

NOTICES



Lee, Bobby, and Halona Butler dance at Taft High School in Lincoln City.

Nominations Open for Oregon Family Business of the Year

Applauding the innovation and hard work of family-owned businesses, Oregon State University's Austin Family Business Program has opened nominations for the 2000 Oregon Family Business of the Year Awards.

In conjunction with corporate partner U.S. Bank and award sponsors MassMutual, Perkins & Co., P.C., and Tarlow, Jordan & Schrader, the awards are open to any family business (except for prior winners who may not win again in the same category). Anyone can nominate a company, including employees and business associates, and nominations are due by May 15.

Once elected, nominees will receive an invitation to apply and instructions on applications. Applications are due by June 30 and remain active for three years.

Winners in six categories – large businesses, small, old, new and women- or couple-owned – will be honored at Family Business Day, an educational and award event set for Nov. 15, at the Oregon Zoo in Portland.

For nomination forms or information, call OSU's Austin Family Business Program at 1-800-859-7609.

OSU Indian Education Director to Forge Links with Tribes

Strengthening ties between Oregon State University and the nine sovereign Native American tribes of Oregon is one of the first goals of the university's new Indian Education Office coordinator.

"Oregon State University has long-standing relationships with the tribes, going as far back as the 1930s," said Allison Davis-White Eyes, adding that she would like to expand and enhance the university's efforts to build bridges to those cultures.

New programs to preserve Native American culture, language, and tradition are a major part of Davis-White Eyes' initiative. Some natural fits would be for the university and tribal governments to work toward expanding opportunities for collaborative research in fields such as land and resources, including forestry, fisheries, and wildlife, Davis-White Eyes said.

Key to the success of the OSU tribal initiative is smoothing communication between tribal and university government, first regionally and eventually nationwide.

Davis-White Eyes, whose tribal affiliation is Cheyenne, Kiowa, and Muskogee Creek, received her bachelor's degree in history and her master's in American Indian studies from UCLA. She then worked at the University of Oregon as assistant director of admissions before accepting the Indian Education Office position at OSU.

While in Eugene, Davis-White Eyes proposed a project that eventually resulted in the Aboriginal Rights Project, which addresses Native American tribes that have been split by modern political boundaries or forced out of their original homes. The project recognizes the sovereignty of Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes and grants in-state tuition rates to students who are members.

Students who are members of other Native American tribes whose traditional tribal boundaries once included the state are included.

The OSU Indian Education Office works to expand awareness of and responsiveness to the skills, knowledge, and history in Indian cultures and values, she said. Services offered to the community include recruiting and retaining Indian students, faculty and staff; support and counseling on academic, career, and personal issues; Indian scholarship information; and serving as a liaison between OSU and tribal communities. The office was a model for the university's Minority Education Offices, which opened in 1997.

The university also maintains the Native American longhouse, a cultural center that offers an array of social, cultural, and recreational events to the community each year. The longhouse focuses on supporting students of color as well as educating the community.

OSU Hosts Sacred Landscapes Conference

Oregon State University will host its second annual Sacred Landscapes conference in Corvallis on May 18-19, hoping to draw several hundred Native Americans from Pacific Northwest tribes to campus to talk about the environment.

This year's conference theme is "Walking Softly on the Earth" and the roster of Native American speakers will address several topics relating to the environment from their unique points of view. Siletz Tribal member Bob Tom will serve as emcee on May 19.

The conference is designed to present Native American perspectives on the environment and our relationship with it – a viewpoint often overlooked at scientific, social and political gatherings.

The keynote speaker at the conference is Winona LaDuke, a well-known activist for Native American and women's rights, who lives on the White Earth Reservation in Minnesota. LaDuke, who once served as the vice presidential running mate for Ralph Nader, will speak on "All Our Relations" and read from her book of the same title.

LaDuke's talk will begin at 6:45 p.m. on May 18 in Lasells Stewart Center. Her readings and a reception will follow later in the evening.

Last year, nearly 500 people attended the inaugural Sacred Landscapes conference. The conference is free and open to the public. More information is available on the Internet at http://osu.orst.edu/dept/ethnic_studies/sacredlands/main.htm or by calling the Department of Ethnic Studies at OSU at 541-737-0709.