

### PCC Hosts Second Annual Cascade Festival of African Films

Portland Community College celebrates Black History Month during February with the Second Annual Cascade Festival of African Films, a popular event which brings first-time showings of films from the sub-Saharan region of Africa.

All films are free and open to the public.

The four-part program is held at PCC's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth, at 2:00 and 7:30 pm, Terrell Hall Auditorium on four consecutive Wednesdays in February, beginning Feb 5. Discussion led by individuals native to or knowledgeable about the culture follows the evening showing and on the fourth and final program Feb 25, Mali story teller and ceramic artist Baba Wague Diakite, who now lives in Portland, will tell a story.

"This event was extremely well received last year and we hope the public will be just as interested in the program we've put together this year," said Linda Elegant, Cascade Campus faculty member and chair of the festival committee.

"Our goal is to represent different ideas and cultures of sub-Saharan Africa," she added.

The festival opens Feb. 5 with "Finzan," a film from Mali directed by Cheick Oumar Sissoko. Described as the first feminist film by an African film maker, it is an impassioned cry for the emancipation of African women. At its most basic level, Finzan is the story of a woman who says no to the men who try to control her life. A parallel story focuses on one of the most controversial issues in Africa -- clitoridectomy, also called excision or female circumcision. While health workers warn of the dangers of fatal infec-

tion, hemorrhaging and infertility, local tradition holds that circumcision discourages extramarital sex.

The film was produced in 1990 and is 107 minutes long.

Feb. 12 brings "Xala," a film directed by Ousmane Sembene from Senegal. Heavily censored in Senegal, the film satirizes the Westernized rulers of contemporary Africa and therefore, scrutinizes the myth of African independence. Produced in 1974, the film is 123 minutes.

"Yaaba," a film directed by Id-rissa Ouedraogo from Burkina Faso, 1989, is the story of an independent young boy who learns about the world through his friendship with an outcast older woman branded a witch by the rest of the tribe. Presented on Feb. 19, the film is 90 minutes long.

One Feb. 26, the fourth and final program is a film from the island of Madagascar, "Angano, Angano," produced in 1989. The film's real star is the oral tradition of Africa. The documentary uses raconteurs to tell the legends of creation and stories of the culture of the Malagasy people, against the backdrop of a restless audience and background beat of pop music. Maintaining contact with the ancestors and their stories is central to the Malagasy society. This film depicts the ever shifting, illusory boundary between reality and myth and that human beings are caught in between -- between earth and sky, between body and mind, birth and death, nature and culture. The film is 64 minutes long.

For more information about the program, please contact Linda Elegant at 244-6111, ext 5250 or 5263 or Michael Dembrow, ext 5213.

### KOIN-TV and Smith's Home Furnishings Announce Sponsorship of the CBS Reading Program

KOIN-TV and Smith's Home Furnishings will provide 10,000 free scripts for "O Pioneers" scheduled to air on KOIN-TV February 2, 1992 at 9:00 p.m. The broadcast is part of the CBS Television Reading Program, a nationwide script-reading project designed to make use of children's enthusiasm for television to help improve their reading skills and increase their motivation for further reading, learning and creative thinking.

"O Pioneers" is a Hallmark Hall of Fame presentation based on Willa Cather's classic novel first published in 1913. Jessica Lange stars as Alexandra Bergson, the daughter of Swedish immigrants who is determined to make a better life off the land despite the skepticism of family neighbors. Alexandra gains personal fulfillment as she recognizes that the history of the prairie begins in the heart of a man or a woman. David Strathairn co-stars as Carl Lindstrum, Alexandra's childhood friend who forsakes the Nebraska farm life to try his luck in the American West. Heather Graham and Josh Hamilton portray the young Alexandra

and Carl.

Free teacher's guides are available at KOIN-TV. The guides are designed to give useful facts, ideas and suggestions for enhancing the reading and viewing of the broadcast.

Television scripts for students have been available at all eight locations of Smith's Home Furnishings Since January 25. Participation in the script-reading project heightens students' interest in the ideas and issues involved in the story, making the project an excellent opportunity for awakening a zest for further learning.

The CBS Television Reading Program continues its nationwide growth with more than forty-two million students throughout the country having participated in the program in the past fifteen years.

KOIN-TV is a division of Lee Enterprises, Inc. Lee publishes directly or through its affiliate daily newspapers in 19 cities and owns six television stations. Lee Enterprises also is involved in graphic arts systems through its affiliate company Napp Systems (USA), Inc.

### Stanton Friedman To Talk at Lloyd Center Red Lion Inn

Stanton Friedman, veteran UFO investigator and lecturer, will speak in Portland at the Lloyd Center Red Lion Inn Sunday February 2. Tickets will be \$8 general admission at the door for the 6:00 PM talk. Friedman is currently intensively investigating the summer of 1947 Roswell, NM, crash of a flying saucer. His book on Roswell is scheduled to be published early this year. Friedman will speak about Roswell and related topics.

