

METROPOLITAN



Jazmin: Jillone Hamilton; Evelyn Crews, director; Sharron Hamilton; Adrienne Dixon; Kathleen Bowman, Fred Meyers representative; Jiekila Armstrong.

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Jazmin Band marches on...

by Lanita Duke
Grassroot News, N.W.—The Jazmin Community Marching Band is stepping out in 1984 with a \$25,000 Fred G. Myers grant.

Band Director Evelyn M. Crews said the grant represents musical life-blood for one year. "We can keep a portion of our base alive." The infusion of capital will be targeted towards new instruments and a musical computer clinic.

The Jazmin marches to the southern marching band style. Their stride is quicker and they use a "high step"—lifting their thighs higher.

This 40-piece marching band has brought a fresh, new beat to Portland. Crews said she has even seen some of their ideas pop up in some of the more conventional settings throughout the city.

In 1981 the Jazmin Community Marching Band was just a desire, when the gap in musical education became intolerable.

Crews said, "We got out and proved everything by doing. We won awards and provided an outlet for the time and talent of youth in our community."

"We will produce a 'someone' who will make a name for himself. Why, we plan to produce several 'someones.'"

Crews also credited the Jazmin

with creating a community-based music program that is open to all.

The bulk of their support has come from businesses and private donations. But the Jazmin has yet to see support from Portland's traditional arts and music communities. She attributes their apathy as being inflexible.

"This is a basic kind of a city. Some people are not going to change. With them you just have to press harder."

At any given moment in the community, a member of the Jazmin Community Marching Band can be seen riding his tuba on his bike, practicing a step while walking down the street, or running on the back of a city bus.

Crews said among the positive changes the Jazmin has brought to the city is the influence the band has had on its members.

"They have become more thoughtful. We have enhanced their relationship to one another and are creating decent human beings."

The Fred Meyer's grant is just the beginning of a series of fund-raising experiences that the band needs to go through just to keep stepping. Crews said the future may hold a Jazmin Community Marching Band building. She expects the band members to sell tickets and engage in other fundraising events. "When

we approach you, please support us."

But for now, Fred Myers has helped strike up the band and they will be stepping high this spring.

PSU hosts minority students

Hundreds of Oregon's high school juniors and seniors who are Black, Hispanic, American Indian and Asian are expected to attend Portland State University's special "on campus field trip" scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 7th.

"Our ultimate goal," noted Major Morris, PSU Affirmative Action Officer, "is to persuade qualified young people to apply for admission and enroll in an institution of higher learning such as ours."

Toward that end, the one-day event will feature a wide variety of speakers and activities to provide encouragement for these students to pursue their higher education goals.

The event, which begins with registration at 9:00 a.m. in the third-floor ballroom of Smith Memorial Center, is being held in cooperation with PSU faculty, staff, several minority student organizations, as well as the Portland Public School District and the State Migrant Education Center.

For further information, contact PSU's Affirmative Action Office at 229-4417.

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SALE PRICES IN THIS SECTION WILL BE EFFECTIVE THESE DATES UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED BY THE ITEM—Wednesday, February 1, through Saturday, February 4.



Barbara Taylor, health educator for Multnomah County Health Department's Multi-Service Center, watches as Lila Saxon, RN, volunteer clinic coordinator, checks blood pressure of Gail Smith. (Photo: Dorothy Franklin, American Red Cross)

Blood pressure test free

"There were people lined up at the door when the clinic opened on January 5th," said Barbara Taylor, Health Educator for the Multnomah County Health Department, speaking of its newest service to the community, an American Red Cross blood pressure screening clinic.

The new clinic brings a total of seven locations in the city where Red Cross free blood pressure screening and health counseling/referral are available on a weekly basis. The program began two years ago when budget cuts forced Multnomah County to decrease their blood pres-

sure screening services, and the Red Cross developed a program to provide the service free using a group of volunteer RNs.

The Red Cross volunteers also use a check-back system for those patients who seem to drop out of sight. The danger in having high blood pressure is that people don't feel bad and are inclined not to be concerned about high blood pressure. The Red Cross volunteers work closely with Multnomah County Health to refer patients either to a private physician or to a County clinic.

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