

Community Service Awards



Advocates for cultural development in disadvantaged and minority communities are recognized at the Portland Observer Foundation Awards Banquet on Friday. Pictured (from left) are Bruce Watts of Tri-Met, former Sen. Avel Gordly, Roosevelt High School Principal Charlene Williams, Home Forward executive Cinna'mon Williams, Portland Development Commission executive John Jackley, Rasheed Williams of Headstart, and Chuck Washington, Portland Observer publisher.



Carol Walden shares a look back at the extraordinary work of her late husband Phil Walden, a legendary coach who served kids for generations in Portland.



Roy Jay of the African-American Chamber of Commerce helps raise donations for scholarships.



Outstanding young leaders are awarded Portland Observer Foundation scholarships. Pictured (from left), are Desiree Duboise, Celeste Chow, Gabrielle Lang, Tram Bui, Shani Plunkett-De La Cruz, and Andre McCowan.

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Portland Observer's Mark Washington opened the ceremony, acquainting the audience with staff members of the 43-year-old newspaper and recognizing

their contributions. He shared the event's purpose, which was to acknowledge the Portland Observer mission in promoting cultural diversity and pay tribute to community service leaders.

Spoken word poetry by Timo-

thy Phillips Jr. and an endearing speech on community building by keynote speaker Commissioner Amanda Fritz along with a fundraising opportunity commented by Roy Jay moved the night into the official awards

ceremony.

Honorary Awards were handed to surviving family members of beloved coach and educator Phil Walden; businessman, youth advocate and public servant Harold C. Williams; and active commu-

nity advocate and youth violence prevention leader Robert Ingram.

Advocates for cultural development in disadvantaged and minority communities honored were La'tricia Tillman of the Department of Human Services, Pamela Weatherspoon of Legacy Health Systems, Cyreena Boston of the Portland African American Leadership Forum, Andrae L. Brown of Lewis and Clark College, Karanja Crews of Portland Public Schools, Rakeem Washington of Portland Public Schools, Cobi Jackson of Wells Fargo Bank, artist Sunshine Dixon, Simone M. Brooks of S. Brooks Associates and Kory Murphy of NW Business Consultants.

Community Service Awards were given to Ron Herndon of Albina Head Start, John Jackley of the Portland Development Commission, Charlene Williams of Portland Public Schools, former Sen. Avel Gordly, TriMet's Mary Fetsch and Bruce Watts, Corliss McKeever of the African American Health Coalition, and Cinna'mon Williams of Home Forward.

Six students from the Portland Metro area were awarded scholarships for their outstanding works as young contributors to their schools and community.

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