a.m. Local representatives from social justice and nonprofit organizations will be available to answer questions, add attendees to their communications lists, sign-up attendees to volunteer with their organizations, and take donations to continue their vital work. Attendees will be greeted and assisted by trained Peaceful Marchers and Connectors who will help them connect to organizations, navigate the rally, and safely traverse the route.

The march will begin at 11 a.m. and follow a route through the downtown corridor. Along the route, community advocates and social justice leaders will speak about issues threatened by the incoming Presidential administration, such as the safety and wellbeing of undocumented people, reproductive and LGBTQI rights, combating climate change, and more.

Entrance and exit points will be available to marchers all along the 3.6 mi. route; seated areas will be available at the beginning and end of the march for people wishing to attend but not physically march. The march route will be announced in its entirety on our website and social media shortly before Jan. 21. The march route is accessible to both motorized and non-motorized mobility vehicles and strollers, and attendees are encouraged to bring their children and families.

The march will disperse at Seattle Center.

Information and resources for the march, including discounts on transportation and lodging, carpool, home stays, and stories, can be found at the official website: womxnsmarchseattle.wordpress.com.

Please join us.

The organizers of the Womxn’s March on Seattle would like to publicly thank the City of Seattle and the Seattle Special Event Committee, in particular representatives from Seattle Police Department, Seattle Department of Transportation, Parks & Recreation, and King County Metro, for their assistance in planning and organizing this momentous event.

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About the Womxn’s March on Seattle
The spelling of “Womxn’s March” has been adapted to highlight and promote intersectionality in the movement for civil right and equality. Intersectionality acknowledges that different forms of discrimination intersect, overlap, and reinforce each other, and recognizes the impact of discrimination based not only on gender, but also race, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, faith, class, disability, and other backgrounds.