

# METRO

The Portland Observer



**'Reel' Festival**  
Celebrates 25th Season  
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**38**  
years of  
community service

SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### MLK Tribute at PSU

Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund, will be the featured speaker during a community-wide commemoration on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Thursday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. at Portland State University's Lincoln Performance Hall.

### Me, Too & Company

Tuesday, Jan. 29, begins the free eight-week support group for children, teens and adults who have experienced the death of an immediate family member or close friend; for more information contact 503-499-5307.

### Sisters of the Road March

Sisters of the Road, a community-advocacy group for the homeless, invites everyone to join their annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day March and Rally on Monday, Jan. 21 at 2 p.m. beginning at the Sisters of the Road Center, 133 N.W. 6th Ave.

### Zoo Experiences

Throughout the month of January, the Oregon Zoo will host several interactive adventures for parents and children ages 3-5 years, for more information visit oregonzoo.org or call 503-220-2781.

### Day On, Not a Day Off

Monday, Jan. 21, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Portland State University-Hoffman Hall, 1833 S.W. 11th Ave., will honor Dr. Martin Luther King legacy, through a day of service; for more information, contact 503-725-9727.

### MLK Memorial Mass

Saturday, Jan. 19, at 5:30 p.m., St. Mary's Cathedral at N.W. 18th and Couch Street, host an annual mass in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. in the African-American Catholic tradition featuring a combined Gospel choir.

### Lead Poisoning Prevention

Thursday, Jan. 17, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Sellwood Community Center, 1436 S.E. Spokane, will host this free workshop to protect your family from lead poisoning; participants receive a free test kit and cleaning materials; to register call 503-284-6827.

### Free Weatherization Workshop

Saturday, Jan. 19, from 10 a.m. to noon, St. John's Community Center, 1901 S.E. Oak Grove Blvd. in Milwaukie, will host this free workshop to help lower your energy bill. To register, call 503-284-6827.

### Renewable Energy Series

Saturdays, Jan. 19 and Feb. 16, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., PCC Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St. Room SC-202, will host the series designed to investigate opportunities for renewable energy applications. For more information call 503-978-5143.

### Portland Copwatch Meets

Tuesday, Jan. 22, Portland Copwatch invites those who wish to volunteer or those interested in police accountability issues to attend a free orientation at Laughing Horse Books, 12 N.E. 10th Ave., beginning at 7 p.m. For reservations, call 503-236-3065.

### The Vocabulary of Architecture

Saturday, Feb. 9, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., the Architectural Heritage Center, 701 S.E. Grand Ave., will host guest speakers Jane Morrison and Carol Lane in the educational seminar to demystify the language of architecture; to register, call 503-231-7264 or visit AHC.org.

### Advocates Needed

Volunteer advocates and investigators are needed to serve as ombudsmen for residents of nursing homes, residential care facilities, assisted-living and adult foster-care homes; training and certification begins Thursday, Jan. 10. For more information on how you can get involved contact Kathy Walter at 800-522-2602.

### Catch the Authors

Thursday, Feb. 28, at 6:30 p.m., In Other Words, 8 N.E. Killingsworth St., will host the reading night featuring five gay/lesbian/transgender authors including: Gabrielle Goldsby, Diane Anderson-Minshall, Jacob Anderson-Minshall, Kathy Belge and Gina Daggett; for more information, visit inotherwords.org or call 503-232-6003.

## Pageant Focuses on 'Total Person'

### Delegates chosen for Miss Black Oregon

Emphasizing intelligence, strong character and perseverance, the Miss Black Oregon Scholarship Foundation doesn't fit into the typical image of a glamour-girl "beauty pageant."

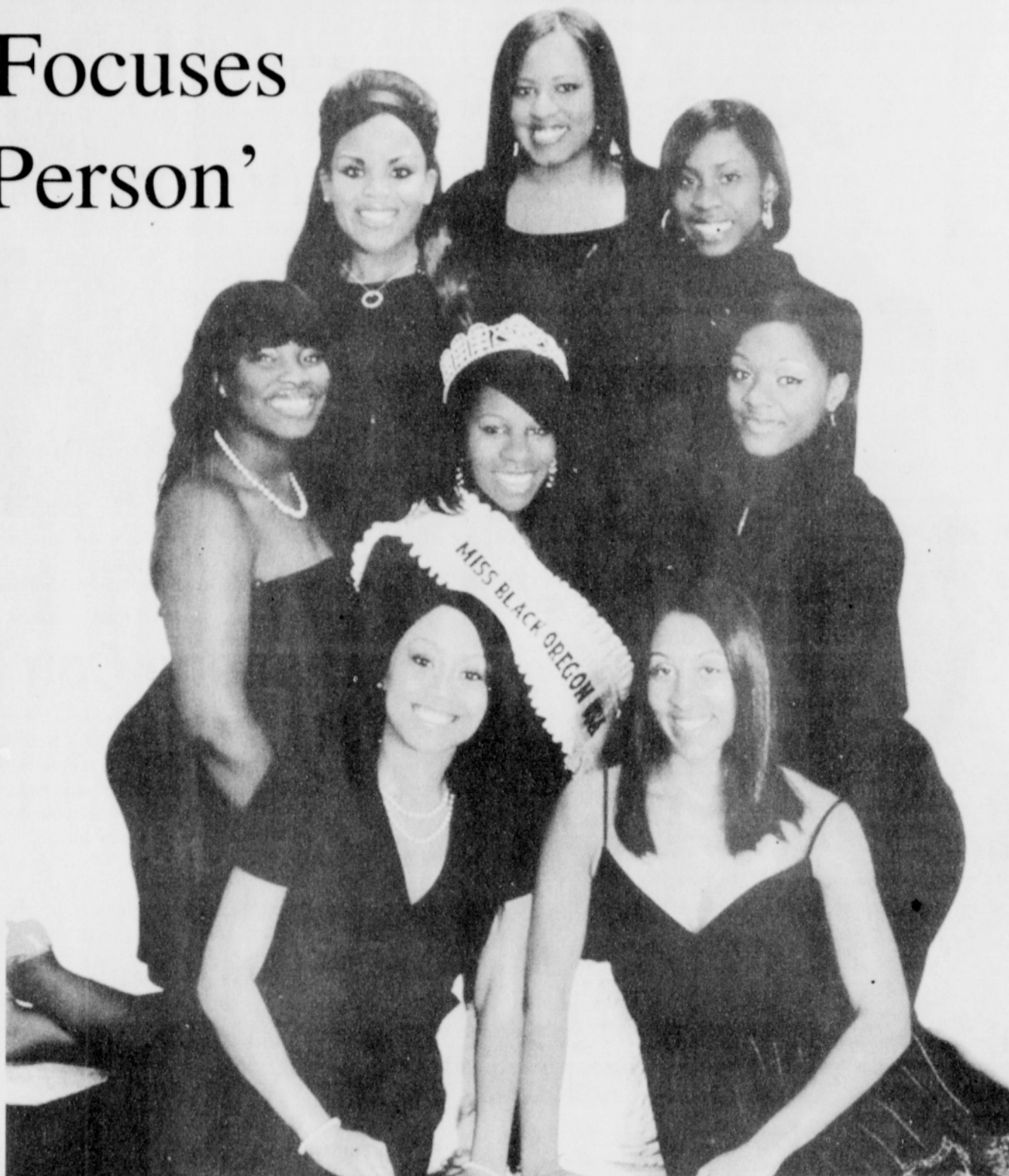
The event focuses on the "total person" in finding someone with a beautiful mind and body to represent the best in female African Americans' strength and determination.

