

METRO

The Portland Observer

Foxx Honored

Best actor award lends hope for Oscar
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SECTION B

Community Calendar

Cultural Support Group

The Albina Ministerial Alliance holds an African-American HIV/AIDS support and education group Thursday, Jan. 20 at Maranatha Church, 4222 N.E. 12th Ave at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Elnathan Hudson at 503-285-0493, extension 217.

Sustainable Food

A workshop to explore ways to make foods affordable, nutritious and culturally appropriate is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19 at St. Andrew Community Center, 4940 N.E. 8th Ave. Cost is a \$10 donation and lunch will be provided. Call 503-221-1054 ext. 203 to register.

Preschool Open House

Tillamook Cooperative Preschools holds its open house on Saturday, March 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 935 N.E. 33 Ave. Financial aid is available. For more information, call 503-234-1691.

Get in Shape

Get in shape with Portland Community College's non-credit classes designed to get you trimmed and toned in January. Weight training: cardio circuit revs up the class for 90 minutes from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the newly built gym of PCC's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth. Cost is \$89 for 10 weeks. For more information, call 503-978-5205.

PCC Skills

Learn how to build a Web-based business in a three-week class from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays from Jan. 25 through Feb. 8 in Room 130 of Mt. Tabor Hall at Portland Community College's Southeast Center, 2305 S.E. 82 Ave. Cost is \$49. For more information, call 503-788-6265.

Business Meeting

Join North/Northeast Business Association meetings on the first Monday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. at Albina Community Bank, 2002 N.E. Martin Luther King Blvd. Morning networking meetings are the third Wednesday of each month from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Blazers Boys and Girls Club, 5250 N.E. Martin Luther King Blvd. For more information, call 503-249-0487 or visit www.nneba.org.

Gain Computer Skills

The Sun program offers a computer class for parents at King Elementary School. To register, call 503-916-6156 or 503-319-3425.

Volunteer Option

If you are looking for a volunteer opportunity, check out Bradley-Angle House to end domestic violence. Bilingual women and women of color are especially needed. For information, call 503-282-9940.

Volunteer for Hospice

Kaiser Permanente offers training for hospice volunteers Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 4 p.m. through Feb. 3 with one Saturday session on Jan. 29. For more information or to register, call 503-499-5285 or 503-499-5408.

Get Fit, Stay Healthy!

Sankofaa Health Institute offers a free diabetes support group from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every third Thursday at Alberta Simmons Plaza, 6707 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. For more information, call 503-285-2484.

Creative Space For Dance

Aurora Dance Studio, 5433 N.E. 30th (at Killingsworth), offers an array of classes for children, teens and adults at all levels of ability. Call 503-249-0201 or visit online at www.hevanet.com/auroradance for additional information.

'Black Panthers 1968'

Exhibit captures symbols of pride, strength

Extraordinary photos of one of the most turbulent times in recent American history are currently on display with the Ruth-Marion Baruch and Pirkle Jones photographic essay "Black Panthers 1968," at Reed College's Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery through Feb. 20.

