

Education

Oregon Students Win Discover Card Awards

The Discover Card Tribute Award scholarships, given in cooperation with the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), are presented to three Oregon students as part of Discover Card's fifth annual Tribute Award program. Hanh Ta of Portland, Hataya Poonyagariyagorn of Portland and Sasha Spencer of Salem are outstanding juniors on both the state and national levels in the U.S. and American schools abroad.

The Oregon Association of School Administrators coordinated the panel of judges who based their decisions on information from application materials submitted by each student. The judges represent area communities as well as the state's education and business sectors.

State Tribute Award recipients win a \$2,500 gold award, a \$1,500 silver award or a \$1,000 bronze award. The gold award winners in each state compete for nine national scholarships, 3 each for \$20,000, \$15,000



Hanh Ta

and \$10,000. These national awards will be presented at a June ceremony in Washington, D.C. Individual students can win as much as \$22,500.

Hanh Ta is a state winner of the \$2,500 gold Tribute Award scholarship. Hanh, a student at Benson Polytechnic High School, is one of seven high school juniors in Oregon to win



Hataya Poonyagariyagorn

a Tribute Award scholarship. An honors student, Hanh shares her academic skills and interests with others in a variety of ways. She tutors a local student, and participates in the Health Occupations Program which allows her to explore the field of healthcare through work in various healthcare settings. Hanh recently



Sasha Spencer

participated in the Health Occupations Students of America National Leadership Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, and received first place in an extemporaneous writing competition. In school, she is secretary of her school's National Honor Society, and serves her peers as executive assistant for the junior class student council.

Hanh enjoys volunteering to help others in the community, and recently worked for the Catholic Community Services of Portland Refugee Resettlement Services. Hanh plans to attend college and medical school, and hopes to become a physician.

Hataya Poonyagariyagorn is a state winner of the \$1,000 bronze Tribute Award scholarship. Hataya's interest in medicine has led her to introduce others to the field through her position as president of the local Medical Explorers program. In this role, she plans and facilitates meetings that explore different aspects of medicine through guest speakers and hands-on demonstrations. Hataya spends much of her free time playing the piano, and has earned the opportunity to perform at many Oregon Music Teachers Association honors recitals. Last summer, she volunteered at a local camp as a junior counselor, a position that required organizing and participating in numerous art and educational programs.

In school, she is a good student who has shared her math skills with others through tutoring. She plans to attend college and medical school, and hopes to become a heart surgeon.

Sasha Spencer is a state winner of the \$2,500 gold Tribute Award scholarship. A strong student, Sasha has demonstrated solid leadership in her many activities outside the classroom. She currently serves her peers as class president, and is responsible for planning and organizing major events including homecoming and prom celebrations. Sasha is also vice president of the French Club and of the City of Salem Youth Advisory Board, a group of students providing input into local issues. Her contributions were recently recognized with an invitation to represent her school district at an education conference in Washington D.C. Sasha enjoys sports, and last year won the 400-meter race at the state track championship. She plans to attend college, and hopes to become a lawyer.

Older Volunteers Needed

Experience Corps is looking for twenty active older men and women to work with disadvantaged youth in North Portland elementary schools.

Experience Corps members will mobilize their talents and resources on behalf of elementary school children.

Experience Corps has immediate openings for volunteers to work in teams to coordinate Summer Camp programs, supervise youth activities, help elementary schools raise funds and increase parent involvement in schools.

To apply, men and women must be 55 years of age or older and be

able to volunteer 5 to 20 hours a week. Training, stipends and other benefits will be offered.

If you would like more information contact Experience Corps at 249-0469. Experience Corps is part of Metropolitan Family Service, a non-profit agency.

Classmates Sought For 100th Anniversary Of Ontario School

Northeast Oregon residents who attended Pioneer School near Ontario are invited to a 100-year anniversary celebration Saturday, June 22.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. at the school, with a barbecue sponsored by the reunion committee beginning at 1 p.m. Bring a salad or dessert.

The school is located at 4744 Pioneer Road, Oregon Slope, Ontario.

A photo display is planned in the gym, so please bring or send any old class photos with your

name and address on the back.

For more information, call Jeanne Hoffman of Hermiston at (541) 567-9231. Those who plan

to attend are asked to call Hoffman so the organizing committee will know how many to expect.

Puppeteering Classes Offered

If you like working with children in a fun yet meaningful way, consider training to become a Kids on the Block Awareness Program puppeteer. Kids on the Block is a nationally recognized program that uses child-sized puppets to teach school-aged children to understand and value differences in themselves and others and to protect themselves in dif-

ficult situations.

Volunteer puppeteers learn the Bunraku style of puppetry, the art of answering children's questions and relevant topic information. Current topics include: aging, blindness, cerebral palsy, cultural differences, deafness, divorce, alternatives to gang involvement, learning disabilities,

mental retardation, and personal safety/sexual abuse.

No experience is required. All that's needed is enthusiasm, a commitment to children, and a desire to help them understand and value differences.

For more information about the Fall training class, call Cathy Darby at 246-5818.

Arts Education Leaders Honored

According to Young Audiences Executive Director Sarah Avery Johnson, "The community leaders in arts education have been unsung heroes long enough. If we don't want to lose the arts in our schools, it's time to start singing."

Five local leaders in arts education will be honored this June by Young Audiences.

Alameda Elementary School for "Educational excellence in advancing learning through the arts."

Starbucks Coffee Company for "Building awareness about the value of the arts in children's lives."

U.S. Bank for "Philanthropic commitment to the arts in education."

Mural artist Nancy Helmsworth, for "Artistic excellence in enhancing young people's education."

Fred Meyer for "Building schools' capacity to access the arts."

The Sunburst Awards will be presented by Young Audiences at its annual Arty Party in the Pearl Dis-

trict. The festivities began 7pm Saturday June 15 at the S.K. Josefsberg Studio, 401 NW Eleventh. Tickets are \$50 per guest. Reservations may be made by calling Young Audiences at (503) 224-1412 or (360) 693-1829.

The Sunburst Award winners are selected by the Board of Directors of Young Audiences of Oregon and Southwest Washington to recognize outstanding contributions in our region to the arts in education.

Vernon Playground Project Funds Go Over The Top

Fundraising for a playground structure at Vernon Elementary School (2044 NE Killingsworth) got a final push June 4 when Portland Parks Commissioner Charles Jordan presented a check for \$2,000 to the school at an assembly.

Vernon families have worked for a year raising money for a much-needed play structure for

the schoolyard. A school carnival, penny drive and T-shirt, candy and ornament sales helped to raise the \$11,500 needed for the pressurized wood and plastic playground.

"The district committed to helping us install the playground if we could raise the money we needed by June," says Playground Committee

co-chair Shelley Cockburn-Lichtenberger. The Portland Park Bureau contribution ensures that the project will be completed. "We hope to have the playground ready when school begins in the fall," Cockburn-Lichtenberger says.

For More Information, please contact Shelley Cockburn-Lichtenberger at Vernon Elementary, 280-6415.

Portland Student Graduates With Honors

Sabrina Godfrey, a graduating senior from Portland, received departmental honors in sociology and anthropology at Lewis & Clark College's recent honors convocation.

Honorees are required to have a minimum grade point average of 3.5 in their department and are encouraged to pursue an in-depth independent-study in an area of their interest. The student's senior thesis must be deemed outstanding by the department faculty.

For her project, titled "Domestic Colonization," Godfrey studied the parallels that exist between population control policies in third-world countries and those in the United States.

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