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The Portland Observer



Painful History Shared

Nearly 200 attendees packed Portland Community College's Southeast Campus last week to remember the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066.

The presidential act, signed by Franklin D. Roosevelt, came about because of fear in 1942 at the height of World War II. The painful result of its enactment sent more than 120,000 Japanese-Americans to internment camps.

PCC leaders acknowledged this moment in history by hosting the remembrance and affirming the college's tenants of inclusion where all people, regardless of origin are able to equitably access and create a successful future.

PCC President Mark Mitsui and Mari Watanabe of the Portland Business Alliance, both Japanese-Americans, shared their families' stories of life in the internment camps. A panel discussion led by several community and academic leaders was thought provoking, ranging from issues of legality in times of war, to actions that can be taken to prevent future acts which infringe on civil rights.



Portland business and civic leader Sho Dozono and Lynn Fuchigami Longfellow of the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center speak at a Portland Community College event to mark the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, the painful and unjust presidential decree that sent more than 120,000 Japanese-Americans to internment camps during World War II.

Moving Forward

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

identity looks like and means for them," he said.

The non-profit group attempts to create more stable home environments for the families enrolled in its programming.

"All the research around early brain development tells us that one of the most critical things that you can do for a child that age is give them stability," McGee said. "The reality is, for a lot of these families, their social and economic status puts them in this space where poverty becomes the only thing that they can do... When you add that to an unhealthy racial identity, you now have cast them into sort of this whirl from which upward mobility can be nearly impossible."

Citing the disproportionately high rate at which black families in Multnomah County are locked out

of housing and employment, McGee explains how finding suitable jobs for parents, oftentimes, can be the defining difference in a young person's development.

Moving forward into 2017, McGee expects the Black Parent Initiative to continue serving its community.

"We're at an extremely pivotal point in this city... It is no longer okay for this community to just sit on its laurels and say we are progressive. We're now at this time where we must not only be progressive, but we must live out our progressive nature."

McGee believes that a part of addressing issues like education, housing and poverty in the Portland area require a broader viewpoint.

"The issues that face our communities are so complex, but they're interwoven... You can't separate the issues of economic mobility and the issues of education. You can't separate the issues of housing and the issues of mental health. They're all one."

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SUNDAY

 12 Midnight - 3 A.M.
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 3 A.M. - 7 A.M.
TOM JOYNER

 7 A.M. - 10 A.M.
TONI TERRELL

 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.
REV. AL SHARPTON
(KEEPING IT REAL)

 1 P.M. - 3 P.M.
KENNY SMOOV

 3 P.M. - 7 P.M.
D.L. HUGHLEY

 7 P.M. - 9 P.M.
PAPA SMURF

 9 P.M. - 12 Midnight
MIKE SHANNON

 12 Midnight - 3 A.M.
MIKE SHANNON

 3 A.M. - 6 A.M.
TOYA BEASLEY

 6 A.M. - 12 NOON
SUNDAY MORNING GOSPEL
WANGELA

 12 NOON - 1 P.M.
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PAPA SMURF

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