

Drugs cont'd from pg 1

tunately, felony convictions in these cases also include unintended and collateral consequences including barriers to housing and employment and a disparate impact on minority communities.”

The release pledges that the associations intend to work with

also issued a statement commending the Sheriffs Association and Chiefs of Police’s position.

“Longer criminal sentences are not always the path to justice, safety, or solving challenging social problems. I am pleased to see Oregon law enforcement leaders promoting a smarter

“Policies that prevent people from rebuilding their lives are bad for Oregon’

the governor, legislature and prosecutors throughout the state to “craft a more thoughtful approach to drug possession when it is the only crime committed.” It says the two professional associations will recommend user-amount drug possession convictions be treated as misdemeanors and that offenders be assessed for mandated treatment as a condition of their conviction.

Almost immediately after the release was issued, groups involved in criminal justice reform issued statements praising the professional association’s position.

“We are particularly pleased that OSSA and OACP have addressed the outsize impact that the current approach is having on Oregonians of color,” says a statement from Bobbin Singh, Executive Director, Oregon Justice Resource Center. “Any conversation about how to address the problem of mass incarceration in our state must prominently feature the voices of communities of color and must take particular account of how these communities are affected by current or proposed policy.”

The ACLU of Oregon

approach in our state. Policies that prevent people from rebuilding their lives are bad for Oregon. When someone is charged with a felony drug crime it can follow them for life, preventing access to housing, employment, education, and more,” said David Rodgers, executive director of the ACLU of Oregon.

Unite Oregon offered more qualified praise of the statement.

“The War on Drugs has been a failure,” said Kayse Jama, Executive Director of Unite Oregon. “Drug policies have devastated our community and contributed to the mass incarceration of people of color and low income communities. In addition, it does not help those who are struggling with addiction. Instead, it makes it almost impossible for people to find safe and secure housing, meaningful employment, and recovery-related care.”

Unite Oregon’s statement goes on to call for an overhaul of the criminal justice system, including an end to profiling, improved training of law enforcement and recording pedestrian and vehicular stops.

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their coworkers and managers.

In the film, Laneice is referred to as a “Quota” — a person who has been hired to fulfill government diversity regulations.

Hunte and Redstone spoke about showing the film to groups of tradeswomen at national conferences. At an

One of Hunte’s favorite screenings was the Women Build Nations conference in Chicago where the film was shown to more than 700 women in the trades.

Both Redstone and Hunte felt a heavy duty to tell the stories of Black tradeswomen and to portray them accurately

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event in New York City, Redstone said the film resonated with those who had lived Laneice’s experiences.

“After watching it, someone raised her hand and said that she had had all of those things happen, all the various microaggressions that the lead character experiences — but not necessarily all in one day,” Redstone said.

to a larger audience. Redstone remembers the exact number of Kickstarter backers who funded the film’s creation — 256 people.

“All these people were invested in the project and it was a lot of pressure,” Redstone said. “I had this responsibility and privilege to tell this story, but it was a little nerve-wracking at times

too.”

Hunte said she was inspired by the women she interviewed for her dissertation.

“The women that I interviewed said ‘please do something with this; please don’t just let it sit there. Please share,’” she said. “I feel very honored and excited that we are getting to share.”

In addition to film festival screenings, *Sista in the Brotherhood* has been getting exposure through training screenings. The film has been shown to regional government Metro, at a Plumbers Union in New York, Oregon Tradeswomen and the NECA/IBEW Electrical Training Center.

Hunte is currently creating a cur-

- Fix the binding arbitration clause for police officers who are fired.
- Ban officers from reviewing body camera footage before writing reports on use of force incidents.
- An end to the 48-hour rule
- An immediate end to police brutality at protests
- An immediate end to gang enforcement officers being deployed to protests
- Increased background checks on potential officers.
- Make public all bargaining sessions with the Portland Police Association.

Read more at TheSkanner.com



PHOTO BY BOBBIE FOSTER

Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Portlander Marian De Bardelaben (left) meets Gina Daniels at costume panel that related the process for creating designs for *Twelfth Night* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival’s Emeritus Board event Sept. 23. The show was directed by Christopher Liam Moore. The show runs through Oct. 30. *Vietgone* and *Richard II* are sold out, and tickets to hot shows “*The Wiz*” and “*The Yeomen of the Guard*,” which run through Oct. 15 and 30, are going fast.

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When asked why Hales changed the meeting location, he told KGW that he did not want an occupation of City Hall.

“I’m not interesting in facilitating the occupation of a public building,” Hales said. “What I did want to facilitate is a conversation about these issues, and they’re really important.”

The choice to switch locations inflamed an already-tense relationship between the city and Don’t Shoot Portland. On Friday the group rallied for Black lives after the deaths of Terence Crutcher in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Keith Lamont Scott in Charlotte, North Carolina.

What began as a peaceful march turned violent as police officers clashed with Don’t Shoot Portland protesters. The activist group issued video from the protest that shows clips of alleged police brutality.

In one video a police officer appears to fire a weapon near a protester’s feet; another shows a

police officer on a bicycle breaking a banner being carried by activists. Another video clip shows protestors being pepper sprayed by police.

The group issued a press re-

“What began as a peaceful march turned violent as police officers clashed with Don’t Shoot Portland protesters

lease condemning violence both from and towards protesters.

“We do not want riots to occur in Portland. We do not want our city to see the same destruction as Ferguson, Baltimore or Charlotte. However, it is us that have kept our city from spiraling into similar circumstances, as the police here have met peaceful protestors with the same mindset as in those cities,” the press release read.

The group also issued a series of demands they say would improve police accountability. The demands include:



Still from ‘Sista in the Brotherhood’

riculum and discussion questions so the film can be distributed as an education tool. Those who are interested in screening the film for training or education purposes are encouraged to contact them at www.sistainthebrotherhood.com.

Read the full story at TheSkanner.com