



# LIFE HAS OPTIONS

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PORTLAND OR 97227

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www.selfenhancement.org

## Making Music Sing at SEI

*SEI students discover music through song, rhythm, and performance*



Drums, saxophones, and voices can be heard booming in the halls of the Center for Self Enhancement in Northeast Portland. The excitement behind the noise is a result of the successful music program at Self Enhancement, Inc.

Over the last few years the music program has expanded opportunities for students to play an instrument, sing among a multi-age choir, and record and produce an original piece of music in SEI's recording studio.

The captivating energy of the music program was experienced by many, young and old, this October when the fifty-plus member choir performed at SEI's annual fundraising event, Art and Soul.

After many hours of practice on summer evenings, the multi-age choir beamed with pride as they concluded their performance in front of over

five hundred adults. At SEI, exposing students to positive options in life is our end goal. Our music program introduces students to the range of opportunities there are for musical expression, performance, and production.

The development of the music program to its current level of sophistication has been made possible through grants from the James F. Miller Charitable Trust and the Spirit Mountain Community Fund.

This summer SEI continued its partnership with Portland State University by sending thirty elementary aged students to Music Camp, July 22 through July 26.

The students participated in three different rotations: African drumming, keyboarding, and vocal performance. Students who had never been exposed to music were reading music, per-



forming solos, and singing in groups by the end of the week.

A testament to the influence of SEI's music program was highlighted at the camp's concluding concert. An SEI student who had attended the PSU camp several years ago, returned for the concert to perform one of her original songs.

The student, now attending Lincoln High School, sang the vocals and accompanied herself by playing the guitar. She's found her passion in life through music and is well on her way to pursuing that dream.

SEI is still busy raising funds to support the music program this academic year. If you are interested in learning more about SEI's music program and/or in supporting the program, please contact SEI's Development Department.

### CORPORATE SPOTLIGHT:

## Verizon Foundation Promotes Literacy at SEI

Today, technological literacy isn't just an option for students, it's essential to success, and our friends at Verizon Foundation agree.

This summer, SEI's Computer Education Center received a big boost from the foundation: a gift of \$10,000 to support the Center's activities.

The Center offers a long-term, comprehensive computer literacy curriculum to all SEI students, helping them to achieve more in the classroom and in the work place.

"It's such an effective organization! We didn't have to think long about partnering with SEI on a computer literacy project," said Bob Wayt, Verizon external affairs manager for Oregon.

"Verizon is committed to improving literacy by supporting programs that improve reading, writing and computer skills. What SEI is doing fits our mission perfectly." SEI couldn't agree more!

If your corporation is interested in partnering with SEI, please contact Lisa Manning at (503) 249-1721 x241.



## Message from the Chair



Dear Friends and Family,

Fundraising is a Challenge.

Challenge: (i) a call to engage in a contest or fight; (ii) the quality of requiring full use of one's abilities, energy, or resources.

As Board Chairman, I have set out a challenge to the board of directors to make fundraising our primary mission for the next two years. I have asked them to use all of their abilities, energy, and resources (not to mention personal friends, business affiliations, and skills of persuasion) to engage in the fight to raise money. And right now, it is a fight. There are so many worthy causes, and only so many resources.

I've asked our board members to engage in the contest because of the children - the thousands of children who need SEI services. These are the thousands of children who represent the future - a stronger, healthier generation of youth to lead this city.

But I also ask of ALL of us "What is gained by being involved in SEI as a volunteer or a donor?" I see SEI as a gift in my life. I look back at the building campaign and I see a dream realized. What a great blessing SEI has been for all of us who have seen and felt the goodness and Great Spirit of this program.

Consider our challenge. Join our fight. Give of your heart.

Warm wishes for the holidays,

Rhonda Meadows  
Board Chair

## Join the "LIFE HAS OPTIONS" Fund Drive

The SEI Board of Directors kicked off its first "Life has Options" Annual Fund Drive this September with the goals of increasing the number of individual donors who support the organization, and contributing to SEI's bottom-line during fiscal year 2003.

SEI has long been blessed with several individual donors with the capacity to give large gifts, donors who have remained loyal, and have helped the organization to grow. As always, it is important to introduce new people to SEI, to find new donors who can contribute what they can afford to give.

We've found that the best way to introduce new people to SEI is to bring friends and family on a tour of the Center for Self Enhancement. A tour of the Center is a great way to hear from students first-hand how SEI is changing lives, everyday.