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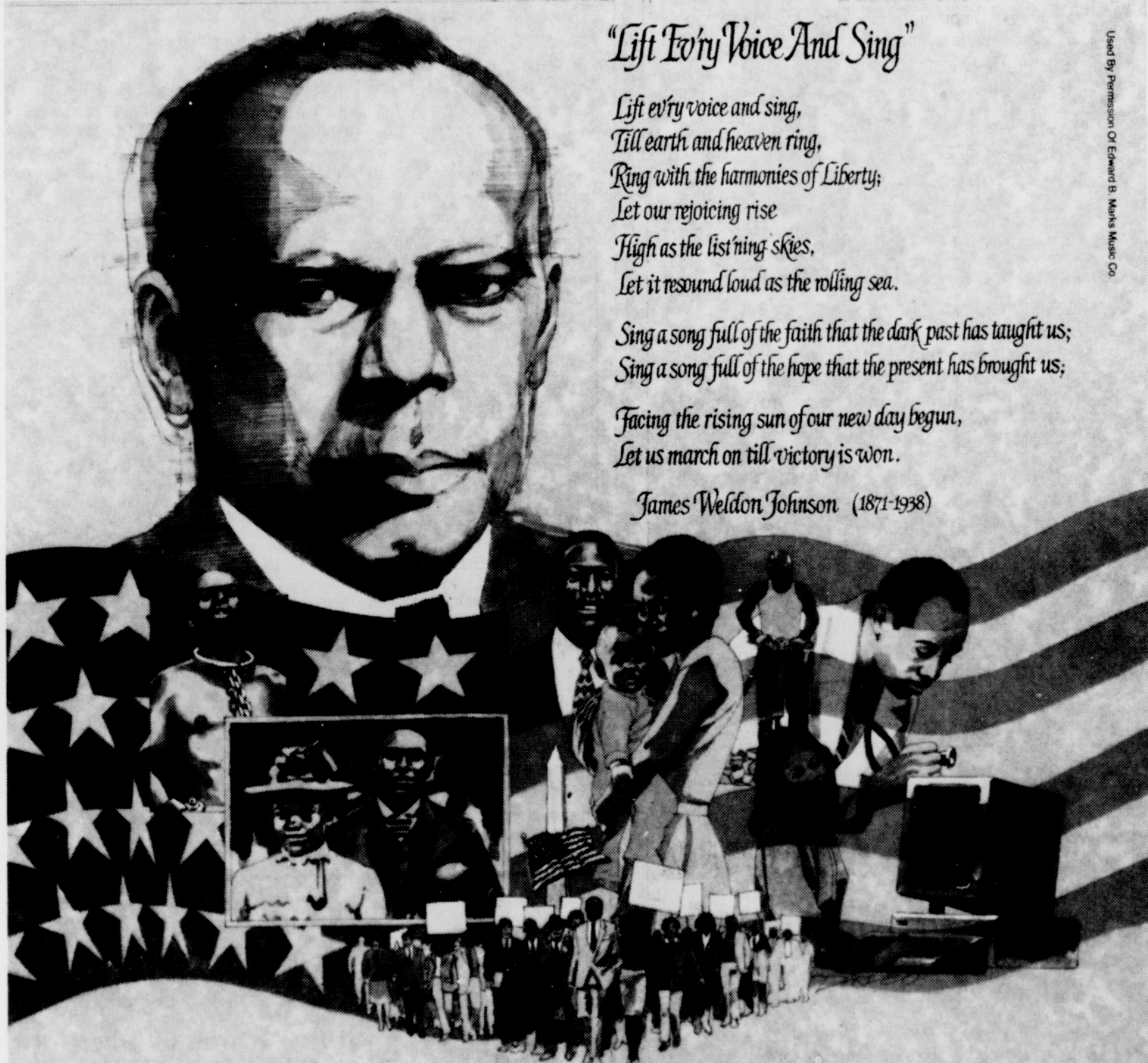
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THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



### "Lift Every Voice And Sing"

Lift every voice and sing,  
Till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty,  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the listening skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory is won.

James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938)

Written by James Weldon Johnson and set to music by his brother, Rosamond, "Lift Every Voice and Sing" was known for decades as the Negro National Anthem. It was first performed on January 12, 1900 by 500 school children at a celebration for Abraham Lincoln's birthday.

In the years that followed the school children continued to sing the Anthem. And when some of them became teachers, they taught it to their pupils. In less than twenty years, the moving

words and stirring music of this Anthem were being sung throughout the South, as well as other parts of the country.

Today, it still speaks so eloquently of hope, promise and perseverance. R.J. Reynolds salutes and supports African-Americans in their quest for a bright future.



### Northeast Neighborhood Coalition and the Portland Housing Center Sponsor Housing Forum

On January 30th and February 6, 1992, City Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury will host a two-part forum on housing opportunities and issues sponsored by the Northeast Neighborhood Coalition's Livability Committee and the Portland Housing Center. Both events will take place in the King School Cafeteria at 4815 N.E. 7th.

The first meeting will focus on affordable home ownership opportunities for NE residents. Representatives from non-profit corporations and the City of Portland will be on hand to discuss their programs. The Portland Housing Center will also explain how it assists potential buyers through the complicated home-loan process. The evening will begin with an open house from 6:30 to 7:30, followed by a presentation from 7:30 to 8:30.

Approximately ten groups will each give a short presentation on their organizations, and then take questions from the audience. In one evening, NE residents will have the opportunity to gather information on a variety of ex-

isting programs and services that are currently available.

The second night of the forum will be a round table on housing policy. Beginning at 7:00 p.m., Commissioner Kafoury and a panel of housing policy makers will have an open discussion on issues and policies affecting the Northeast.

The evening will begin with the policy-makers working to solve a number of hypothetical situations that will be presented to them by the N.E. Coalition's Livability Committee. The second half of the evening will be open-mike, with community members picking the topics for discussion. Representatives of Multnomah County, the State Housing Agency, PDC and the Portland Planning Bureau will join Commissioner Kafoury. "If we are to build stable neighborhoods, it is critical that we involve citizens in the shaping of housing policy, said Commissioner Kafoury. "I am looking forward to the chance to talk about what we have done so far, and what we still need to do."

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Please bring all your donations to *The Portland Observer* at 4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd and receive your ticket. Just think -- a car for \$3.00!