

## Culture Council Awards Thara Memory

The Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) has announced the winner of this year's Individual Artist's Fellowship Award: to musician, composer and educator, Thara Memory. This fellowship, which is presented to a local artist of high merit in rotating disciplines each year, carries a cash award of \$20,000. Due to budget constraints, only one Fellowship is being awarded this year.

Thara Memory is a brilliant and passionate musician, composer and educator. His contribution to the Portland music community spans over 35 years. In those years he has made a significant impact on the Portland jazz scene as one of the most talented jazz performers this area has to offer. His musicianship crosses over between classical and jazz and back again. But he is more than a trumpet player, more than a composer, Thara Memory is a master teacher. He has devoted his professional life to working with young people from all walks of life to open their eyes to the power of music.

With the Fellowship funds, Thara plans to dedicate more time and energy to his jazz clinics and workshops offered to high school band



Thara Memory

programs. He will explore ways to make music more accessible to our community and particularly young people. Thara will continue his conducting work with not-for-profit community orchestras such as Pacific Crest Sinfonietta and Diminendo Wind Orchestra. Additionally, the Fellowship funds will support Thara as he works on his next original score; the foundation of this piece will be American Art Music infused with classical.

The RACC Artists Fellowship Award was established in 1999 as part of ArtsPlan 2000+ which recommended that the community recognize the value of some of the region's most accomplished artists.

# COURAGEOUS AFRICAN AMERICANS



BY RON WEBER

## Scholastic power builds political icon

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has become one of the most accomplished and powerful African-American women of all times.

She was born Nov. 14, 1954 in segregated Birmingham, Ala. At around the age of 12, she moved to Colorado. Her parents told her she could achieve anything she wanted. A child prodigy at the piano, she skipped two grades in primary school and graduated from the University of Denver in 1974 at the age of 19. "Condi," as President Bush likes to call her, planned on majoring in music, but her mind was soon changed and she graduated in political science. She earned a masters degree the following year from Notre Dame. Six years later she received a doctorate degree in international studies from Stanford. After completing a doctorate in political science, she became a "fellow" at the Hoover Institute, a conservative think-tank.

Rice taught political science from 1981-1989 at Stanford where she was also a member of the Center for



Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice

she is not much more than minority window dressing. Others say she has not been given a fair chance to spread her wings as a leader. Despite such criticism, it is easy to note that her political climb has certainly been nothing less than historic.

Currently, her role as Secretary of State is strained by the war in Iraq and the plummeting popularity of the United States. Photo ops show friendly smiles, hugs, and handshakes from leaders around the world, but underneath all of this is a boiling pot of tension about America increasingly becoming involved in the business of countries throughout the world.

Regardless of where you fall along the popularity of Dr. Condoleezza Rice, one thing is certain. She has gone from a child born to one of the most prejudiced areas of America to become a powerful figure in America and around the world. Her vigilance in improving her mind through education should be noted as the finest example of what scholastic achievement can mean for any American child, regardless of race or color.

Ron Weber is a speaker and writer of African American history and a regular contributor to The Portland Observer.

*Her political climb has certainly been nothing less than historic.*

International Security and Arms Control. Another fellowship in 1987 allowed her to serve as a special assistant to the Joint Chiefs of Staff where she was assigned to Strategic Nuclear Policy. After serving the first President Bush as director of Soviet and European affairs on the National Security Council she became Stanford's provost, the number two job at the university. She oversaw an academic program

involving 1,400 faculty members, 14,000 students and a \$1.5 billion budget, the youngest and first black person to hold Stanford's chief academic and budget position.

Rice was named National Security Advisor to George W. Bush in 2000 before becoming his Secretary of State last January.

