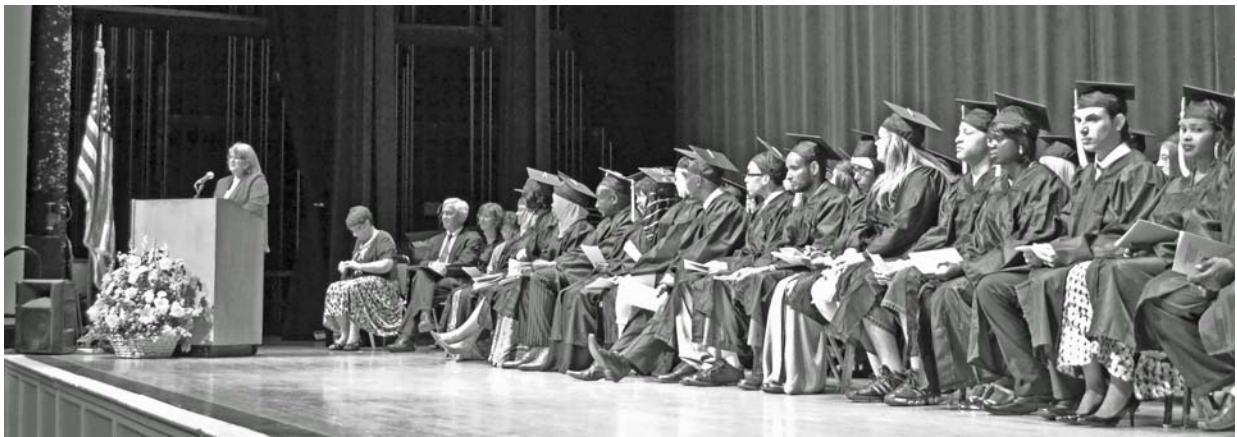




FRIENDS OF PORTLAND ADULT EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

Graduation set for June 12



PAE High School Graduation Thursday, June 12 at 6 p.m. Merrill Auditorium

We have a lot to celebrate now that we are all united in a single building with a new director.

"We anticipate celebrating the largest group of High School Diploma graduates this year with 38 graduates," Anja Hanson, PAE student advisor, announced.

One hundred fifty-two students passed the GED/HiSET test this year, more than at this time last year.

To honor the 22 graduates who earned credentials this year from PAE's Street Academy for Homeless Youth, **Preble Street Resource Center** provided \$375 in scholarships.

PAE CNA Graduation

Nine Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) students graduated in May in partnership with **Genesis Corporation** and 23 CNAs will graduate on June 12 in partnership with **Maine Medical Center**.

Join us at Graduation

Come celebrate the accomplishments of our hard-working students. Awards and student speeches will be highlighted and Guepsy Lumemo Sofresh, PAE student and R & B recording artist from the Democratic Republic of Congo, will perform.

This brief 75 minute tribute is open to all - no tickets required. We urge you to share in this special day.

Introducing the FPAE Newsletter

FPAE is proud to support the work of PAE's staff and new Director Beth Campbell and the many exciting programs and activities they are planning.

This first FRIENDS' newsletter is here to inform FPAE members, PAE staff, and the general public of the many activities and exciting accomplishments at our school. Subsequent editions will keep everyone up to date on PAE's evolving programs and special events.

FPAE's mission

"to raise resources and awareness to support adults at Portland Adult Education striving to become stronger citizens, employees, parents and entrepreneurs."

Meet Beth



PORTLAND ADULT EDUCATION
PROUDLY WELCOMES
OUR NEW DIRECTOR
BETHANY CAMPBELL

Beth Campbell began her tenure as Director of Adult and Community Education at Portland Public Schools in March. She brings valuable experience, plus her winning ways, to lead PAE. Most recently she served as Workforce Development Director at Goodwill Industries of Northern New England. Prior to that Beth was Dean of Business and Community Partnerships at Southern Maine Community College.

Beth has a Master's degree in adult education from the University of Southern Maine.

"Bethany Campbell brings energy and experience that will enhance our program for adolescent and adult learners," said Superintendent Emmanuel Caulk.



Beth Campbell, Director of Adult and Community Education

" I have inherited a really strong team of faculty, staff and volunteers. As a talented and passionate group, we will continue to meet our adult learners where they are and assist them as they progress on their individual paths."

Beth Campbell

Meet three PAE 2014 Graduates

Stephanie Doyle

Stephanie, 26 years old, left Portland High School in 10th grade, following her father's death because she was unable to focus on school. Determined to earn a diploma, she sought help at PAE's Street Academy for Homeless Youth and resumed her education in 2008. Her own health struggles and the birth of her daughter did not prevent her from making steady progress. She's already completing additional courses in our College Transitions program to ensure that she is ready to study health care in college.

Hugues Roland Ingabire

Hughes, 21 years old, also found his way to PAE through the Street Academy after arriving from Burundi less than one year ago. Studying on his own, he passed the GED, a test that is exceedingly hard to pass for non-native English speakers. While seeking asylum, he has begun preparing for college.

Kamal Karimi

Kamal, 38 years old, earned his first diploma in Iran, but after confronting imprisonment and torture for his beliefs, he became a refugee and arrived in the United States in 2010. He began earning his second high school diploma in 2011. Not only has he made rapid progress in school, but he has recently started a new job at **Jill McGowan, Inc.**, which will utilize his skills as a tailor.

