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Editorial Wins Award

The Skanner News takes a first in national competition

Helen Silvis
Of *The Skanner News*

The *Skanner News* has taken first place in the Best Editorial category at the National Newspaper Publisher Association Awards, for "Don't Play Politics With Our Lives." The editorial urged action to change the system of police discipline.

The National Newspaper Publishers Association represents about 200 African American newspapers. The NNPA held its annual convention June 26-29 in Nashville, Tenn. The event celebrated 187 years of the Black Press, and recognized the best work of 2012 and brought together publishers, industry leaders and academics. The Black press has a circulation of 19.5 million readers. The NNPA presented the traditional Merit awards for excellence in publishing. The St. Louis American won the top award for general excellence for the second consecutive year. The NNPA also presented excellence awards for two smaller categories. The Houston Defender won for the best mid-sized paper. And The Miami Times won for the best paper with a smaller circulation.

"There were many exceptional entries this year," said Karl B. Rodney, Merit Awards Chairman and publisher of the Carib News. "We congratulate not only the winners, but other papers that exemplify excellence every week."

Speakers led discussions on everything from education, Hip-hop and Historically Black Colleges and Universities to AIDs prevention, financial forecasting and the future of digital publishing. And participants shared their perspectives on the challenges facing African American communities

Among more than two dozen panelists were: rapper Kangol Kid, music producer Ralph McDaniels, Jineea Butler, founder of the Hip Hop Union; Osei Mevs, associate VP at Meharry Medical College; Glenda

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NNPA



VIPS such as Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, and his wife, controversial education reformer Michelle Rhee, center, rubbed elbows with members of the Black press in Nashville, Tenn., for the annual National Newspaper Publishers Association convention. See a slideshow of the event at www.theskanner.com.

Second Chances are for Everyone

Donate your used work clothes to SCAFÉ or volunteer as a mentor

By Helen Silvis
Of *The Skanner News*

Second Chances are for Everyone is one of Portland's newest nonprofits. Founded by Emanuel Price, SCAFÉ—rhyme it with café—helps men into work and careers, by offering mentorship and practical support. Price says his goal is to help men who have been to prison overcome that barrier to employment.

"A lot of people will hear that you have been incarcerated and

they just discard you to the trash," Price said. "I saw how men I knew were facing barriers and having a hard time getting work. I really believe Second Chances are for Everyone, and this is what I'm trying to achieve with the help of the community."

Similar to Dress for Success, SCAFÉ is building up a store of work clothes so that men can look the part, when they apply and interview for jobs. And the nonprofit is building relationships with employers who are

willing to consider hiring people whose resumes have gaps and blemishes.

Price said about 50 percent of employers are open-minded when approached directly. And while he understands why some employers hesitate to hire men with felony convictions, SCAFÉ's mission is to show that people who have made mistakes and taken responsibility for them, can be mature, hard-working, and loyal. Former felons can be good people and great employees.

Employers who have opened their doors to SCAFÉ, include Shower Pan Man, Tualatin mechanic Jason Gildner, and New Seasons, as well as non-profit Constructing Hope.

Price said men hear about SCAFÉ from parole and probation officers, and other community connections. He also makes personal connections with prisoners through his volunteer work, educating inmates on how to prevent HIV and AIDS.

What inspired Price to go to

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Changes to GED Requirements Take

Anyone working to finish their education needs to do it soon

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — GED exams for those who want an alternative way to earn a high school diploma are about to change and community organizations in Portland are encouraging people to finish their studies this year before the tests gets harder or more complex.

As The Skanner and the Oregonian have reported, groups that usually address poverty, gang activity and immigration are trying

to persuade people to get their GED by the end of the year.

The GED will change in January 2014. The new tests will be more difficult, in line with the Common Core Standards. People who haven't completed the test by the end of December will have to start over. It's important because having that certificate helps people find better jobs, get into college and start careers.

Free GED Tutoring

In East Portland, the Rosewood Initiative is offering free tutoring from 2 - 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday at 16126 SE Stark Street. Other groups offering free help include:

Straightway Services,
503.516.9148Straightwayservices@live.

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