

Events & Announcements



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

State of Africatown

Students from First Place Scholars perform at the third annual State of Africatown Jan. 16 at Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute. The event featured presentations about the success of some of the Central District-based Africatown Seattle initiatives including the signing of legislation formally designating the Central Area as an Arts & Cultural District focused on honoring and preserving the contributions of the Black and African Diaspora to Seattle.

Seattle News Briefs

College Goal Washington Helps Families Complete the FAFSA

Prospective college students and their parents are invited to attend College Goal Washington at 1 p.m. Jan. 23 in the Undergraduate Building at Washington State University Vancouver. This free, statewide event provides students and families with help completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)—the single-most important application for financial assistance for higher education. Help completing the WASFA (Washington Application for State Financial Aid) will also be provided to DREAMER (undocumented) students. Translation assistance will be available for Russian and Spanish speakers.

Whether you choose a four-year university, community college, vocational or technical school, most students rely on financial aid to pay for college. At College Goal Washington, students and parents can talk to experts and get help filling out the FAFSA or WASFA.

In order to complete the FAFSA/WASFA, College Goal Washington guests should bring:

- Student's social security card/number or Alien registration
- Student's income information
Bank statements; a W-2 or pay stub, if you have a job; past tax return, if you filed
- Student's parent, if you are under 24 years of age
All students 24 years of age and older are considered independent from their parents. The FAFSA will help you determine if you are considered dependent or independent if you are younger than 24. Only dependents need to file parent information.

- Parent's financial information
Bank statements; W-2 or pay stub; last year's tax return
You can use last year's tax return to estimate your current tax information and submit the FAFSA. If you do this, you will update and make corrections after you file your taxes.
- Parent's social security number, if they have one
- Any additional financial information such as child support statements, TANF or welfare information; real estate, stock or bonds investments; family business or farm information

Celebrate Neighbor Appreciation Day Feb. 13

Celebrate Seattle's annual Neighbor Appreciation Day, a special day set aside to reach out to neighbors,

create new friends, and express thanks to those who help make your neighborhood a great place to live. Residents, community groups, and businesses across Seattle will join together on Feb. 13 (and the week of) to celebrate.

Here are ways you can celebrate Neighbor Appreciation Day:

- Plan an activity for your neighborhood such as a block party, potluck, or work party. Our website provides ideas, tools, resources, and templates to help you organize an activity. If the event is open to the public, you can post it to our events calendar.
- Attend one of the many community activities listed on the events calendar. Many Seattle Fire stations along with pools, community centers, and neighborhoods are hosting celebrations and work parties.
- Take your neighbor to a FREE Seattle University Redhawks basketball game. Visit this link and use Promo Code "NEIGHBORDAY" to receive tickets. For questions call 206-398-4678.
- Share a "great neighbor" story or tell us how you are celebrating using #neighborday. Post it to our Facebook page.

Join Seattle Department of Neighborhoods and thousands of community members in celebration of what makes Seattle great – our neighbors! Visit seattle.gov/neighborhoods/neighborday/ for more information or contact Wendy Watson at wendy.watson@seattle.gov.

DFI Warns of Advance Fee Scam

The Washington State Department of Financial Institutions received a report of what appears to be an advance fee scam.

Recently, a Washington State consumer was contacted by someone claiming to represent Rosenblatt Financial Center. The representative stated the consumer was approved for a \$5,000 loan but would first need to provide Rosenblatt Financial Center several payments via Western Union or MoneyGram. The consumer sent Rosenblatt Financial Center \$748 via Western Union but has to date not received the proposed loan.

Rosenblatt Financial Center is not licensed to make loans in Washington State and is not licensed in Washington as a collection agency or debt buyer. Despite the address provided by Rosenblatt Financial Center to the Washington State consumer listed below, DFI has received information indicating that Rosenblatt Financial Center is operating from outside of the United States.

The following e-mail address and phone number have been associated with this apparent scam:

Email: Courtneysheppard@rosenblattcenter.com
Tel: (866) 724-8882

Community Calendar 2016

cont'd from pg 4

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

BELLEVUE AQUATIC CENTER EMPLOYMENT/VOLUNTEER OPEN HOUSE: Come to this open house to gather information regarding employment and volunteer opportunities at the Bellevue Aquatic Center. For ages 13 and older. 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., Bellevue Aquatic Center, 601 143rd Ave. NE.

UW NEIGHBORHOOD SMOKEY POINT CLINIC COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE: UW Medicine is opening its 12th Primary Care Clinic location in Smokey Point. Tour the clinic, meet our providers, enjoy refreshments and activities for the whole family. Members of the Husky Marching Band and also Harry the Husky will be there. 1 p.m. – 3 p.m., UW Neighborhood Smokey Point Clinic, 3823 172nd St. NE., Arlington.

SOUTH SOUND WEDDING SHOW: This is a local resource guide for engaged couples planning a wedding in the South Puget Sound. Engaged couples, their families and wedding attendants are invited to attend the Olympia – Area show. Cost is \$8 in advance, \$12 day of event. 9:30 a.m., Saint Martin's University, 5000 Abbey Way SE, Lacey.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

EVENING INDOOR PLAYGROUND: Drop-in evening indoor playground with active play area and quiet preschool-type room. Great place to wind down with your child or wear them out just before bedtime. \$3per child. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Miller Community Center, 330 19th Ave. E.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

IS SHE READY? FREE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS: This is for girls 13 to 17 years old. Work alongside our resourceful mentors to identify academic aspirations and take active steps toward becoming college bound. Free for all girls 13 to 17. 2 p.m. – 6 p.m. You Grow Girl, 2200 Rainier Ave. S. Suite 201.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

ROBINSWOOD HOUSE/SEATTLE BRIDE – ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE AND TASTING: Planning a wedding or special event? Please join us for our annual open house and tasting, featuring all of our exclusive caterers. 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Robinswood House (in Robinswood Park), 2430 148th Ave. SE, Bellevue.

2ND ANNUAL FAMILY FUN FEST: Come check out this family fun event. Festivities to include The Harmonica Pocket, face painting, Caring Clown International, play fun carnival games and so much more. Admission is \$5. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Kingston High School, 26201 Sisaya Ave. NE., Kingston.

Address: 1620 5th Ave Ste 110, San Diego, CA 92101
The Washington State Department of Financial Institutions cautions that unlicensed entities often engage in certain practices that indicate they are committing a fraud or otherwise violating Washington State law. For instance, such entities often use non-business email addresses (such as @gmail.com, @yahoo.com, or other similar easily obtained email addresses) to send correspondence, threaten legal or criminal action if consumers do not reply immediately, or contain a variety of typographical and spelling errors in their correspondence to consumers.

DFI encourages consumers who receive communications containing personal information to contact their banks, credit reporting agencies, and the Social Security Administration to ensure there is no unauthorized activity on their accounts.

In all circumstances, DFI also strongly suggests verifying the business licensee of entity that is requesting personal or financial information, or attempting to collect funds.

Washington State residents, if you are suspicious of unlicensed activity by a payday lender please contact the Washington State Department of Financial Institutions at 1-877-RING-DFI (746-4334), or online at www.dfi.wa.gov. If you live in another state, find your state regulator at <http://mortgage.nationwidelicencingsystem.org/consumer/Pages/AgencyContacts.aspx>.

View the Community Calendar and regularly updated News Briefs for Seattle and Portland at

THE Skanner.com