



Garry G. Lewis (Scarecrow), Bobby Hill (Lion), Deborah Malone (Dorothy), and Jai Oscar St. John (Tinman) in the National Touring Company of 'The Wiz,' the musical version of 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.' Winner of seven Tony Awards including Best Musical.



ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

by Allen Jones

THE WIZ

When L. Frank Baum wrote his classic 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz', nearly 50 years ago he had no idea it would be translated in over 100 different languages around the world, and eventually become as American as apple pie and baseball.

Little did L. Frank Baum imagine that his classic tale would be given a facelift — from a Black perspective — and reach a new pinnacle of popularity. When Ken Harper left his position as Public Affairs Director of radio station WPIX, New York City in 1970, to devote himself full-time to making 'The Wiz' a reality. There were many people who had doubts about the eventual success of the play, but in 1975 'The Wiz' was dubbed 'Best Musical of the Year' and won seven Tony Awards.

Also included in this creative masterpiece is 'The Uncola Man', Geoffrey Holder. Much of the success of 'The Wiz' would have to be attributed to the innovative genius of Holder. Two of the seven Tony Awards went to Holder — for Best Director and Costume Designer. He's danced at the Metropolitan Opera House in 'Aida,' wrote two books, starred in 'Dr. Doolittle' and 'Live and Let Die,' won awards for his paintings and currently is riding the waves of success with his production of 'Timbuktu,' starring Ertha Kitt. I saw it in L.A. about a month ago and it was excellent.

Monday night was the debut performance of 'The Wiz' to Portland audiences for its six day run, and the turnout was exceptional, to say the least. This two-act extravaganza is filled with — song, dance and color — to attack every emotion within you. It would be creatively unjust to isolate a few members of the cast as stand-out performers when they all contributed so much.

The entire musical production was simply excellent and so was everyone in it. Don't deny yourself the pleasure of seeing and experiencing 'The Wiz.'

RECEPTION FOR THE CAST OF 'THE WIZ'

Paul Knauls, owner of Geneva's Cocktail Lounge, hosted a reception party for the cast of 'The Wiz' Tuesday night and what a party it was — you should have been there!

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Portland Profile

by Linda Thompson

I suppose Portland sort of grows on an individual, especially if the weather is comparable to that of this week's. It certainly has grown on our Black role model for this week, Margaret McGuire.

A native of Athens, Alaniba, Mrs. McGuire is married, with three children and one grandchild. She received her B.S. Degree from St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri. After receiving her degree, she returned to her hometown and taught at Limestone County School. In 1944, Portland became her home.

Mrs. McGuire came to Portland at a time when being Black was not the most popular race to be. Being aggressive and ambitious, she refused to be defeated. To prepare herself for multi-skills she attended and graduated from Northwestern Business College. With these many educational qualifications, there were still no jobs for a young and gifted Black woman. It was a historic step when Meier and Frank hired her as a stock girl.

She later worked as a secretary for the Portland Council of Churches for one year.

After the birth of her children, Mrs. McGuire left the work arena and devoted her time to being a mother and wife. She remained in this capacity until her children started to school. In 1965 she became employed as a community worker for the employment office.

In 1970 she was transferred to Concentrated Employment Program (CEP) as supervisor for outreach workers — after three years Mrs. McGuire was transferred to the



MARGARET MCGUIRE

Southeast Employment Division as Assistant Manager.

It was the good fortune of the Albina Human Resource Center when she was promoted to Manager of the Employment Division for the Albina Branch. She has this to say to persons seeking success in a profession as well as in life itself.

"Who can say with certainty where the greatest talent lies? I wish to assure you that with prayer, trust, and commitment of self to God we learn the art of living. Through sacrificing self for others you will not only have joy and fulfillment from the accomplishments they make but will receive success and an eternal fortune which is immeasurable."

Thank you Margaret for being a beautiful Black role model. Until next week remember: It doesn't hurt to smile and say hello.

Community Calendar

Sign ups for Sportsmen Peninsula Park Little League Baseball — March 24th and 31st — 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Peninsula Park. Boys and girls ages eight thru twelve.

March 26th — Sabin Community Association meeting, 7:30 p.m., Sabin School, 4013 N.E. 18th.

March 27th — King Improvement Association meeting, 7:30 p.m., King Neighborhood Facility, 4815 N.E. 7th.

March 26th — Portland Public Schools Board of Education meeting, 7:30 p.m., Board Room of the School Administration Building, 631 N.E. Clackamas.

March 27th — Northeast Coalition, NAACP, AVREC sponsored Candidates Fair for School Board, 7:00 p.m., King Facility, 4815 N.E. 7th.

BOOST Educational Talent Search Program will be sponsoring a SAT Workshop, Thursday, March 29th at 5:00 p.m. at the King Facility, in the PSU Education Center Library. This will be to assist clients in order to prepare for the next Scholastic Aptitude Test. Bruce Campbell, Curriculum Specialist of the Upward Bound Program at the University of Oregon, will be the guest speaker. For any questions or if planning to attend, please drop by the office or call 229-3815.

A free concert by DDT and Company, led by Dewey Taylor will be given Friday, March 23rd at 7:30 p.m. at Portland Community College's Cascade Center auditorium, 705 N. Killingsworth. This concert is one of an ongoing series of Friday night live music performances at the Cascade Center. The series is co-sponsored by American Federation of Musicians Local 99 and is funded by the Music Performance Trust Fund, the largest single sponsor of live music in the world.

The annual Lucius Williams Memorial Tea will be held Sunday, April 1st, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. at 3006 N.E. 9th. Donations will be taken for the American Cancer Crusade which helps in cancer research and more and better ways of curing cancer. Northeast Portland and friends are invited to take part in this great effort to help save many lives.

Monday, April 2nd, Dance Workshop. Marcia B. Siegel, author of 'The Shape of Change' and 'Images of American Dance.' Workshop 10:00 a.m., Room 207 in Health and Physical Ed. Building. Lecture 12:00 Noon, Room 75, Lincoln Hall. Call 229-4401 for additional information.

A public meeting, hosted by the City of Portland School Policy Committee, will be held at 7:00 p.m., April 5th, at the Water Bureau Building Auditorium, 1300 S.W. 6th, to discuss the recently released City School Policy report. The policy report will then be presented to the Portland City Council in late April for review and adoption.

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