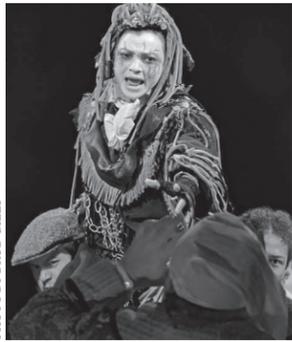


# Play

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of the theater company fit perfectly in line with its ethos, said co-founder and artistic director Brian Weaver.

"We cast a diverse company of actors to reflect the truth of our community and highlight the



Actress Sarah Smith in Portland Playhouse's production of "A Christmas Carol."

**“We are all in this together and connected through how we are similar**

strengths of both our differences and our commonalities.”

Weaver, who is also co-directing "A Christmas Carol" with Cristi Miles, says the story of redemption and trans-

formation reflects certain universal truths.

"We are all in this together and connected through how we are similar," he told *The Skanner*. "But I also value what makes us different: race, culture, family history. This is what makes our lives more rich and our community more resilient in the ability to acknowledge and celebrate our differences."

For tickets and more information, visit [www.portlandplayhouse.org/acc](http://www.portlandplayhouse.org/acc).



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

## Glenn Hubbard Room Dedication

Glenn Hubbard's family is shown a mural painted in his honor in the "The Hubb" during a small celebration Nov. 30 at the Meadowbrook Teen Life Center. The Seattle Parks Department honored Glenn Hubbard for his years of service to the parks department and especially to young people by dedicating a room as "The Hubb" last week.

# Courthouse

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Both projects have broken ground and county officials estimate they will need thousands of workers. A booming private construction industry has also translated to job openings for those looking to enter the building trades.

According to Faye Burch of FM Burch and Associates, an equity and inclusion consultant, workers can be as young as 18. They can enter the field through pre-apprenticeship programs like Constructing Hope, Oregon Tradeswomen Inc., Portland Youthbuilders Program or Portland Opportunities Indus-

trialization Center (POIC).

"I would say in terms of timing, there's always time to go into a pre-apprentice pro-

grams require a high school diploma or GED, but programs like Portland YouthBuilders also provide GED assistance.

Those enrolled in the pre-apprentice programs get complete training where they are

**“At the end of their training, pre-apprentices pick which trade they want to go into, and start going to job sites where they are getting paid, either for union or non-union work**

gram," Burch said. Burch said because construction projects go in waves, there's a need for a variety of types of workers

introduced to all building trades — carpentry, concrete, electrical work — and they get onsite experience. Most pro-

grams require a high school diploma or GED, but programs like Portland YouthBuilders also provide GED assistance.

At the end of their training, pre-apprentices pick which trade they want to go into, and start going to job sites where they are getting paid, either for union or non-union work, Burch said.

"It's a viable opportunity for them to make a really good living wage and with so much construction now in the Portland metro area it is a chance to find out if it's for you," Burch said.

Some complete pre-apprentice training and determine

the work is not right for them, Burch said: "A lot of people don't like to work in the rain." Others find a career path that allows them to make good wages, with room for upward mobility as they improve their skills and seniority.

The county hosted a large hiring event in November, but is still seeking workers for the projects.

Those interested in the apprenticeship programs should contact community partners: Constructing Hope, (503) 281-1234; Oregon TradesWomen INC., (503) 335-8200; Portland YouthBuilders, (503) 286-9350.

# KairosPDX

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ect Breaker facilitator with Construct Foundation.

Students practice these steps by taking on "mini-design challenges" — for example, designing a chair for the animated character Moana, redesigning the playground for a friend or creating an innovation to solve a problem in a story book.

**“We are pleased that KairosPDX will be helping to right the historic under-representation of African American students in STEM classes**

In January, Project Breaker will work on a larger design challenge with students during the winter break.

"We are thrilled to have this partnership that provides our third and fourth graders the opportunity to lead in new and exciting ways," said Kali Ladd, executive director of KairosPDX, whose Afro-centric curriculum works address to Portland's achievement gap



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAIROSPDX

for students of color.

The charter will also be partnering with Building Blocks for Success and Young Audiences for additional after school projects, and is one of seven programs that received the two-year funding from the Children's Levy this autumn.

On Sept. 20, the funding package — made possible through unspent Levy revenue — went before the Portland City Council for a final vote, during which grantees came forward to testify to their programs and pledge their support of the package.

It's reassuring news for KairosPDX, which found itself in the hot seat this summer when a proposed Portland Public Schools policy was threatening



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAIROSPDX

Students of KairosPDX count down to the school's 4th annual "Spread the Love 2017" event in February.

to take away its building and potentially leave the one-of-a-kind charter without a facility.

Ladd told *The Skanner* that her school is currently in negotiations with the district for a longer term lease of the building, which is the former site of Humboldt Elementary School.

KairosPDX's program joins 22 other levy-funded after school programs which support student well-being.

"We are pleased that KairosPDX will

be helping to right the historic under-representation of African American students in STEM classes," said Dan Saltzman, city commissioner and Portland Children's Levy allocation chair.

The Portland Children's Levy currently funds 74 programs with \$18 million annually in areas of Early Childhood, After School, Mentoring, Child Abuse Prevention/Intervention, Foster Care and Hunger Prevention.