

E d u c a t i o n

New African-American Scholarship Program

In 1994, Ronald McDonald House charities (RMHC) teamed up with The College Fund/UNCF to create one of the nation's top scholarship programs, designed to help graduate more African-American students pursuing health and medical degrees.

The two non-profits are again seeking applications from eligible sophomores at UNCF schools, 10 of whom will be awarded two-year, full-tuition scholarships through the RMHC/UNCF Health & Medical Scholars Program.

In addition, 50 students will receive \$1,000 scholarships. "The demand is great for a broader, more

diverse base of health and medical professionals," said Linda Dunham, a RMHC board member and an owner of McDonald's restaurants in New York and New Jersey. "RMHC believes in the cause of preparing today's youth for leadership roles to ensure our communities of the future are healthy and safe."

Since 1977, the McDonald's system has contributed more than \$10 million to historically Black colleges and universities served by the College Fund. Application deadline is May 1, 1997. For more information, call David Ray at the College Fund, (703) 205-3562.

Celebrate International Cultures and Multiculturalism at PSU Open House

Portland, Ore - so, your school-age children are learning about France and you need a map of Paris and a French Beret to make it real for them. Where to go?

Portland State University hopes you'll think of Building Bridges, new multicultural resource center and lending library housed in its Sixth Avenue Building and sponsored by the Office of International Affairs.

The center offers a lending library of geographical and topical artifacts, and educational materials such as video tapes and books for children and adults. These materi-

als, newly housed under one roof and available to the community, represents the combined resources of the Multicultural Resource Center (recently relocated from Lake Oswego), Oregon Peach Institute, World Affairs Council, Oregon International Council, and PSU's Middle East Studies Center and Institute of Asian Studies.

"It's a one-stop shop for educators, whether from schools, organizations, businesses or families," says Marta Colburn of PSU's Middle East Studies Center and one of the chief organizers of the resource center.

The creation of Building Bridges, and the housing under one roof of several international and multicultural organizations at PSU, is celebrated by an Open House Friday, March 7, 3-7 p.m. in PSU's Sixth Avenue Building, 1950 SW Sixth.

Light refreshments will include foods from several cultures. Al-Anadulus, an Andalusian band, will perform music with Spanish, Arabic and American influences at 4 and 5 p.m. Families and children can join in art activities and games with an international flavor.

A mini-silent auction will take place. And staff from the various programs and organizations will be on hand to discuss resources available to the community -- including a French Beret, a map of Paris, and perhaps even a Russian samovar or the alphabet in Farsi.

For information call 725-8566, 725-8192 or 725-8191.

"Come meet us, familiarize yourself with the Building Bridges lending library, and learn about the resources we can provide," says Colburn. "Browse, borrow and join in!"

Experts warn students of scholarship scams

Computerized scholarship search companies claim that billions of dollars in student aid go untapped each year, and, for a fee, they'll help college students win scholarships. College financial aid experts warn students not to be taken in by the lure of free money.

"There are all kinds of scams trying to get students to pay for scholarship searches to locate these unused funds," said James Kelly, director of student scholarships at the University of Dayton. "Our advice is, 'Buyer, beware.' I jokingly tell people if they have the money to invest in these services, put your money in the lottery. At least if you win, you can win big."

Kelly steers students away from such companies because they can find the same information for free in books from the public library and college financial aid offices. With no charge to prospective and currently enrolled students, the University of Dayton identifies possible scholarships, grants, fellowships and loan opportunities by matching student characteristics against a computer database of more than 14,000 awards from 4,100 sources.

"Most free money is available from universities themselves," said Kelly, noting that the majority of the \$52 billion in student aid available in 1996-97 comes primarily from federal loans and grants and colleges. About \$600 million, or less than 1 percent of the financial aid awarded each year, comes from the private sector, according to Kelly.

While Kelly concedes that some money goes unclaimed every year, it's generally because employees don't take advantage of employee-paid tuition plans or applicants don't

meet a scholarship's criteria. "An example would be a restricted scholarship fund that can only be awarded to a student actively engaged in harness racing or one that can only be given to students of Lithuanian descent. Is it any wonder that some of these scholarships go unused?"

Mark Kantrowitz, who maintains a financial aid information page on the World Wide Web (<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~finaid/>) and has co-authored "The Prentice Hall Guide to Scholarships and Fellowships for Math and Science Students", agrees with Kelly's assessment.

"Every year tens of thousands of families fall prey to fraudulent scholarship opportunities," said Kantrowitz, a doctoral student in computer science at Carnegie Mellon University who has received more than \$300,000 in undergraduate and graduate financial aid. "If you must pay money to get money, it might be a scam. Very few students receive money as a result of using a scholarship search service."

Kelly collects examples of suspicious scholarship offers. "This one guarantees everyone \$2,500 in financial aid. Every college student can borrow \$2,625 through the federal government's Stafford Loan program. All it takes is an application," he said. "They're getting people who don't know anything about the financial aid process."

