

Live-Streaming for Political Change

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

honored. I've seen a lot of Muslim activists, which is something I've never seen (in Portland). The Muslim community has been marginalized for so long; it feels like it's easier to be invisible, when you're constantly under a barrage of social-societal attacks. I hear so many Muslim activists coming out and saying: "I'm so tired of being silenced and people creating a narrative of me, that's not my own."

Whitten shared hours of live video on his Facebook page. He joined the protestors by foot and sometime zipped around to different areas of the city by bike to catch different events as they happened.

So many people watched his reporting that he couldn't keep up with the comments on the video transmissions. As with most Internet comment sections, there was a sharp divide between angry and supportive words.

Whitten says his goal was to show events as they happened and to clear away the bias and misinformation which has been a hot button topic since the presidential campaigns began.

"I think the work I'm doing is super important," he told the Portland Observer. "We have to continue citizen journalism. When you are at this level, videotaping live, it is very difficult to lie. I hope that people continue to use this type of recording as a source for their information."

Whitten interacted with protest-

ers as he live-streamed, stopping to talk with people and give them a platform to share their concerns and broadcast their voice. Many took to the streets because they fear that the gains in civil and human rights over the last decades are under threat

Whitten put a human face to and opened the door for discussion in a country sharply divided by political views.

In one moment, for example, Whitten met a small group giving out free hugs at Pioneer Square and he asked them, if they were part of a group and what they wanted to accomplish that evening. The group said they were just there to share love and peace. Whitten asked them, "If Donald Trump were here, would you give him a hug?" Without a pause, they said: "Yes."

He also interviewed Trump supporters, trying to get an understanding about their beliefs and why they voted for the maverick billionaire.

Whitten looks at his citizen journalism as giving a bird's eye view on the resistance to the Trump presidency.

"The most profound, moving Facebook message I received after one of the protests was from a woman who said, 'Hey Cameron, I'm watching from North Carolina. I want you to know I stopped watching Netflix every night, because I'm here watching your live stream.' The fact that I'm better than Netflix, that's a huge deal, a huge honor," Whitten said.

"We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and

some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies.

--Martin Luther King, Jr.



WE CAN ALL MAKE A COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION

REMEMBERING Martin Luther King, Jr.

BROOKS STAFFING
A Division of S. Brooks & Associates, Inc.

1130 NE Alberta St. • Portland, OR 97211 • 503.284.7930
email: jobs@sbrooks.com • web: www.sbrooks.com

A PLACE FOR ALL PEOPLE

Introducing the **NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE**

Smithsonian Institution

Organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) in collaboration with the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

FREE ADMISSION MLK DAY!
On view at the Oregon Historical Society
Now – January 16, 2017 • www.ohs.org

Photo by Alan Karchimer/NMAAHC

THE OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1898

OREGON BLACK PIONEERS