Arts & Entertainment

PHOTO BY MEHGAN MURPHY, COURTESY OF THE OREGON ZOO

Family Fun Evenings

A young Oregon Zoo visitor does some hula-hooping during Sunset at the Zoo festivities. Sunset at the Zoo, held every other Wednesday in July and August with extended hours, features extended evening hours packed with live entertainment and the chance to get to know animals active during twilight hours.

Author Promotes Explosive Novel

Portland young adult fiction writer Boss Amanishakhete does not shy away from the controversy. Instead she takes it head on in her latest installment the

Boss Amanishakhete

Tippy Ellis Story 3 "Holla Me Bad," where she's passionate about creating fiction with characters to which today's youth can relate.

With subjects that include murder, sex, drugs and profanity, Amanishakhete recognizes the power of words and self-imposed a notice to readers that she recommends her book for mature audiences 16 and up, but does not compromise on how kids really talk.

"I want young adult readers to see themselves in this story and feel validated," says Amanishakhete, "that's why I've created characters who act, talk, think and experience real life, not a sugar-coated version of adolescence. But at the same time I aim to present a variety of teachable moments for today's young adults, especially young women."

"Holla Me Bad" Tippy Ellis Story 3 is on sale now at Amazon.com, Kindle eBook, Barnes & Noble and other electronic outlets.

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