For families who don't know where to start looking for financial help, Kelly recommends two books: "Don't Miss Out: The Ambitious Student's Guide to Financial Aid" by Anna and Robert Leider and "The Scholarship Book: The Complete Guide to Private-Sector Scholarships, Grants and

Loans for Undergraduates" by Daniel J. Cassidy and Michael J. Alves. Kantrowitz suggests families read "Fund Your Way Through College: Uncovering 1,700 Great Opportunities in Undergraduate Financial Aid" by Debra M. Kirby and Christa Brelin, and "The College Blue Book: Scholarships, Fellowships, Grants and Loans" by Huber William Hurt and Harriett-Jeanne Hurt.

For an application to participate in the CASHE (College Aid Sources for Higher Education) computer database program, prospective University of Dayton students can call 1-800-837-7433 or 1-513-229-4311. Through the free service, students learn which scholarships, grants, fellowships and loans they might be eligible to win.

In addition, Student Services Inc. maintains a free scholarship search service over the Internet called fastWEB. The database, updated daily, contains information about more than 180,000 scholarships. The web address: <http://www.studentservices.com/fastweb/>

Stein wants libraries kept open

Multnomah County Chair Beverly Stein sent a letter today to the 90 members of the Oregon Legislature asking them to "refrain from making legislative cuts to local public services over and above what we now understand to be the legal interpretation of Measure 47."

Stein's request came two days after Oregon Attorney General Hardy Myers issued an opinion that revises the interpretation of Ballot Measure 47. The previous interpretation had meant approximately \$32 to \$40 million in budget cuts for Multnomah County, the revision drops

the estimate into the \$22 to \$30 million range.

Stein noted that the Attorney General's interpretation of Measure 47 would provide Multnomah County taxpayers with an average reduction of 14%, but would reduce the loss of local services. "It means more libraries stay open, more people get health care, fewer criminals go unsupervised and more seniors keep their meals sites..." Stein said.

On December 10, 1996, Stein released a proposed budget cut list that included the closure of eight branch libraries.

More than 400 teachers, school administrators and education policy makers attended the two-day Conference of Education showcased some of the latest research and techniques for dealing with these and other issues that shape today's schools.

Travis Thompson, director of the John F. Kennedy Center for Research on Human Development

at Vanderbilt University, was keynote speaker. Thompson focused on effective strategies to allow American children with disabilities to fully participate in education.

Topics included:
• "Administrators' Issues with the Certificate of Initial Mastery," by Gerald Tindal, UO associate professor in the UO College of Education's Department of Behavioral Research and Teaching.

• "Functional Assessment of Complex Problem Behaviors: Advances and Promising Practices for Students with Severe Disabilities," Jeffrey Sprague, UO assistant professor and director of the Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior
• "URSA: Using Risk-Reduction Strategies Against Abuse," Mary Steinberg, assistance professor of pediatrics, Oregon Health Science University.

• "Fear and Loathing in Virtual America: Authentic Solutions to disabilities Problems in an Unrealistic World," Travis Thompson, director of John F. Kennedy Center for Research on Human Development, Vanderbilt University

• "Breaking the Cycle of Violence: Intervening with the Precursors," Geoff Colvin, research associate, UO Department of Behavioral Research and Teaching
• "Promising Programs from the Other side of the Rockies," Tim Lewis, professor of special education, University of Missouri.

• "Testing Accommodations for Students with Special Needs," UO education professor Gerald Tindal
• "Read Naturally: An Effective Fluency-Building Procedure," Candace Ihnot, Minneapolis School District, Minneapolis, Minn.
• "Preschool Literacy and Phonological Awareness: What Can We Do?" David Majsterek, Department of Teacher Education Programs, Central Washington University.

The Oregon Conference celebrates its 30th year in 1997, the event continues a long tradition of presenting effective practices and innovations to address significant issues facing educators. For more information, contact the Oregon Conference, UO College of Education, (514) 346-5525

International cultures and multiculturalism open house

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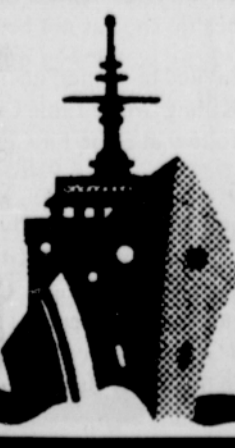
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OHSU fever treatment study

Oregon Health Sciences University is currently conducting a study to compare the fever reducing effect of an investigational drug to ibuprofen (Advil) and placebo (an inactive substance). The study requires that participants have a temperature of 100.5 F or higher and evidence of an upper respiratory tract infection or systemic viral infection.

If you have a fever that you believe is due to an uncomplicated infection such as the flu, you could receive up to \$175.00 for participating in the study. Call Colleen McDevitt at (503) 494-7436 for further information.



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