

FOCUS

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Focus welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs can be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.

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Portland's Young and

Sasse

Sasse, born Nicole Elizabeth Adams, first realized she could sing at the age of eight years old. Sasse was born and raised in Greenwood, Miss. and later moved to Portland at the age of nine.

Like many R&B singers, Sasse grew up with gospel roots. Sasse always sang in the church choir. When church ended, she would go home and practice new songs. Sasse made the decision to make a career out of singing when she was 16. Along with her gospel roots,

Sasse's inspiration also comes from her two favorite artists: Patti LaBelle and Whitney Houston.

Sasse is an extremely busy artist. Some of her extensive projects include: A multitude of radio interviews nationwide; Twix commercial endorsement; Several CD features; Portland "Teen Supreme"; Numerous Portland Trailblazer events; The Z-100 FM "Last Chance Summer Dance"; Numerous Jammin' 95.5 FM events; Portland Hip Hop All-stars and The Las Vegas Magic Show. Sasse has also opened for a host of national artists such as Mystikal, Ja Rule, IMX, E-40, Shaq, Donell Jones, Nelly, Ghostface Killah, Dolemite, Peter Gunz and Lord Tariq.

Sasse is one of the most hardworking and determined

Sasse's success stems from incredible talent, hard work and a constant positive attitude.

Sasse is taking the music scene by storm! Watch out! It's Sasse!



Sasse's song "Kiss You" has become the #1 most requested slow song on Jammin' 95.5 every evening. Her latest CD called "The Sasse Project" is now available in many local music stores.

A Chorus of Men Performing at Reed College

"Liberty" is an evening of talent and song by 4 energetic men's choruses, at Reed College's Kaul Auditorium, May 19 at 7 p.m. Each chorus performs a short set, and then the groups sing jointly, culminating in "The Testament of Freedom," a patriotic setting by Randall Thompson of texts by Thomas Jefferson, guest conducted by Huw Edwards, conductor of the Portland Youth Philharmonic, and accompanied by the Portland State University Wind Symphony, under the direction of Dr. William Tuttle. Both coro uomo and satori men's chorus are part of the Concord Community of Choirs, based in Portland. Coro uomo, an auditioned chorus of 16 men, focuses on performing new and rarely-heard music, and demonstrating the beauty and power of men's voices together. Formed in 1993, satori

comprises singers of varied skill levels and all walks of life, and performs a wide variety of music while having great fun. Satori's set includes "Turn the World Around," by Harry Bellefonte, songs from two musicals, and features a commission by satori baritone Ken Skach-Mills, a setting of the poem "For My Friends," by Oregon's late, great poet, William Stafford. The Oregon Young Men's Ensemble is an auditioned choir of high-school men from grades 9-12 in the Eugene/Springfield area. Founded 19 years ago, the OYME tours every season and last summer won first prize at a youth choral festival in Vienna, Austria. The OYME will sing selections from their repertoire of folk songs, spirituals, sacred pieces, and "doo-wop classics" from the 60's and 70's.

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