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# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

## Portland Teen Idol Returns

### Auditions to begin for parks program

Portland Parks & Recreation will again sponsor Portland Teen Idol, a popular local student talent contest with cash prizes and spots on a summer performance tour.

Several former Portland Teen Idol contestants have gone on to success on FOX television's smash hit American Idol. Beaverton teen Haley Johnsen, who made this season's American Idol top 24, has committed to joining the Portland Teen Idol program as a judge.

The first open auditions for 2012

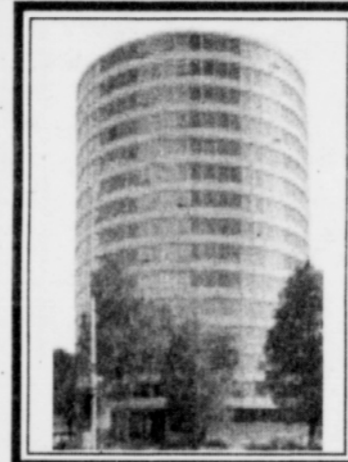
will be held Friday, April 20, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the University Park Community Center, 9009 N. Foss Ave; and Saturday, April 21, at 9 a.m. at the Mt. Scott Community Center, 5530 S.E. 72nd Ave.

Additional dates are expected to be announced soon, along with auditions for Spanish-language singers and stand-up comedians.

"We are expanding the scope and the talent pool of Portland Teen Idol in this, the sixth year of the competition," says Dennis Gleason, Portland Teen Idol director.

Participating students must be in grades 7 through 12, live within 35 miles of the Portland/Vancouver metro area, and be at least 13 years old as of April 1.

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