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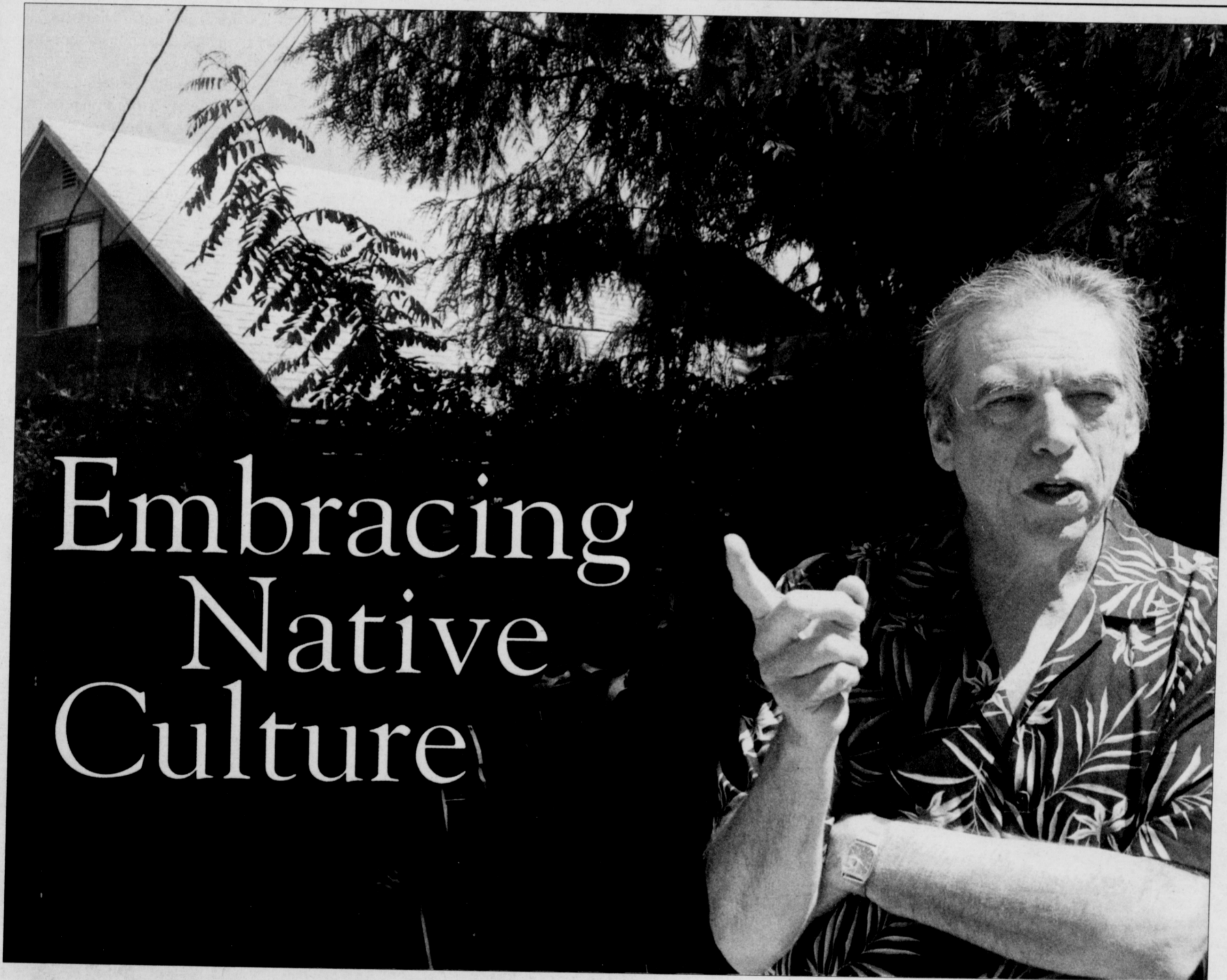


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Embracing Native Culture

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Sean Cruz is helping organize the first annual Jim Pepper Native Arts Festival coming Aug. 7-10 to the Performing Arts Center at Parkrose High School. Cruz is pictured outside his Parkrose home, a property that once served as the late jazz great's boyhood home and a Pepper family residence for 50 years.

Parkrose to host first Jim Pepper Music Festival

BY LEE PERLMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

It started as a fan's appreciation for a late Portland jazz musician, but it has grown into a celebration not only of Jim Pepper's Native ethnic heritage, but of a broader multiculturalism for the Portland area.

Parkrose High School will host the first annual Jim Pepper

Native Arts and Music Festival from Wednesday, Aug. 7 through Friday, Aug. 10.

In doing so it will provide four days of great jazz, and it will pay tribute to a great artist but relatively unknown Oregon native and Native American son.

Pepper was a jazz, rock and fusion saxophonist, and by his fans' estimates he was one of the greatest tenor sax players

in the history of the instrument. He was also one of the first Native American musicians to incorporate his ethnic heritage into his music; his composition, *The Four Winds*, was performed by the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra and the Cologne Symphony Orchestra.

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