





From Martin Luther King Jr.'s leadership at the forefront of Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s (left), to the activism of a new generation today (right), the struggle against racism and other injustices continues.

## From MLK to Today

## New voices and leaders emerge

## **Dear Readers:**

This year's Martin Luther King Jr. special edition represents more than the Portland Observer's hard work or the history of the late civil rights leader – it showcases a year when the dignity of black lives has been made even more evident by new voices in the struggle against discrimination and other injustices.

The explosion of social media on sites like twitter and tumblr has seen the creation of hash tags and groups like Black Lives Matter, and are bringing people across the country together to fight against racism and oppression, adding a clearer focus to issues of white supremacy, police brutality, housing injustice, unfair debt and low wages.

Portland's vibrant social justice community has seen its own resurgence, bringing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27