



A children's dance troupe from Uganda provides healing through music to children orphaned by HIV and AIDS.

PSU Pledged Record \$8 Million Gift supports engineering, computer sciences

Portland State University President Daniel O. Bernstine and Fariborz Maseeh, founder and president of The Messiah Foundation, have announced the largest gift in the university's history—\$8 million from the Messiah Foundation to the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

With this gift, the college will become the Fariborz Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science.

Maseeh, a first-generation immigrant born in Iran, received his bachelor of science degrees in structural engineering and masters of science in mathematics from PSU before earning a doctorate of science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1990.

The \$8 million gift will be used for the construction of the Northwest Center for Engineering, Science and Technology, as well as to establish two professorships, five student fellowships and an endowment for the dean of the College. In addition to the naming of the College, the auditorium in Northwest Center will be named the Maseeh Auditorium.

'UGANDA' ENSEMBLE Moves Audiences

Audiences are calling "Children of Uganda" an energetic and moving show. Tickets are still available for the March 31 benefit show of "Children of Uganda," presented by Nike and White Bird.

The Wednesday, March 31 performance features 20 children who have lost their

parents to AIDS, and benefits Portland's Black United Fund, Cascade AIDS Project, For Us Northwest, Harambee Centre and the Urban League of Portland.

In connection with the performance, Portland public schools is teaching students about the African AIDS crisis and

the positive healing power of the arts.

The Tour of Light, as the Children of Uganda tour is called, soothes and heals as the cast of children, aged six to 18, play a variety of handmade drums, harps, xylophones and perform dances from a number of countries, including Uganda, Rwanda,

Congo, Tanzania and Kenya.

The show begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Tickets range from \$18 to \$40. Tickets can be purchased at the Portland Center for the Performing Arts box office and at all Ticketmaster outlets, or by calling 503-224-4400.

LAW & JUSTICE

Body Left Dead on Local Street

A man's body was found lying dead in a north Portland street Tuesday morning.

The victim's name was not immediately available. He apparently died

of gunshot wounds before 3 a.m. near North Webster Street and Albina Avenue.

Police responded after a caller reported hearing a gunshot and

seeing a bloody man. The man was dead when officers and paramedics arrived. Albina was temporarily closed between Sumner and Alberta streets.

Man Arrested in Woman's Death

A 20-year-old man was arrested and faced aggravated murder charges in the Portland death of a 20-year-old woman from Clark County, Wash.

Twenty-year-old Sierra Maldonado was missing for several days after leaving a downtown Portland underage nightclub. Her body was found on March 15 beneath the Broadway



Sierra Maldonado

Bridge. Her family and friends had combed the Portland area looking for her, passing out leaflets with her picture.

Portland police spokesman Greg Pashley said Christopher Cook was arrested after being interviewed by detectives on Monday. He was arraigned Tuesday, and was being held at the Multnomah County Detention Center.

Institutional Racism Levied Against Public School System

(AP)—Policies in a public school system south of Seattle are "institutionalized racism at its finest," the head of the Seattle NAACP declared last week as claims against the Kent School District rose to \$30 million.

Families of six black children filed \$20 million in claims, saying security guards manhandled, handcuffed and roughed up the children in incidents at five schools.

The legal action came two weeks after three black female students and their families filed claims totaling \$10 million, alleging that their civil rights had been violated when

guards handcuffed them and used excessive force.

"These stories are just so horrific," Seattle NAACP President Carl Mack told reporters at a news conference.

"Not only are our children being discriminated against because of race, they are victims of excessive force and in some cases they are being criminalized," Mack said, noting that some students were

charged with assault for resisting the guards' rough handling.

Superintendent Barbara Grohe said the district is working with the state Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to appoint an independent investigator to look into the allegations outlined in the claims.

"We take claims from our parents very, very seriously," Grohe said. "We intend to investigate

these. We also, however, take responsibility for providing a safe and supportive learning environment for our children."

Grohe rejected the notion that the district is fostering institutionalized racism. "I believe the district has shown a long-standing commitment to a very diverse community," she said, noting that a diversity task force has been in place for 10 years.

Mack said the Kent School District has not properly prepared for an influx of children of color. Black students make up 10 percent of the district, while accounting for 24 percent of disciplinary actions, he

said. "In most of these cases, there's an issue of not responding to repeated commands," he said, but he believes no child should be manhandled and physically injured.

Man Dies After Bar Stabbing

No suspect has been identified after a man was fatally stabbed at a northeast Portland bar over the weekend.

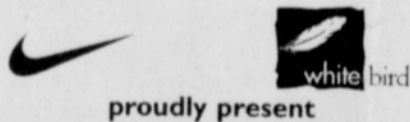
Aaron Crews, 34, was stabbed at Helena's Place Bar on Northeast Columbia Boulevard.

He later died at Oregon Health and Sciences University.

No witnesses have come forward, and police have no suspects.

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CHILDREN OF UGANDA

An Evening to Benefit Black United Fund, Cascade AIDS Project, For Us Northwest, Harambee Centre, Urban League of Portland



20 Children—Ages 6 to 18—who have lost their parents to the AIDS crisis—perform the thrilling dances, songs and music of their East African heritage!

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ARLENE SCHNITZER CONCERT HALL

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Keynote Speakers



Madame Jehan Sadat, world-renowned peace and civil-rights activist and widow of the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat



Judy Shepard, champion of hate-crime legislation in memory of her slain son Matthew Shepard

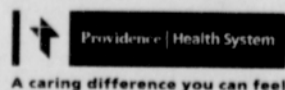


Mark Williams, author of the highly acclaimed book 10 Lenses: Your Guide to Living and Working in a Multicultural World

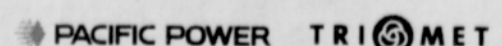


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