

**For more information on State approved
Pre-Apprenticeship programs, please contact:**

Constructing Hope
405 NE Church St
Portland, OR 97211
503.281.1234

Oregon Tradeswomen Inc
3934 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Portland, OR 97212
503.335.8200

Portland Youthbuilders
4816 SE 92nd Ave
Portland, OR 97266
503.286.9350

**For more information on registered Apprenticeship
programs in Oregon, please contact any of our
Apprenticeship & Training Division Offices:**

Bend
1645 NE Forbes Rd, Ste 106
Bend, OR 97701
541.322.2435

Eugene
1400 Executive Pkwy, Ste 200
Eugene, OR 97401
541.686.7623

Medford
119 N Oakdale Ave
Medford, OR 97501
541.776.6201

Portland
800 NE Oregon St, Ste 1045
Portland, OR 97232
971.673.0760

Salem
3865 Wolverine St NE, Bldg E-1
Salem, OR 97305
503.378.2313

atdemail@boli.state.or.us
www.oregon.gov/BOLI/ATD
www.oregonapprenticeship.org
www.facebook.com/ApprenticeshipTrainingDivision



I am an
OREGON
apprentice



meet

Johnetta Abraham

Journey-level Cement Mason
& Oregon Tradeswomen Inc. graduate

What apprenticeship program did you complete?

I completed the Oregon SW Washington Cement Masons JATC (MA 1015) Cement Mason program.

What is apprenticeship?

It is a learning process.

How frequently did you work during your apprenticeship program?

I worked full time and all the time. I always had work as an apprentice.

Why should someone become an apprentice?

It is a good way to learn a trade. You get to meet lots of people, which is helpful in the trades.

How long was your apprenticeship program?

I think I finished in about 3.5 years.

When did you go to school and did you have to pay for the schooling?

The classes are for one week and I went about four times a year. My apprenticeship committee paid for all of my schooling.

How did you learn about your current occupation?

My son was at PCC and saw a flier for Oregon Tradeswomen and brought it home for me. I started their pre-apprenticeship program and towards the end we attended orientations and I got to go to the Cement Masons and do some hands on work and really liked it, so I applied.

What recommendations do you have for people who are interested in apprenticeship?

Never act like you know everything. Be easy to get along with and be willing to learn. Also, when you start working as an apprentice, save your money. Some people go crazy spending all their money because they are making so much but you need to learn to manage it. Keep it for the times when there is no work.

Can you tell us about something new that you have learned or gained from the apprenticeship program?

I learned how to complete my program, I found good mentors and learned from them.

Is there anything you would like to share with people who are interested in apprenticeship?

Try to have a good support system before you start. Have everything sorted, if you need childcare, make those arrangements. That way you can start without issues. Also buy a new tool everytime you have some extra money. You need lots of tools.

Did you get any stigma when you told people you were starting a construction program?

My mom and sons were very supportive. Some people thought I wouldn't follow through, others thought this work was just for men, but now everyone is proud of me.

On a scale of 1 to 10, how happy are you with your career?

10. I'm very happy, I wouldn't change anything!



** Special thanks to Oregon Tradeswomen Inc. for providing pictures of Johnetta.*