



Janice Scroggins, at the piano, sets the musical environment for "Dig and Be Dug," based on the works of Langston Hughes and narrated by Herb Cawthorne.

Music sets stage for Hughes

"Dig and Be Dug In Return," the dynamic oral history program still running at Portland State University's Lincoln Hall Auditorium, begins with Herb Cawthorne, who portrays Langston Hughes, walking into his apartment to talk with Black students about writing and his career. One of the students is playing Hughes' piano. As he walks in she stops.

"Don't stop playing," he says. "Keep playing. Music helps me think. What's your name? Janice! Well, Janice, I bet I've got a memory to go with every song you know. So keep playing."

This sincere exchange between two artists begins an evening of music, poetry, and history that takes the audience through the ups and downs of Hughes' life, through his poetry and his love of music. The memories flow. The songs bring forth the memories and the memories bring forth the songs.

The "Janice" is Janice Scroggins, a local pianist who is gaining a wide reputation for her full range of musical talents. She is a woman with a "touch." The piano she plays in "Dig and Be Dug In Return" is as much a part of the oral history production as are the words written by Jeana Woolley and the delivery of Herb Cawthorne.

While Herb Cawthorne delivers the words of Langston Hughes—his poems and experiences, Janice Scroggins lends texture and melody to the script, supporting Hughes' moods and feelings. About the musical arrangements for the program, Ms. Scroggins says, "The material I am working with in this production reminds me of my high school days and growing up in Oklahoma. This production gives me a change to work with a range of

musical forms, from different time periods, but all of the material comes out of the Black experience—from classical to spirituals, from gospel to blues and jazz. It's representative of Langston Hughes' love of music, and it's representative of the Black experience in America."

"Dig and Be Dug In Return" reveals Janice Scroggins as a musician of exceptional range and taste. The production has given her the opportunity to pull together a wide collection of musical experiences. "I have wanted to perform pieces from different eras, different styles, and play them the way they are supposed to be played. With the Hughes production, musically, everything is in perspective."

It is Ms. Scroggins' sensitivity that is so striking in this program. She sets the mood and tone, establishes the flow, and gives the transitions in Hughes' thoughts and memories continuity and ease.

Janice Scroggins says it well herself: "The music has to support the mood of what's happening in the script in Hughes' life, just like a musical arrangement for a movie. The touch and feel of the music is very important in this production, more important than the notes. This is what has been so unique about arranging and performing the music for 'Dig and Be Dug In Return.'"

Final performances of the oral history program on Langston Hughes will show at Portland State University's Lincoln Hall Auditorium, October 1, 2 and 3 at 8 p.m. The program is funded by the Oregon Committee for the Humanities. Admission is free.

To celebrate the successful completion of the first run of "Dig and Be Dug In Return," Oral History Programs will hold a reception at

Geneva's following the Friday evening performance, October 2. The public is invited.

Students need tutors

The Portland Public Schools is seeking volunteers to help students improve their reading skills through a program called HOSTS.

HOSTS is a special reading program which targets a student's reading deficiencies and then concentrates daily, half-hour tutoring sessions upon improving those skills.

People from all walks of life who can spare one-half hour a week are tutoring children. A helpful instruc-

tor and clear materials aid the tutors to help their student.

Northeast Portland schools where HOSTS tutors are needed are Beach, Humboldt, King, Sabin and Irvington.

For more information about the program, please call the school of your choice or Marsha Farrow, Portland Public Schools HOSTS coordinator, 249-2000, ext. 381.

Jackson addresses forum

Maynard Jackson, Mayor of Atlanta, Georgia, will be the keynote speaker at OABA Economic Banquet on Saturday evening, October 17th, during the "OABA Summit." Governor Vic Atiyeh will address the summit on Sunday, Oct. 18, at 10 am.

"The summit is designed to bring people together to discuss current economic conditions and reforms (at the local, state and national levels) that affect Black people. It will provide information on topics and issues that are crucial to Black people and their active involvement in the economy," according to Calvin O.L. Henry, OABA President.

The summit was called by the Oregon Assembly For Black Affairs to develop strategies for economic development and greater economic independence among Blacks in Oregon.

Carolyn M. Leonard, the Summit Chairperson, noted that the summit will conduct six workshops, on

Saturday, October 17, 1981. These workshops are: A crash course in financial survival; Survival of Black businesses during the '80s; How to start your own business; Government's impact on economic development; the politics of business-networks and mentors; and Experiences of Black entrepreneurs. She stated: "Each summit participant will have an opportunity to attend two work-shops."

According to Leonard, "the highlight of the summit might be the panel discussion on Economics: 'Getting what you want from the Economy.'" President Ronald Reagan's Economic Plan and "What the Oregon Economy means to Black People" are the main features of the panel.

The summit will be held on October 17-18, 1981, at the Thunderbird Jantzen Beach Motor Inn in Portland, Oregon. Registration fee is \$55 per person.

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How our language changes: an English king once said a building was "awful" and "artificial"—and he meant it as a compliment. "Awful" once meant "awe-inspiring" and "artificial" once meant "full of art."

After the Bible, what's the largest-selling book in America? Answer: The World Almanac.

The highest-paid artist of all time was Pablo Picasso. It's estimated that his paintings and sculptures are worth over 700 million dollars.



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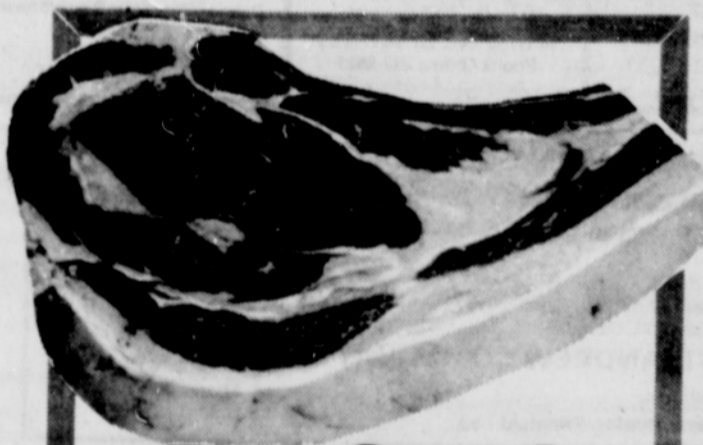
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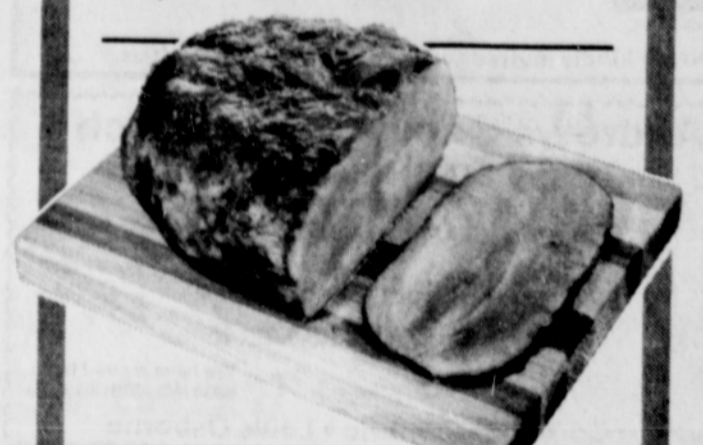
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