

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

NAACP Meetings

The Portland Branch of the NAACP will hold an executive committee meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 24 and a general membership meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 26 at the Mallory Avenue Christian Church, 126 N.E. Alberta. The group has two monthly executive committee meetings. One on the second Thursday of the month and the other on Thursday before the fourth Saturday of the month. General membership meetings are on the fourth Saturday of each month. For more information, call 503-284-7722.

Online Adopt-a-Pet

The Oregon Humane Society has put a new twist to online personals. With two mouse clicks, those looking for a loving pet can find the dog, cat, rabbit or rodent of their choice by logging on to www.oregonhumane.org. Those interested in pet adoption can scroll through photos of all the pets available for adoption at the northeast Portland shelter and read pet profiles that are expanded daily.

Alternative Medicine Classes

Portland Community College will feature a non-credit lecture series explaining how natural medicine can help you rely on wholesome cures to prevent illnesses as well as heal them. Naturopathic physician Dr. Suzanne Lawton will lead a series of six lectures during which students can discover practical, safe and natural approaches that can be incorporated into the home. Each lecture will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays through May 7 at Tigard High School, 9000 S.W. Durham Rd. Cost is \$14 for individual lectures or \$66 for the series. For more information, call 503-538-9774.

Orchid Show

The largest orchid sale and show in the state of Oregon will be held on Saturday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Washington County Fair Complex in the Cloverleaf and Floral Buildings. Attendees can purchase orchids, books and growing supplies. Admission is \$3 and parking is free. For more information, call 503-692-6459.

Timeless Treasures Benefit

Area residents can bring one antique collectible to the Elders in Action Timeless Treasures benefit on Wednesday, April 30 and have it appraised by a professional to find out if it is treasure or trash. The event will be held at the Cascade Crest Banquet Center at the Oregon Zoo Rotunda. The cost for the benefit is \$30 for seniors and \$50 for general

continued ▼ on page B6

Art Hop Coming to Alberta

Annual event showcases music, food and art

Once again Northeast Alberta Street will rumble with the footsteps of many wide-eyed art lovers at this year's Alberta Street Art Hop. They will come for the live music, food, hands-on art projects, and the notoriously outrageous bicycle parade.

The fourth annual event takes place on

Saturday, May 10 from noon to 6 p.m. on Northeast Alberta Street, between Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and 31st Avenue. Programs will be available at participating Alberta Street businesses.

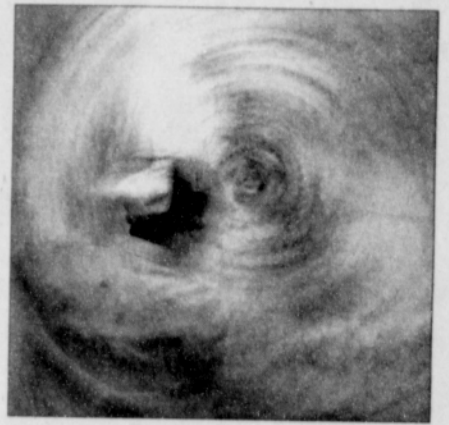
Art Hop projects exploring this year's theme of "shelter" include an installation by Eco-roofs Everywhere, a juried shrine contest, a group mandala project, a raffle of umbrellas decorated by local artists and a hands-on art project called the clothesline.

Performance artist Sidney Rowe will present her works under the Erik

Waagmeester Pavilion, between 13th and 14th streets. She will demonstrate what she calls "scat" painting, an intuitive painting process in reference to jazz music. One of the finished rotating paintings will be on display for the public to view. There will be a live auction of Rowe's paintings at the end of the performance.

Oinks BBQ Express will be supplying southern style barbecue.

The Art Hop is free to the public. For more information visit www.artonalberta.org or call 503-493-7246.



Motion inspired by jazz music is expressed in a painting by performance artist Sydney Rowe. The painter will demonstrate her techniques Saturday, May 10 at the Alberta Art Hop.

Stunning Elegance



PHOTOS BY RON WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Color blocks materialized onto suits, dresses and mix-and-match casuals at the Ebony Fashion Show Friday at the Oregon Convention Center. The annual event raises money for college scholarship for local women.

Ebony Fashion Fair Delights

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The bare skin, animal prints, beads and suede boots of the Ebony Fashion Fair held Friday at the Oregon Convention Center did not distract from six scene-stealing local high school students earning college scholarships.

The world's largest traveling fashion show, celebrating its 45th year of smartly tailored elegance, arrived in northeast Portland to dazzle, entertain and inspire a "black is the new black" fashion-conscious audience.

