

# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

## Zoo Teen Applications Open

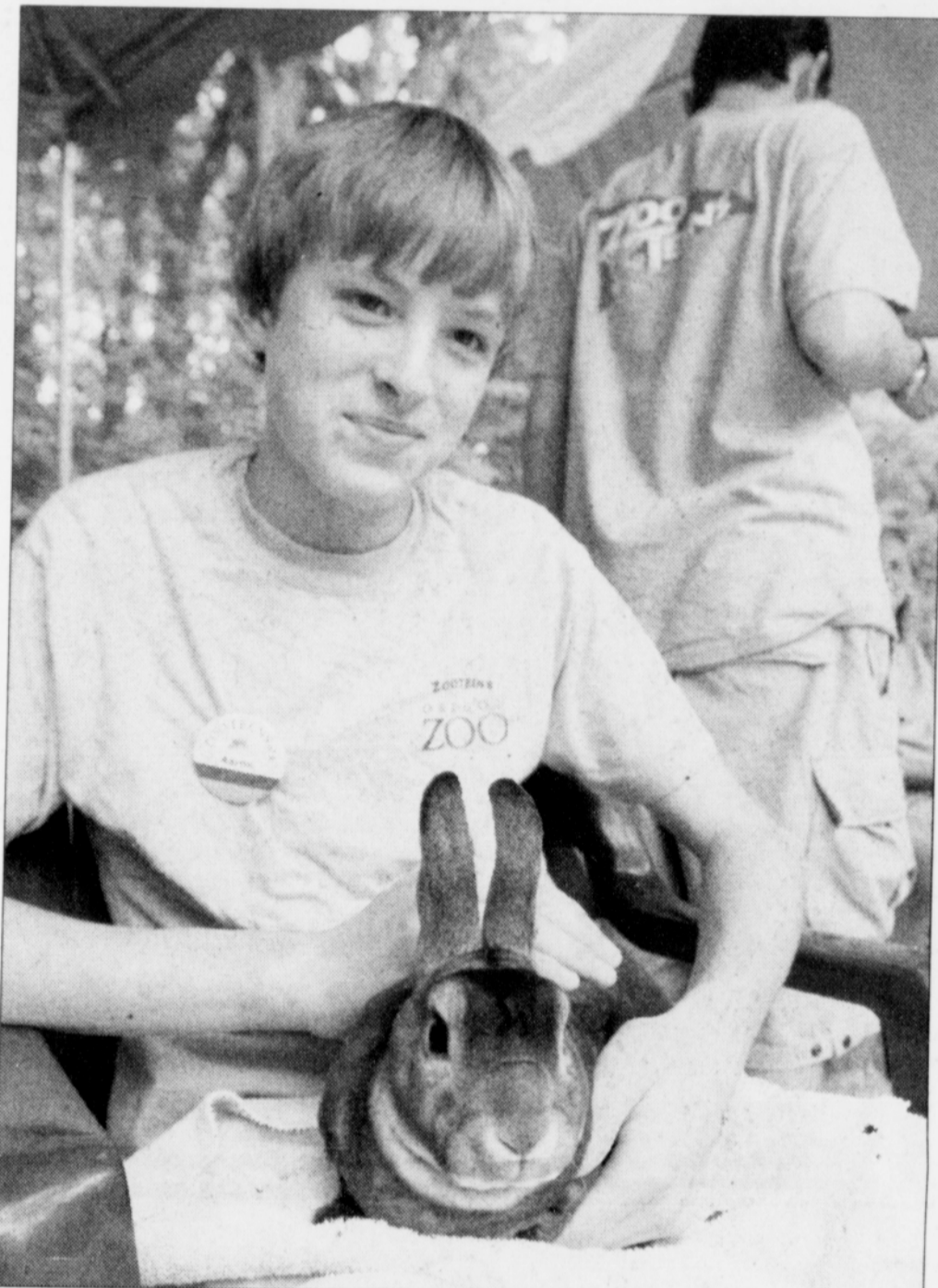
Teens looking for something wild and exciting to do this summer should consider becoming a ZooTeen. Students entering 9th through 12th grade this fall may apply now through Feb. 22 for this award-winning volunteer program.

ZooTeens present animals to visitors, help keepers with the care and feeding of pettable animals, go on a behind-the-scenes tour with keepers, and manage the pygmy goat kraal and family farm, both run solely by teens.

"We are the only zoo in the nation that has teenagers supervising teenagers," said Amanda Greenvoss, zoo youth volunteer coordinator. "This allows the teens to create a unique environment where they feel they belong. It's a kind of family."

ZooTeens gain an insider's view of the zoo and its animals, make new friends, and develop leadership and public-speaking skills in a fun environment, handle zoo education animals, and explore career possibilities. ZooTeens must apply and go through an interview process, which teaches valuable career skills and prepares them for future job interviews.

For more information, call 503-220-2449 or visit oregonzoo.org.



A volunteer ZooTeen holds a rabbit used for education at the Oregon Zoo's Trillium Creek Family Farm.

## Illumination Project Tackles Racism

Theater students engage audiences

Twenty-one local college students are using their personal experiences to engage and educate audiences all over Portland about racism's effect on people.

Portland Community College's Illumination Project feature plays that address issues of oppression. The focus is on the challenges faced by people of color, immigrants as well as sexual and religious minorities within the community.

By presenting an interactive forum theater in classroom and community environments, the audience plays along with the actors in the productions, making it a hands-on experience that has helped better communicate their message.

Performances start on Monday, Feb. 15 in the Performing Arts Center on the Sylvania Campus, 12000 S.W. 49th Ave., and run until March 7. All performances are free and wheelchair accessible.

On Monday, Feb. 22 at 6 p.m., a performance is scheduled in Moriarty Auditorium on the PCC Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St.

Additional performances may be arranged for other colleges, high schools and community groups. For more information, contact Jeannie LaFrance at 503-977-8149 or jlafranc@pcc.edu.

## Drawing on African Roots

Felicia Capuia's talent was initially revealed in a college art class. The ability she displayed while sketching a still life in charcoal was evident to her teacher and provided the inspiration to pursue her art.

Now this busy college student has big dreams for where an art career might lead. But her personal journey began far from the Northwest. Felicia's family emigrated from Zambia to escape the civil war. And although she doesn't remember her native land, her paintings reflect her African roots.

As a teacher at Self Enhancement, Inc., she's helping other youngsters on their own journey of discovery.

Capuia's story will be profiled on Oregon Art Beat on Thursday, Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. on Oregon Public Broadcasting.

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