

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Health and Human Rights Addressed

Portland State University has invited expert panelists that will address issues relating to health and human rights. On Thursday, March 15, from 12-1 p.m., learn about current legislation that affects the health and human rights of Oregonians. The lecture will be held at PSU's Urban Center, 2nd floor gallery, SW. Mill between Fifth and Sixth.

Feng Shui in the Garden

Explore simple design solutions to your gardening dilemmas using color, shape and placement to improve flow and harmony. The class is through the Alameda Community School on Tuesday, Feb. 20 and 27, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Call 503/823-PLAY.

Paintball Fund-Raiser

Join in the Paintball competition that's open to all on Sunday, April 1 at the Splat Action Paintball Park. Proceeds from the event will go towards the fight against illiteracy. For more information and to register, call Casi or Bud at 503/771-5752.

Weekend Green Tour Guides

Portland Parks & Recreation needs dedicated people to lead weekend plant walks in city parks between April 1 and November 1. These guides will be trained to talk about the various plants - from trees to small flowers - in Laurelhurst, Mt. Tabor, Sellwood, Duniway, Grant, Peninsula, South Waterfront, and Forest Parks and at Hoyt Arboretum. All tours will be held on Saturdays at 10 a.m. - noon. Training is offered. Call 503/823-3601.

Turn Your Teen Around

Learn the seven habits of highly effective teens in a seven-week course held by John Oda, Ph.D. Your teenager will learn such things as turning fear into motivation and action; take control of their emotions; develop a plan of action that supports their outcome, and much more. The sessions will be held at Wells Fargo Center in Portland, starting on Tuesday, April 10, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Call 503/471-2954.

Wild in the City

Portland Parks and Recreation's Outdoor Recreation Program, in collaboration with The Audobon Society of Portland, will visit Summer Lake Park, a 24-acre community park dedicated to the city as a condition of development of the Summer Lake and Ari Green subdivisions. Call 503/823-5132.

Kayak/Canoe Tualatin River Tour

Portland Parks and Recreation's Outdoor Recreation Program, in collaboration with The Audobon Society of Portland and Tualatin Riverkeepers, will host a leisurely kayak or canoe paddle along the Tualatin River. This is a great trip for the novice paddler to explore the riparian forests along the river, as the water is calm and the distances are short. Participants provide their own boats. Call 503/823-5132 for more information and to register.

Vehicle Law Class for Bicyclists

The Bicycle Transportation Alliance, located at 1117 SW Washington in downtown Portland will be having a free vehicle law class for bicyclists on Thursday, March 15, from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. For more info., call 503/226-0676.

Lady Bug Tour Guides

Become a naturalist with Portland Parks & Recreation and promote nature to very young children and their parents. PP&R is starting a new program of Lady Bug Walks in parks around the city. Volunteers are needed to lead these walks and help youngsters and their parents discover the wonders of animals and plants in their neighborhood. Call 503/823-3601 for more information or to receive a training schedule.

Developing a 2020 Plan for Portland Parks



Portland City Commissioner Jim Francesconi has an open ear to the views of kids as he develops a 2020 plan for the city's parks.

(PHOTO BY JURCEYS EDDIS)

The Portland Parks and Recreation Department is asking for public comment on the proposed expansion of the city's park system.

A citizen and staff vision team has examined current parks and facilities; considered what the future demand for certain park services and programs will be; and has come up with recommendations on how things can be done better in the future.

Now they are ready to share what they have learned and get your reaction.

Public meetings are scheduled Thursday, March 15, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Alameda School, 2732 N.E. Fremont and Thursday, March 22, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Columbia Cottage, North Lombard and Woolsey.

