

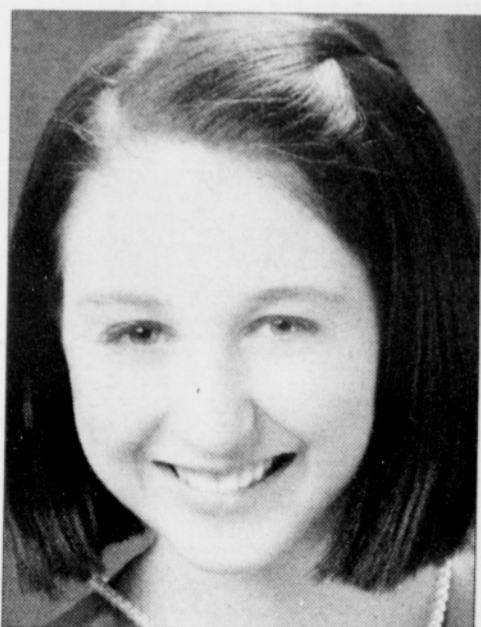
Portland Rose Festival 2010

Queen of Rosaria

Victoria Dinu, a senior at Grant High School, made a unique bit of Rose Festival history Saturday when she was crowned queen during the festival's annual coronation ceremony sponsored by Pacific Power.

Dinu becomes the second queen from the same graduating class in back to back Rose Festival seasons. Her classmate Rachel Seeman, was the first junior selected Rose Festival queen in 2009.

Victoria plays violin with the Portland Youth Philharmonic and the Metropolitan Youth Symphony, coaches ice skating and is considering a degree in public relations.



Rose Festival Queen Victoria Dinu of Grant High School.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON JR./THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Bringing an International Flair

The flag and dance team from Stu-Te Commercial High School Marching Band from Kaohsiung, Taiwan, brought an international flair to Saturday's Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade.

Juneteenth Celebration

Local events and parade Saturday

On Saturday, June 19, Portland will celebrate "Juneteenth," a proud moment of freedom in American history.

Activities will begin with a "Freedom Parade" at 11 a.m. down Northeast Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard from Jarrett Street. This year's Grand Marshall is Lew Frederick, Oregon State Representative, District 43.

The short parade ends at the grass field at 5125 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, between Alberta and Sumner streets, where the annual Juneteenth Festival will take place from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. There will be delicious foods, musical artists, special guest speakers, arts and craft vendors, prizes, a play area for children, and much more.

At 1:00 pm, Portland Mayor Sam Adams will speak and introduce Portland's new Police Chief Mike Reese, who will speak. Last year, Mayor Adams became the first Portland City official to ever participate in a Juneteenth event. Other speakers include Loretta Young, candidate Multnomah County Commission, Sable Scott, Miss Black Oregon 2010; and

Frederick.

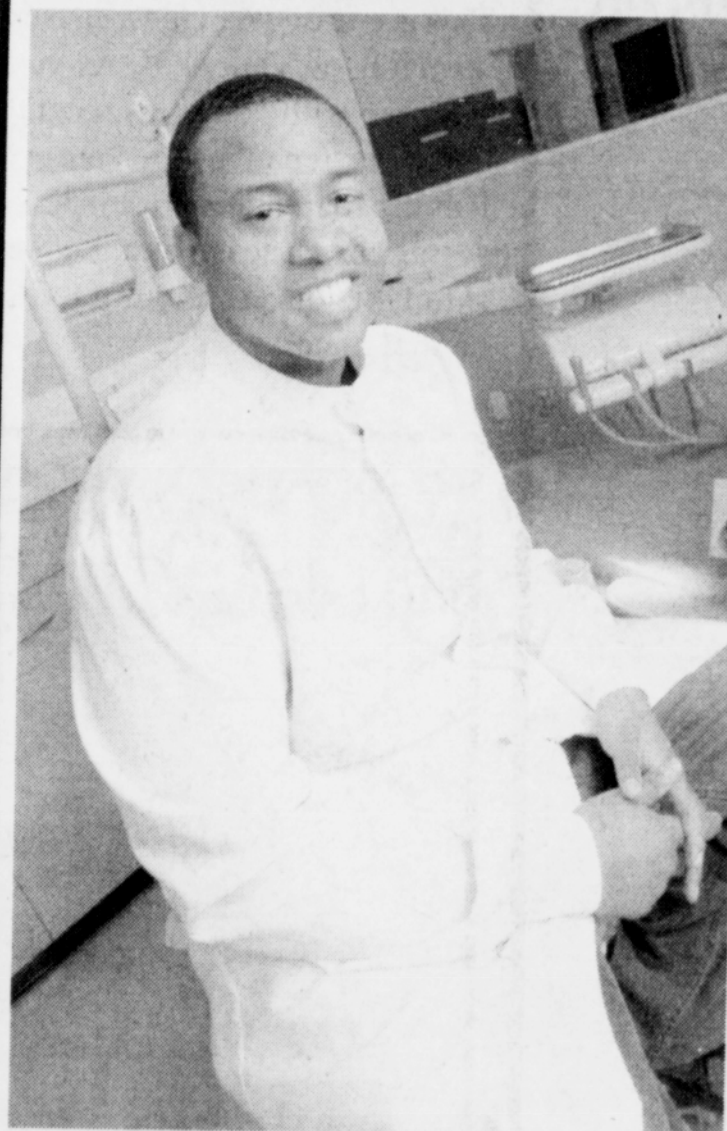
New this year, at 6 p.m., a spectacular gospel concert will be held with performances by a number of Portland church choirs and soloists. The festival is free to the public.

What is Juneteenth? Although President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in September 1862, it was not until June 19, 1865 -- more than two years later -- that freedom came to the last slaves in Texas. Juneteenth is meant to rejoice freedom and remind African-Americans that their ancestors endured one of the worst slave experiences in human history.

"This year marks the 145th anniversary of this now national celebration, yet many people are still not aware it represents a crucial part of our American History," said Doris Rush, Juneteenth committee chair. "Every American has benefited from the wealth created by African-Americans through over 200 years of free labor. Celebrating Juneteenth allows all of us to acknowledge that debt. Come join the celebration."

Sponsors of this year's activities include Wells Fargo Bank, State Farm Insurance, Portland Development Commission, City of Portland, Multnomah County, Portland Ice Cream Company, and PassinArt among others.

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