Help SEI meet its fundraising goals this year! Bring a friend or family member on a tour and make a donation to our award-winning, youth development program. Life Has Options!

SEI offers community tours the first Thursday of every month and can often schedule a tour on another day that works for you. (Tours take place in the late afternoons and last about one hour.)

If you have not toured the Center, please call Kelly Mohr at (503) 249-1721 x263 to schedule a tour.

## Lucky Links:

### *NIKE Community Golf Challenge 10 years strong*



This year's Nike Community Golf Challenge was enjoyed by over one hundred golfers. Held on July 26th, at the Reserve Vineyards & Golf Club in Aloha, a round of tournament golf was followed by dinner and an auction at the clubhouse.

Coming in as tournament champions for the third year in a row was Weyerhaeuser. The four players responsible for the win were Don Waddell, Darin Ball, Don Atkinson and Jim Aden.

This tenth annual benefit grossed over \$70,000 for SEI's award-winning program -

enough to fund two classes of SEI students for an entire year.

Many thanks to our event chairperson, Doug Harrower and our corporate sponsors: Albina Community Bank, Hoffman Construction Co., JE Dunn Construction, Legacy Health System, Nike, Inc., Providence Health System, Portland Metro Toyota, Trailblazers, US Bank, Washington Mutual, and Weyerhaeuser.

We hope to see you on the course next year! Contact Emily Cross at (503) 249-1721, x244 for registration information.

CORPORATE SPOTLIGHT:

## Adventures in Television with AT&T Broadband

SEI is proud to welcome AT&T Broadband on board as its newest Community Corporate Partner. The partnership began to take hold this summer when SEI teamed up with AT&T Broadband and its summer program for teens, Adventures in Television.

Adventures in Television is a week-long camp sponsored by AT&T Broadband and Portland Cable Access (PCA) which brings teens from Portland area Boys & Girls Clubs together to learn how to create and edit 30-second public service announcements (PSAs).

The resulting PSA, produced at no cost to SEI, is informative, creative, and captures the true essence of SEI. Additionally, thanks to AT&T Broadband's generosity, the PSA will air throughout the coming year in the Portland metropolitan area on AT&T Broadband and PCA Channels free of charge.

The partnership between SEI and AT&T Broadband has continued to evolve this fall. The corporation sponsored a table at SEI's Art & Soul and has recently announced a grant of \$7,500 to support the multimedia activities taking place under the direction of Kurtis Fischer in SEI's Computer Education Center.

Lindy Bartell, executive director of communications of AT&T Broadband, stated, "AT&T Broadband is really pleased to be partnering with SEI to bring quality media education to youth. We hope to do even more with SEI next year, perhaps giving SEI students their own chance to produce a PSA."

If your corporation is interested in partnering with SEI, please contact Lisa Manning at (503) 249-1721 x241.



## Creating the Next Generation *Art + Soul 2002*



Top left: Bernie Foster of the Scanner, Tony Hopson, president of SEI, and Governor-elect, Ted Kulongoski. Bottom left: Brittne Marcell shares what SEI means to her. Above: SEI Pamplin Leadership Fellows welcome guests to the event. (Photography by Michael Smith)

Art & Soul, SEI's annual gala and auction, was held at the Center for Self Enhancement on October 12th. More than 500 guests packed the Center for a spirited evening of fine dining, entertainment, and fundraising.

The event raised over \$850,000, which marks an unprecedented success and a positive boost for SEI's fundraising goals this fiscal year. These funds are sufficient to support 340 children's involvement in SEI's youth development program.

The theme of this year's event was "Creating the Next Generation" with the idea that great art isn't discovered, artists are. To foster the next generation of local artists, SEI worked with the students of the Pacific Northwest College of Art (PNCA) to include several pieces of student art in the event. SEI students also created colorful, mosaic art under the creative direction of local artist, Arvie Smith, for the auction.

In addition, the auction program featured outstanding works by professional artists including Liz Cheney, Chad Crouch, Cecilia Hallinan, Lauren Mantecon, and Arvie Smith.

The SEI "Life Has Options" Award was presented to Nike, Inc., acknowledging the numerous years of loyal partnership between Nike and SEI. Howard White, Vice President of Nike's Jordan Brand, and Greg Nared, of Nike and SEI Board Member, accepted the award. The SEI choir and steppers also performed, bringing joy and music to the evening, and reminding us all of the importance of SEI to so many children in our community.

