



Traditional dance and music forms are preserved in Ghana by government policy and the enthusiastic participation of the people in the larger cities and the small isolated villages. A young Ghanaian boy learns to play the drum, most often by making his own drum and then understudying elders in the village. The drum accompanies dancers but it is also a means of communication, its tone conveying the drummer's meaning.

Ghana holds Art Festival

Ghana's government is proceeding with its own National Festival of Arts despite postponement of the second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture which had been scheduled for November in Lagos, Nigeria.

Instead of selecting performers to represent Ghana at the Lagos festival, the Arts Council has decided to transform the national finals into a national

event in Accra from October 21st to November 6th.

Performances will include traditional Ghanaian drum music, traditional dance groups, brass band music, contemporary literature readings, contemporary and traditional drama, and classical and contemporary choral music.

Arts and crafts will be on display and a Ghanaian crafts village will be open to visitors.



Young Ghanaian girls dance in traditional style with traditional dresses. The dances tell stories of their ancestors, of great victories, of tragic losses and they relate the pageant of life in a way which maintains the traditions of the large ethnic groups in Ghana.

Pacific presents Black play

There are at least two "firsts" involved in the November 5th-8th production by the Pacific University Concerned Black Students (CBS) of the play, "River Niger," in the campus Tom Miles Theater.

The Pacific production will be the first one of this Obie winning play in the Northwest and will also be the first all-Black production in the state. Everyone involved in the production is Black.

Additionally, the CBS is getting television coverage. Interviews and a ten minute scene have been taped for showing on "Black on Black" on KOAP-TV, Channel 10, at 10:00 p.m. Monday, November 3rd.

The playbook introduction to "River Niger" says it is "a realistic family drama, firmly rooted in the contemporary Black experience but with a universality that distills the fears, appetites, frustrations, and vulnerabilities of the entire human family."

Johnny Williams, played by Lowery Givson of Portland, is a Harlem house

painter who is also a poet, devoted husband, father, and friend. As the central figure in the play, he helps develop the passion and dignity to create unbreakable, occasionally unbearable, bonds of love and responsibility.

Johnny's quest for a battlefield on which to fight for the rights of all Black men is counterpointed by his son Jeff's demand for individuality and self-expression within society's bounds. Jeff is played by Donald Shaw of Inglewood, California.

The play opens with Jeff's coming home from military service and develops around the subsequent confrontation of tensions between generations, sexes, comrades, and philosophies.

Clive Barnes of the *New York Times* has written of "River Niger":

"It cuts deep to the bone of a decent, intelligent, urban Afro-American struggling like an aging lion in a hostile jungle. It's blackness is beautiful, but its common humanity is everything."

Curtain time each night is at 7:30.

LINKs sponsor author

Beth Pierre Wilson, an author of children's books, will be reading and speaking at Multnomah Elementary School November 7th.

Ms. Wilson is a retired Oakland, California, teacher. She has written three books for children. All center around lives of Black Americans. The books have dealt with Martin Luther King, African folklore, and Muhammad Ali. She was born in Tacoma, Washington.

Received her bachelors degree in education from University of Puget Sound and a masters at UCLA. She is a member of LINK, an organization of Black women devoted to cultural activities.

The Portland Chapter of LINK is sponsoring Ms. Wilson's appearance in Portland. She will read from her books in the morning and present a workshop for Portland school librarians and instructional specialties in the afternoon.

Her subject will be creative writing and methodology.

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SAFETY TIP FOR HALLOWEEN



Hugo, Man of A Thousand Faces, can take on about a thousand different disguises, with changes in moustaches, wigs, scars, moles, false noses, eye glasses, chins and a variety of other combinations.

Halloween has a special magic for youngsters but you can keep them safe and happy at home by giving them a Halloween Puppet Party. It's not only fun for the kids and their friends... but for the entire family.

A simple way to make a puppet theatre is to use a card table, or any four-legged table; rest it on its side with the top towards the audience, and cover the table top and two sides with non-flammable paper or material to form a u-shaped screen. The kids can crawl into the open side and hold the puppets above the table top.

Call a story conference to decide what plays you'll put on. Buy one real puppet, such as a new one appropriately called Hugo, Man of a Thousand Faces. You'll have no trouble making up interesting stories since this puppet comes with lots of facial disguises—wigs, false noses, chins, scars and moles. He can become any sort of hero or villain you want. The disguises stick on with a special non-toxic glue so that the kids themselves can wear the disguises. If you need other props, you can easily mold them with Play-Doh modeling compound.

Candy, naturally, is part of the Halloween fun. Have the kids make their own with a fantastic toy called the Taffy Machine, made by Kenner Products. With simple, wholesome ingredients which are supplied with the toy, the kids can crank out their own taffy to package as treats for their guests to eat during the play. You'll know that it's safe for them to enjoy.

Treating your kids to two such long-lasting toys is a great way to buy peace of mind for yourself on what can otherwise be a really spooky evening.

Boy Scouts aid Goodwill

Saturday, November 1st, is the date when thousands of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts take part in this year's Good Turn Day to benefit Goodwill Industries of Oregon.

Many of the Boy Scouts from the Columbia Pacific Council will begin collecting bags filled with clothing and small household articles from front doorsteps in this area after 9:00 a.m.

Girl Scouts from the Columbia River Council will assist at the various collection points as the bags are brought in for transport by volunteer trucks to the Goodwill warehouse near downtown Portland.

Assisting in this 25th annual Portland area Good Turn Day will be members from the Rotary Club of East Portland, units of the National Guard and other volunteers from the community.

The collection will cover twelve counties in Oregon and Washington. Approximately 300,000 yellow and blue plastic Goodwill bags were distributed by the Scouts last week. All materials collected will be used in Goodwill's on-the-job training program for the handicapped.

Road info ready

The Oregon State Highway Division in cooperation with the Oregon State Police will furnish road condition reports this winter for motorists in the Portland and Medford areas starting November 1st, Fred B. Klaboe, administrator, announced.

The reports will be made available through special telephone lines which will be free to those persons serviced by the telephone number. For those outside of the service area, it will be a toll call.

Plans are for the taped messages to be updated frequently during each twenty-four hour period, with frequency of change depending on the changing road conditions. Messages will be received from Highway Division maintenance personnel as well as State Police patrols. Plans are for the State Police to prepare the messages for they will be on duty twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Motorists will receive messages on current weather conditions, in addition to road surface conditions and advice about when chains may be required.

The phone number servicing the Portland area is 238-8400. The service will be expanded over that of a year ago when it was inadequate to take care of calls received.

The phone number servicing the Medford area is 776-6200.

Persons in other areas of the state may receive road condition reports through the various district engineer offices or the State Police.

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