

E d u c a t i o n

PCC Presents African American Photo Exhibit

The Oregon Historical Society and the PCC Cascade Campus Community History Center is bringing Portlanders a gripping photographic anthology of African American life in Oregon at the Cascade Campus Learning Resource Center from Sept. 21 to Nov. 15.

The free exhibit at Cascade, located at 705 N. Killingsworth, can be viewed from 8 am to 8 pm Monday through Thursday; 8 am to 5 pm on Fridays and 9 am to 2 pm on Saturdays.

In *Search of the Dream: African Americans in Oregon* chronicles African American history in Oregon through the following themes: *Coming to Oregon, Portland's African American Community, World War II and its Aftermath, Victories and New Challenges and Grassroots Activism.*

Elizabeth McLagan is the guest curator of the exhibit and also a board member of the Cascade Community History Center. She has completed research projects for the Oregon Black History Project, the City of Portland Disparity Study, taught on the subject and written on ethnic and gender discrimination in Portland.

Linda Elegant, director of the history center, said she



was glad to have a hand in coordinating the exhibit.

"The Cascade Community History Center was pleased to cooperate in the development of the exhibit," she said. "And I'm also proud to say that a photo from the (PCC) archives is part of the display."

Chet Orloff, the executive director of the Oregon Historical Society, recently weighed in on the African

American contributions to Oregon and the importance of this exhibit.

"Between 1859 and 1942, the few but enterprising and preserving African Americans who came to Oregon contributed to Oregon's social, legal, scientific and cultural life," said Orloff. "Though few in numbers, their accomplishments were many and, today, well-documented."

Renowned Primatologist, Dr. Jane Goodall to appear this October

Dr. Jane Goodall, renowned primatologist, will appear with the heralded Northwest African American Ballet on October 14, 1998 at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, and again October 15th at Eugene's Hult Center for the Performing Arts. Dr. Goodall pioneered our understanding of primate behavior and their interrelationship to humankind. The lectures/performance hosted by the non-profit organization, Specific Events, give flight to the vision of commissioning regional artists to perform works that represent, through their art, the passion, legacy and vitality of the featured speaker. In this case, Dr. Goodall will be honored by a special performance created by the NW African American Ballet's Artistic Director, Bruce Smith. The evening will be an exciting blend of the finest in arts and sciences. Tickets range from \$25-\$42 and are available at all FASTIXX outlets 503-224-8499/1-800-992-8499, or at the Hult Center Box Office 541-687-5000. Each presentation will begin at 7:30 pm.

Following the performance, Dr. Goodall will present her formal lecture, featuring slides, stories and video, which showcase what has become her life's passion, and an inspiration to thousands of aspiring scientists and environmentalists around the globe. A brief question and answer period will

complete the evening. During her visit to Oregon, Dr. Goodall will also address young people throughout the region, featuring *Roots and Shoots*, her environmental education program for youth that reaches well beyond the classroom with a hands-on, interactive approach. The tour will continue on Oct. 16 with an appearance at the Spokane Opera House in Spokane, Washington.

In the summer of 1960, Jane Goodall set out to gain insight into the evolutionary past of humans throughout the observation and behavioral study of wild chimpanzees in Gombe Stream Center in Tanzania, East Africa. Today, over thirty-five years later, Dr. Goodall and her research staff continue to contribute significant findings on chimpanzee behavior. Her profound scientific discoveries have laid the foundation for all future primate studies. Goodall documented behaviors once thought to be exclusive to humans: creating and using tools; medicinal plant use; and exhibiting intricate social hierarchies.

In 1977, she founded The Jane Goodall Institute. With offices around the world, the Institute is committed to wildlife research, environmental education and conservation. Her efforts to protect wild chimpanzees and other primates, while opposing the trade of wild animals for pets,

entertainment and biomedical research, is nothing short of a one-woman crusade. Goodall's Institute has created safe havens throughout the world for orphaned and ailing chimpanzees, promoted environmental education campaigns about the conservation of global habitat, and, has publicized the importance of animal welfare as it pertains to all individuals. Most recently, Dr. Goodall was among more than 600 scientists endorsing legislation placing sharp restrictions on the logging of ancient forests. In addition, she supports the efforts of the Center for Captive Chimpanzee Care to save over 142 of the nation's forgotten and so-called "Space Chimps," who are facing a lifetime in biomedical research facilities and have recently been put up for divestiture by the U.S. Air Force.

Specific Events provides artistic and educational community forums for the Pacific Northwest through which diverse events can be presented to all ages in an open and eclectic atmosphere.

Sponsorship support has been generously provided by the Oregon Museum of Science & Industry, KINK FM 102, Oregon Public Broadcasting, the Oregon Coast Aquarium, and the Heathman Hotel in Portland, and Eastern Washington University in Spokane.

Law Enforcement, criminal justice and school officials agree on safety protocol

Leaders of Multnomah County's school districts, criminal justice system and law enforcement have agreed on how they will work together to ensure student safety at school.

Over 85,000 students and parents will receive a letter signed by a group of 19 school superintendents, police chiefs and commanders, and other top officials. The three-page letter clarifies responsibilities and roles in three scenarios:

*What incidents should school report to police?

*When will police inform the school about a student's behavior?

*What acts will cause arrest and removal of students/perpetrators from school?

