

Regena Warren shares her dream of peace in the community through an upcoming Peace Festival to feature local youth poets and performers, giving voice to the concerns and aspirations of culturally diverse youth and addressing community solutions to gang violence and other issues.

Ambassadors

Black women's group sponsors Peace Festival

BY OLIVIA OLIVIA The Portland Observer

A collaborative group of local black women offering community based solutions to youth and gang violence by promoting responsibility and empowerment through art and cultural exchanges has geared up to host their annual Peace Festival.

"Do You Care About Me?" is the theme for this year's Black Women for Peace event, a free and open to the public performance, Sunday, Aug. 24 at Benson High School featuring local youth poets and performers who are trying to live peacefully with others in their home, school, and community.

The Peace Festival will give voice to the concerns and aspirations of culturally diverse youth through the performing arts.

"It's an opportunity for kids to say, *Look, I have a differ*ent way of responding, I have a different way of communicating," said Regina Warren, a housing development specialist and organizing member of Black Women for Peace. Warren said the festival is a natural progression from

past efforts at peace by women in our community.

"Whether it was issues of education, healthcare, child welfare issues, issues of violence, many of the women

