

Spa Owner Proves Herself

BY OLIVIA OLIVIA
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Ashley Appel started her business, Comma Vino Spa in 2011. In the midst of the recession she pursued her passion and opened a spa in the bustling downtown Portland that would offer a place for locals and travelers to pause and take a breath.

As a female, minority business owner Appel had to work extra hard to prove herself. She and her husband worked endless hours after their day jobs to build out the spa. Comma is a Vino-therapy Spa that offers creme de la creme luxury for wine lovers and ardent spa goers.

Wine and grape based products are incorporated into the hair, nails, skincare and massage treatments. Comma Vino Spa is unique in that it offers a great selection of wine, beer and sake for guests to enjoy. A rotation of local art is displayed throughout the store.

The spa is a testimony that there are great opportunities for a female, minority entrepreneur to make her dream come true.

Comma Vino Spa is located

on the corner of Southwest Morrison and 12th Avenue. For more information, visit commavinospa.com.

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PHOTO BY CASEY COLE



Trades Center Partners with Industry

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president of Vigor. "The opening of this new facility is the continuation of PCC executing on its vision and strategy to provide the opportunities for people to build successful lives by matching their educational programs with the needs of employers."

Swan Island will also be a resource for continuing education, training, retraining and professional development in trades and industry programs.

"We happen to live at a time when the economy is really expanding rapidly and that's certainly the case for us," said Bill Wyatt, executive director of the Port of Portland. "There is a great fear about whether or not we're going to have a qualified workforce to construct all of the facilities we see in our line of sight. This facility will be immensely helpful to us. I'm so grateful to PCC for the vision and the will to create this."

We're in the business of providing hope, access and potential.

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Home Forward (formerly the Housing Authority of Portland) provides shelter and support for our neighbors in need. Because with the essentials of a home, individuals can move forward in life. Today, we are more committed than ever to serving our community of Multnomah County by providing **hope, access, and the potential for a better tomorrow.**

To achieve our goals, however, requires the help of our business partners. We frequently have contract opportunities—particularly for **minority, women-owned and emerging small businesses**—in the following areas:

- Professional Services
- Construction Services
- Social Services

Contact Home Forward for more information or to learn about specific opportunities, or for information about resources such as free training, technical assistance, and workforce hiring and training programs.



homeforward.org

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