

North Portland news and events
St. Johns
NEIGHBORHOOD

Exhibit Tells Story of Freedom Riders

Local students explore civil rights history

The University of Portland School of Education and Roosevelt High School will be hosting "Freedom Riders," a national traveling exhibition that tells the story of the 1961 freedom rides to integrate buses and trains in the South.

The exhibition is free and open to the public and will take place from Wednesday, Jan. 18 to Friday, Jan. 20 on the third floor of Franz Hall, on the University of Portland campus at 5000 N. Willamette Blvd.

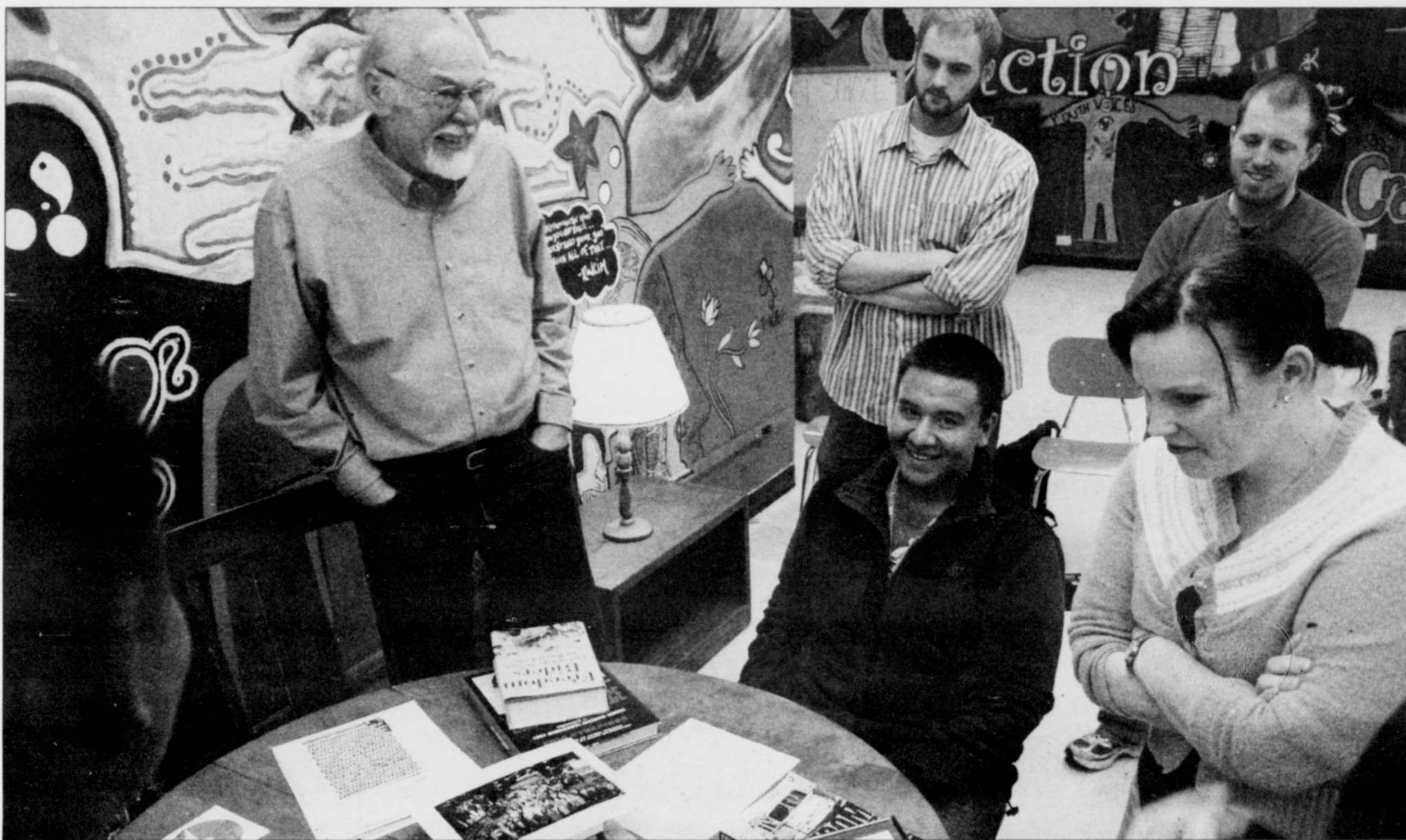
An exhibition featuring local "freedom fighters" for social justice will accompany the national exhibit.

Roosevelt High Schools students, the Roosevelt High School Writing Center, and students from the University's School of Education's social studies methods course collaborated on the local production.

From May until November 1961, more than 400 Americans risked their lives—many enduring savage beatings and imprisonment—for simply traveling together on buses and trains as they journeyed through the South.

Deliberately violating Jim Crow laws, the Freedom Riders' belief in non-violent activism was tested as mob violence and bitter racism greeted them along the way.

Organized by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and Public Broadcasting Service's flagship history series, the Freedom Riders exhibition combines powerful pho-



University of Portland and Roosevelt High School students interview Max Pavesic (far left), one of the Freedom Riders of 1961 who volunteered in a civil rights campaign to integrate buses and trains in the South.

tography and news coverage of the rides, as well as first-hand audio accounts.

Inspired by the Freedom Riders story, Roosevelt High School and University of Portland students identified community issues that they cared about and located local freedom fighters who are actively engaged in writing, advocating, volunteering and working to advance social justice in these areas.

Working together, they interviewed the freedom fighters, took photographs, located related images at the Oregon Historical Society Library, and helped to design graphic and written materials for the exhibit.

The exhibit will also be traveling to several other locations in North and Northeast Portland throughout January. For more information and a complete schedule, go to sites.google.com/site/freedomfighterspdx.

CELEBRATING MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Coach Nate McMillan

"I strive to represent Martin Luther King Jr's vision of equality and justice in my daily life, in my work, and in my teaching of young people. Because of his work and his legacy, this country is a better place and it is our duty to carry on that legacy and fulfill that vision."

TRAIL BLAZERS COACH NATE McMILLAN

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