

# Arts ENTERTAINMENT

## Bruce Smith Teaches African Dance Class At PSU

Bruce Smith, who created Northwest Afrikan American Ballet, will teach a nine-week African dance class at Portland State University, Mondays and Wednesdays, beginning January 12 and continuing through March 11. Classes will focus on the technique of West African dance, drum rhythms, and culture. Classes take place from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Room 207 of the Peter Stott Center (formerly PSU's Health & Physical Education building), located at 930 SW Hall. Bruce Smith has studied and performed drumming for 25 years. Fifteen of those years have been dedicated to the study of African hand drumming with internationally known Master drummers.

During the summers of 1981, 1986, and 1989, Smith traveled to five countries in West Africa to research traditional drum and dance techniques. This experience inspired his to create the renowned Northwest Afrikan American Ballet. For more information call the World Dance Office at 725-5670.



Northwest Afrikan American Ballet's Bruce Smith.



The name Margaret means "pearl."

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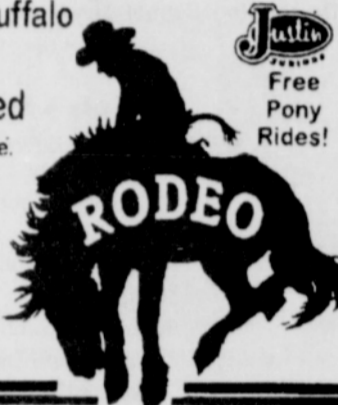
<b>FRIDAY, JANUARY 9</b> 8:00 PM KOIN TV6 Family Night All Seats \$10	<b>SATURDAY, JANUARY 10</b> 8:00 PM KUPL Great Paper Airplane Flyaway!	<b>SUNDAY, JANUARY 11</b> 2:30 PM KPDX Fox49/KWJ Radio Kids' Club Day! Half price on all tickets for kids*
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## Amistad: The Untold Story

In the summer of 1839, fifty-three African captives led a revolt aboard the Spanish slave ship Amistad, killing all but two of their captors. In a failed attempt to sail home, they find themselves at the mercy of the American justice system. "It is the only time in history... that a group of blacks who were captured in Africa... entered the American courts, won their freedom and returned home," according to historian Dr. Howard Jones.

"Amistad" is currently the subject of a major motion picture directed by Stephen Spielberg and produced by Debbie Allen. Although several Black directors passed on the film, Allen's choice of Spielberg as director was seen as an insult to some. In addition, Spielberg was slapped with a \$10-million lawsuit by Barbara Chase-Riboud. She claims the director lifted "the structure and flow" and the "fictitious characters" from her 1989 novel, "Echo of the Lions."

Jones, who participated in the making of the film, says Spielberg did a commendable job. "...I think he's made every effort he can to try to be as exact and as right as he can be about the characters," according to Jones, who adds that Spielberg had several experts working on the set.

Concerning the debate over whether a non-African American, such as himself, can fully do justice to a story like "Amistad," Jones says: "If anyone is trained to work in historical documents and is true to the documents, it doesn't matter what color or what gender (they are)."

This week on America's Black Forum, Jones discusses his book "Mutiny on the Amistad" and why the story has only recently come to light. "...The central myth of slavery is that Black people accepted their plight. They were passive... I think 'Amistad' is going to throw a great deal of light on the period."

## Gatone

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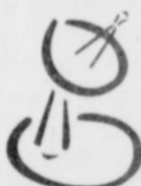
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## Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition

Saturday, January 10 at 7:30 pm  
Sunday, January 11 at 7:30 pm  
Monday, January 12 at 8 pm

James DePreist, conductor  
Evelyn Glennie, percussion

James MacMillan:  
*Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*

Respighi:  
*Trittico Botticelliano*

Mussorgsky:  
*Pictures at an Exhibition*  
(arr. Ravel)

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