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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
SIGNAL FIRE HIRES AVIVA MCCLURE AS NEXT CO-DIRECTOR + FIELD COORDINATOR**

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*I am thrilled to join the community of brilliant staff, board members, and artists that have invested their heart and soul in growing Signal Fire over the years, blessed that my path has led me to join this dynamic crew! - Aviva McClure*

Signal Fire is thrilled to announce the hiring of Aviva McClure as the next Co-Director + Field Coordinator. In this position, McClure will oversee Signal Fire's field programming, including our no-cost Juried Trips and academic Wide Open Studios programs, lead and support the Guide Collective, and collaboratively steward the organization's development. McClure's Co-Director + Field Coordinator position is one part of a three-person, non-hierarchical executive staff model shared with Co-Director + Rural and Tribal Community Coordinator, Ka'ila Farrell-Smith, and Co-Director + Operations Coordinator, Eden Redmond.



McClure is a Black-biracial visual artist, community activist, and educator with a focus on building intergenerational communities through the arts. Out of a desire to promote excellent outcomes for historically marginalized populations, Aviva's practice aims to be generative while removing barriers that inhibit connection to wild spaces. Before joining the Signal Fire team, McClure served as an Arts Integration Specialist with Regional Arts and Culture Council's The Right Brain Initiative, they founded and grew the Portland Village School, and they continue to run the educational and community empowerment organization they started, Our Turn PDX. Learn more about their work at [www.ourturnpdx.com](http://www.ourturnpdx.com).

Outgoing Field Coordinator and Signal Fire co-founder, Ryan Pierce, steps down from this executive position to the program steward role of Director of Wide Open Studios. Wide Open Studios is Signal Fire's arts and ecology field institute offering curricular-intensive backcountry excursions in partnership with regional colleges. Pierce says, "Aviva brings a wealth of



experience—outdoor and administrative— and community connections that promise to strengthen both our roots and our branches. For my part, I'm excited to direct my focused energy toward Wide Open Studios, building our academic partnerships, trying new course models, and laying the foundations for students to have sustained engagement with our program.”

The search for and hiring of a new Field Coordinator has been made possible thanks to generous contributions from the Collins Foundation and the Ronald W. Naito MD Foundation.

**About Signal Fire:**

For over ten years, Signal Fire has built the cultural value of the natural world by connecting artists to our remaining wild places. Our projects foster resilience, creative energy, and interdisciplinary collaboration. We advocate for land justice and the protection of threatened land and water.



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