SEI's owes a special thanks to the event's co-chairs, Eli Morgan and Linda Wright, for making the night such a huge success. We also extend our thanks to the Art & Soul event committee who volunteered countless hours.

### THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS

**Gold** (\$10,000): Theresa & Storm Floten, Maybelle Clark Foundation, Meier & Frank, Ellison C. Morgan, Oregon Steel Mills, Providence Health Systems,

Salomon Smith Barney. **Artist Sponsors** (\$5,000): NIKE, Inc., Norm Thompson Outfitters, Inc., Stoll, Stoll, Berne & Shlachter, The James & Patricia Thayer Family.

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**Patron Tickets:** John & Barbara Trachtenberg. (In-kind Supporters are listed on p. 7.)

# SEI Adventures at Camp Caldera: *The Story of A Winning Partnership*

Six years ago, SEI began a partnership with Caldera, a local arts-based nonprofit that teaches kids ages 11-17 to express themselves creatively and exposes them to the marvels of the outdoors. Caldera's programs offer something truly unique to young people at SEI.

Over the years, more than 200 of our students have gone to Camp Caldera's beautiful 90-acre site in the mountains of Central Oregon to take 7- to 10-day workshops that focus on photography, African dance and drumming, and creative writing. Camp Caldera is the highpoint of the summer for many SEI students and they go back year after year.

Deborah "Majik" Hodges, Parent Coordinator at SEI, spends each summer at Camp Caldera with SEI students. She shares, "There's no place with more love than Camp Caldera. Students learn about the environment. They learn not to smash everything that moves. There are no cars and you can see the stars. It's really an amazing place to be."

In 2002, SEI expanded our partnership with Caldera and began offering a special class at SEI during the school year. Caldera's Year-Round Discovery program was designed as a

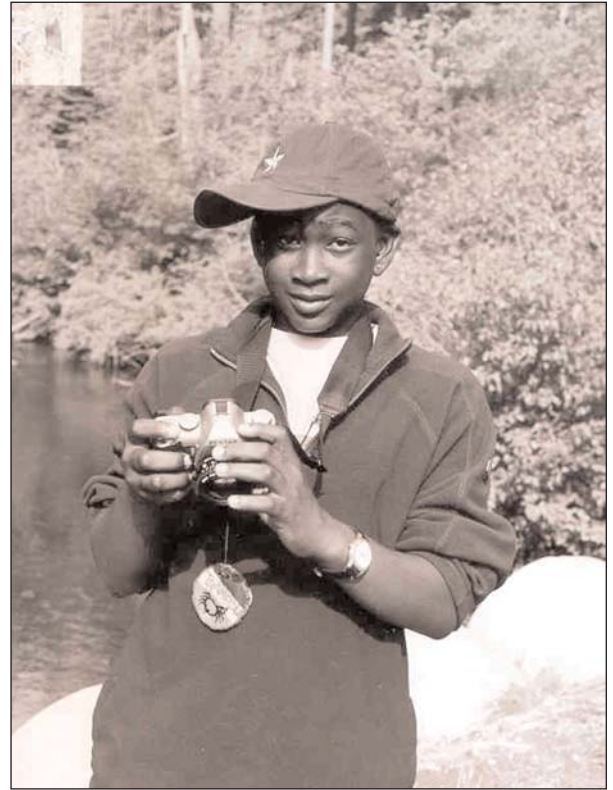
continuation of its summer workshops and brought artists and writers into SEI on a weekly basis.

The program also included plenty of activities that went beyond the classroom, such as creating community-themed mosaic trashcans for a Boise neighborhood beautification project, building a native plant garden at the Center for Self Enhancement and transporting horses to Unthank Park for an afternoon of horseback riding.

A kids' favorite this year was the "Zoo Snooze," a sleepover at the Oregon Zoo, brought Caldera kids from Portland and Central Oregon together to spend an evening learning about wildlife and each other.

This year Caldera participated in SEI's summer internship program (See article below). Jerusalem Bartlett, Jamilah Cash and Myleen Roberts gained valuable experience by working in Caldera's downtown office, as well as, spending a week working as junior counselors for Caldera's day camp for 5- to 7-year-olds.

We look forward to continuing to offer these and other unique Caldera programs to enrich the lives of SEI participants.



