

OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES
BY Kathryn Hall Bogle



THE BEAUTIFUL crochet art of Adriene Cruz wins the acclaim of all who see it. The young artisan has displayed her work at a recent show in Northwest Portland, produced by the Oregon School of Arts and Crafts and in Northeast Portland, by the Black Educational Center.

Current scheduling takes Cruz and her art to the Bellevue Art Museum in the Seattle area. She is booked to open at Bellevue on March 29th to exhibit through April 12th.

Cruz uses her own imaginative patterns, devising her designs as she works. Crochet hooks are usually oversized, as the lovely coats she makes on order are constructed with heavy wool or mohair or rayon chenille yarns. Colors of garments are lively but are often muted and softly blended to compliment the wearer.

Originally from New York City, Cruz came West about eight months ago to "find fame and fortune with her art." She has exhibited her work "from the Bay Area to Alaska" and has found sales to be brisk. It takes Cruz nearly three weeks to complete a garment for the average customer. Recently, the talented lady has added handbags, shoulder bags, soft sneakers, a few rugs and even curtains to her craft designs.

Fame is unpredictable by all the books, and Cruz, in May and June, has been invited to bring her work to—you guessed it—New York City, her home. She expects to be back in Oregon in August. The White Bird Gallery, in Cannon Beach, will exhibit Cruz' crochet art from August 8th through August 18th.

AS A FOLLOW-UP of the recent visit to Portland by the Eleventh Annual session of the Phylaxis Society, the Prince Hall Masonic historical organization, a Phylaxis Chapter of Portland is being organized by Dorothy Vickers by



Cruz Coats in Crochet worn by (l-r) Chonitia Smith, Larry Dunham and Adriene Cruz.

(Photo: Rudie H. Reeves)

the authority of Phyllis E. Riley, GWM of Oregon, PH. The National Phylaxis Chapter, the female counterpart of the Phylaxis Society, held its first executive session in conjunction with the Phylaxis meeting.

Taking note of Mrs. Vicker's assistance to the smooth and successful flow of the joint meeting hosted by the Rose City Chapter of the Phylaxis Society, the local members presented Mrs. Vickers with a Merit Award Trophy at a special recognition party held recently in her honor. Among her outstanding contributions, Mrs. Vickers was honored for her design of the booklet cover for the Phylaxis Constitution and By-Laws, and her compilation of their souvenir booklet and the awards banquet program. She has been appointed to the executive board of the national Phylaxis Chapter.

Members at the presentation of



DOROTHY VICKERS

the trophy were: Jo Ann Childs, Ceola Bush, Helen Whitley, Layola Brown, Precious Wasson, Rubie Franklin, Ella Mae Roy, Carrie Holiday, Helen E. Riley, GWN.

Grant funds basic skills

An upgrading of basic skills in math and reading for the unemployed is underway at the Portland Community College Cascade Campus in a program through the City of Portland and funded by federal dollars.

"Cascade Campus JTPA is the new acronym for a full support learning program with emphasis on unsubsidized employment," explained instructor Skip Bracken.

"The prevocational training program here at Cascade is just one phase in a total training support package and combines instructional and audio-visual learning systems to upgrade those basic skills," he continued.

The federal Job Training Partnership Act legislation is to train low-income, unemployed people to enter the labor force. Bracken said the JTPA program also enables the community college to address a pressing need in local communities and garners support for the college.

Each student has an educational development plan to increase competencies before on-the-job placement, Job Club or vocational placement.

Bracken said, "Our officers support to the program throughout the training, is student-centered, and offers the student a greater sense of self-worth leading to less attrition."

Executive Dean (Cascade Campus) James Van Dyke said, "The JTPA program will have built in success as trainees are selected and trained for specific jobs with the needs of the employers in mind. The opportunity exists for the community college to make job training an economic development tool and this is one such program seizing that opportunity."

Students enrolled in the program are subsidized to take the classes.

Those interested in applying should contact the City of Portland's Bureau of Human Resources.

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Statewide PTA convention set

Two hundred Oregon delegates of PTA will hold their 71st annual convention April 6th and 7th, at the Valley River Inn, in Eugene. They will adopt the 1984-86 Legislative Platform, discuss resolutions and elect officers. The convention will begin April 6th at

9:00 a.m. Keynote speaker is National PTA President, Elaine Stienkemeyer, of Holt, Michigan. Other speakers include Evie Andrews, Oregon Teacher of the Year; Paul Linnman, OPTA Honorary Membership Chairman; and, Dr. Verne A. Duncan, State Superin-

tendent of Schools. Jim Cloutier, creator of Oregon Ungreeting Cards, donated his unique interpretation of the convention theme, "Caution—Kids Under Construction."

A wide variety of workshops and leadership development is planned. An idea and information emporium will allow delegates to share the best PTA projects.

Calendar

The Portland NAACP Credit Union will hold their annual meeting on Friday, April 13th at 7:00 in the lower auditorium of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, on the corner of 1st and Schuyler.

They are asking all members to be present and friends are welcome. For more information, call 281-7744.

The National Coalition to Support the Indian Treaties and the Oregon Committee for the Humanities is sponsoring a forum on "Indian Treaties Yesterday and Today," Thursday, April 5th, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Campus Christian Ministry, PSU (633 S.W. Montgomery).

For more information call 238-0667.

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