The free exhibition coincides with Reed College's celebration

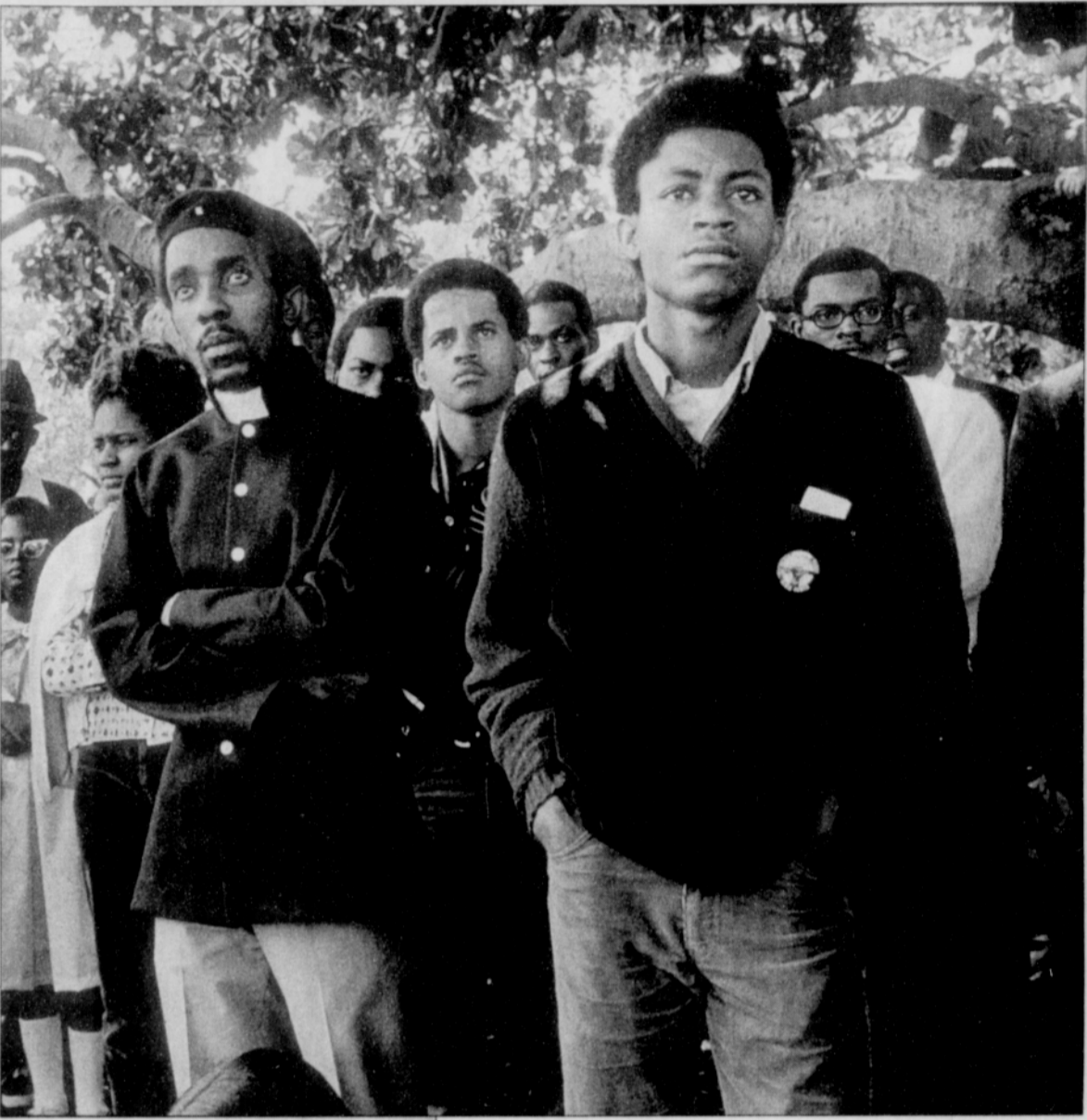
of Black History Month.

This exhibition brings together 45 photos with a hope to expose the public to the Panthers as the photographers saw them: symbols of pride and strength.

From July to October of 1968, noted California photographers Baruch and Jones were invited by Panthers founder Eldridge Cleaver to chronicle the Black



Symbols of pride and strength are evident as women in the Black Panthers salute during the turbulent 1960s. The photograph is one of 45 images that chronicle the Black Panther movement that are on view at Reed College.



The determination and strength of those attending a Black Panthers rally in Oakland, Calif. in 1968 are captured in this photograph by noted photographers by Ruth-Marion Baruch and Pirkle Jones.

Panther movement in and around Oakland, California, the headquarters of the organization.

