

# METRO

The Portland Observer

## African Dance, American Debut

African dancer Loveness Wesa shares the culture of her native country.

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SECTION B

### Community Calendar

#### Learn to Swim

Fall Swimming Lessons are available at Columbia Pool, 7701 N. Chautauqua Blvd. and Matt Dishman Pool, 77 N.E. Knott. For information, call the Portland Parks Aquatic Division at 503-823-5130.

#### Women in NAACP

Women in NAACP meets from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Saturday of each month at the American Red Cross Building, 3131 N. Vancouver. For questions, call 503-249-6263.

#### Red Cross Blood Drive

The American Red Cross invites blood donors to give the gift of life at its 10th annual Thanksgiving Day blood drive, Thursday, Nov. 25 from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Portland Donor Center, 3131 N. Vancouver Ave.

#### Love that Pooch

Problem pooch classes are a must take for anyone who may be new to the world of pet parenthood or is interested in considering adopting a new friend. Come to the Oregon Humane Society to find out why your dog does those silly little things. Meetings are every first and third Saturday of the month at 11 a.m. For more information, call 503-285-7722.

#### Revel in the Holidays

Portland Revels present the 2004 Christmas Stage Show from Dec. 3 through 12 with matinee and evening shows available. Tickets range from \$20 to \$25 with discounts for seniors and students. For tickets, call 503-274-4654 or visit [www.portlandrevels.org](http://www.portlandrevels.org).

#### Ladies with Power

A post-election feminist strategy session is organized by Radical Women on Wednesday, Dec. 8 at 6 p.m. at the Bread and Roses Center, 819 N. Killingsworth. Snacks are available for \$3. For more information, call 503-240-4462.

#### Bazaar for Pets

Find unique, crafty gifts at the Oregon Humane Society's Holiday Craft Bazaar from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Dec. 11 and noon to 6 p.m. on Dec. 12 at 1067 N.E. Columbia Blvd. For more information, call 503-285-7722 or visit [www.oregonhumane.org](http://www.oregonhumane.org).

#### Africa AIDS Response

The Portland-Mutare Sister City Association Africa AIDS Response presents World Aids Day, Hope is Vital, Rhythms for Life with performances by Maya Soleil and MarchFourth on Wednesday, Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. at the Crystal Ballroom, 1132 W. Burnside. All ages. \$25 advance, \$30 at the door. For more information, visit [www.africaaidsresponse.org](http://www.africaaidsresponse.org) or call 503-224-4400 for tickets.

#### Lobby for the Better

Train to be a citizen lobbyist on Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 N.E. 40th. Free and sponsored by the Multnomah County Democratic Party.

#### Forces of Nature

OMSI presents Forces of Nature, National Geographic Chases Mother Nature's Dark Side, at Omnimax through March. For more information, call 503-797-4000.

#### Get Schooled

Learn how to help to improve schools and jobs at a forum with State Superintendent of Public Instruction Susan Castillo and President of Oregon's AFL-CIO Tim Nesbitt at 7 p.m. Jan. 13 at the Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 N.E. 40th. Free and sponsored by the Multnomah County Democratic Party.

King Elementary kids in northeast Portland enjoy a school assembly with world-famous business entrepreneur Paul Allen.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



## SMART Investment

World-famous business entrepreneur Paul Allen met with kids at Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School in northeast Portland as part of his generous support of Start Making A Reader Today (SMART).

Allen has pledged to donate \$1 million to the nonprofit organization when it meets its fundraising goal of \$10 million. SMART only needs to raise \$200,000 by the end of the year to meet the challenge.

"The difference that Paul Allen's Foundation has already made in the lives of children and to our school is enormous," said Mary Jubitz, CEO of SMART. "I can't think of a better investment in Oregon's future."

At the event last week at King School, Allen, an avid space enthusiast, read the children "Dogs in Space" by Nancy Coffelt.

Jerry Moss, community outreach director for the Portland Trail Blazers, and team owner Paul Allen, read to kids at a 'Start Making A Reader Today' event at King Elementary School.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM FORENCICH

## Sudan Gets Local Support



Rev. T. Allen Bethel

Dr. T. Allen Bethel, president of the Albina Ministerial Alliance and senior pastor of Maranatha Church in northeast Portland, just returned from to Sudan where he talked with various community and church leaders about human rights violations against the Sudanese people.

The Albina Ministerial Alliance and North Portland Bible College held a press conference Tuesday to express solidarity and profound concern about the continued abuses of communities in Sudan by the Sudanese Government.

The coalition is putting pressure on the government to address the human rights abuses against Sudanese citizens since 1989.

The ministers are encouraging donations to relief funds distributed by Mercy Corps to people inhabiting Darfur, and southern-most regions Kajo Jaki and Eastern Equatoria.

The ministers also has signed a concrete action plan to bring pressure upon the Sudanese government, under General Omar al-Bashir and any nation that benefits from injustices in Sudan. For more information and to respond to this plea for help, call Elizabeth Nance at 503-254-9039.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Students of Celebration Academy of the Performing Arts in north Portland raise their instruments. They have organized a drive to collect instruments from musicians to give more kids exposure to music education.

## Raise Your Instruments

Celebration Academy of the Performing Arts in north Portland is holding instrument drives through January to reverse the shortage of instruments available in local communities.

"We're asking former musicians and citizens alike to help us in our efforts to keep the arts alive by donating a musical instrument," according to John Tolbert of the academy.

Instruments may be dropped off at many local locations including Rhythm Traders at 424 N.E. Broadway,

Beacock Music at 1420 S.E. 163 Ave. in Vancouver and Portland Music at 531 S.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Celebration Academy, 8202 N. Denver, is a private school specializing in performing arts. Classes blend of traditional educational methods and the need for children to explore and have hands-on opportunities to learn. An after-school arts program for children and adults will also be offered.

For more information and a complete list of instrument drop-off locations, call 503-285-7234.