

Oregon Festival of American Music Summer Camps!
The American Music Institute

Camps at OFAM 2004

The Fabulous Fifties, Aug 5-14

The Jazz Academy

Aug 1-14. A 2-week, all-day camp for ages 12-19. Featuring instrumental and vocal ensembles which study with festival guest artists and perform as part of the festival! \$350

Song & Dance Camp

Aug 1-14. A 2-week, all-day theater arts camp for musicians & dancers ages 12-19. Participants study with festival guest artists and *My Fair Lady* cast members, and attend many OFAM concerts! \$350

The Vaudeville Camp

Aug 2-14. A 2-week, all-day musical and performance skills camp for ages 9-14 featuring juggling, magic, dance and mime! \$310

Guitar Camp

July 19-23 & July 26-30. 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. Ages 8 - 17. One week, \$195; both weeks. Several styles of guitar repertoire and performance are explored. \$350

Summer SongFest

July 12-16. 9:30 am - 3:00 pm. Ages 7 - 12. Students explore music from a "European Vacation." \$175

Percussion Camp

July 12-16. 9 am - 1 pm. Ages 12 and up. Participants study a broad range of classical and popular percussion instruments and techniques. \$185

**Space still available!
 Call AMI at 687-6526
 for Information & Registration**

*Financial aid is available
 to those who qualify!*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



**David Ray Griffin, author
 The New Pearl Harbor:
 Disturbing Questions About the
 Bush Administration and 9/11**

**Wednesday, July 28, 7 pm:
 only Oregon appearance**

**CHANGE OF LOCATION:
 Hilton Eugene Conference Center
 7th and Willamette, Eugene**

**\$5 tickets at Tickets West outlets
 buy the book at Tsunami Books**

**SPONSORED BY EUGENE 9/11 TRUTH ALLIANCE
 AND WWW.OILEMPIRE.US**



David Ray Griffin has been a professor of philosophy of religion and theology at the Claremont School of Theology in California for over 30 years, and is the author or editor of over 20 books. Griffin is a graduate of Northwest Christian College and the Univ. of Oregon.

"Theologian David Griffin has always worked for human justice. We were both part of an ecology task force in the 70s that formed my life goals for the environment and human justice and it was great working with David!"

- Ruth Duemler, Eugene social justice activist

"David Ray Griffin has done admirable and painstaking research in reviewing the mysteries surrounding the 9/11 attacks. It is the most persuasive argument I have seen for further investigation of the Bush administration's relationship to that historic and troubling event."

- Howard Zinn, The People's History of the United States

"I urge all to read *The New Pearl Harbor*."

- Ed Asner, actor and peace activist

last election — fraud. Besides the tens of thousands of eligible voters banned from the polls in Florida and in other Southern states, writer Greg Pallast has recently stated that there were one million uncounted votes. The corporate media constantly uses Ralph Nader as the excuse for what happened. At the Nader convention in April in Portland, the *R-G* and *Oregonian* focused their stories entirely on the few protestors outside, instead of the 700-plus supporters inside. Why? To distract our attention so that we won't think about the dangers of electronic voting and the way that black and brown people are treated in this country.

It can be scary to hear the truth. Once you know what's happening, you can no longer pretend that you don't. On Nov. 2, vote your conscience.

*Loren Asrael
 Eugene*

MARK OF A LEADER

The morning of 9/11 provided President Bush with an unfortunate test of leadership and character. On that fateful day, after being informed that a plane had crashed into the South Tower, our president proceeded to a prescheduled visit to an elementary school classroom. While there, he was told a second plane had struck. President Bush did nothing for seven minutes. Weren't there phone calls to make, orders to give, advisors to consult? Wasn't it imperative to be apprised of the unfolding tragedy second by second? His excuse that he wanted to appear calm does not fly. I prefer substance over appearance. Meanwhile, flight 77 traveled undetected for 36 minutes before striking the Pentagon. Perhaps a more responsive reaction could not have stopped the third strike, but we'll never know. In my opinion, President Bush failed the ultimate test of leadership character.

Contrast the reaction to crises (or lack thereof) of Bush, to that of John Kerry. On the Bay Hop River in Vietnam, Kerry was told that a man was overboard. John Kerry turned the boat around, headed back into ambush, and with his uninjured arm, pulled James Rassmann aboard to safety. This is the split second decisionmaking that extols the leadership and character I expect in a president.

On Sept. 11, when Bush's motorcade sped away from the school to Air Force One, it initially headed in the wrong direction. In my opinion, the Bush administration has continued

in the wrong direction. We all want responsive leaders of character and courage for this great country. My hope is on the Kerry/Edwards ticket, where I see a proven embodiment of those qualities.

*Debbie Parker
 Eugene*

PREFERENCE VOTING

There's a lot of talk these days about the "lesser of two evils" (7/8 letters Paul J. Green "Nader helps Bush" and Bob Watson "Uncompromising Nader"). I find the idea interesting, however, that a vote for Nader is a vote for Bush and the apparent reality of this predicament. Is it really American to not vote for the individual you are most in favor of due to the fear of the individual you are least in favor of winning? This seems to me to indicate a fundamental flaw in the electoral process itself.

It's amazing to me how few people know about the voting technique used in most other democratic nations around the world that is often termed "preference voting." This technique would allow a voter to rate the candidates on a scale of least to most favorite and would eliminate the either/or, "lesser of two evils" scenario. In this way you could vote Kerry or Nader first or second and still vote Bush as third (or not at all). A vote for Nader would not be a vote for Bush and would reflect the people's true opinions.

The fact of the matter is that a Democrat would typically rather see a Republican as would a Republican rather see a Democrat get the election than a "liberal" or a "green" and the suggestion of this voting technique has perpetually been downplayed and buried, thereby maintaining the either/or, "lesser of two evils" scenario.

As was suggested in the Natural Resistance article (7/8), "Breaking Three Hearts," there is a tendency of those in power to want to limit alternatives that are seen as threats to their retention of power. The crucial distinction between a dictatorship and a democracy is the absence or presence of processes that allow alternatives to enter public discourse. Preference voting is one of these processes.

So how ya gonna vote people, remocrat or republican?

*Rob Brown
 Eugene*