

ENTERTAINMENT

Mary J. Blige



The "around the way," R&B, hip-hop sound of Uptown/MCA songstress Mary J. Blige explodes on her debut album, *What's the 411?*, a ten-track showcase that Mary describes as "purely self expressive." "What's the 411?" featuring rap artist Grand Puba. Whatever your pleasure, Mary delivers music to relax, party, groove or make love to.

The success of her first single, "You Remind Me," has given Mary a strong foundation. Track after track, her irrepressible, free-style should smoothly blends together messages of love and romance with a deeper hip-hop vibe. "When I sing, I sing from my heart and soul, and when I perform, I want my audience to know that I really believe in what I'm singing, and to feel the soul that I feel." Mary's natural diversity and innovative style make her a trendsetter in the music world. Her ability to combine soulful, classic R&B with the raw energy of hip-hop makes her a timeless artist who will no doubt bridge many of the generation gaps in black music.



Hangin' with Homegirls: Rap star Queen Latifah joins her Sesame Street Safari Sisters (l to r), Prairie Dawn and Merry Monster, as they search high and low for the missing letter "O". Latifah's performance with the muppets airs on Sesame Street February 1 on PBS (Check local TV listings.)
Credit: CTW/Michael Benabib

1993 Lilla Jewel Award For Oregon Women Artists Now Accepting Applications

The McKenzie River Gathering Foundation (MRG) is now accepting application's for the 1993 Lilla Jewel Award for Oregon Women Artists, in the category of music and/or dance. The deadline for applications to be received in MRG's Portland office (only) is 5:00 p.m. on March 15th. The \$2,500 award will be made by June 1st 1993.

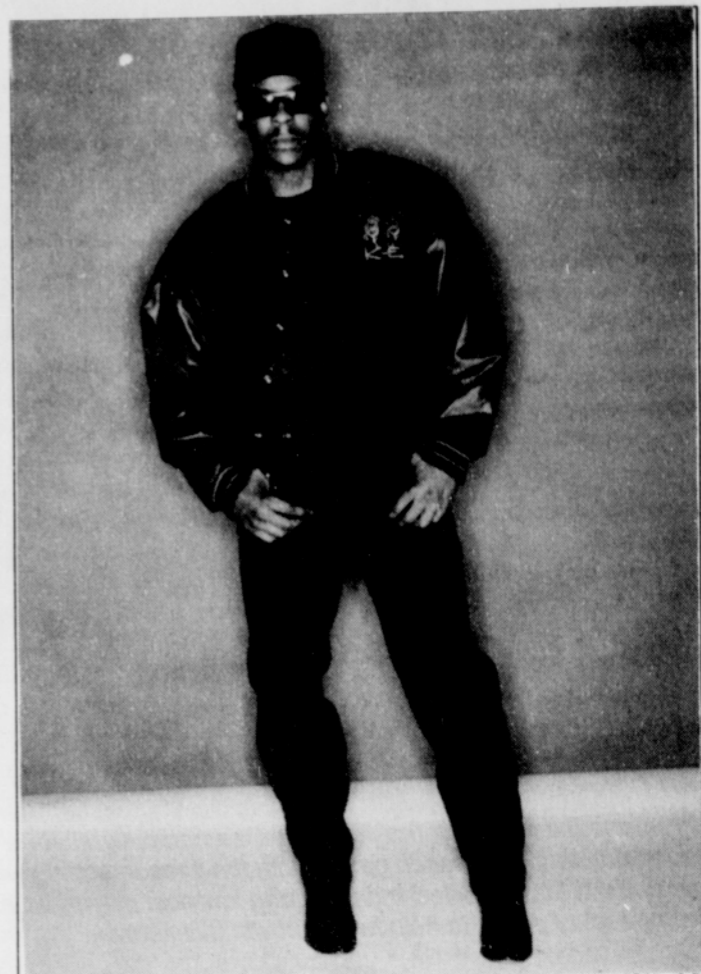
Musicians, composers, dancers and choreographers are eligible to apply for the 1993 award. Selection of the award recipient will be by a panel of women artists, who will make their decision based on work completed by artists within the past three years.

