# Family Lwing

#### Thousands to be awarded to Portland-area students

FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

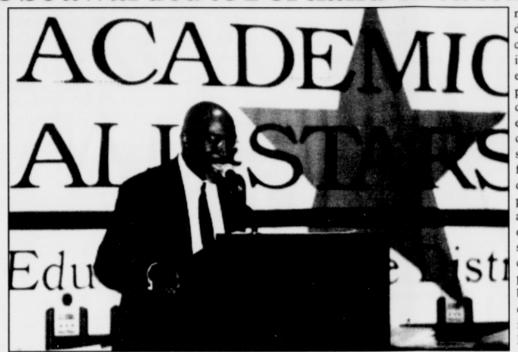
Students who submit portfolios to their high schools may be selected as "Academic All-Stars" in one of nine academic areas and receive scholarships this spring ranging from \$100 to \$1,000 to use at the college or university of their choice.

Academic All-Stars was established in 1982 by the Multnomah Education Service District to reward academic excellence in all public high schools in Multnomah County. Since 1984 when Academic All-Stars first awarded scholarships, 621 students have earned \$285,310 - and the Portland Public School District has earned \$147,130 of that amount.

Students compete through portfolio preparation and interviews in nine academic divisions: Computer Science, Foreign Language, Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Science, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, and "All-Around". Students submit portfolios to their respective schools, where in-school judging takes place. The screening committee at each school selects individual student winners in each academic area. These portfolios are forwarded to the county level, where they are read by a preview committee. This body then selects eight of the eighteen entrants in each academic area to take part in final interviews, where five scholarship winners and three finalists in each academic area will be selected.

An additional scholarship (The Melissa Jorgensen Scholarship) is available to an outstanding student in Dance and Drama.

Where does this money come from? Individuals, businesses, and foundations representing a wide spectrum of the Portland area community contribute to this organization. Special recognition is given to "Sponsors" in these categories: gold (\$3,000), silver (\$2,000), and bronze (\$1,000). The gold sponsors provide the majority of scholarships in an academic category, and are named on that category's trophies. Sponsors are recognized in newspapers, press releases, and television coverage. Additionally, they appear at the spring awards banquet, attended annually by approximately 400 people, including



Through Academic All-Stars, students compete for scholarships through portfolio preparation and interviews in nine academic areas. Darrell Grant (shown above) was the keynote speaker at the Academic All-Stars 1999 Banquet that was held on October 26 at the Sheraton Audience of 430 high school students, teachers, parents and friends.

come true is to support a program as

meaningful as Academic All-Stars.

You CAN make a difference in your

community - Darrell Grant has, and

the students who receive

What Should You Do? First, if you

have a student enrolled in any

Multnomah County public high

school, encourage him or her to submit

a portfolio in one of the recognized

academic areas. These students

should have a passion for their chosen

area of competition, as well as

documented evidence of their work

in that area. Students who are well-

scholarships will, too.

recipients and their parents, school administrators and faculty, and members of the media.

The keynote speaker at last year's banquet was pianist, composer, band leader and producer Darrell Grant. His debut solo release, "Black Art', became one of the most critically acclaimed jazz records of 1994; it was chosen as one of the top ten jazz CD's of the year by New York Times and as one of the top five of the year by England's VOX magazine. Now a resident of Portland, Darrell started the Portland State University MasterClinic Series, which features internationally known jazz on the PSU campus. He started PSU's "Tributes to the Old Cats" concerts, which feature Portland's jazz legends performing with PSU jazz students. He helped to produce the first PSU jazz CD, "Crossing the Bridge," which features several of the artists highlighted in the "Old Cats" concerts. In Darrell's work with the Oregon Council for the Humanities, he presents outreach programs in Oregon schools around African-

