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2023 Year In Review

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New Ownership for Albina Arts Center

Sept. 6 – The Albina Arts Center Selection Committee and Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) announced the new owner and steward of the Albina Arts Center in Portland, Oregon. Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center, Inc. and Rosemary Anderson High School (POIC+RAHS) will assume ownership as of September 1, and form a partnership with PassinArt to serve as the lead artistic program partner. The unique collaboration will ensure artistic leadership and realize the community's vision for centering and growing Black artistic talent.



Black Man Imprisoned Since 1998 Walks Free

Sept. 20 – (AP) In the predawn hours of March 20, 1998, a neighbor heard screams coming from the home in Salem of Harriet “Sunny” Thompson and then saw a white man run from the house, leaving Thompson inside dead of stab wounds. Yet a Black man, Jesse Johnson, was convicted by a jury in 2004 of aggravated murder and sentenced to death. On September 5, 2023 Johnson walked free after 25 years behind bars when prosecutors decided to drop retrial efforts, two years after the Oregon Court of Appeals reversed Johnson's conviction.



First-Ever Vice President of Impact

Oct. 4 – Meyer Memorial Trust announced that Kimberly Melton will join Meyer Memorial Trust as its first vice president of Impact. The newly-created role will oversee Meyer's strategic implementation, specifically the work of its programs, evaluation, grant operations and communications staff.



Honoring Years of Service and Dedication

Oct. 18 – The Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metro Area and PCC Structurals, a division of Precision Castparts Corp., (“PCC”) announced the honoree for the Wattles Club located in the Lents neighborhood in SE Portland, which will be renamed in January 2024. PCC Structurals has made a transformative investment in the mission of Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metro Area through a 10-year partnership and is using this as an opportunity to honor a leader of color from the community to rename the Club facility. The Wattles Boys & Girls Club will now become the Lionel Clegg Boys & Girls Club – powered by PCC Structurals.



Portland Police Interim Chief Sworn In

Oct. 18 – Robert (Bob) Day was appointed the 51st Chief of the Portland Police Bureau at a special ceremony at City Hall. Outgoing Chief Chuck Lovell administered the oath of office to Bob Day, who was appointed as Interim Chief by Mayor Ted Wheeler.

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