Emanuel "Tarantula" Ford, SEI middle school student, practices his nature photography skills this summer at Camp Caldera in Central Oregon. "Tarantula" was Emanuel's name during the camp session. SEI has partnered with Caldera for over six year to expose youth to the arts and the outdoors.

## Working in the Real World *SEI's Summer Internship Program*

While many young people in Portland went without summer work due to the tight competition in Portland's job market, several of SEI's students and alumni gained invaluable experience in professional environments.

With the help of a grant from the Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund, SEI placed fifteen students in summer internships across the wider-Portland community. Each student completed job-readiness training that included learning how to job search, finding a career interest, and developing job skills such as resume writing and interviewing.

There were several success stories to be told of this summer's internships. Omari DeGruy, a 2002 SEI graduate, worked at

Xerox Corporation. Omari was given his own office and customers to manage, and he built many successful relationships in his six-week internship. Xerox was very impressed with Omari and awarded him with his own computer and printer to take to college this year. (Omari is a freshman at Howard University, attending on a full-ride scholarship.) Xerox has also offered Omari a paid position with their corporation next summer if he chooses to return.

SEI looks forward to offering professional work opportunities to SEI students next year. If your organization or corporation would be interested in having an SEI intern, please contact SEI's Development Department.

## Roy Jones, Jr. visits SEI



Welcome to SEI Roy! Undisputed Light Heavyweight Champion of the World, Roy Jones, Jr. shared his passion and inspiration with SEI students during a recent visit to The Center for Self Enhancement. (Photo by Michael Smith).

## Party-in-the-Park: SEI's 20th Anniversary



It couldn't have been any other way. SEI culminated its 20th anniversary at home - in the heart of the community. On August 3rd more than 1,500 friends, family, SEI alumni, and well-wishers crowded into Unthank Park and celebrated 20 years of commitment and dedication to North and Northeast Portland. The day was full of laughter and reminiscing as people gathered to share their favorite SEI memory or their vision for SEI's future.

## Northeast Family Center Spotlight: A Success Story

The success of SEI's youth and family outreach programs unfolded for one Latino man at SEI's Party-in-the-Park. Pedro, who had been referred to SEI's Northeast Family Center, happened to stop by the Center that Saturday and found a flurry of activity as staff and volunteers set-up for the event. At the event, Pedro was introduced to Luis, a Family Center Access Coordinator, and the two set a time to meet the following Monday.

During their first meeting Luis was able to identify that Pedro needed employment, a driver's license, and car insurance. Luis also had a legal issue to resolve with his last employer. Luis helped Pedro connect with El Programa Hispano, where an attorney could assist Pedro at no cost.

Luis also helped Pedro to obtain his driver's license by setting up the appointment and assisting with the rental of a car. A few days later, Pedro stopped by the Family Center to thank Luis and to show-off his license.

Finally, Luis connected Pedro to Kelly Temp Services and to car insurance agents who could assist Pedro in Spanish. In just one week, Pedro was well on his way to self-sufficiency and began a job at Hyundai on August 12th.

SEI is proud to be able to serve Pedro and other Latino community members at the Northeast Family Center. For more information contact the Northeast Family Center by calling (503) 249-1721.

## "What's Up Doc?"

### SEI and Providence Health Systems present speakers series

On October 24th, SEI and Providence Health Systems began its Health and Wellness Speaker Series, with "Diabetes in Communities of Color." The informative panel discussion was held at the Center for Self Enhancement and drew over thirty participants.

Dr. Mark Thompson and Bess Lehtinen of Providence Health Systems and Ms. Star Waters of the Sankofaa Institute, presented on issues including current research, treatment, and prevention of diabetes in the African-American, Latino, Asian and Native American communities.

The event was attended by individuals from the entire Portland-metro region, including Hillsboro. Healthy snacks were provided, along with a number of resource pamphlets and handouts.

The Health and Wellness Speaker Series is a bi-monthly health workshop presented in conjunction with the physicians and health professionals of Providence Health Systems. The series is designed to provide free, up-to-date, medical information regarding health issues most prevalent in communities of color.

The series calendar for 2003 includes "Health and Fitness" in January 2003, "HIV/AIDS in Communities of Color" in March 2003, and "Protecting our Children - Health and Safety" in May 2002. All of the series sessions will be held at the Center for Self Enhancement. For more information contact James Kent at (503) 249-1721, x392.

