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Look what's going on at Art Media in February

5 - saturday	Reception for Oregon Women's Caucus for Art DOart Gallery {Beaverton location} 1-3pm
6 - sunday	Deadline for Valentine Contest Entries
9 - wednesday	Free Demo Beaverton 2-5pm FIMO Pins with Valentine theme
12, 13, 14 -	Free Demo Downtown & Beaverton 12-5pm Hands-on Valentine Card Making
26 -saturday	Free Demo Downtown 1-4pm Origami Boxes

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IN CELEBRATION

February marks Black History Month

Lectures, performances and other events mark contributions of African American people in the United States and worldwide

by Pamela Lyons

"...We have been forced to a point where we're going to have to grapple with the problems that men have been trying to grapple with through history, but the demands didn't force them to do it. Survival demands that we grapple with them. Men, for years now, have been talking about war and peace. But now no longer can they just talk about it. It is no longer a choice between violence and nonviolence in this world, it's nonviolence or nonexistence."

— Martin Luther King, Jr.
 "I've Been to the Mountain Top" speech, delivered April 3, 1968

More than 25 years later, the words that Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke the day before his death still ring true. February marks Black History Month, a time to honor King and other African American people who have contributed to art, literature and politics in the United States and the world.

Several lectures, performances and art exhibits are planned in February to celebrate Black History Month.

Julie Dash, award-winning film director, will speak on Friday, Feb. 4 at 7:30 pm at Lewis and Clark College's Templeton College Center, 615 SW Palatine Hill Road.

Dash's movie *Daughters of the Dust* was released in 1992. It was the first full-length film directed by an African American woman to gain a national theater release. The movie depicts the Gullah people, who live on the South Carolina Sea Islands and are descended from West Africans, at the beginning of the 20th century.

Daughters of the Dust won first prize in cinematography for dramatic film at the 1991 Sundance Film Festival. Dash won the 1993 Maya Deren Award for Independent Film and Video Artists and the 1993 Sojourner Truth Award for Visual Arts/Cinema for her work on the film.

Tickets for Dash's lecture are \$7. Call 768-7491 for more tickets or information.

Portland State University will celebrate Black History Month with a series of lectures and performances. Highlights include:

- African American Literature Read-In Day, Feb. 7, 10 am-4 pm, at the Multicultural Center. Celebrated nationally, this day celebrates the words of African American authors with day-long out loud readings. PSU professor and poet Primus St. John will read from noon to 1 pm.
- Lecture by Gary Phillips, an author, teacher

and community activist, Feb. 11, 11 am, at the Multicultural Center. Phillips is co-director of the MultiCultural Collaborative, a coalition seeking solutions to inter-racial conflicts in Los Angeles. His first novel, *Violent Spring*, takes place in post-riot Los Angeles.

• Showing of *Another Girl on the IRT* and lecture by filmmaker Leslie Harris, Feb. 17, film at 4 and 8:30 pm, at the 5th Avenue Cinema, 510 SW Hall, lecture at 7 pm, at the Smith Center, \$6.50 for all or part of the event. Harris won a jury prize at the 1993 Sundance Film Festival for achievement as a first-time filmmaker for *Another Girl*. The movie has been described as presenting "a feminine slice of African American urban life that cannot be ignored."

• Lecture by Ralph Lemon, dance choreographer, Feb. 28, noon, at the Multicultural Center. Lemon's company will perform March 4-6 as part of the PSU Contemporary Dance Season. He has been described as a "modern-dance mythmaker and storyteller." In a 1991 interview with the *New York Times*, he said "I'm black... [but] I make my work communicate on as universal a level as possible. I want to talk to the world with my work."

For more information on these events or for a schedule of other PSU events during Black History Month, call the Black Cultural Affairs Board at 725-5660.



Joseph Conroy's painting of Desmond Tutu

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center is also holding events to mark Black History Month. Events include:

• *They Worked So Hard*, an art exhibit by Joseph Conroy, Feb. 3-26, main gallery. Conroy's exhibit of airbrushed paintings depict African American role models, such as Martin Luther King, Jr., Maya Angelou, Malcom X and Shirley Chisolm.

• *Recent Works* by Travis Bonneau, Feb. 3-26, entry gallery. In his first solo exhibition, Bonneau draws on his own multicultural heritage to present images of hope, peace and unity between people of different ethnic backgrounds.

• *The Meeting*, a play that depicts a hypothetical meeting between Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Feb. 12 at 8 pm. Playwright Jeff Stetson constructs a conversation between these two civil rights leaders to showcase their ideas and philosophies.

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center is located at 5340 N. Interstate Ave. It is open noon-5 pm Tuesdays-Fridays and noon-4pm Saturdays. For more information, call 823-2000.