

EL OBSERVADOR

Latin Musical Giants Honored



The Postal Service's forever stamps honoring Latin musical giants Tito Puente (from left), Carmen Miranda and Celia Cruz.

Musical giants Tito Puente and Carmen Miranda are bringing some Latin flavor to U.S. postage stamps.

The new set of five forever stamps also honor Celia Cruz, Selena and Carlos Gardel. They represent a range of Latin musical styles, including Tejano, tango,

samba, Latin jazz and salsa.

Postal Service Vice President Marie Therese Dominguez said the stamps are "a lasting tribute to five extraordinary performers."

Formal ceremonies for the release of the stamps were held in Austin, Texas, as the stamps went on sale across the country

Learning at New Columbia

PCC offers classes for young Latinos

Portland Community College plans to give young Latinos a better chance to achieve their educational goals through specialized classes at the New Columbia housing development in north Portland.

Latino students between the ages of 16 to 20 who are English language learners will have a chance to improve their English proficiency while working towards other educational and career goals.

Students will study math, social studies and science in Spanish and can earn their GED in Spanish. At the same time, they will study English to improve their proficiency in the language.

The Multicultural Academic Program, which is operated through the PCC Prep Alternative Programs, is a partnership with local school districts, making it free to eligible students.

Classes start spring term on Monday, March 28. The New Columbia classes will not only prepare

the youths for college, but will give eligible students a 12-credit tuition waiver to start college at PCC.

PCC first piloted this model at the Willow Creek Center in Washington County.

"This model works because it really serves the need that students have to complete a high school cre-

dential in their first language while building their English skills," said Jeff Laff, manager of the program.

"We want to extend these same opportunities to Latino youth living in North Portland."

To learn more about how to enroll, contact Jana Daugherty with PCC Prep at 971-722-6213.

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