FPAE Board

At its May Board meeting the Board sadly accepted the resignation of Jeff Thaler. Jeff was invaluable in helping establish the initial structure of the Board. The Board also elected new Director Ellen Van Fleet. The current Board includes:

Rob Wood, President
North Yarmouth, ME
Anja Hanson, Vice President
Portland, ME
Caroline May, Treasurer
Scarborough, ME
Martha Burchenal, Secretary
Cape Elizabeth, ME
Maxwell Chikuta
Portland, ME
Tae Chong
Portland, ME
Valerie DeVuyst
Windham, ME
Ellen VanFleet
Cape Elizabeth ME

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New PAE Funding at work

New Mainers Resource

Center has received three grants under FPAE's 501 (c)(3) status that will provide transitional support for college educated and skilled professionals from refugee and asylum countries. A **Maine Health Access Foundation (MEHAF)** grant of \$10,000 will help PAE establish mentors for students in health fields and advise these students. Potentially it will assist in establishing a class in medical vocabulary as well as options for online study

Two recent \$7,500 grants will support foreign-trained engineers as well as experienced healthcare workers who come to Maine. The **Undapassawana Fund** and the **People of Color Fund** of the **Maine Community Foundation** is providing these funds.



The Emanuel & Pauline Lerner Foundation supported PAE's redesigned intake system for a second year. The waiting list has been reduced from more than 200 to only 63 students as of May 27. The grant also supports two additional class sections.

Overseen by Valerie DeVuyst, weekly intake appointments are now more timely and advising has also improved.

The **Gorman Learning Lab** (left) has been used by more than 60% of wait-listed students. They are improving their English language skills as they await a class. The lab is staffed full time by Sara Staples and funded by a grant from the **John T. Gorman Foundation**.

Student Newspaper

FPAE has received an initial \$500 gift from the **Law Offices of Joe Bornstein** to encourage a student-led newspaper. An exact action plan is evolving.

FPAE's nearly \$20,000 in unrestricted funds were used to divide three classrooms to create five workforce classrooms for day and evening programming.

PAE by the numbers

Spring/summer trimester enrollment

- 1,361 individual students representing 66 countries registered for 3,427 courses in both the academic and job skills programs.

Credentials & College Transitions Program

- 70 CT students have been admitted to college and enrolled in classes in the past 5 years
- 10 CT students are on the Fall 2013 Dean's List at SMCC
- 44 CT students enrolled in the program in 2012-13

HiSET/GED Program

- 139 students have earned Maine High School Equivalency Diplomas in 2014 to date
- 68 students are active in HiSET testing now
- 177 students earned a GED in 2013

High School Diploma Program

- 160 active High School Diploma students
- 38 students to graduate in June 2014
- 28 students graduated in June 2013

New PAE Programs

ESOL program evaluation will begin the week of June 3. Miram Burt from the **Center for Applied Linguistics** in California will be evaluating the program to discern best practices and recommend areas of improvement. The funds were provided by **John T. Gorman Foundation**.

New computer classes in

InDesign, Photoshop, HTML and Social Media will be offered in the fall.

Community Life - Personal

Finance program offered valuable enrichment to 119 Portland area adults in 2014. Portland's **Choice Realty, Edward Jones, Wells Fargo** and **Primerica** provide representatives to lead seminars pro-bono. PAE offers these classes for \$10.

Recent happenings at PAE



Augusta field trip - Heather Moore Wood led her American History class on a day trip to our state's capitol. Hosted by Portland Representative **Ann Haskell**, the students experienced their civics lessons first-hand. Government process was an eye opener for both native and non-native-born students. This trip was made possible by the generosity of the **Dara Jeanne Hoffman Fund** of the **Maine Community Foundation**.

Friends of Portland Adult Education
PO Box 3185
Portland ME 04104

Health Literacy is currently offered for eight sessions on Friday mornings at PAE with Rochelle Hale. Community speakers are featured each session. Topics include health care eligibility, prescriptions, stress management and other pressing issues. **Community Health Outreach** workers speak French and Somali as well as Arabic. The June 27th program is offered in collaboration with the state's **Center for Disease Control and Prevention** and the **City of Portland's Minority Health Services**. It was arranged by PAE's Valerie Devuyt.

Community Development Block Grant through the **City of Portland**, in partnership with **Coastal Enterprise Inc. (CEI)**, targets Portland residents who are low to moderate income, single parent head of household, homeless, or New Mainers. The \$75,000 annual subcontract supports staff, providing skill training over 100 participants.

Key Bank recently visited PAE for a day of neighborhood service providing Financial Literacy workshops and advice for our students.

Computer Software, Training - Creative Work Systems has contracted with PAE to assist in training their staff as they transition from Microsoft Word 2003 to Word 2014 .

Contracted Corporate Training - PAE has recently completed Excel training at **Goodwill Industries**, another collaboration initiated by PAE's job skills staff.

Open House celebrated the arrival of the job skills program to Cathedral school. Finally all of PAE's programs are together under one roof.

More than 100 community members visited the Open House. Everyone was impressed by the programming posters and participant discussions. PAE celebrates its new home with all our programs under one roof. Staff and students are thrilled with the wonderful learning environment.

Wednesday Yoga - In May a Wednesday mid-day yoga class began at the Cathedral gym. Deb Breiting is working with **Go to Yoga** to offer the class to PAE staff and students. Registration fees are voluntary. More than 15 PAE members have been attending