

Surface and Symbol

The Emerald's weekly arts and entertainment supplement

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Black culture: festival offers a look at it

May 10th will be the opening day of the 4th annual Black Arts Festival, presented by the Black Student Union.

The festival is designed to give Eugene residents an opportunity to learn about black culture. There will be art displays, dress and food, as well as concerts, dances, Black-oriented films and plays by popular black artists.

The events will begin about noon on Monday, May 10, with display of African drumming. There will be a street faire on 13th Avenue where arts and crafts will be displayed, including a display by Global Fashion, which will include African and In-

dian wood carvings and musical instruments. The street faire is to have an atmosphere like that of the Saturday Market with local talents to perform jazz, singing, and drama.

Later in the day the Rev. Cecil Williams, pastor of Glide Memorial Methodist Church in San Francisco, will speak in the EMU Ballroom at 2 p.m. Following will be a series of black-oriented films depicting the lives of black people in America.

The week-long festival will feature different performers each day. There will be a fashion show — which has proved to be one of the most popular of the events in the past

— with a beauty clinic dealing with expressive African head wraps, Afro hairdo grooming and African braiding. Emphasis at the fashion show will be on the evolution of African costume to modern day Afro-American styles, and the latest trend of combining African costumes and designs to make western dresses.

Several popular plays will be dramatized as a part of the Faire, including "Soul Gone Home," a one act fantasy, by Langston Hughes, and "The Gentleman Caller," a play by Ed Bullings, which he calls "a parable so fierce in its intention that it is almost impossible to laugh at it." Also presented will be LeRoi Jones' "Dutchman," and "The

First Militant Minister" by Ben Caldwell.

At the end of the week will be a benefit dance and concert in the EMU ballroom with the group "Pleasure," an eight-piece Portland based band that plays "funky, and rhythmic, jazz-tinged soul music." Art Blakely, who formed his trend-setting group "The Messengers" in 1947, is on of the most important shapers of the contemporary jazz scene.

The student body of the University and the Eugene Community are encouraged to participate in this week-long event. For times and places of these events, see advertisements in the *Emerald* during festival week.



Clockwise from right: Art Blakely and the Jazz Messengers perform at 8 p.m. Saturday in the ballroom, Rev. Cecil Williams speaks in the ballroom Monday at 2 p.m., and Socialist Workers Party Candidate Willie Mae Reid makes her presentation in the EMU at 2:30 Wednesday.

