

Jordans cont'd from pg 1

site this week.

Nike designer Tinker Hatfield designed the kicks in 2019 for Lee, who wore his pair to the Academy Awards that year when he accepted an Oscar for his "BlacKkLansmen" screenplay. The donated sneakers weren't Lee's personal pair, but were among a

few made for him to give out to his inner circle, the Portland Rescue Mission said.

Hatfield visited the shelter and authenticated the shoes. He also signed a replacement box and donated other Nike merchandise. The company is based in nearby Beaverton, Oregon.

"I'm thrilled the shoes ended up here," Hatfield said in a statement shared by the Portland Rescue Mission. "It's a happy ending to a really great project."

The shoes are on auction at Sotheby's until Monday, and could fetch \$15,000 to \$20,000, according to the auction house. Sotheby's is waiving its fee, so all of the proceeds will benefit the shelter, which has helped people struggling with homelessness, hunger and addiction since 1949.

The identity of whoever donated the shoes remains a mystery.

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Lloyd cont'd from pg 1

the surrounding neighborhoods, because we know there are communities that are all sitting on the periphery that would love to have a little bit more of a connector."

The planning team emphasizes that with the addition of homes - including some affordable housing - and workplaces, the Lloyd Center will see round-the-clock activity.

Amidst a severe housing shortage, a more efficiently planned Lloyd Center could provide relief.

"From a Portland zoning code perspective, this area allows for a certain amount of density," Bailey said. "The (site's) 30 acres could actually have up to 10 million square feet of usable area. There's a real interest from the city and the community to utilize density better and to continue to make sure that we're repurposing our land area in a good way, in the highest best-use way."

Lloyd's Next Chapter

The Lloyd Center was opened in 1960, added a cover in 1990 and went into foreclosure in 2021 after the previous owners defaulted on their 2015 renovation loan. KKR Real Estate Finance Trust took ownership beginning in

2021. (The old Sears store, which was under different ownership from the rest of the mall, is also tentatively part of the conceptual plan.)

"Historically, malls in general have

“They've found a community and have created an environment that people feel really good about being in

taken quite a beating in the way of economic success," Bailey said. "So many of the large anchors have changed their business models, or ended their business models. Lloyd Center's prior ownership was struggling financially and really weren't able to come together on a next generation concept."

As KKR began to conceptualize the Lloyd Center's future, the Urban Renaissance Group (URG) commercial real estate agency has managed the mall and its more than 120 tenants. Local small businesses have moved in: The quasi-cabana entryway that was Hollister Clothing's trademark facade,

for example, now leads to vintage offerings from local retailer Bauhaus Mode.

"A lot of them have really created a community of using each other as catalysts, because they came in with their own little bit of a following and now they've found a community and have created an environment that people feel really good about being in," Bailey said.

Elsewhere around the country, an eerie subgenre of photography has formed around documenting abandoned shopping malls as they are reclaimed by nature and the elements, decaying from disuse. But the Lloyd Center mall persists as a kind of artifact of public and commercial life in a bygone era - one that holds novelty for creatives looking to reimagine spaces.

In August, the Northwest Classical Theatre Collaborative took over the former Victoria's Secret space to stage Samuel Beckett's "Happy Days," an absurdist piece with a minimal set and only two characters. What was once a Spencer's Gifts now houses the Halloween Cultural Preservation Museum, an exhibit of personal collections of vintage Halloween decor that charts the growth of the holiday in popular culture.

And in January, local artist Mike Bennett will set his next installation in the mall: A large-scale "national park" immersive experience, with his wood cut-out cartoon characters populating an intricate forest setting.

"Because of some of the availability we do have, and because of the activator that the ice rink is, it has become a place where a lot of special events have happened," Bailey said. "So there's been theater, we've had a secret roller disco, we've had a number of community organizations that have held their fundraisers or their big annual events because we've got these big open spaces with plenty of parking, and they have an opportunity to feel safe within the environment here."

Making Connections

The Lloyd Center has the advantage of being centrally located and surrounded by established neighborhoods. URG led community outreach and polling efforts, with residents of Northeast Portland over-represented in the groups surveyed. They have partnered with at least one consultant firm to make sure Black residents are engaged in the process.

Read more at [TheSkanner.com](https://www.theskanner.com)

Book Fair cont'd from pg 1

know they can just have fun."

Bradford worked with Sistah Scifi, an Oakland bookstore specializing in work by BIPOC science fiction writers, to put together a list of around 100 books to be sold and distributed at Norse Hall on Dec. 23, the first inaugural BIPOC Book Fair.

Volunteers from SMART Reading will be available to help kids find the right book for them - and children and teens who attend will each get one free book of their choice.

"We believe that all children deserve access not only to quality literature, but to books that reflect and affirm their identities, families, communities and cultures," SMART Reading Program Director Rashelle Chase-Miller said.

A Winning Idea

Bradford first put together the book fair concept in an application to an EventBrite contest, which would award the winning idea with \$10,000.

Though she made it to the final round,

Bradford was not ultimately selected. But her idea had gained a lot of local support, and one friend had told her that if EventBrite didn't award her the \$10,000, he would.

He made good on his pledge, and Bradford organized the book fair with

“There should be a way for every kid to leave with a book

the sponsorship of the nonprofit Carl Brandon Society, which promotes racial and ethnic diversity in the genre of speculative fiction - both among writers and among readers.

Bradford herself was raised by an avid Star Trek fan.

"I just love how much science fiction, and to some extent fantasy, is such a transformative genre, in that you can show the world that you want to see," she said.

Her debut novel, 'Ruby Finley Vs. the Interstellar Invasion,' is aimed at middle grade readers - an outcome that surprised Bradford.

"It was accidental in that I didn't mean to write that book, but that book kind of knocked me over the head and jerked me into the house and was like, 'Write me!'

"I wanted my character to be a young Black girl who's a genius, and I wanted her to have an adventure that included a whole community, because that was how I grew up. My book takes place generally in the present time, but it takes place in a version of the neighborhood where I grew up that I want to see in the future. They're not there yet. I enjoy being able to put out there what I want, how I want things to work."

BIPOC Authors In Attendance

Bradford will be present with a number of other local BIPOC authors at the book fair, including Nisi Shawl, author of 'Speculation,' a fantasy that follows



K. Tempest Bradford

a young woman who inherits a pair of glasses that grant speculative, "what if?"-style wishes; David F. Walker, comic book writer and author of 'Naomi: Season One' and 'Naomi: Season 2,' a graphic novel and TV series about a young woman discovering her own miraculous origin story; Diana Ma, author of 'Heiress Apparently' and 'The Unbeatable Lily Hong,' stories that follow Chinese-American protagonists as they

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Guerrero to Step Down as PPS Superintendent

Superintendent Guadalupe Guerrero informed the PPS School Board on Monday morning that he would not seek a third contract extension to further his leadership tenure at PPS. He shared that his last day as Superintendent will be February 16, 2024. "I believe PPS is a better school system, and with a capacity of talent that has grown over the years, right now is the best time to step down and pass the baton."