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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 7, 2014

A MAY DAY FOR FAMILY KITCHEN

Benefit Concert at the Tower Theatre features 'Artist' Jennifer Johns of Oakland, California

Bend, OR, April 7, 2014 – 'A May Day for Family Kitchen featuring Jennifer Johns, Artist' will take place on May 4th at 6:30pm at the Tower Theatre. Tickets are \$22.50 for adults and \$17.00 for students and are on sale now at the Tower Theatre online and at the box office. The event is a fundraiser for Family Kitchen and an awareness-raiser for food security and living wages. Johns is a world-traveler, having opened for the Black-Eyed Peas, Lauren Hill, Mos Def and many others. She is an "artist" in that she uses her art form to call attention to topics about which she's passionate, including the availability of fresh, sustainably produced food to all.

Ms. Johns has a unique connection to Bend – although she's never been here. A group of students traveling with the Bend Youth Collective were in the audience at her Kennedy Center Hip-Hop Theater Festival performance in Washington, D.C. in July of 2012. Her memorable performance prompted students to suggest that she be the performer for this event. She remembered the Bend contingent from her concert and enthusiastically agreed to the concert date, slated for just days after her new album release May 1st. Her album, *Chronicle of the Aquarian Mind*, "is an organic and percussive Afro-diasporic-soul folk odyssey. It is a collection of Jennifer's prayers, ruminations and reflections on love, freedom and justice. Full of lush and passionate vocal performances, imaginative lyricism and stellar globally inspired production on the part of Oakland's own Kev Choice, this album is liberating!"

The concert was prompted by Bend High student, Max Farrens. He is coordinating student musicians as opening acts, working to secure sponsorships, meeting with Bend High administration about an assembly featuring Ms. Johns and working in collaboration with Family Kitchen staff on the details of the event.

May Day is both a call for help and International Worker's Day. At Family Kitchen, a leading root cause for the need for meals is the combination of unemployment, underemployment and low pay. While Family Kitchen's mission is to serve anyone who needs a nutritious meal in a safe and caring environment, our vision is to end hunger in Central Oregon.

Founded in 1986, Family Kitchen continues to be a safe, welcoming refuge for those who need a meal. Our mission: to serve anyone who needs a nutritious meal in a safe and caring environment. Meals are served Monday through Saturday at "the Red Door" at Trinity Episcopal Church, 231 NW Idaho Avenue, Bend.

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If you would like more information, please contact Donna Burklo at 541-760-5677 or email at info@familykitchen.org.