

# JOY FOR YOUR WORLD

Don't hibernate yet—  
so many parties,  
so little time!

BY ORIANA GREEN

Whether you celebrate winter solstice, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, New Year's Eve or all of the above, wonderful diversions abound this holiday season.

What follows is a chronological list of activities with a queer flavor, but there's plenty of mainstream fun to be had as well.

Taking a kid—or your inner child—to see the Zoolights is hard to beat, as is toasting the lighted ships cruising by a restaurant window.

Singing is good for the soul, even if

all you do is belt out "Jingle Bells" in the privacy of your SUV.

Whatever you do, party like it's 1999—and remember when that sounded so far away! (All addresses are in Portland unless otherwise noted. We contacted the area youth groups and resource centers and could not find any holiday observances specifically for younger queers.)

To honor the winter solstice, the David York Ensemble vocal group performs *Return of the Light* at the Murdock Sky Theater at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry through Dec. 21. Tickets are \$12 from

campus, at 8 p.m. Dec. 17 and 18. Tickets are \$13.50 from Fastixx.

For arty types, Matrix Gallery, Medusa Salon and Chez What? are joining forces Dec. 18 in their building at 2209 N.E. Alberta St. to host a **Queer Christmas Party** featuring music, food and drink. Festivities begin at 7 p.m. and there is a \$3 charge. For more information, call (503) 288-5876.

On Dec. 18, the Imperial Sovereign Court of the Raintree Empire presents **Naughty or Nice—Only Santa Knows**, a fun evening that includes a drag show, an auction of ornaments, a mountain bike raffle, food and dancing at the NorthBank Tavern, 106 W. Sixth

Ave. in Vancouver. Doors open at 7 p.m., and the show starts at 8 p.m. Admission is \$7 or \$5 plus a new, unwrapped toy for the MCC/CAP holiday gift baskets. For more information, call (360) 695-3862.

**The Bobs** sing their Christmas thing at 8 p.m. Dec. 18 at W.O.W. Hall, 291 W. Eighth St. in Eugene. Tickets are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. For more information, call (541) 687-2746.

Body Moves sponsors **Shadow Night, Solstice Light**, a silent, overnight excursion into movement, sound, release and restoration led by Vin Marti on Dec. 18. The studio is located on the Fourth Floor, 918 S.W. Yamhill St. To find out more, call (503) 227-3578.

Join the **Oregon Symphony** at the Schnitz on Dec. 18 for **A Gospel Christmas**

featuring 100 singers from 19 area choirs. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. at 1037 S.W. Broadway. Tickets are \$18.75-\$50 by phone from (503) 228-1353 or Ticketmaster.

In celebration of **Kwanzaa**, a free **Afrocentric Family Movie Marathon** will be held from noon until 10 p.m. Dec. 18 and 19 at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center. The center is located at 5340 N. Interstate Ave. For more information, call (503) 823-4322.

On Dec. 18, **SisterSpirit** hosts the 15th annual **Festival of Lights**, a celebration of fire and light festivals from around the world. The event includes music, a bazaar and a celebration on the theme of Mother Night. All women and children are welcome. The music starts at 7 p.m. at Musicians' Union Hall, 325 N.E. 20th Ave. The event is free, but donations are appreciated. Call (503) 736-3297 to learn more.

There's a new church in town welcoming the sexual minorities community—**Grace Space**, sharing an eclectic New Thought philosophy. The church is headed by out lesbian minister Stephanie Torres, who invites everyone to a **Winter Solstice Celebration** at 5 p.m. Dec. 19. The event will be held at the congregation's temporary home in the Unity

