



Students from Roosevelt High School's Writing and Publishing Center join Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission board members Ray Leary (left) and Chris Erickson (right) for a publication party at the Heathman Hotel.

Inspiring Student Writers and Poets

The Heathman Hotel is supporting students from the writing and publishing center at Roosevelt High School in north Portland.

The luxury boutique hotel recently purchased copies of the students' new anthology, "Where the Roses Smell Best: A Literary Companion to Portland," which will be offered for sale to visitors in every room of the downtown landmark. Proceeds will go to fund the publishing center and its mission.

The publication includes pieces on Portland lifestyles, people and places written by both Roosevelt students and prominent local writers such as Oregon's poet laureate Paulann Petersen and Oregonian newspaper columnist Steve Duin.

"We approached the Heathman initially," says Kate McPherson, a Roosevelt teacher instrumental in launching the publishing program. "We wanted to align the mission of the hotel with the school, and that cross-section happened to be around literary arts and literacy. The Heathman has a tradition of embracing books and literature -- they have a great library. So when we talked with them and shared our vision, they saw a connection."

Roosevelt's publishing center started two summers ago using some funds from a federal grant. The center then teamed with Portland State University's Ooligan Press to help pay for publishing expenses and provide mentorship and leadership.

The center's next project is scheduled to be published next year and is a book about race and identity. The center is actively looking for submissions for that publication.

TriMet to Boost Frequent Service

The TriMet Board of Directors last week approved restoration of \$3.1 million worth of services on 10 Frequent Service bus lines. Currently, just 2 of the 12 TriMet Frequent Service lines, Lines 4 and 72, meet the 15 minute weekday midday standards. Beginning in March, riders will see the other 10 lines with weekday midday frequency restored to 15 minute standards. Line 4-Division/Fessenden will also see the more frequent schedules on weekday evenings and all day on Saturdays.

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