

# Portland Observer Auto Review 2006 BMW 325i



Tested Vehicle Info: Price: \$39,165; Engine: 3.0 liter DOHC 24-valve inline six-cylinder; Transmission: 6-speed manual.

BY KATHLEEN CARR

BMW has launched the first all-new 3 Series models in six years, the 325i sedan of 2006 rides on an expanded RWD platform with longer wheelbase and wider track to enhance chassis dynamics and hone handling traits.

The BMW 325i sedan accelerates quicker, stops shorter and turns with more lateral grip than the 2005 models. They are roomier, with more standard and optional equipment and more sophisticated electronic controls. For entry-luxury market shoppers who put a premium on driving satisfaction, the BMW 3 Series remains the place to start. One of the most obvious points is that the vehicle is two inches longer and three inches wider. The 3 Series sedans no longer have a keyed ignition switch, relying instead on a slot-type key fob and a starter button. Seats have always been one of this car's strengths, and the new ones are better than ever. Even the standard-trim front buckets provide excellent support without feeling too hard.

The 325i sedan base price (\$30,995), with a new engine that generates 225 horsepower, for an increase of 40 over the 2005 model. It comes well equipped,

with automatic climate and headlight control, a climate-controlled center console, headlight washers, rain-sensing wipers, a power moonroof, 12-speaker AM/FM/CD and the trick new self-braking Dynamic Cruise Control. Burr walnut trim is standard, though the standard upholstery is BMW's Leatherette vinyl. Lighter poplar trim and aluminum are available as no-charge options.

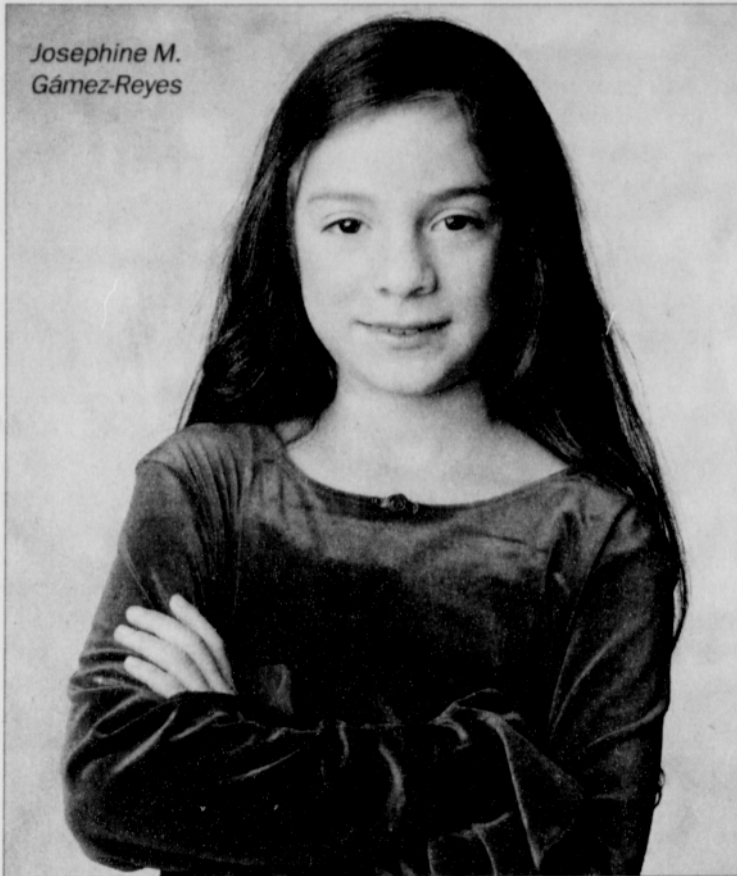
The heart of any BMW is its engine, and the one in the new 3 Series is first rate. It remains true to BMW's commitment to inline six-cylinder engines, as other manufacturers have switched almost exclusively to V6s. The straight six presents more packaging challenges, but its unique performance characteristics and smoothness make it a favorite among enthusiast drivers. The 325i remains a true sports sedan with it top of the line suspension for the true driving enthusiasts.

The all-new 2006 BMW 3 Series sedans are true to their predecessors, with a couple of caveats. The typical BMW buyer will likely appreciate the technology built into the new 3, and particularly the electronic stability control wizardry.

# EL OBSERVADOR

## Student Ambassador to Explore Europe

Represents People to People program



Josephine M. Gámez-Reyes

Josephine M. Gámez-Reyes, a student at Faubion Elementary School, has once again been accepted into the People to People Student Ambassador Program, an educational travel program founded by President D. Eisenhower.

She will explore Paris and London for 14 days this summer as a member of the Portland delegation. The group leaves June 19 and returns on July 2.

By participating in the Tale of Two Cities itinerary, Gámez-Reyes can earn academic credit while getting to know the people, culture and history of the places visited. She will take part in a variety of activities such as a meeting with a Member of Parliament and learning about the British government, climbing to the heights of the Eiffel

Tower for a dazzling view of Paris, watching the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace, and spending a full day of adventure and fun at Disneyland Paris.