PHOTO BY MARTY DAVIS

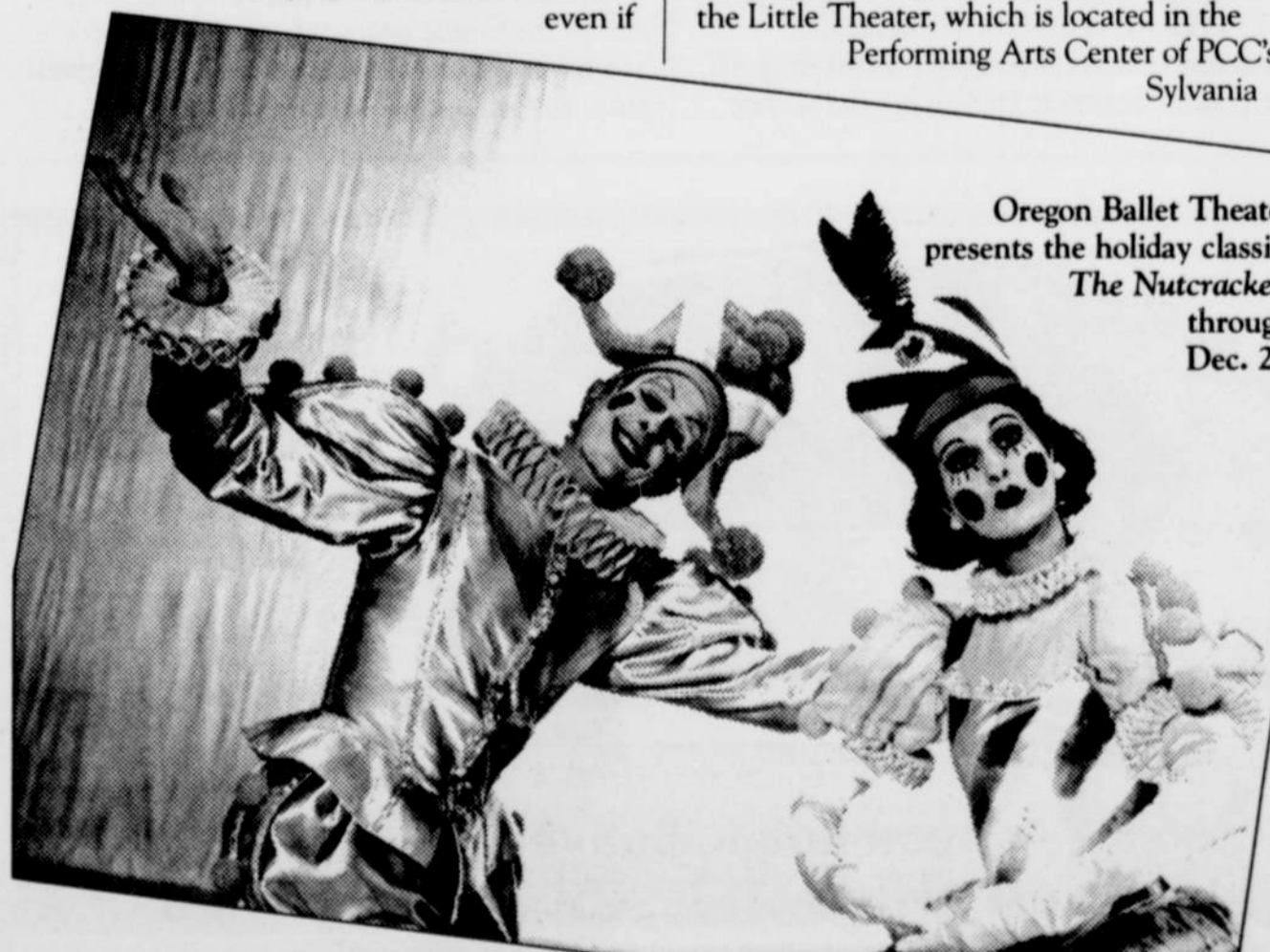


Check out the Kwanzaa exhibit at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center

Fastixx; for more information, call (503) 721-0262.

If your holiday taste is a little twisted, try the irreverent quartet **Calamity Carolers of Doom** performing **A Christmas to Forget** in the Little Theater, which is located in the Performing Arts Center of PCC's Sylvania

Oregon Ballet Theater presents the holiday classic, **The Nutcracker**, through Dec. 26



## Holiday just asking



MIKE BOYLE  
Portland

Artist

"My resolution for the new year is to meet someone new and exciting who will keep me entertained throughout the winter."



KRONDA ADAIR  
Portland

Employee, In Other Words Women's Books and Resources

"I'm not afraid of Y2K; I'm a wait-and-see girl."



TONY FERRARI  
Portland

Baker

"My new year's resolution is to visit my relatives in Italy next year."



MICHELLE LAWLER  
Portland

Private

"I might go to Manhattan for New Year's Eve, but I'm not sure I'm ready for the potential chaos."



BOB MENSEL  
Portland

Artistic director, Portland Gay Men's Chorus

"My plans for New Year's Eve have me determined to be home, in bed, asleep."

Continued on Page 26