## Latino Resource Fair Draws Hundreds



On June 1st the SEI Northeast Family Center hosted its first, annual Latino Resource Fair at SEI. The goal of the fair was to welcome the Latino community living in North and Northeast Portland and to introduce them to the wide-array of community services tailored to Latinos.

Over three hundred adults and children attended the fair, which featured live broadcasts by

KMUZ La Zeta (1230 AM) and Jammin' 95.5 FM. The event had a carnival-like atmosphere to accommodate attendees of all ages. Face-painting, balloon art, and food from Catalina's restaurant were enjoyed by all.

The fair's organizers brought together over thirty social services providers who have programs serving Latino families. The agencies set-up booths at the fair

where individuals could have questions answered and fill-out applications for services. The DMV, Portland Public Schools, and local Latino-owned businesses also had information booths at the fair.

The Family Center has planned additional outreach events for the upcoming year. Please see article above.

# PROVIDERS OF OPTIONS

SELF ENHANCEMENT, INC. WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE DONORS LISTED BELOW WHO CONTRIBUTED DURING THE PERIOD ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2002.

*The SEI donor categories are named after the seven principles of Kwanzaa, the African American holiday taken from African tradition where people come together as a community to celebrate the harvest of the first crop, or in America, the principles of living.*

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## ART + SOUL 2002

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 Genevieve Dellinger  
 Kathryn Foote  
 Full Sail Brewing Company  
 Justine Franey  
 Laurie and Michael Gibbs,  
 Winchester Inn

### SPECIAL THANKS

ACF Chefs' Day Cuisine  
 Society of Oregon  
 Art + Soul Decorations Committee  
 Walter Gordinier, Gordinier Studios  
 Junior League Done-in-a-Day  
 The Blazers Volunteers  
 Debby Saltzman, The Flower Bar  
 SEI Staff Volunteers  
 Cheri and Terry Tolar  
 Jerry Wright

## Yes! I'd like to support Self Enhancement, Inc.

Enclosed is my check to SEI in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My Employer will match my gift

Pledge amount \_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_ years

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card:  VISA  Mastercard

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Self Enhancement, Inc.  
 3920 North Kerby Avenue  
 Portland, OR 97227  
 T 503.249.1721 F 503.249.1955  
 www.selfenhancement.org

Do not list my name in SEI's  
 newsletter, annual report, or website.



3920 North Kerby Avenue  
Portland, OR 97227-1255

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**



**FEBRUARY 4TH**  
ERNEST GAINES VISITS

As part of Multnomah County's 1st annual community-reading project Everybody Reads Ernest J. Gaines - "A Lesson Before Dying" acclaimed author Gaines will visit SEI to speak with youth on February 4th. This special event is open to all youth in the community, 18 and under.



**FEBRUARY 8TH**  
PINK MARTINI CONCERT

Join SEI and Pink Martini at the Crystal Ballroom on February 8, 2003 for an evening of music and festivities. Contact Carolyn Becic at (503) 249-1721, X 264 for additional event details.

**RECENT SUCCESSES**



**HARVEST PARTY:**  
WILD SAFARI

Over 2,000 kids and families visited SEI on Halloween night for a night of free entertainment and treats. The Harvest Party is an annual community event sponsored by SEI, and is billed as a "safe alternative to neighborhood trick-or-treating".



Special thanks to those who helped with the event: Albertsons, Mr. Godfrey Beckett, Charles Brandon, Joe Brown's Caramel, Junior League of Portland, Carolyn Lewis, McDonalds, Oregon Food Bank, Philip Robinson, Shelmire Unlimited, State Farm Insurance, Subway, and Wonder Bread.

**SEI'S WISH LIST**



**HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE**

SEI Staff will prepare Thanksgiving Food Baskets for families of SEI participants in need during the holidays. Baskets will be assembled Wednesday November, 27th, the day before Thanksgiving. We need your donation of non-perishable items like instant potatoes, stuffing, or canned vegetables to fill the baskets this year. Contact Maryetta Wells at (503) 249-1721 for more information.



**OREGON COMMUNITY WAREHOUSE GIVING DRIVE**

Please help us collect the small household items the Oregon Community Warehouse needs for its clients: pots and pans, cooking utensils, silverware, towels, pillows, alarm clocks, etc. Many SEI Families utilize the Warehouse, so we'd like to support them. Have something to donate? Please call Roz at the Warehouse at (503)-235-8786 or contact SEI.