

48  
years of  
community service  
‘City  
of  
Roses’



### Black Leaders: Open Tubman

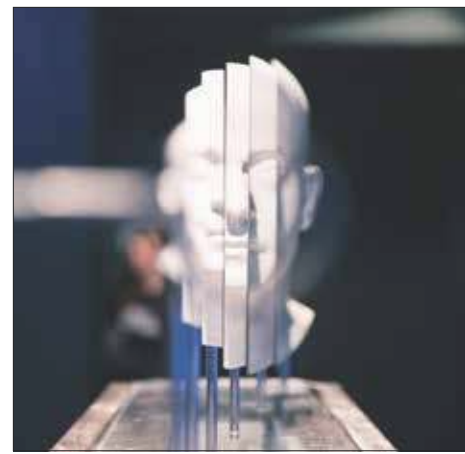
*School board's delay  
called a 'betrayal'*

See Local News, page 3

### Nothing As It Seems

*OMSI illusion  
exhibit to challenge  
your senses*

See Metro, page 9



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PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Dontae Blake, an ex-gang member who turned his life around, said it felt like a stigma getting lifted when Portland Police stopped keeping records of suspected and known gang members. Blake helps at-risk youth get out of gang life by engaging in violence prevention work as a community outreach specialist.

BY DANNY PETERSON  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

New police practices, technological advances, and years of advocacy by civil rights advocates pushing for a change have culminated in the Portland Police Bureau's decision to phase out using a gang designation database as a law enforcement tool, which was officially halted last month.

Though Portland police said gang lists were never made public, the more than 20-year-old practice of tracking suspected and known gang members was determined to be unfairly and disproportionately impacting minorities,

# No More Gang Lists

## How advocates, new practices and technology bought change

a position held for years by national and local civil rights groups like the NAACP and American Civil Liberties Union.

The gang designations also did not necessarily distinguish between a non-criminal gang member and ones with a criminal history. Of the 359 "criminal gang affiliates" that Portland police flagged, as of last year, 81 percent were part of a racial or ethnic minority, officials said.

Black Male Achievement, a group associated with the Portland Office

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4