Acceptance into the Student Ambassador Program is an honor. After being nominated to enroll, Gámez-Reyes submitted letters of recommendation and successfully completed an interview process.

Gámez-Reyes will travel under the leadership of Travis Edward Nodurft, a teacher-leader from West Linn. A local delegation manager who coordinates the cultural and recreational excursions and is familiar with local customs will meet the group upon arrival.

President Eisenhower founded People to People during his presidency in 1956 with citizen leaders including entertainer Bob Hope, Olympic champion Jesse Owens, amusement entrepreneur Walt Disney and Hallmark Cards founder Joyce Hall.

## Libraries Celebrate Cultures

Neighborhood libraries are hosting Hispanic festivals this month in celebration of children, their cultures and languages, multilingual literacy, and the magic of books. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend.

Multnomah County's Fairview-Columbia, Gregory Heights, Gresham, Holgate, Midland, North Portland, Rockwood, and St. Johns libraries will celebrate with a variety of performances and activities in both Spanish and English, including dance, music, crafts, clowns, puppets and stories.

For more information and location-specific events, call your library or visit [www.multcolib.org/libros/dia](http://www.multcolib.org/libros/dia).



## A Legacy Preserved

Gallery pays tribute to Mexican artist

The work of Mexican artist Guillermo Martinez Garrido is on display through April 25 at Onda Arte Latina/Cross Currents Gallery, 2215 N.E. Alberta St.

The twenty pieces in the show represent Garrido's most recent abstract mixed media technique. He worked in acrylic, oil and pastels using a vibrant palette, which prominently featured Mexican pink. He added texture by layering pumice stone on heavy cotton paper that had been primed with acrylic medium, and then manipulated the pumice with a putty knife.

Garrido was born and raised in Mexico City. He began painting as a young boy, studied architecture



Vibrant colors and textures are found in works by Mexican artist Martinez Garrido.

and industrial design and produced and exhibited art until his untimely death last year at age 58.

His daughter, who lives in Corvallis, inherited the art collection along with her brother and has worked to preserve the artist's

legacy by showing his paintings.

Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday through Saturday, and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. For more information visit [www.ondagallery.com](http://www.ondagallery.com).

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# Walk of the Heroines

continued from Metro

communities and invited people to presentations," said Johanna Brenner, chairwoman of the women's studies department and the Walk's executive committee director.

PSU donated the land for the city block-long Walk, beginning near

the PSU library and leading up to Hoffman Hall.

Students and a board of directors including faculty, alumni and community members provided initial donations for the Walk. The remaining donations will come as gifts from private foundations, corporations and individuals.

A few heroines visitors will find

along the walk are women's rights pioneer Dr. Alice Armstrong, African native and cross-cultural leader Emma Fofanah and Oregon's first woman governor, Barbara Roberts. Here is a description of what you can expect when the Walk is completed:

Starting at the south end, visitors can walk along a series of arched, curving walls engraved with approximately 1,350 names, resting at stone benches engraved with literary quotes. The walls will also include recesses along the south wall, displaying art objects commissioned for the Walk.

If you continue walking along the naming wall, visitors will come to a stage. The wall will serve as a backdrop to this public platform, designed for rallies, concerts, speakouts and ceremonies. On quieter days, the stage will provide a backdrop for a panoramic view of the park.

Walk a few paces ahead, and visitors will find a fountain featuring an illuminated jet of water, shooting out into a pool with a spiraling mosaic design. The fountain will turn into a watercourse, weaving through the park. Several benches will line the waterway for reflection and conversation.

The watercourse will lead visitors to an educational kiosk, at the heart of the Walk. The freestanding steel structure, covered by a floating glass roof, will include two computer terminals, plus six graphic display panels housing rotating exhibits that feature women of spe-

cial achievement. The highly interactive displays will allow visitors to access photographs, biographies and life narratives of the women honored.

The executive committee is still in the fundraising and selection phase of the Walk. Individuals, families, groups or organizations may honor any woman, living or deceased. Heroines do not necessarily need to be from Oregon, but must reflect and represent the women who have mattered in the lives of people in this region.

There are many honoring opportunities. Donations can be made to name an element, piece of art, or sculpture for your heroine, or a simple engraving, which requires a donation of \$200. In order to reserve a place for your heroine, you must make an initial contribution or pledge, but you can spread your payment out over a long period of time.

"The idea is to make it accessible to everyone," Brenner said. "You don't have to have a lot of money." Contributions for the Walk will go toward construction costs, plus maintenance and repair. The Walk project also supports a permanent fund for student scholarships and educational programming through PSU's Department of Women's Studies.

For more information about the project or donation opportunities, contact the Women's Studies Department at 503-725-8188, visit the Walk's website at [www.who.pdx.edu](http://www.who.pdx.edu) or contact [heroines@pdx.edu](mailto:heroines@pdx.edu).

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