The work of the photographers stands in radical contrast to mass media images of the time depicting the Panthers as thugs, criminals, or dangerous subversives. In 1968, FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover had vilified the Black Panthers as "the greatest threat to the internal security of the United States."

The images of the photographers reflect the dignity and humanity that animated the young revolutionaries, and also suggest universal themes of family, commitment, and hope for the future.

Baruch, a European-born Jew who faced discrimination in America, and Jones, a white man from Louisiana whose family had witnessed lynchings, said they are sharing their images with the public through a major exhibition to reveal "the feeling of the people."

Cooley Gallery director Stephanie Snyder calls photographers' work "sensitive, aesthetically outstanding documentary photography."

"This exhibition does not seek to position the Panthers historically, or to draw conclusions about the appropriateness

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Stage Manager Goes International

Former PCC student hired by Chicago's Joffrey Ballet

More than 12 years ago, Jessica Flores made a life-changing decision, jumping from studies in administrative justice to theater arts at Portland Community College. Now, Flores has made another jump and it has led to great things. She recently became the stage manager for the respected Joffrey Ballet in Chicago after six years as production manager for the Oregon Ballet.

Flores, 31, joined the Oregon Ballet as the youngest production manager in its history after working behind the scenes at PCC on the first lineup of shows held at the then new Sylvania Campus Performing Arts Center in 1995. Now, she takes her skills to the international level.

"It's definitely the next step for me," said Flores, whose first production will be Joffrey's trip to the Netherlands' Diaghilev Festival. "By making the move to Chicago, I am taking it to a much higher-tiered company. We're doing a lot of international shows for the Joffrey Ballet's 50th anniversary."

Flores has fond memories of PCC as she helped put on the first-ever production in the new Performing Arts Center, built in 1995. The play,



Portland resident Jessica Flores prepares an exciting new adventure in her life as the stage manager for the respected Joffrey Ballet in Chicago.

"Noises Off," offered Flores much of what attracted her to theater.

"My favorite memory is the opening of the new theater and working so hard to open that first show. I was the stage manager for the very first production and I was a part of 11 PCC productions altogether," Flores said. "I fell in love in Portland with theater and the opportunities it afforded. I learned a lot from PCC's theater arts department, especially retired instructor Sue Parks-Hilden."

At the Oregon Ballet, Flores, worked on more than 35 performances, was in charge of all technical aspects of the productions at

the Portland-based company, but in her new role she will focus on more specific areas such as working on ensuring the safety of the dancers.

"I enjoy the fact that by what I do affects the performance of the dancers and the audience can appreciate that," she said. "I'm helping to make art."

At PCC, she explains she didn't want to be a performer herself and naturally found technical stage work more fascinating.

"I gravitated to the backstage and wasn't interested in glory," she said.

Flores, whose parents were originally from Portland, came up from California to attend Portland State University. She was also completing her associate's degree at PCC, when she was drawn into the world of theater arts.

"I took Introduction to Theater to round out my schedule," Flores recalls. "One day, the technical director said he needed more students in his technical theater class or it would be canceled. So, that sounded interesting and I tried it and fell in love."

And now the future for Flores is bright as a spotlight.

TriMet May Boost Fares

TriMet has proposed a 5-cent fare increase to begin in April to cover record high diesel prices.

The transit agency uses more than 6 million gallons of diesel annually, and high prices have created a \$3 million budget deficit. The shortfall comes even after adjustments to improve fuel efficiency at TriMet by making transmission and axle adjustments, reducing engine idling and checking tire pressure more frequently, which is saving the agency \$600,000 annually.

A 5-cent fare increase on most cash fares will result in \$1.5 million in revenue.

The TriMet Board of Directors will have a first reading of the fare increase ordinance at its next meeting on Jan. 26 and will vote on the ordinance at its Feb. 23 meeting.

If approved, two zone tickets would go from \$1.35 to \$1.40 and an All-Zone ticket would rise from \$1.65 to \$1.70.