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For Information: Write Sylvia Fowler, Warner Pacific College, 2219 S.E. 68th Ave., Portland, OR 97215 or Call (503) 775-4366, ext. 511

## **Bessie Smith Memorial** Learning Arts Center

Bessie Smith Memorial Learning Arts Center 1829 NE. Alberta St. Portland, OR 97211

#### Public Statement

The Bessie Smith Memorial Learning Arts Center seeks your support in the purchase of its physical establishment, located at 1829 NE Alberta St. in Portland, Oregon.

This building is already partially developed and well-suited as a community cultural performing arts learning center for citizens living in the immediate northeast area of Portland. The building is currently operated as a "Wellness Club" with health related services. The Bessie Smith program presently rents space in the building for such activities as band and group musical rehearsals, fashion show rehearsals, modeling training and classes. There are also aerobic programs, exercise/stretch classes, women's wrestling instruction, music instruction and ongoing seminars featuring many community-oriented subjects.

The purpose for purchasing this particular building at this time is twofold: (1) the building is currently for sale and we feel it is well-suited for performing arts training. The building has already been accepted in the community as a cultural center for the well-being of people. (2) There are no learning arts programs and facilities within the immediate area of northeast Portland where citizens and children can train and express their creative talents.

#### PROPOSAL:

The Board of Directors has set the following policy and goals. 1 Raise necessary funds to the building.

2. Bring the building up to standards set by city, county and state building codes.

3. Install an adequate safety and security system.

4. Establish and develop music, dance, theatre, modeling and exercise classes beyond our present levels.

5. Develop a pool of talent to be trained and marketed from the Bessie Smith Learning Arts

6. Sponsor performing arts talent in local and national competi-

7. Offer scholarships to outstanding talent as encouragement and support from the northeast community of Portland.

8. Raise funds for the support of inter-city youth's performing arts talents and creativity.

9. Work with other performing arts centers, including schools and

10. Develop and establish a higher sense of community value through the respect and responsi-

bility of performing arts. 11. Publish a monthly newsletter containing schedules of training and performing activities as well as educational articles and exerpts.

12. Promote cleanliness, caring, courtesy, responsibility and patience with self and others. (The Thom Boothe Phoenix Principles).

THE BENEFITS OF THE BESSIE SMITH MEMORIAL LEARNING ART CENTER TO NORTHEAST PORTLAND, THE PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA AND THE STATE OF OREGON.

1. Much of the inter-city youth gang activity and idleness is cen-

tered around low self esteem and boredom. The Bessie Smith Learning Arts Center will channel and direct much of our youth's energy toward the satisfaction found in productive and creative performing arts activities. This will be good for the citizens and image of the Northeast area of Portland, as well as the metropolitan Portland area as a whole.

2. Citizens of the northeast community will no longer feel left out. Northeast Portland does not have a facility and /or program that specifically encourages and nurtures performing arts at the level of the community's interest. Sports and fitness programs are well represented by the Matt Dishman and Peninsula Park Community Center activities, not to mention the Salvation Army's facilities and programs.

The Interstate Firehouse Facility is good, but the community does not identify with it as a learning facility, which is what the Bessie Smith Memorial Learning Arts Center provides.

3. The Bessie Smith Learning Arts Center is a well-managed, private high quality facility.

#### INVITATION

We welcome you to visit us, support us and by all means join us! Toegether we can make northeast Portland the best it can be by putting its youth's creative and performing art talents to productive use for themselves and the State of Oregon.

We are seeking endowments, grants, contributions and dona-

To obtain further information you are encouraged to call (503) 288-8569 or, if you prefer write to: The Bessie Smith Memorial Learning Arts Center, P.O. Box 11106, 1829 NE Alberta St., Portland, OR

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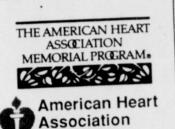
#### Sara Lee Corp. Makes \$5,000 Gift to the King Center

TLANTA, GA - Sara Lee Corporation recently contributed \$5,000 to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta, Ga. In a Dec. 7 ceremony at the Center, Robert L. Lauer, vice president of corporate affairs at Sara Lee Corporation, presented a check to Coretta Scott King, president of the Center. Elynor Williams, director of public affairs at Sara Lee Corporation, also participated in the presentation.

#### **CALENDAR**

The Portland Public Schools Head Start Program is now taking applications for next fall's preschool program. Children must be 4-years-old on or before September 1. Serving low-income families and children with special needs. AM and PM sessions.

Call 280-5724 for an application or stop by Sacajawea School, 4800 N.E. 74th. Your neighborhood school has applications too!"



1-800-452-9445

This space provided as a public service

in Oregon



Lt. Joyce Allen receiving Award of Appreciation from Clara Peoples, Director of the Community Care Association for achievement in community activities. The Portland Observer, salutes Lt. Joyce Allen for her active part in the community.

## Navy Officer Receives Appreciation Award

Lt. Joyce Allen, United States Navy, was the proud recipient of an 'Award of Appreciation' from the Community Care Association Incorporated. Clara Peoples, Director, announced Tuesday, May 31.

Lt. Allen was born in Oakland, Mississippi and attended Mississippi State, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in social work. Lt. Allen has been serving in the United States Navy the last nine years and is currently fulfilling her duties as chief testing management officer at the Military Entrance Processing Station in Portland, Oregon.

Lt. Allen has been very active in helping young people to "help themselves" says Mrs. Peoples. Allen has consistantly made herself available to the elderly and has been actively involved in church and community activities. Mrs. Peoples goes on to say that, "besides her Navy duties, Lt. Allen has been a positive role model so much needed in today's society. We wholeheartedly appreciate the vitality and unending energy radiated from this very capable lady."

Lt. Joyce Allen is the daughter of James and Dollie Allen of Oakland, Mississippi.



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