

## St. Andrew Hosts MLK Service

St. Andrew Parish in northeast Portland invites the public to join them for their annual Martin Luther King Jr. Mass and service awards which will be celebrated on Sunday, Jan. 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Awards will be presented to Catherine Bax and Ann Turner of the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, honoring their work to provide health care to underserved communities. The awards honor leadership embodying the racial and economic activism of the late Dr. Martin Luther



King Jr.

A community service award will be presented to Veterans for

Peace which uses non-violent means to achieve its goals and advance world peace.

## Alarmed by Trump

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Civil Rights crusaders were subjected to decades ago.

"I don't want to sugarcoat things. I do think that there is a lot of reason for concern," Jackson says, alluding to conversations with international friends who believe that the United States is sending alarming messages through its recent electoral cycle.

She said the mass surveillance by government in today's environment to fight terrorism and other criminal activities has the potential to suppress protest movements.

"Many of the activists who are doing the work that they think is necessary at this point in time should be prepared for possible, serious backlash," Jackson says. "During Dr. King's time, there certainly was a lot of surveillance that was going on... Those individuals understood the ways that surveillance could occur, and the way in which those people who were involved in that surveillance might infiltrate those organizations."

Activists must remain vigilant for the possibility of infiltration within their ranks, she warns, while also lamenting that a changed attitude by the public towards surveillance may rob the public of understanding its gravity.

Though communities of color are entering a period of uncertainty under the incoming Trump ad-

ministration, Jackson believes that collaboration between community organizations can help galvanize and protect disenfranchised groups. In addition, keeping a positive public perception of organizations and communities can be instrumental to their ability to enact change, she says.

Jackson says that many in Portland's protest community have clearly communicated their goals and kept their public image positive. She cites Portland as an example of a city in which, "There are groups that understand the importance of collaborative efforts. I think that that will become more and more important."

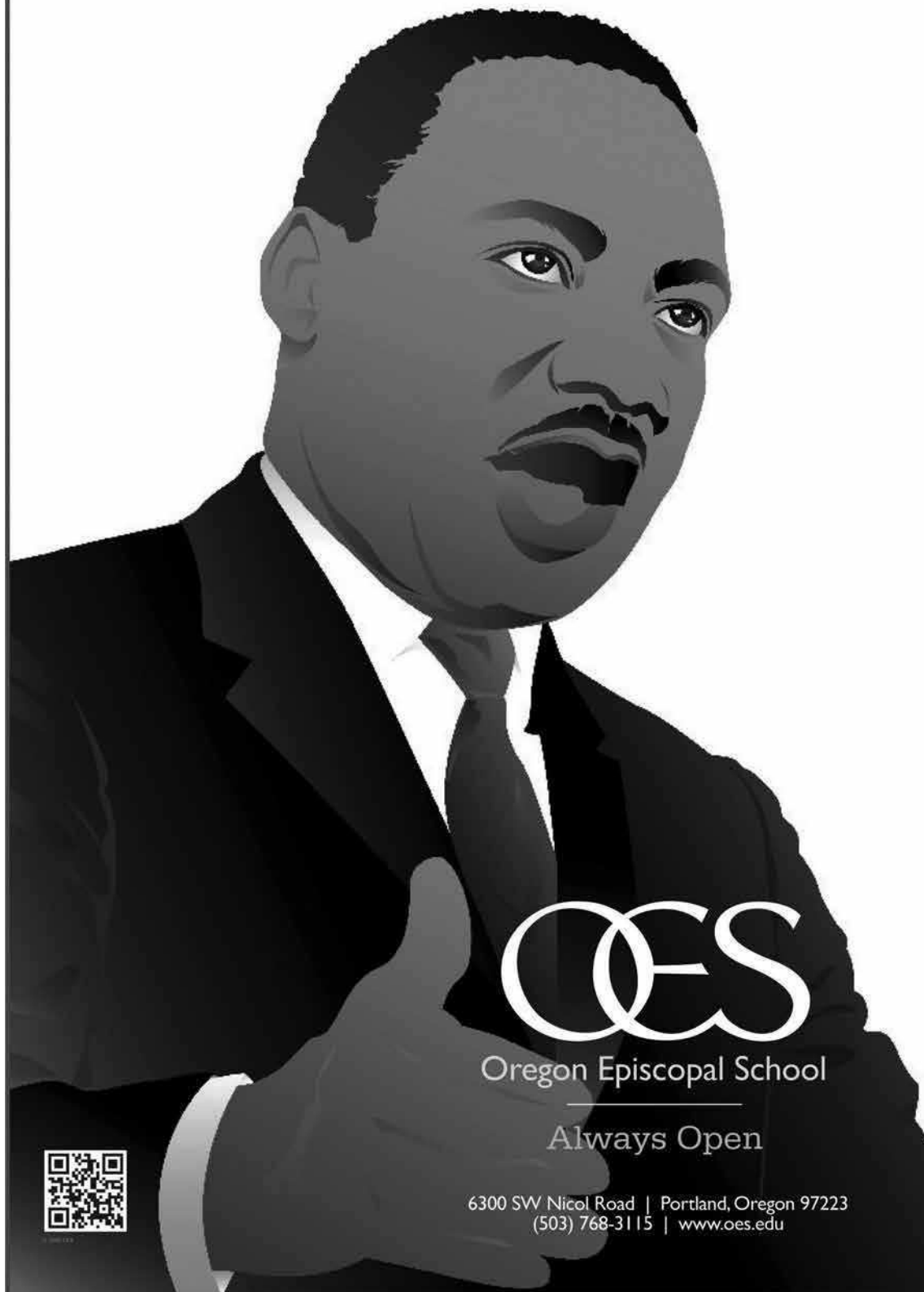
She says while, "Dr. King certainly had ideas about the promise of the future... That we would be judged by the content of our character, and not the color of our skin," the 2016 election cycle showed this is not yet the case.

"We're not really a society where people are being seen as equals, and that becomes extremely problematic to solve," she says.

Jackson, who earned her Ph.D. in sociology from the University of California, says PSU's Black Studies Department was founded out of what had formerly been the college's Center for Black Studies in 1969, and has grown to an interdisciplinary school with appeal to a diverse array of students.

"I think we have the same purpose that we had when we initially started. And that is to educate and to serve the community," Jackson says.

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