

## Obituary: Garfield DeBardelaben

February 19, 1946 – December 7, 2015

Well-known Portland psychologist Garfield DeBardelaben died at the age of 69, following a lengthy illness. He was the first African American licensed clinical psychologist in the state of Oregon, and served as the first Black president of the Oregon Psychological Association. A member of the NTL Institute of Applied Behavioral Sciences, he has provided consulting services to Fortune 500 clients throughout the U.S., Asia and Europe. Clients included The World Bank, Motorola, Intel, Dupont and Portland's Bureau of Police, to name a few.



Garfield DeBardelaben

He was founding principal of Interpersonal Relations International, LLC, a multi-ethnic organization development consulting firm. His firm specializes in helping businesses solve interpersonal and productivity issues, and develop effective leaders. In addition to his private practice, he worked on the Good Samaritan Hospital rehabilitation team, and was a clinician at Oregon Health & Science University. DeBardelaben also specialized in diversity and inclusion. His influence fostered racial dialogue with constituents and citizens.

DeBardelaben was a big fan of Oregon Public Broadcasting and loved watching old movies. He enjoyed

jazz, and enjoyed cooking. His work took him to countries throughout the world, and he was especially interested in historical sites and learning how people interact.

He served on the Oregon State Commission on Black Affairs and on the De La Salle North Catholic High School Board of

Trustees. He was a board member of Cancer Care Resources and the African American Mental Health Commission, in addition to many other organizations. He was a consultant for many departments of the state of Oregon as well as Portland Public Schools.

He held a PhD in clinical psychology from Wayne State Univ.

He is survived by his wife Marian, brothers Robert Lee (Gail), San Francisco; David (Eartha), Pittsburgh; Ande (Karen), New Castle, Pa. and sister Deborah Jacoway (Michael), Charlottesville, Virginia; an aunt, Ida Belle Northington, Pittsburgh. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Georgie Mae, and brother, William.

A memorial service will be held Feb. 21, 2 – 4 p.m., at the Agnes Flanagan Chapel, Lewis & Clark College. Interment will be at Lone Fir Cemetery in Portland. A private homegoing service will be held in Pennsylvania at a later date.

## March cont'd from pg 3

ity materials for the demonstration. In addition to Don't Shoot, VOZ and Right to Dream Too, Sisters of the Road, Hazelnut Grove and Western Regional Advocacy Project are all named as co-organizers for the rally.

Publicity materials for the linked demonstrations say groups are joining together in solidarity to address economic, racial and housing injustice. A press release from Portland Tenants United said the final portion of the rally will focus specifically on

tenancy without cause, and that the rights and protections that are afforded to tenants are unenforceable – particularly those designed to protect tenants from illegal discrimination and retaliation.”

Facebook groups for events planned during earlier parts of the day use broader language, saying they want to join together to address the intersections of different types of oppression, including racial, housing and economic injustice.

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housing and displacement issues.

“The city has not done enough to solve the housing crisis it declared in September 2015. Full rights and protections for tenants are the only long term solution to this current crisis, not simply extended notice periods for exorbitant rent increases and unjust no-cause evictions,” PTU's release reads. “The city's ‘renters protections’ passed in October do not adequately address this crisis nor acknowledge or mitigate its impact. Organizers from Portland Tenants United (PTU) will raise awareness and galvanize action around the fact that our housing crisis is rooted in weak tenant rights and protections, such as the statewide preemption against rent control and the ability to issue terminations of

“This is a collaboration of organizations, movements, and individuals that work in our communities to engage and resist legalized oppression,” reads the Facebook event page for an event organized by Don't Shoot Portland beginning downtown at 8 a.m. “We come together on this day to synergize our efforts into a larger community movement of CHANGE MAKERS. We come together on this day to share the work we are doing, and will continue to do as long as there is systemic oppression.”

To learn more, visit the Facebook page for A People's Solidarity March, which includes links to other events: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1552736671683452/>

## Youth cont'd from pg 1

night of the summit will feature an array of workshops aimed at youth and adults alike on topics ranging from becoming an emcee to healthy living. There will also be a youth talent showcase.

Event founder Imani Muhammad said by structuring the event around five major aspects of hip-hop culture – emceeing, graffiti, DJing, b-boying, and graffiti-writing – she is able to equip young people with life skills in a way she may not be able to using more conventional methods.

“We're going to give them the knowledge of why you need to know how to write and put thoughts to paper

“We might address how a young person can be an emcee, and teach them how to write lyrics – but at the same time, we're going to give them the knowledge of why you need to know how to write and put thoughts to paper,” Muhammad said. “It's taking them where they're at in terms of the music. But then once we have them hooked in, then we can unlock a lot of their minds and give them some real knowledge that they may not be getting in the public school situation or at home.”

Other presenters for this year's summit will include rapper and social entrepreneur Mic Crenshaw, journalist Jesse Muhammad, teacher Sebastien Elkouby and Devin S. James, author of the book *Inside Ferguson*.

Muhammad said watching the summit enter its 10th year is an accomplishment.

She started the event in response to

the shooting death of one of her former pupils, 14-year-old Davonte Lightfoot, who was shot at the intersection of North Killingsworth and Albina in 2007. The first Youth Summit took place a few weeks later.

In the years since, the summit has brought out big names like Professor Griff, of the legendary rap group Public Enemy, and popular hip hop activist Jasiri X.

“Davonte is one name,” Muhamed said. “We can run the names down in our city, but [also] of course national-

ly, of young men and women who have been in killed, in – I wouldn't call it senseless violence, because there is a reason behind it – but I would call it foolishness.”

She said through the years, the type of violence affecting youth has changed from organized crime to becoming more random.

But the root is largely the same: disenfranchisement.

“It's just lack of opportunity for those that aren't part of the ‘haves.’ We have a huge divide of the ‘haves’ and the ‘have-nots’ in the city so if you're hustling day-to-day trying to make it, and you're not able to make it, then you're naturally going to resort to some criminal or dysfunctional activity,” Muhammad said. “So I think a lot of what we're seeing today is that the young people don't have hope, and they also don't have any guidance or direction.”

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