

## The Focus **First lady** from page 5

of over satisfying the need to be entertained. Dollars made in our community should be dollars 'stayed' in our community. It's been very difficult trying to raise awareness in an area that seems to be low priority with all the other cultural issues we are faced with. Lack of combined support, political issues, lack of understanding of concert production, inconsistent buyer habits and most importantly, vehicle to support local venue usage determine the success or failure of an event. It should not be another decade for a minority applicant to operate in a venue where minority dollars are a large part of its constitution.

Despite what Baker sees as efforts to discourage her from the entertainment business, she says "as long as this is what God wants me to do, I'm going to continue by his faith."

"The most difficult realization that are perplexing is, while raising awareness to support in Youth in the Arts associated with some of the experiences I have had to face, I really wonder what are we setting our youth up for. There has to be "change" in our habits through support— all the way to the way minority entertainment personnel are perceived here in Portland." She continues, "This is the year 2000 and Portland's image is still built around The Symphony, The Opera or the Ballet." Baker points out a quote she often uses that she came

across in the Portland Census Magazine In 1990.

[Oregon's communities share an appreciation for arts, culture and the states remarkable history. People throughout the state also have a common commitment to expand our knowledge and understanding of the physical world and universe around us. Oregon's natural beauty is balanced by its citizen's participation in the arts and the value they place on arts, culture and educational assets.

"This is a beautiful quote, but Portland is a little behind in its meaning. The playing field is definitely not balanced. There is little or no consideration historically for minority production companies nor do we share in the proceeds," comments Baker.

When asked what has been the biggest affliction in the entertainment history. Baker reflects on her June 1999 production of the Temptation Revue featuring Dennis Edwards. *Live for an Evening at The Tiffany*. After my application was rejected at the PCPA Venue's, I had to prove my experience. Originally scheduled for August 1999, I requested to appear earlier in the year because Chinook Winds had picked up the new Temptations (owned and managed by Motown). We were aware of the annual Starlight parade, but thought it to be on a Friday Night ~ In 1999 the event was set for Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. We had gotten the parade route from the Rose Festi-

val office 4 weeks prior to the event. We rehearsed once per week leading up to the event since I have over 32 volunteer staff and we wanted everything to run smooth. The route was due to go south on 10<sup>th</sup>

street to Taylor and then west to the Civic Stadium. We knew there would be presence but not directly, so we thought. On parade night, the route had changed, the parade

down 14<sup>th</sup> street. They began blocking the streets, people were being re-directed, and told outright "You Can't Get to the Tiffany".

(To be continued next week)



Ceres, an Affiliate of Magellan Behavioral Health, offers Employee Assistance Programs and managed Mental Health & Chemical dependency services. We are committed to creating a work environment that values and respects all individuals. For current employment opportunities, please contact our Human Resources Department at (503) 224-2214

## Video shoot from page 5

Inc., about his company's involvement in this record release and video shoot, the popular "Beeperman" expressed that not only is he friends with many of the artist that will be showcased this Thursday night, he also wants to make sure that from a business point of view, these artist get the proper promotion.

Jacks expressed "I'm always willing to go that extra mile. Most of the artist what will be showcased have a record deal or are in the beginning stages of getting their thing off the ground. But along with with these cats, Portland has had and are having artist that need a spotlight, representation or just need to be heard to get their thing off the ground as well and on the charts just the same...that's why Galore, Inc. believes in the functions that these artist want to promote"

Along with other notable businesses in Portland, Galore Communications, Inc. needs to be applauded as they continue to be an outlet as well as a visual and vocal vehicle not for just the established household names from the music charts, but for independent, upcoming and fresh off the block artist just the same.

Whether these artist are known worldwide or local newcomers to the music industry, Galore Communications, Inc. continues to an outlet for all artist who are looking for positive, but equal promotion from vendors.

And with Galores' promotion and California's Git Paid Entertainment, trust that this CD collaboration of Guce & Killay Tay, along with some of the best Cali & Portland have to offer.