The annual Lilla Jewel Award is a special project of the McKenzie river Gathering Foundation, a progressive community foundation serving the state of Oregon. MRG recognizes that women artists have tradi-

tionally been underfunded, and has established this award to provide support and recognition to women artists of Oregon. Artists who have been further marginalized due to race and/or sexual orientation are particularly encouraged to apply. Applications may be received by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to MRG/Lilla Jewel Award, 3558 S.E. Hawthorne, Suite 105, Portland, OR 97214.

The Lilla Jewel Award is the only grant available to individuals through the McKenzie River Gathering Foundation, and the only specific arts funding offered. MRG's major focus is to provide grants for progressive, grassroots organizing in the areas of peace, human rights and the environment. For more information about MRG'S regular grantmaking programs, contact the Eugene office at 454 Willamette, Eugene, OR 97401.

BOBBY BROWN



For Bobby Brown, the past five years have been one incredible journey. 1988's *Don't Be Cruel*, only his second MCA LP, has sold more than 8 million copies worldwide to date. And now, with his name and image clearly etched on pop music's honor roll, Bobby Brown prepares for what he calls "The Next Phase."

Having vocally matured in the years since *Don't Be Cruel*, he sounds better than ever. But stardom hasn't dulled Bobby's street-edge, which is reflected in the atti-

tude of the music and production of new his new album called 'Bobby'.

Brown is busy tending to his superstar status. Tentative plans call for an international tour to begin in late '92 or early '93, and Bobby can't wait. "I love it! There's something about being in front of a crowd that just hypes me up and makes me want to be the center of attention." "I'm ready to show the world what Bobby Brown is made of..." Indeed. As Bobby himself would say, "Looks like it's gonna be another one of those funky ones."

Join The Cast And Crew Of The Performing Arts Center As A Tour Guide

An informational meeting on volunteering to become a tour guide for the Performing Arts Center will be on Saturday, January 30th at 10:00am in the New Theatre Building Lobby.

The tours last approximately one hour and are conducted every Wednesday at 11:00am and Saturdays every half hour between 11:00-1:00pm. For more information call 274-6552 or 248-4335.

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

CALL 288-0033 or FAX 288-0015 TO ADVERTISE OR RESERVE YOUR SPACE

Mayor's Ball 1993

The Portland Music Association is proud to announce the 9th Annual Mayor's Ball, to be held on Friday, April 23rd, 1993 at the Memorial Coliseum.

The event will feature the best of Portland's live original music, and is still the largest collection of talent under one roof, in one night, anywhere in the world. The 1993 theme and beneficiaries will be announced shortly.

Performers/groups interested in performing should send promotional materials to: Talent Committee, c/o Portland Music Association, P.O. Box 6723, Portland, OR 97228. Packets should include a band bio, current tape, photo, contact person and any other current promotional materials.

Volunteer positions are available in all areas. Call the Portland Music Association at 223-9681 for more information.

Cred Of The Black Press

The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human and legal rights. Hating no person, fearing no person, the Black Press strives to help every person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

The Portland Observer

— PRESENTS —
A REEL MUSIC + BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERT
— FEATURING —

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— WITH —
THAT RHYTHM, THOSE BLUES
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FEBRUARY 6TH FOX THEATER 7PM

TICKETS \$15.50 ADVANCE AT FASTIXX OR FILM CENTER \$17 DAY OF SHOW
TICKETS SUBJECT TO SERVICE CHARGE. VENUE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
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PORTLAND ART MUSEUM NORTHWEST FILM CENTER
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EXTENDED STUDIES AND DEPARTMENTS OF BLACK STUDIES AND MUSIC

Willamette Week 25th SHOWMAN EVENT

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— FEATURING FROM NEW ORLEANS —
SHOWMAN EVENT MONQUI PRESENTS
DIRTY DOZEN brass BAND
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AT Luna 213 SE NINTH & PINE
5:00 PM NEW ORLEANS STYLE DINNER/FILM
7:00 PM CONCERT
\$10 ADV. CONCERT ONLY, \$18 ADV. DINNER/CONCERT PACKAGE
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"The Eyes and Ears of the Community"
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10TH ANNIVERSARY 1982-1992

Celebrating the cultural integrity of our community through the arts!

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