

# CONVERSATIONS WITH CONCORDIA

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## CONCORDIA TEAMS UP TO PROVIDE SMALL BUSINESS AND TAX PREPARATION SUPPORT

Concordia University is working with local organizations to provide support for small businesses and tax preparation for low income individuals. This fall, the Portland chapter of Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) "Counselors to America's Small Business," an organization sponsored by the Small Business Administration, opened an office at Concordia to serve businesses in North and Northeast Portland. Through SCORE, small business owners and people interested in starting a small business can meet with volunteer experts with decades of experience on a variety of topics free of charge.

"SCORE volunteers are matched to small businesses based on the volunteers' expertise and the needs of the business," explains Spike Bailey of SCORE. "We help develop and refine business plans for new ventures and provide hands-on help for existing businesses."

In addition to helping local businesses, the program will also provide Concordia's undergraduate and MBA students with real-world opportunities, such as attending SCORE client counseling sessions and participating in hands-on internships. SCORE volunteers are also sharing their expertise in the classroom and serving as guest speakers for Concordia's business courses.

Locally, SCORE works with more than 80 volunteers, and provides 6,000 face-to-face and 1,000 email-based counseling sessions each year. To make a confidential appointment with a SCORE expert, visit [www.scorepdx.org](http://www.scorepdx.org).

Concordia's accounting students are also offering services; this spring students will partner with CASH Oregon (Creating Assets, Savings, and Hope) and AARP to provide free tax return assistance to low income individuals from North and Northeast Portland. The students will undergo special trainings and must pass three major accounting tests in order to participate. They plan to be available every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. from February to April 15 (except for March 20 & 27) in the new Library & Learning Center on Concordia's campus. Visit the Concordia University website at [www.cu-portland.edu](http://www.cu-portland.edu) for more information. ■



## Make your mark on Concordia.

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Environmental Stewardship Lecture Series



Preview Weekend for High School Seniors



The 59th Annual Christmas Chorale – A Service of Lessons & Carols

COMING ATTRACTIONS

We invite you to be a part of our campus community and to attend one of our many cultural, athletic, and community events. Some upcoming events include:

- 'The Willamette: From Headwaters to the Columbia'
Community Christmas Tree Lighting
Fall Commencement
Lutheran Elementary School Tournament (LEST)
Cross Country NAIA National Championship co-hosted by Concordia University
Christmas Chorale - A Service of Lessons & Carols

For full details on all of the events highlighted above, and for a complete listing of events, visit www.cu-portland.edu/calendar.

Have you gotten your free library card yet? Come and visit the newly opened George R. White Library & Learning Center and get your free library card, check out the community room, and grab a coffee at the Cafe 1905. We hope to see you soon!

2811 NE Holman Street Portland, OR 97211

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY



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