

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



BREAKING THE MOLD FOR PORTLAND TEENS

Revamped & better than ever with exciting additions.

Portland, Oregon – February 28th, 2012 – 14 year old from Gladstone - **Haley Ward** won Season 5 with the help of finale judges Michael Allen Harrison & Geoff Byrd. Other judges and non-profit representatives Amy Roloff, Michael Harper, Ian James, Laura Cochran, Gordon Avery, and members of the OMPA board Tom McFadden and Christopher Toyne were just a handful of volunteers that helped make it the best year ever. Season 6 is finally here and it's expanding!

It's not just singing contest anymore! It's growing the scope, benefit and talent pool. In addition to the normal English Vocals; **Spanish Vocals** and **Stand-up Comedy** has been added, as well as **two intern programs** for teens interested in production and program management to increase the number of program participants.

Former winners and finalists also supported season five by performing and judging, fully taking advantage of our newly designed support system and sharing the future success with those that made it great. Included are **Jordan Thompson** (Winner '07), and **Jeff Quigley** (Winner '08) and finalists **Madison Shanley** ('09), **Justin Moyer** ('09), **Camille Trinka** ('08), **Michael Chaffee** ('08), **Jennifer Rushen** ('09). Shanley made top 100 and Aubrey Cleland ('09 PTI Finalist) made top 42 on American Idol that shows that Portland Teen Idol is a valued educational program filled with exceptional talent.

The website www.PortlandTeenIdol.com includes pictures of season 5 idol finalists and info about this coming season. To participate in most of the programs, the general criteria is that students be in grades 7 through 12, live roughly within 25 miles of Portland, attend middle or high school and be at least 13 as of April 1st of 2012.

Major sponsors this year included the City of Portland, Portland Parks & Recreation, Celebrity Makeup Artist & Hair Stylist M'chel Bauxal; Colleen Cahill Studios and Dark Wing Productions among others.

Benefiting organizations include the Portland Parks Foundation, Oregon Media Production Association, Amy Roloff Charity Foundation, The Snowman Foundation, The Grassharper Foundation & Oregon League of Minority Voters.

Portland Teen Idol is an educational and experience driven career enhancement program whose purpose is to help develop teen's talents, assist them in reaching their dreams and teach them to see their own potential through industry like opportunities, performances and mentoring. The video portion provides similarity to how the biz really works thereby expanding the teens' network and creating a viable system of contacts may benefit them in future employment and provide real world examples that can be applied to any pursuit, even outside the entertainment industry.

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