

Head Start Families

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and connect with student parents,” said Kate Kinder, PCC’s director of career pathways and skills. “We’ll look at how we collaborate and align systems more effectively with partners, and what policies can improve college access, completion, and career opportunities for student parents.”

In 2018 the Oregon State Legislature passed HB4043, which called on community colleges to assess students’ financial constraints and determine how to increase access to federal, state and local benefits by low-income students. The Pathways to Opportunity initiative was thus launched, to close opportunity gaps and increase economic mobility across the state. PCC serves as the lead on the project, which includes a coalition of all 17 Oregon community colleges, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Oregon Community College Association, community-based organizations, and state partners like Oregon Department of Human Services.

Authors Front Black Lit is Lit!

Portland’s Black Parent Initiative is sponsoring “Black Lit is Lit!” a day and night of cultural literacy events on Saturday, Feb. 22 at Barnes & Noble at Clackamas Town Center.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., families are encouraged to bring their kids for story times with three black authors and enjoy the event’s free giveaways, food and autographed copies of the books read. The featured authors are April Allen (It’s Nice to be Nice), Dr. Arlyne Simon (Abby Invents Unbreakable



Authors April Allen (from left), Dr. Arlyne Simon and Mitchell S. Jackson

Crayons) and Montrell “Chillin’ the Poet” Goss (Courageous Coyote Meets the Young Kids).

Later in the evening, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., a discussion geared to adults will take place with award-winning Portland native black author Mitchell S. Jackson as he highlights his paperback release of Survival Math: Notes

on an All American Family.

All purchases made at any Barnes & Noble store and cafe using the book fair ID# 12567079 at check out on Feb. 22 or online between Feb. 22 and Feb. 27 will help the Black Parent Initiative earn funds to buy more culturally specific books for families in the community.

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“All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence.” - MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

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Joyce Washington
Born: 1937 - 1996
Joyce Washington Believed in this Community and all those that made this Community Great.

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