The agreement, motivated by recent incidents of school violence in Oregon and around the country, was developed over the summer.

"In June, we discussed the concept and the need to have something

in place by fall, 1998," commented Dr. Edward L. Schmitt, superintendent of Multnomah ESD. "At our annual superintendent's retreat, we invited key law enforcement people to identify their role and to make suggestions."

An expanded group of law enforcement and criminal justice system leaders met at Multnomah ESD on August 21, 1998 to agree on the final details of a school safety plan.

Jefferson High School: Reconstruction Period? II

By Prof. McKinley Burt

We now have it that an 'interim' school superintendent, Snowden, appointed an 'interim' principal, Roberts, to manage an 'interim' Jefferson High School. My neighbor says, "McKinley, we may be living in an 'interim community.'"

Another neighbor at our weekly coffee klatch, a Jefferson parent, questioned both the necessity and motivation for a "national" search for a 'permanent' Jefferson principal. A veteran teacher at our round table commented on a cable broadcast that most of us had seen.

"How ludicrous I thought, sizing up the three vice principals selected to pilot the Jefferson trinity; Michael Jod in, Ken Berry, and Kevin Bacon. Proven administrative talent, familiar with the problems, and with demonstrated skills and commitment - but in the opinion of the system controllers (in Portland and back East) lacking the ability to manage an inner city high school. Reconstruction and plantation time again, folks."

An older man, an experienced accountant, commented that one of the nation's top CPA firms had just completed a comprehensive 'performance' audit for which they were paid \$300,000 by a cash-poor school district. "I have a copy of their report here and I see nothing in their cost-reduction approach that could be used to justify an expensive nation-wide search for expertise that obviously is already here - this is simply a continuation of the old racist process of not utilizing such talent if found in a minority not deemed to be controllable."

Distributing some hand outs to the group, I made a rather caustic comment of my own. "If KMPG Peat Markwick, the auditing firms, has conducted 80 of these performance audits of school districts across the nation, then surely they are well aware of a demonstrable fact; as we earlier observed of Portland, Oregon, in some of the larger school districts is

there a shortage of proven minority administrative talent - only a shortage of the will and the morality to use it in the key or control positions - must Jefferson go afar?"

By this time each member of our group of twelve had time to inspect the hand out package I had distributed. Principally, it was material related to the "National Association for Schools of Excellence, a forward-looking organization of top-flight African American educators with whom I was associated for years. This involvement began in the 1980's and most important to me was the reassurance that out there in the wilderness there were districts that both acknowledged and engaged the 'talented' Portland, Oregon, Nov. 12-14, 1989. Later follows an excerpt from a related article of mine where I wondered how difficult it would be to communicate my mixed emotions of pride in the accomplishment of others and unparalleled encouragement in my own activities in the educational arena. Nothing in anticipation of a Jefferson "Reconstruction."

It was just a matter of meeting in 'real-time' and gaining knowledge and insight from those gifted black inner city educators whom we all subsequently have seen on national television - marveling at their more than adequate demonstrations that most "searches" are exercises in racial game-playing as is the case at Jefferson High School. And what an impressive roster of 'excellence' we have (1990).

"Louise Smith, Charles Rice School, Dallas Texas; Lester Young, General Daniel James School, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Carolyn Reedon, Estes McDaniel School, Henderson, NV.; Juana Davis, Deputy Supt., School District 14, N.Y., N.Y.; Felton Johnson, New York Working, N.Y., N.Y.," and 16 other competent principals and administrators. That 1989 excerpt follows.

"The members of this group come from the ranks of the top principals in

the country, having been cited repeatedly for their leadership in devising effective intervention techniques which have turned many failing schools into glowing success models. National television has featured these accomplishments, repeatedly emphasizing these principals' techniques: High expectations, strong leadership, clear vision, team work, strong staff development, strong appropriate curriculum, genuine accountability, strong community and parental support. "A school should equal the best place you can be on a given day." "It was observed that 'it seems such a short time since the initial planning conference at Gearhart, Oregon in July of 1988.' This was the seminal first meeting hosted by the Tom Peters Group ("In Search of Excellence," "Thriving On Chaos").

Amid all the hard work of organizational logistics and administration it was also noted that "this is not only an idea whose time has come-but one that has been implemented." Present at the conference with their usual unflagging support were Rian

See Jane.

Dr. Jane Goodall

Portland Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall October 14, 1998 7:30 PM FASTIXX 224-8499 or 1-800-992-8499	Eugene Hult Center for the Performing Arts October 15, 1998 7:30 PM Hult Center Box Office (541) 682-5000 or FASTIXX
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Presented by

Abel Ahumada

Dreaming of a Profession

As a child in Mexico, Abel Ahumada had a dream: "To be a dentist. So many kids in my community had tooth decay that could be fixed if someone were trained to do it."

As dreams often do, Abel's went on hold. To help support his family, he came to the United States as a migrant worker. Gradually, the jobs got a little better, and he was working in a clinic when a friend suggested PCC.

"The main reason I could come here was the low cost."

PCC's flexible schedule was another lifesaver:

"If you're a working person with a family, sometimes the only time you can take a class is after the kids are asleep."

Abel is now at Portland State finishing his course work to enter dental school.

College that fits your life. Classes start Sept. 21.

Portland Community College
503-244-6111

