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# Fred Meyer

What's on your list today?.

## LOCAL NEWS

### Making Below Minimum



Taxi cab drivers line up for passengers at Union Station, downtown.

### Cab drivers earn subpar wages

BY MINDY COOPER  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

According to a new report released by the City of Portland Revenue Bureau, the average hourly income of Portland taxi drivers is \$6.22, more than \$2 below the Oregon minimum wage.

Although the city regulates taxi fares and the number of permits, there is no regulation of the taxi companies and their services, which the report found to be insufficient to promote sustainable working conditions for drivers.

The review, conducted under the direction of Mayor Sam Adams, contains a comprehensive analysis of the economic and working conditions of taxi cab drivers, who are not subject to Oregon wage laws because they work as independent contractors.

"This study shows that our taxi drivers, like taxi drivers in other cities, face low wages and long hours. The question is: does the status quo reflect the values of the city of Portland?" Adams said.

While taxi companies typically provide services like dispatch, insurance, credit card processing, advertising and vehicle equipment, drivers are required to pay a

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A scene from 'Restless City,' a film is set in the volatile world of West African immigrants in New York City.

## Experience the African Diaspora

### Cascade Festival of African Films opens

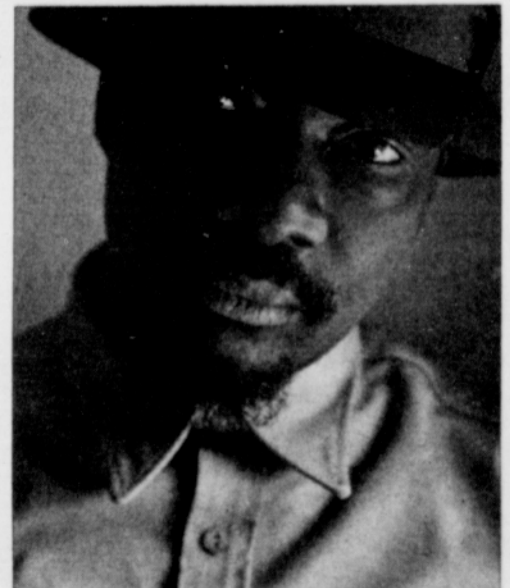
One of the longest running African film festivals of its kind will feature appearances by two young directors who focus on the lives of Africans newly arrived in the United States

The 22nd annual Cascade Festival of African Films raises the curtain on more than 20 films on the African Diaspora experience that will be shown from Friday, Feb. 3 through March 3 at three locations - the Moriarty Auditorium on the

Portland Community College Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St.; the Hollywood Theatre, 4122 N.E. Sandy Blvd.; and McMinnam Kennedy School, 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave.

The festival, which is free and open to the public, shows films ranging from full-length features to documentaries and short films. More than 5,500 people attend the festival an-

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Andrew Dosunmu