

# Araki travels to Oregon for an education



Japanese student, Madoka Araki, is studying at Clackamas this year. Araki is from Shizuoka, Japan. Photo by Lane Scheideman

by Julie Merriott  
Staff Writer

Unlike Eddie Murphy in "Coming to America", 20-year old Madoka Araki traveled to Oregon in search of an education.

Araki arrived in the states last summer, and has spent a year learning to speak the English language. The six years of studying English grammar in Shizuoka, Japan did not completely prepare Araki for conversational English. "I come here to learn English, but I hate having to speak it," she explained.

On her own initiative, Araki chose to study abroad. It was a decision greatly supported by her father, as he is now paying for her educational and living expenses. "I am used to being with my family," Araki expressed. "But I only write home about once a month," she admitted as if ashamed of the fact. Her younger brother, mother and father enjoy the occasional contact through the mail.

Araki is more committed when it concerns her schooling or inter-

ests, including music and the piano. "In Japan, there is a lot more homework," Araki related. Not surprisingly she added, "I like school."

Although studying keeps her busy, Araki has found the time to make "lots of new friends." Many are from Portland, and attend Portland State University. When questioned why she chose Clackamas, she replied, "A friend highly recommended it."

However, Araki's living location, downtown Portland, would not seem as ideal as her college choice. Araki can attest to this, having had to contend with the "rude" behavior of Portland's residents. "In Japan, people are more polite."

Despite the obvious differences, Araki likes Oregon, even its weather. "In Japan it is so muggy. I hate Japanese summer."

On the other hand, Araki enjoys Oregon's cuisine, "Especially all the fruit," and its varied activities and people. In short, she describes her experience as "a little scary, but exciting."

## Left-handed, right-minded

So I'm sitting in my second class on the first day of school and I'm thinking how annoying it is that I'm having difficulty writing. It took me a second, but I figured out what the problem was. So the next thought I have is- how is a left-handed person supposed to write on a desk made for a right-handed person?

From the left  
by Angela Wilson

I'm sure I'm not the only person who has asked this question, and I'm sure I'm not the only person who has this problem. I wonder if right-handed people have the same problem? The problem is that my arm hangs off the edge of the desk and there is nothing to hold it up. It is very difficult to write this way. I'm not sure how, but somehow I managed to make it through last year without ever running into one of those tiny desks, and this year all of my classes have them.

Another thing I find difficult as a left-hander is writing in a spiral notebook. The wire spiral gets in the way of my hand. Depending on what I am writing, whether it is a letter, notes, or some kind of homework, I sometimes turn the notebook upside down and write from the bottom of the page to the top.

It is also difficult to write in a spiral notebook if you have a sweater or a long-sleeved shirt on. The spiral gets caught on your sweater and that can be quite annoying.

One thing I hate about being left-handed is that, as you write, your hand moves from left to right over the writing. If you're using a pen it smears the ink and leaves a beautiful ink stain on your hand.

There are a lot of things that can be difficult for left-handed people. Pencil sharpeners in the classroom are right-handed, zippers on coats are right-handed, and scissors are right-handed. Sure they make special scissors for left-handed people, but how often can you find a pair lying around?

My friend Rian is left-handed too. She is very left-handed and can't do anything with her right hand. She has a difficult time trying to use a manual can opener, because they too are made for right-handed people.

I've heard that left-handed people are supposed to be more creative than right-handed people. Whether that is true or not I don't know. But I do believe you have to be pretty creative if you're left-handed, in order to get around some of the minor obstacles you face living in a right-handed world.

## Actors cast for play

by Roscann Wentworth  
Copy/Entertainment Editor

Auditions were held last week for James Leonard Jr.'s "The Diviners," the first stage production by the Clackamas College Drama Club to be performed this year.

With the exception of a few Clackamas stage veterans, most of the performers chosen are new to the college, some even new to the stage. The lead roles were awarded to Roger Hancock as "Buddy Layman" and Lisa Weldon as "Jennie Mae Layman." The supporting cast consists of students William Andersen, David Burnett, Julie Piubeni, Maklynn St. Clare, Liz Egbert, Travis Box, Elizabeth McDougall, Adam Jarvey and Chad Goodell.

A stage production cannot be complete without the people

behind the scenes: the crew. Cheryl Ellison is Assistant Director as well as Stage Manager. M. Leigh Hagen is mastering the soundboard; Ron Theod and Karen Andersen are responsible for the lights; Andria Racette and Kenye North (also in charge of wardrobe) are heading the prop department and Travis Box is Make-Up Coordinator.

Merril Lynn Taylor is the special guest director for this production. She has also previously directed Clackamas stage productions which consisted of "Happiest of the Three" among other well-known productions. Taylor is also currently directing a stage version of George Bernard Shaw's comedy "Mrs. Warren's Profession," which will open October 25 of this year at the New Rose Theater in downtown Portland.



Andrei Kitaev, jazz pianist, is to perform at Clackamas.

## Jazz pianist to perform

by Rick Piller  
Staff Writer

Clackamas Community College Jazz lovers will be treated to a transplanted Oregonian jazz pianist on October 18th between 12 and 1 in the community center.

Andrei Kitaev was born in a suburb of Moscow in the Soviet Union and ten years ago came to the U.S. to hone his jazz piano technique.

Kitaev, who started piano at the age of three, graduated from the Soviet equivalent of New York's Juilliard school, Gnessin, in 1967. He began to teach classical piano at a private college in Moscow until 1975. Even then the threads of jazz were weaving their way into his life.

Kitaev had been introduced to jazz through broadcasts on Voice of America and through recordings of Oscar Peterson, John Coltrane and Miles Davis. He then came to the U.S. with an American exchange student whom he married. Settling in the San Fran-

cisco area he began to learn how to speak English and drive as well as practice eight hours a day just to learn American jazz.

Kitaev, who now lives in a Gresham apartment, moved to Portland eight months ago. He said in a recent *This Week* article that "... even when we get 20 people we are happy. We are trained this way. Jazz musicians are not spoiled by audiences!" Kitaev (pronounced Kee-TAY-eff) moved up here for both the climate and the jazz scene. He says of Portland audiences "They'll come out and listen without talking!"

Kitaev has an album out entitled "Yesterdays", accompanied by two superb area musicians Mel Brown on drums and Tom Gilson on bass. It includes several jazz standards like, "Caravan" and "Love for Sake." Those who wish to catch Kitaev can see him at any one of several local jazz bars or they can come to the community center on October 18.

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