



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Roslyn Hill, a longtime Alberta Street developer known for taking initiative in her neighborhood, wishes all landlords would get involved to make the thoroughfare safer and more inviting for everyone.

Perceptions Collide on Alberta

continued ▲ from Front

"Alberta needs more stuff around for kids to do," Blake says. "If you want to go up and down (the street) and drink, great, but for everyone else, too bad."

Thirty-one-year-old James King shared concern for youth involvement in Alberta festivals, adding that the exclusion of minors from the multitude of bars on the street reflects the alienation of many long-time residents.

"It's not diverse enough," he says. "It needs to come together as far as a bunch of different things going on."

Calling for pedestrian safety and

more garbage cans, the majority of survey respondents also acknowledged the potential for deemphasizing the role of alcohol during Alberta events.

"We were drowning in our own popularity," says Joseph Blanchette, president of Art on Alberta. "The primary concern was, we love it, we love it, but the traffic is terrible, and it's getting dangerous."

Blanchette recognizes some friction within the Alberta community because of the rate of change and laments the difficulty for minority businesses to open on the street. "We like the complexity that the neighborhood currently has, and we'd like to keep that vitality," he

says.

He cites economic forces beyond the control of his nonprofit but hopes to lure more diversity to the street with changes designed to affect everyone positively. For example, Art on Alberta is helping orchestrate the closure of the street to motor vehicles, accomplished for the first time during last September's fair.

The efforts have many members of the black community appreciating the good-neighbor basis on which the street tends to operate.

"They've made a lot of changes, and as opposed to a few years ago, it feels much safer," says 49-year-old Rance Preston.

Second Annual Youth Summit

Responding to violence, drugs

The second-annual Youth Summit will be held Saturday, Feb. 9 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at 126 N.E. Alberta St. This year's theme is "It's Bigger than Hip Hop."

In response to last year's death of a 14 year-old Davonte Lightfoot, the Youth Summit was born.

Organizers recognize that youth face real-life situations that go beyond the music. Building

off the success of last year's summit, the event will encourage discussion of issues teens encounter on a day-to-day basis.

All youth are invited to speak up to a panel and to moderators consisting of their own peers. Discussions will include, but are not limited to, the following national and local topics: violence, drugs and HIV/AIDS.

The keynote speaker of the second-annual evening will be Professor Griff of Public Enemy. New to this year's Summit will be an evening concert hosted by

Opio Sokoni. The concert includes a youth hip-hop group USA La Familia, made up of high-school students as well as and other local artists including Libretto, Octavia Harris, Madgesdiq, youth from Seattle, Wa, Blacque Butterfly, and more.

Concert starts at 8 p.m. and a donation of \$10 is requested. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Ethos, Dittos, or Mecca Fish and Chips.

For more information call 503-781-5313 or e-mail info@travillingpillar.com.

Black Heritage Art at City Hall

The third-annual Black Heritage Art Show will open Thursday, Feb. 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. at City Hall, 1221 S.W. Fourth Ave. The event is free and open to the public.

Join the crowd for great local art, free food and refreshments, and

energized performances.

Artists include Isaka Shamsud-Din, Wanda Wright, Bob Thompson, Paul W. Dixon, Sam Macon, Kimi Arigbon, Mark Bishop and Sunshine Dixon. Photographs of Big Brothers/Big Sisters will surround a

performance of No Kidding Choir and a screening of the film "Local Color," a Portland-produced documentary focused on African-American history, including real-estate redlining, the Vanport floods and the long tradition of social activism.

Rhapsody in Black Show at PSU

Portland State University's White Gallery is proud to be showing "Rhapsody in Black," a group show presented by the PSU African American Visual Arts Scholarship program and Paint A Difference.

In celebration of Black History

Month, this exhibit will feature print work of personal and cultural significance by renowned, as well as up-and-coming, African-American artists.

Artists include Adriene Cruz, Isaka Shamsud-Din, Henry Frison, Andrew Johnson, O.B. Hill, James

Dunbar, Stephan Alexander, Mo' Crystal Hudelson and Felicia Capuia. The White Gallery is located in PSU's Smith Memorial Center, room 250, 1825 S.W. Broadway. Opening Reception is from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7, and the show will be up until March 26.

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Black History Month '08

CELEBRATING Politics, Activism, and Art

All events are free and open to the public.



NOON-6 P.M.
JANUARY 22-MARCH 2
THURSDAYS-SUNDAYS
DOUGLAS F. COOLEY MEMORIAL ART GALLERY

EXHIBITION
Working History African American Art & Objects

Working History brings together artwork by significant contemporary African American artists, and exhibits their work alongside historical and ephemeral objects. The exhibition explores how artists can reinterpret historical source material into forms of current social and political critique.

2 P.M.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2
KAUL AUDITORIUM

LECTURE
Harold Ford Jr. "An Afternoon with Harold Ford Jr.: The Economy and the 2008 Elections"

Harold Ford Jr. served Tennessee in the U.S. Congress for 10 years. He is now chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council, a visiting professor of public policy at Vanderbilt University, and vice chairman of Merrill Lynch and Co.

3 P.M.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10
KAUL AUDITORIUM

LECTURE
Mary Frances Berry "Race, Politics, and the 2008 Elections"

Mary Frances Berry served as assistant secretary for education in the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; and on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights from 1980 to 2004. She has written seven books, and is the Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought and professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania.

6:30 P.M.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15
VOLLUM LOUNGE & DOUGLAS F. COOLEY MEMORIAL ART GALLERY

ARTIST TALK AND RECEPTION
Nick Cave on Working History

Cave will discuss his work in connection with the Working History exhibition, followed by a reception at the Cooley Art Gallery.

3 P.M.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24
KAUL AUDITORIUM

LECTURE
Faith Ringgold "Thirty Years as an Artist, Author, and Activist"

Faith Ringgold is internationally renowned for her works that combine painting, textile, and storytelling. Ringgold has work in the Metropolitan Museum of Art; the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum; the Studio Museum in Harlem; and the Museum of Modern Art, among others.

Black History Month programming is sponsored by Reed's Office of the President; the Krause Fund for Economics Lectures; the Multicultural Resource Center; and the departments of sociology, anthropology, and political science.

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Your Company Representatives are Invited to the: Governor's Marketplace Connection Construction Contracting Workshop



The Oregon University System is proud to be a sponsor of the Governor's Marketplace Connection - Construction Contracting Workshop. The purpose of the Workshop is to provide construction contractors an opportunity to find out about contracting process and upcoming projects for OUS, ODOT and DHS.

What is Included:

- Government Contracts 101: Understanding the Basics
- Learn how to do business with OUS, ODOT, and DHS
- Learn how to use the new OUS Procurement Website and ORPIN to get contracts
- Networking with state purchasing officers
- Learn about services and agency programs to help you bid on government contracts
- Lunch

Important Update: OUS has modified its procedure for hiring contractors. Come learn how OUS is expanding opportunities for your company and the new OUS Emerging Small Business Program!

When: March 5, 2008
Where: Holiday Inn - Wilsonville
Cost: Free
Register By: February 22, 2008
Registration form may be found at: www.ous.edu/dept/capcon

Additional Sponsors:



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