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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Worksystems and the Workforce Investment Council of Clackamas County

are seeking proposals for the design and implementation of "Career Link" courses to provide career exposure activities in the manufacturing and tech industries. The Request for Proposal (RFP) will be posted January 14, 2015 on WSI's website: www.worksystems.org. Proposals are due noon, February 17, 2015. Worksystems, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. To place a free relay call in Oregon dial 711.

JOIN

Position Opening: Executive Director

JOIN provides critical services and dignity to our homeless neighbors. You can help us continue our 22-year legacy of social justice and advocacy for people experiencing homelessness by joining our diverse and close-knit team.

To apply visit www.joinpdx.org



SUB BIDS REQUESTED

NIKE World Headquarters Expansion

Washington County, Oregon

Bid Package: Westfield Parking

(Site Work, Site Electrical, Landscaping, & Temporary Fence)

Pre-Bid Meeting: January 20th 1:00pm

Bids Due: January 30th 2:00pm

Bid Documents: www.hoffmancorp.com/subcontractors




HOFFMAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

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Hoffman is an equal opportunity employer and requests sub-bids from all interested firms including disadvantaged, minority, women, disabled veterans and emerging small business enterprises

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Down Payment Lifeline

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that we were never even educated on back in school. Portland Housing Center was able to give us that ability to learn how to reach our credit score, how to fix things and to work forward, rather than staying in the same position or going backwards."

The buyers were free to obtain their mortgage from any lender approved by the Portland Housing Center. For each year the buyer remains in their home, Wells Fargo forgives 20 percent of the grant. So at the end of five years, they do not have to repay a penny of their \$15,000 grant.

Wells Fargo and the PHC were careful to give the grants only to people who could afford to maintain their mortgage payments. The homebuyers included teachers, government employees, healthcare workers and members of the news media.

"The ability to provide \$15,000 in down payment assistance helps not only the homebuyer, but also the housing market, community and city of Portland," said Kurt Hill of Portland, an area sales manager for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage.

In addition to the almost \$4.7 million in homebuyer grants and program support, Wells Fargo also donated \$500,000 to nine local non-profit groups that support youth, education, diversity, homelessness,

affordable healthcare and affordable homeownership.

Wells Fargo also rented the Convention Center and allocated a vast amount of resources to hold the two-day LIFT event.

"The Portland Neighborhood LIFT was a huge success for the city of Portland as well as the real estate community here," said Joseph Lai of Portland, an area sales manager for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. "This collaborative effort helped make LIFT an unforgettable event for our community."

The impact survey afterwards also showed that 83 percent of the grant recipients would have taken at least one or more years to buy a home if not for the LIFT program. That was true for the Gani family.

"With the program, we were able to get in sooner and buy a better home," Nelson Gani said. "We were lucky enough that everything worked out and we were able to get into it."

The Portland initiative was among the 32 housing markets across the country that will benefit from a total of \$230 million Wells Fargo has committed through its LIFT programs.

Since February 2012, LIFT programs nationally have helped create more than 8,450 homeowners so far in the communities where the programs have been introduced, officials said.

Changing the Narrative

continued ▲ from front

Bashir is also the editor of *Black Women's Erotica 2* (2003) and co-editor of *Role Call: A Generational Anthology of Social & Political Black Literature & Art* (2002) an anthology which included and set the stage for most of the most well-known black poets working today—many of whom were first published in *Role Call*.

This semester Bashir will be teaching *Writing Place*, which focuses on a geographic place where students get to turn the lens and write further and further into specific details offered by a single location, "much like Pulitzer Prize winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks did with Chicago or William Carlos Williams did with Patterson, New Jersey" she says.

She will also be teaching *Flash Mob: Making Multimedia Poetries*, where students are going to be creating poetry on and off the page, focusing on the poetry of handmade objects.

Bashir is also in the midst of starting a new reading series with Wendy Chin-Tanner, starting later this year, called *Sunday Brunch*, which will take place debut at Glyph Café and Art Space in the Pearl.

The goal of the series will be to bring more diverse voices to the poetry scene here in Portland. Each reading will consist of a poet, a prose writer, and a visual artist, followed by a reading and a conversation.

"We want to hear multiple side of the artist's voice," she says of the project.

Bashir is also responsible for a broadside series, through her poetry salon — making these beautiful limited edition broadsides of the visiting and local poets that pass through her literary salon based at Reed College.

The visiting writers series that she helps curate at the college brings world-class writers to the writing community at Reed.

Bashir's next reading will be *Black [Genus, Genesis, Genius]*, with Brown Hall, an exciting new collective of black artists and writers in Portland. Together they'll be having a month-long exhibit at the Central Library, and Bashir will be reading with others at the event's opening reception on Saturday, Feb. 7 at 2 p.m. (multicolib.org/events/black-genus-genesis-genius-opening-reception/35579). To learn more about Bashir's work, visit samiyabashir.com.