

# Named Youth of the Year

## TreNisha Shearer honored for giving back

TreNisha Shearer, a senior at De LaSalle North Catholic High School and a youth volunteer at the Boys & Girls Club in New Columbia, has been named 2021 Youth of the Year for the organization's Portland metro area.

Shearer has been a member of the Regence Portland Boys & Girls Club in north Portland for 12 years.

She shared her motivation

to give back to the community upon being presented the award in late January.

"I have witnessed the connection that can be formed between club members and staff. Seeing these connections and knowing how big of an impact the club has on people such as myself," Shearer said.

Over the course of the teenager's time at the club, she has traveled to Atlanta for a leader-

ship program, participated in a club internship in partnership with the Portland Timbers, and created a short film, Black 'Till It's Backwards.

Along with the title, Shearer received a \$1,000 scholarship and will represent the Portland Metro Clubs at the Oregon State Boys & Girls Clubs Youth of the Year competition in April. She has plans to attend Georgia State University and study business



TreNisha Shearer, a senior at De LaSalle North Catholic High School, has been named 2021 Youth of the Year by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metro area.

management after graduation. Six other outstanding club members in the Portland area were runners-up to the Youth of the Year title and each received \$500 scholarships.

## Rethink Police Panel Forms

### Group forms to shape oversight

The Portland City Council is now accepting applications for Rethink Police Accountability, a volunteer group that will shape the framework and structure of a new police oversight committee approved by 82% of voters last November.

The process will be community driven and members of the group will be composed of community justice organizations, small businesses impacted by community safety issues, and people from over-policed communities, such as Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), immigrants, refugees, people living with low-income, experiencing homelessness, and/or mental health or substance use, officials said.

Membership on the panel is an opportunity for people who want to have an impact on future policies and practices related to police reform. Potential members who are innovative, collaborative, and equity-focused or who like the idea of building something from scratch are encouraged to apply. Those selected should also plan for a committed minimum of four hours a month and to meet monthly on Zoom for 18 months, officials added.

"We have a lot of work and community conversations that




Jo Ann Hardesty must happen as we rethink community safety in Portland," said City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty. "An important piece of building trust in our police bureau will be a system of oversight and accountability with a structure that centers the community the police are sworn to protect and serve."

Mayor Ted Wheeler said its clear Portland wants a new and improved police oversight system and that they want regular Portlanders involved in making it happen.

"The city is responding to that clear demand," he said. I encourage people who are innovative and dedicated to equity to apply to help us construct a new evolution of community safety rooted in improved trust, transparency, and accountability."

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**Even with the COVID-19 vaccines, it is very important to:**

**BE SAFE**

- TAKE the 100 day challenge #Maskup WITH PRESIDENT BIDEN AND WEAR A MASK CORRECTLY FOR THE NEXT 100 DAYS AND BEYOND
- CLEAN YOUR HANDS OFTEN, EITHER WITH SOAP AND WATER FOR 20 SECONDS OR A HAND SANITIZER
- MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCE BY STAYING AT LEAST 6 FEET FROM OTHER PEOPLE



COVID-19 Vaccine in Oregon : Oregon Health Authority. (n.d.). Retrieved January 19, 2021, from <https://covidvaccine.oregon.gov/>