

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

The Portland Observer



A Family Thing: Robert Duvall, Irma Hall, James Earl Jones and Michael Beach star in the story of two brothers who learn that although their lives have been distanced by more than just miles, the bonds of family are indestructible in United Artists' compelling and poignant drama "A Family Thing." See related story on page A5.

Concert For Humanity

Straw Into Gold, a local women's folk trio, and Piedmont Presbyterian Church will present a concert to benefit Habitat for Humanity on Good Friday, April 5, at 7:30 p.m.

Straw into Gold sings about farming and weaving, homes and heartland, subtle themes of spirituality, the turning of the seasons and the cycles of our lives. Their simple arrangements with sweet triadic harmonies carry you to a heartfelt place. They will be accompanied by violin, concertina and guitar. 100% of the proceeds will go to Portland Habitat for Humanity. A free-will offering will be gratefully received. The concert will be held at Piedmont Presbyterian Church, 5760 NE Cleveland Ave. in Portland and includes a reception for the artists. For more information contact the church at 285-5348.



Joe Sample maintains his role as soul searcher, funkaphile and philosopher of the first degree on his Warner Bros. jazz release, *Old Places, Old Faces*. The Texas-born Sample's sensibilities are rooted in gospel, soul, bebop, blues, Latin and Classical music.

Portland Center Stage Raised \$1.2 Million

For the first time in its eight-year history, Portland Center Stage has surpassed the million dollar mark in contributed income, raising a total of over \$1.2 million in support of the 1995-96 season. This, the company's second season as Portland Center Stage and independent of its founder Oregon Shakespeare Festival, was a crucial year for fundraising.

Support came from a variety of areas, including individual members, the largest category of donors; corporate and foundation gifts and grants; and government funding.

"We have a very dedicated and active board, and they have really put their hearts into fundraising for PCS," said Robin Remmick, Director of Development.

contributed income accounts for

Jazz Hits The Willamette

Tickets for A Taste of Jazz 2 went on sale March 4, at Ticketmaster outlets statewide. The second annual jazz event will cruise the Willamette 4-7 p.m. Sunday, May 19, with 40 jazz musicians performing on three decks of the sternwheeler Columbia Gorge.

Playing on the open-air top deck will be Pat O'Neal's Riverboat Jazz Band, a six-piece dixieland/traditional jazz group. Taking over the middle deck will be the popular Art Abrams Swing Machine big band while on the lower deck a continuous jam session featuring 15 players and singers will entertain.

the over-21 event, which raised over \$4,000 last year for the Mt. Hood Festival of Jazz Beacock Jazz Workshop scholarship fund, is again a benefit for the Workshop. Several of the Aug. 4-10 Workshop faculty will be playing on the cruise.

The nonstop jam session will include three pianists: Sarin Clendenin, George Mitchell and Randy Porter; bassists Joey Seifers and Tom Waking; drummers Gary Hobbs and Keith Werner; saxophonists Warren Rand and Renato Caranto; trumpeter Bobby Bradford; trombonist Cleve Williams, and guitarists Dan Faehnle and Hank Swarn. Singers will be Kelly Broadway and Sweet Baby James Benton.

The jazz excursion will include a box lunch. Tickets are \$30, plus service charge, available at all ticketmaster outlets or can be charged at 224-4400. Ticket sales will be limited to 400 on the 600-capacity sternwheeler. The event sold out last spring.

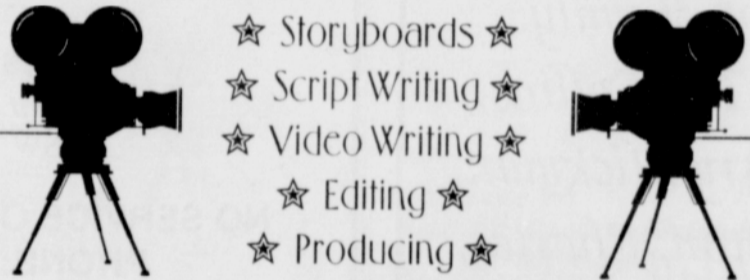
Boarding will be at Southwest Front Avenue and Stark Street at 3:45 p.m. Sunday, May 19.

approximately 40% of the total Portland Center Stage budget of \$2.5 million. This year's total in contributions includes deficit reduction contributions of \$150,000 outside of the theatre's operating budget.

Elizabeth Huddle, PCS Producing Artistic Director, said "We are extremely grateful to all of our donors. The Portland community has been most generous in claiming PCS as its flagship theatre."

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STARTS FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH.

Visit A Family Thing Site on the Internet: <http://www.mgmua.com/afamilything>