

Being 'Bondable' often Daunting Task

Free workshop offered to help small businesses

Small businesses often face the daunting task of being "bondable." When it comes to working on government contracts in the transportation industry, being bonded is often a requirement.

Now, a free six-week workshop will help small business owners in Oregon and southwest Washington find out just what it takes to become bonded and how to expand their existing bonding capacity. The free, 3-hour evening courses begin Thursday, Oct. 4 at the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs, 4134 N. Vancouver Ave.

The Oregon Department of Transportation requested the workshop after learning of its successful pilot in other cities. The Bonding Education Program, a partnership between the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Small



Construction bonds are essential in the building industry. The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs will host a workshop to help small business owners find out just what it takes to become bonded and how to expand their existing bond capacity.

continued ▼ on page 10

Designing my Orange moment



Jamie Cheung
Apparel Design
Honors Degree

At Oregon State, we know that some of the best learning doesn't always happen in a classroom. Students like Jamie, who interned this summer with Anna Sui in New York, use these opportunities to see first-hand how industries work and make contacts that can help in starting their careers.

What will your orange moment be?

Learn more at oregonstate.edu/admissions.

Oregon State
UNIVERSITY

Improve Workforce Equity

continued ▲ from page 7

"The CBA allows us to really get a day-to-day outlook of what's happening, and make any necessary changes to make sure the diversity on the projects reflects the diversity of the city."

The first agreement of its kind in Oregon, Portland's CBA will only affect large city projects of \$15 million or more. The Portland Water Bureau will pilot the use of CBA on the Kelly Butte

Reservoir project and the interstate maintenance facility renovation.

"This is a great public works strategy that will create good paying jobs for people of color and women," said Jim Francesconi, the attorney and an organizer of the agreement. "Working together with Mayor Adams, organized labor, minority contractors and the community overcame decades of mistrust as the CBA was developed."

Big Gains for Local Health Care Industry

continued ▲ from page 5

ners will use the report to set in motion several actionable items, such as helping the industry to recruit, train, and retrain diverse workers; build and update career pathways for new and changing occupations; address the technology skill gap; investigate nursing

shifts in demographics and retirements; and focusing on developing future leadership.

The report is based on labor market data, as well as 250 survey responses from local employers and industry associations in five counties: Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas, Clark, and Cowlitz.