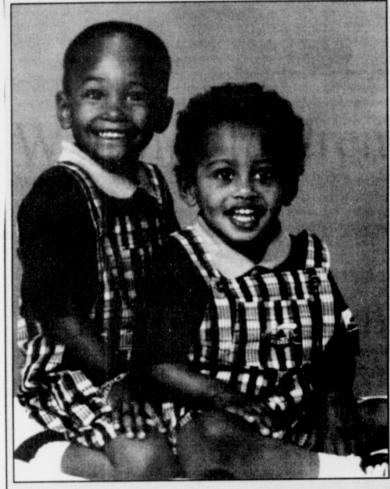
American history and culture. Darrell's message to the audience was simple: follow your heart and believe in your dreams. One way to help make a young person's dreams demonstrate community involvement, especially as it pertains to their category, are excellent candidates for success. Aside from the program, developing a portfolio is a very authentic experience for students; the completed portfolio is often beneficial for college and job interviews. Depending on the

school, Academic All-Star process may start as soon as January; the school judging of

portfolios will be completed by February 25th. You may wish to contact your child's high school and find out their time-line.

Each school has an advisor who coordinates the Academic All-Star events for their building: Benson: Fred Haynes Centennial: Sally Sprandling Cleveland: Judy Sprunger Corbett: Linda Neuman David Douglas: Dick Niehaus Franklin. Call MESD Grant: Charlene Rogers Gresham: Mary Mears-Haskell Jefferson: Don Dixon Lincoln: Andrew Duggan Madison: call MESD Marshall: Doris Rademacher.

### Waiting children



Bobby H. (M) DOB: July 28. 1995 age 4 and Linton D. DOB: June 11, 1998 age 1 both African-American are waiting for a family. Services for Children and Families are looking for foster and adoptive families. If you would like to receive more information about these children or any other children from SCF please contact 1-800-331-0503 or contact Judy Onellana at 731-3075 ext. 405.

#### Police chiefs back child care plans

Eighty-six percent of police chiefs participating in a survey believe the government could reduce youth crime by increasing after-school and child care programs, an advocacy group said today.

Nearly nine of 10 agreed that failing to do so will cost the nation more in the long run in crime, welfare and other expense, said Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a group lobbying Congress to spend more on juvenile crime-prevention

"Congress" failure to substantially increase funding for education child care and after-school programs is irresponsible and short sighted, "said Edward A. Flynn, a member of the group's board and police chief of Arlington County, Va. "Congress doesn't seem to be listening to law enforcement or the public." Flynn said the results of the survey may seem surprising.

"For some people, perhaps, it's counterintuitive," he said. "I suspect that most people who don't know many police chiefs or don't know a lot about what

policing has been through in the last several years would assume that the police policy-makers would be heavy on punishment, heavy on reaction and heavy on sanctions."

Survey results were being released at a meeting of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Charlotte,

The survey was conducted from Oct. 14 to Oct. 27 by two George Mason University professors who received  $556\,responses\,from\,the\,855\,randomly\,selected\,municipal$ police chiefs who received faxes of a written questionnaire. The margin of error is plus or minus 5 percentage points.

The police chiefs were guaranteed anonymity, and survey participants did not know that Fight Crime had commissioned the study, professors Stephen Mastrofsky and Scott Keeter said.

The chiefs were asked to "guide elected officials" by ranking the effectiveness of four juvenile crime-fighting strategies.

"Sixty-nine percent gave the highest priority to providing more after-school programs and educational child care," the group reported. Seventeen percent chose "prosecute more juveniles as adults" their No.

1 strategy. Thirteen percent gave "hire more police officers to investigate juvenile crime" their highest ranking, and 1 percent said "install more metal detectors and surveillance cameras in school."

#### Stopping violence

Building a Working Model with Public Safety, Social

Services and Community Members What: A live statewide televised, educational forum, focusing on family violence, with a multi-disciplinary

approach to prevention. When: Monday, November 8, 1999, 4:30 - 7:00 pm

(live5:30-7:00pm) Where: Portland Cable Access Studios, 2766 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Portland, Oregon.

How: The forum will be conducted in a townhall format with Melissa Mills moderating, guiding an interactive discussion between panel members, and a studio and statewide audience. An 800 number will be provided for phone-in participation.

Why? To focus on an approach to stopping the cycle of violence, by educating social services.

## CHARLENE'S SMART START

Smart Start Child Care Hours 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

If you are eligible for state, or other agency assistance, you must provide the proper documentation before your child may attend. Hourly, weekly & monthly rates call 503 284-3828 for more information.

Director: Charlene Buckner.

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