And while the runway sparkled with 11 stunning women and men donning a spectrum of styles for every body, but not necessarily every budget, the opulence did not overshadow the fundraising element of the evening—a goal to raise \$30,000 for this year's scholarship fund.

The fussy and theatrical event was sponsored by the Portland chapter of The Links, Inc., an exclusive social service organization with a threefold responsibility to education, civic affairs and cultural duty.

The students who met this year's requirement as African-American graduating high school students demonstrating academic potential, high achievement and leadership ability were Sade

Anderson and Jacqueline Lesueur of Cleveland High School, Madelyn Banahene of Reynolds High School, Michael Anthony Everson of Sunset High School, Eluid Newsome of Fort Vancouver High School and James Orr of Grant High School.



Tinika Hampton of Chattanooga, Tenn. models a world-famous design during the Ebony Fashion Fair tour Friday in northeast Portland.

While the scholarship recipients cast a theme of pride and generosity to the event, some models felt equally honored to participate in the runway spectacle.

"I've been coming to these shows since I was a teenager," said Tinika Hampton, 25, of Chattanooga, Tenn.

Although Hampton said the eight months of touring has been exhausting, she said her home show has made the

experience all the richer.

"This is my life and I enjoy every minute of it," she said.

Hampton came with the other models from areas across the United States, but none from Oregon, to give the audience a hot-and-not report from world-famous designers Bob Mackie, Givenchy, Oscar De La Renta, Valentino, Emanuel Ungaro and African-American designers B. Michael, De Alexander, L'Amour, Wayne James and Kevin Hall.

The styles ranged from racy to office-ready, outrageous to wearable and size six to plus sized. Animal prints and faux furs were hot catwalk commodities, as were peacock feathers, patent leather and the springtime inspired pink and blue.

Less sensible fashions included the cocoon-style one-sleeve cable knit sweater dress and the rigid white plastic tile dress that left its wearer with standing room only. These styles, the show's commentator, Jada Jackson, explained are "meant to be worn, not necessarily understood."

The show's spotlight shone on bold color. Neo-Plasticist Piet Mondrian-inspired color blocks were plucked directly from 1980s runways and materialized onto suits, dresses and mix-and-match casuals. Bare skin was definitely in and over-sized hats were the belles of the convention center ballroom.

This symphony of culture, beauty and charity was set to a live band, under the musical direction of Theodis Rodgers Jr., who travels with musical legends Patti LaBelle, Diahann Carroll and the Ebony Fashion Fair.

PCC-Cascade Hosts Job Fair

More than 100 top-notch employers will attend

More than 50 employers offering more than 100 different kinds of jobs will be on hand at Portland Community College's Seventh Annual Spring Career Fest Job and Career Information Fair from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6 at the gymnasium on the Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St.

Representatives from the American Red Cross, Bank of America, Bureau of Land Management, Comcast, Fred Meyer, Kaiser Permanente, METRO, Mt. Hood National Forest, Nike, OregonLive.com, Portland Fire and Rescue, Providence Health System, Regence BlueCross BlueShield, Shriners Hospital, Washington County and Xerox will be in attendance.

College officials said the businesses are looking for full- and part-time workers, as well as recruiting for summer jobs.

There will be special employment workshops offered in Room 106 of the Cascade Library, located in the Student Center. At 11 a.m., Sheila Casey, human resources manager at the Bureau of Land Management, will discuss applying for federal jobs; at noon, Mark Johnson, staffing coordinator at Tektronix, will teach resume basics; at 1 p.m., Kristin Staver, career consultant with Wise Transitions, reviews effective interview techniques; and at 2 p.m., Frank Brown and Tina Cruz, PCC's Regional Workforce Training Team, will offer advice on finding employment in a tight job market.

Kay Coryell, career services coordinator for the Cascade Campus, said that the campus' commitment to bringing employers and job seekers together is important.

continued ▼ on page B6

Colleges Increase Minority Hiring

(AP)—Efforts to increase diversity at Oregon's public universities seems to be working. A new report shows the number of minority faculty has doubled in the past decade.

The share of minority faculty grew from 5.2 percent in 1992 to 10.4 percent now, according to the "2003 Oregon University System Diversity Report."

Each year, the university system reports to the State Board of Higher Education on the extent of faculty and student diversity at the campuses to ensure universities are open to people of all racial and ethnic groups.

The number of students of color also is increasing, but the gains in faculty representation have been the sharpest, said Yvette Webber-Davis, who prepared the report, that was released Friday.

"Our institutions have worked diligently to assure that their outreach to faculty of color has been enhanced in the past 10 years," she said.

The 2003 report said that students of color make up about 13 percent of the

continued ▼ on page B6