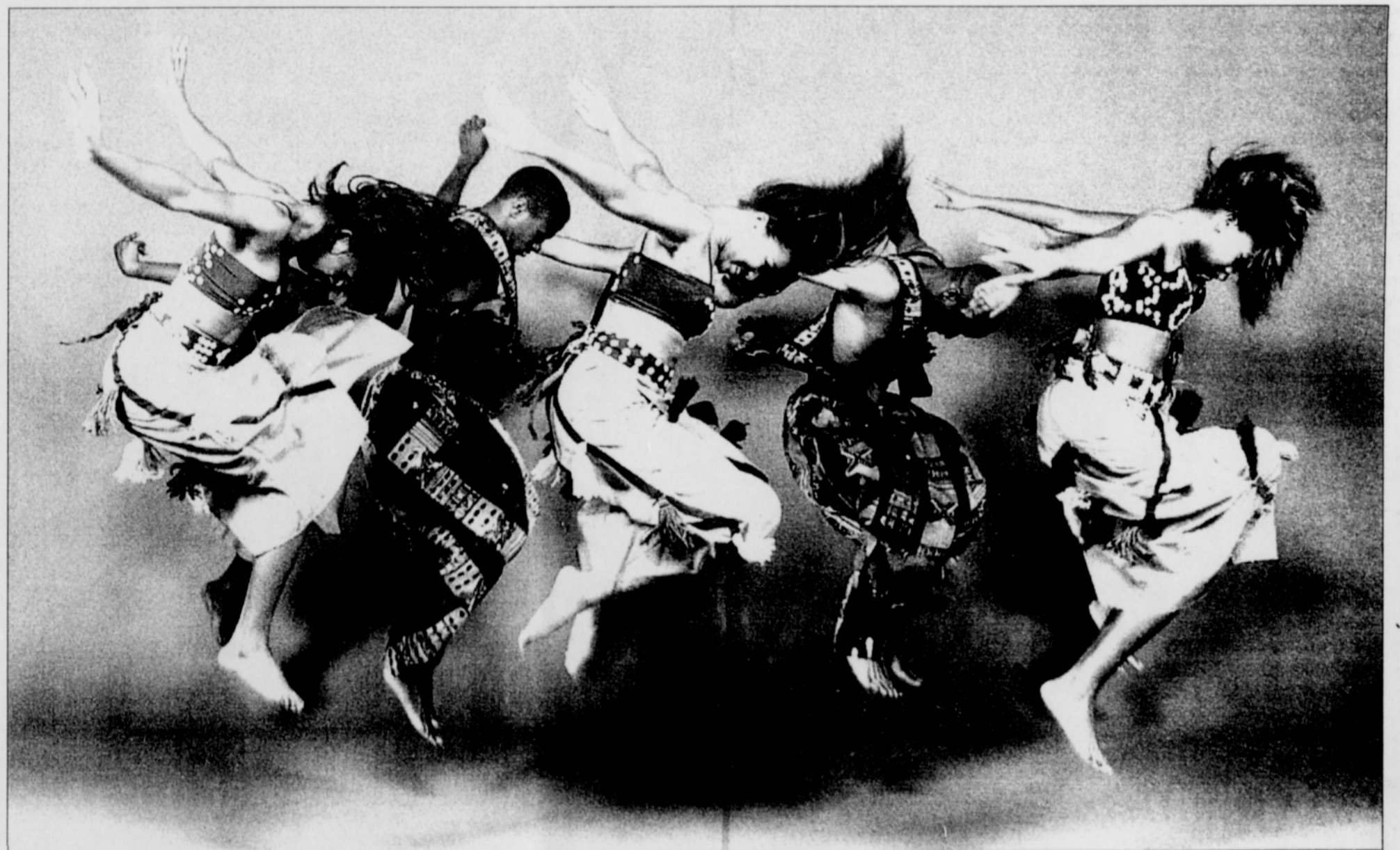
A draft of the Parks 2020 Vision Plan is available for review by visiting the Parks 2020 Web Site at www.portlandparks.org/parks2020, or by calling for your own copy of the plan at 503-823-5589.

City officials say our world-class parks system is in jeopardy.

Portland is projected to continue to experience significant growth in population, density, and diversity. Significant areas of the city lack accessible parks and community centers.

Other parks and natural areas are being loved to death as more and more people use the sport fields, playgrounds, and trails. Precious wildlife habitat is also being threatened.

Bound for Greatness



The nationally acclaimed Jefferson Dancers are headed to one of the most prestigious performing arts centers in the world with the support of Portland Public Schools, the Schnitzer CARE Foundation and individual contributors.

Acclaimed Jefferson Dancers to celebrate 25th anniversary year with Washington, D.C. performance

The nationally acclaimed Jefferson Dancers will add another star to their national reputation when they perform at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. on April 11.

"We are very privileged to have this wonderful opportunity," said Artistic Director Steve Gonzales.

The 20 dancers will perform an entirely new repertoire choreographed by internationally recognized and Portland-area choreographers.

The repertoire includes works by Sarah Slipper of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet Company; Brian Sanders and Moses Pendleton of the internationally acclaimed Momix

Dance Theatre known for its wit, beauty and sheer physical dancing; Jamey Hampton of Portland's Body Vox; and the artistic director of "Rhapsody in Taps," Linda Sohltonnel. Other featured works have been choreographed by the Jefferson Dance Department faculty, including Steve Gonzales, African dancer Ruby Burns and tap dancer Diane Priest.

Dancer John Sorensen-Jolink said, "Having the opportunity to dance with Jefferson Dancers for me has truly been an eye-opening experience into the world of professional dance that most high school dance students only dream of. This winter we had the opportunity to perform with a

dance group from Shanghai, we've taken master classes with dancers from the Alvin Ailey Company and the Sydney (Australia) Dance Company, and now we're going to dance at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., one of the most prestigious performing arts centers in the world." "We've worked on our technique for hours and hours, and rehearsed dances over and over until they're second nature. It's great to be recognized and rewarded for all that hard work," added dancer Traci Adair. The Washington, D.C., performance has been made possible by generous support from Portland Public Schools, the Schnitzer CARE Foundation and individual

Oregonians. Under Gonzales's leadership, the Jefferson Dancers celebrate their 25th anniversary this year. The dancers have enthralled audiences in the Pacific Northwest and across the nation with their dancing excellence and high-energy performances. Dancers are selected through a rigorous audition process in which they must demonstrate proficiency in five dance forms: Jazz, Tap, Modern, African and Ballet.

Area residents will have the opportunity to see the Jefferson Dancers in their annual spring performances May 2 through 5 in the Newmark Theatre at the Portland Center for the Performing Arts.