State winners are expected to use the civic platform to promote issues surrounding health and education, two social indicators that organizers consider vital to the African-American community.

The winner will receive \$3,500 for college, an all-expenses-paid trip to Gambia and an opportunity to represent Oregon in an international competition.

A nonprofit corporation, Miss Black U.S.A. believes that education is the key to lifelong success and empowerment; it strives to provide scholastic achievement for young women by developing the "whole woman" in "mind, body and spirit."

The pageant is scheduled for Feb. 24 at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel.



Delegates competing for Miss Black Oregon of 2008 surround last year's winner Kelci Rae Flowers. The new contestants are (clockwise from bottom left) Gente' Traylor, Yvenie Martino, Mameet Lewis, Denaya Wilson, Kiara Dent, Brittany Jefferson and Michelle Washington.

## Oregon Health Plan to Open Rolls

First new enrollments available since 2004

For the first time since mid-2004, the Oregon Health Plan is preparing to accept new enrollees for its standard benefit package, serving low-income Oregon adults ages 19 to 65 who do not qualify for traditional Medicaid but earn less than the federal poverty level (\$20,650 annually for a family of four).

Beginning Jan. 28, Oregonians who believe they might qualify for the health insurance may put their names on a reservation list. On Feb. 29, the Oregon Department of Human Services will begin drawing names from the list by random. Officials will then send individuals whose names are drawn applications for the insurance.

At its peak OHP-Standard served 132,000 people. However, due to budget cuts in 2004, the program was closed to new enrollments and the number of clients served was reduced to an average of just 24,000.

The program now is supported by taxes on hospitals and managed-care plans, which the two industry groups supported. Attrition has dropped the numbers of people served to 19,000, opening the way to enroll more individuals until the average of 24,000 clients is reached.

"We believe demand will be high for this health care coverage," said Jim Edge, DHS state Medicaid director. "Many more people qualify than the number of openings available, which is why we have created the reservation list and random selection method. We believe this is the most equitable way to enroll new clients."

People wishing to get on the reservation list may visit [oregon.gov/DHS/open](http://oregon.gov/DHS/open) and select "Request Form" from the menu option. You can also pick up a form at a DHS office or call 1-800-699-9075 toll-free Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

No reservations will be accepted prior to Jan. 28.

Edge noted that DHS is trying to reach as

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## Entrepreneur Builds on Success

### Cutting is barber's passion

Daniel Natrell Laboy Parks is a striving entrepreneur in the Portland community.

He began cutting hair at the age of 13 in the basement of his parent's

home. The house was always full of kids in the neighborhood coming to get their hair cut.

Parks graduated from Jefferson High School in north-

east Portland and went on to Beau Mode Hair Design. He encountered some hardships that delayed his completion date. But, instead of being the local drug dealer or gang member, he started traveling throughout the city cutting hair. He was known as "On the Moves Cuts." That's how he earned his money to support his wife and children.

Through all the trials, Parks faced his faith, and prayers brought him through while he completed the schooling at Beau Mode. He was hired at Leon's Barbershop, a place where he had always dreamed of working on Northeast 14th and Fremont. He looked up to Mr. Leon as one of Portland's veteran barbers and remained faithful to him for several years.

After years of cutting and building a good reputation with clients, a door opened for his own shop at 5514 N.E. 16th Avenue, around the corner from Killingsworth Street. He named his own place Daniel's Natural Cuts and Styles. Now creating a rhythm for himself, he will enter his second year in business this May. The community is invited to come out and patronize this young talented barber where cutting is a passion.



Daniel Natrell Laboy Parks works with a customer in his barber shop called Daniel's Natural Cuts and Styles at 5514 N.E. 16th Ave., around the corner from Killingsworth Street.