

## Rose Festival Events Fill Streets, Parks

Black and Native-American history will come to life during Saturday's Grand Floral

The signature event of the Portland Rose Festival is the Southwest Airlines Grand Floral Parade. Excitement fills the streets of Portland Saturday, June 9 at 10 a.m. as colorful all-floral floats, entertaining marching bands and splendid equestrian units wind their way down the 4.2-mile route.

The Southwest Airlines Grand Floral Parade is the largest single-day spectator event in Oregon and the second largest all-floral parade in the United States. Hundreds of thousands of spectators line the streets to capture the excitement of this spectacular event. Hyalite of northeast Portland will participate in the parade this year, representing the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery.

Liana Tom, the great niece of

Sacajawea will be riding as Sacajawea. Native American Riders will be representing the different tribes of the Pacific Northwest.

Other riders will be African Americans representing influential historical figures: York an important member of the Lewis and Clark Party, Moses Black Harris, Jim Beckworth and other mountain men and women who came during the early 1800's to 1840. They will be dressed in period clothing, reminding the thousands of parade watchers of the adventurous spirit and rich history of the northwest explorers and native inhabitants. Hyalite is a non-profit organization that conducts participatory educational activity programs based on Oregon history for Portland inner city

youth. The focus of the activity programs is on African American contributions related to the development of the Pacific Northwest. This program generates self-awareness and self-esteem of young people in the African American community and brings people of very different backgrounds together to learn about history. Michael Curry will serve as the parade's Grand Marshal. Curry is the award-winning co-designer of Broadway's "The Lion King" and one of the country's leading puppet experts.

KOIN 6 TV airs the parade live at 10 a.m. with hosts Mike Donahue and Shirley Hancock. The show is re-broadcast later that night at 9 p.m.

Also, for the first time in its history, the parade is broadcast in Spanish on the Hispanic Television Network (HTVN).



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
Area residents enjoy the renovated pond and new fountain at Peninsula Park's sunken Rose Garden during Saturday's Rose Festival Fun Day.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
Mark Little, representing the group Hyalite and the Buffalo Soldiers, puts Wendy Nabors into the saddle, during Saturday's Rose Festival Fun Day at Peninsula Park in north Portland.

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