Under the younger Bush, many feel she has not been allowed to stray too far from his leash. Some say

## In the Neighborhood Do you feel Portland is safe from threats of a terrorist attack?



*I feel pretty safe. I believe that Portland is not a real big target for anyone interested in hurting this country.*  
--Alex McFarland, small business co-director



*It's happening all over the world. People assume that everything is a terrorist attack. Portland is not a big city like New York or Los Angeles or even Seattle. There is more happening there rather than here and that's why it's not likely that Portland will be affected by terrorist attacks.*  
--Carolyn Stoudamire, hair stylist



*In general, I don't feel safe anywhere. Anything can happen, harm can be in your own back yard or on an airplane and we could never know.*  
--Harry Hopkins, drum instructor

*I am really more concerned about retaliations instead of terrorist attacks. There are more important cities on the west coast than Portland. We don't have any military centers or heads of financial institutions that a terrorist would be interested in.*  
--Andrew Chase, bike mechanic



*I feel safe living in Portland because terrorists aren't interested in this city.*  
--Hattie Porter, owner of hair salon



*All we have in Oregon is an air force base and that is because terrorism isn't a large threat here. If there were an interest from terrorists in Portland then President Bush would want more military presence by building more bases.*  
--Lorenzo Williams, security worker



## New Seasons Welcomes New President

Locally owned and operated grocer New Seasons Market recently announced Lisa Sedlar as its new president. Sedlar will be responsible for the overall management and operations of all stores.

Current president Brian Rohter, who co-founded New Seasons Market five years ago, has been promoted to chief executive officer and will focus on

managing the company's rapid growth, maintaining a progressive workplace and continuing to build on the company's sustainable business model.

Sedlar comes to New Seasons Market from Boulder, Colorado-based Pharmacia Integrative Pharmacy, where she was vice president of sales and merchandising. She has more than 15 years' experience in the natural

foods industry and is a trained chef with an interest in the interaction between good food and health.

New Seasons Market has 900 employees (213 jobs were added in 2004). A sixth store is under construction in the Arbor Lodge neighborhood in North Portland, and a seventh will be located at Cedar Hills Crossing in Beaverton.

## Homebuyer Education Class Offered

The African American Alliance for Homeownership invites the public to attend a free Homebuyer Education Class on Saturday, July 23 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Commu-

nity AME Zion Church on 3605 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street in Vancouver, Wash.

First time homebuyers and current homeowners are encouraged to attend. Topics will include bud-

geting, finding the right home and working with a lender. Refreshments will be provided.

To register, call 503-285-5555, extension 558.

Dear Deanna!

I've spent tons of money on dates and dining but get nothing in return. I try to hold on to chivalry in this day and age but women need to get with the program and spend as well. I'm tired of watching other men do the same? How do I let a woman know I want to date her but I'm not willing to part with my money too soon? --Roger Davis; Atlanta, GA



**Ask Deanna!**  
Real People, Real Advice  
An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality-based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

My pastor is dating a lady that I feel is loose. She pulls into the driveway blasting rap music, has him drinking wine and I'm sure they're intimate. I'm in the process of rallying a protest at my church if he doesn't stop this behavior. As a Christian, am I right to take this matter into my own hands or should I wait for the Church to act? --Anonymous; Memphis, TN

Dear Anonymous:

I'm willing to say you're one of those tight, dried up judgmental Christians that has something to say about everything and evidence to prove nothing. How do you know it was rap music unless you listen to it yourself and can recognize the lyrics? You sound like a hater armed with gossip and you should be ashamed of yourself. However, it's okay to be concerned. You should approach this the right way and consult with a church elder in private before launching an attack that may burn you in the end.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

Dear Roger:

You're trying to be impressive by spending money like a fake Donald Trump. If "getting something" drives your motivation for dinner and dating then you got what you deserved. Nothing. It's none of your business how other men spend their money. You should lead by example. Before your next date have a money discussion and determine who's paying or if you'll go Dutch and keep it moving.

Dear Deanna!

I'm responding to Marvin in Omaha, NE who was dating two women. You advised him to honestly tell each woman about the other and risk losing them both. I disagree. There are many women that don't mind sharing because of the assumed men shortage. I'm a two-timer and think Marvin should con-

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