

# Black History Month Events

## Borders Books And Music

Borders Books and Music, at 708 SW Third Avenue in Downtown Portland is pleased to present two very special events in honor of Black History Month. These events are free and open to the public. Call 503/220-5911.

### "When Justice Throws the Second Stone" - A Staged Reading

Sunday, February 14 at 2 PM.

Borders is pleased to host a staged reading of this one act play written and directed by African American playwright Raymond Cornelius Alexander. The play tells the story of former Olympic sprinter Eddie Crankshaw and his wrongful arrest and conviction for the murder of his wife. The play deals with the issue of the loss of credibility and Eddie's difficulty in regaining it.

### Habib Koite & Eric Bibb In-Store Performance

Sunday, February 14 at 6 PM.

Borders is thrilled to host an in-store performance with African musician Habib Koite and American acoustic blues guitarist Eric Bibb in celebration of both Koite's new cd *Ma Ya* and the new collection *Mali to Memphis: An African-American Odyssey*. *Mali to Memphis* is a journey from the heart of an ancient West African kingdom to a city where black music came into its own in America, from the sandy banks of the Niger River to the levees of the Mississippi.

### IFCC Gallery

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center kicks off Black History Month with exhibitions of paintings and pen & inks by Vancouver, Washington artist Philemon T. Reid that will continue through February 27. Reid's oil paintings of jazz and blues musicians reveal a keen ability to adapt materials into a personal vehicle for expression. The IFCC Gallery is located at 5340 N. Interstate Ave. Call 823-2000.

### Race And Diversity

Floyd Cruse presents a community dialogue on "Race and Diversity, An Assimilation Model". This will be a frank and open discussion of race and diversity including a viewing of the controversial movie *Color of Fear*. A panel discussion will follow. This event will be held at Reflections Bookstore (446 NE Killingsworth St.) on February 13<sup>th</sup>, from 6 to 9:30 PM. Call 503/284-0985.

### Reed College

Reed College will celebrate Black History Month with a series of lectures and a performance of the *Langston Hughes Project* by Flooney's Theater Company. Admission to all events, which are sponsored by Reed's multicultural resource center, is free and open to the public. For more information, call 771-1112, ext. 7891.

### "Martin Luther King's Unfinished Agenda: Black Workers and the Struggle for Economic Justice"

Michael Honey, professor of American studies, University of Washington-Tacoma

Friday, February 12, 4 PM, Vollum lounge

Honey will be speaking about the history of civil rights and labor organizing. He will be discussing what we can do in the present to carry on the legacy of King and others who struggled for a better world.

### Arvie Smith, artist

Friday, February 19, 4 PM, Vollum lounge

Arvie Smith is a Portland-based African American artist. His current work is inspired by a journey to West Africa in 1996; while there, he studied the people and art of Ghana, Senegal and Mali. Until the age of 11, he lived in rural Texas with his grandparents and great-grandmother, who had been a slave.

### Flooney's Theater Company: The Langston Hughes Project

Tuesday, February 23, 7 PM, Eliot Hall chapel

Flooney's Theater Company will present the Langston Hughes Project, a dramatic performance that includes poetry, short plays, and biographical sketches from works by the prolific and insightful Langston Hughes. Hughes was a literary genius who wrote successfully in the genres of poetry, fiction, autobiography, journalism, drama, essay, translation, and works for children for more than 40 years,

from 1925 to 1967.

### Festival Of African Films

**TAAFEFANGA** (1997, Mali, 95 min.), directed by Adama Drabo, Taafe Fanga ("Skirt Power") is a comic but insightful look at sexual politics in Africa today, though it is set among the Dogon of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Through trickery and magic, the men of a Dogon town are made to believe that their survival depends upon their exchanging gender roles with the women of the town. While the men gain a new understanding of gender roles with the women of the town. While the men gain a new understanding of the burdens borne by the women, they not surprisingly find that the women are in no hurry to return to their former situation. In Kaado and Bambara with English subtitles.

Thursday, February 11, noon, and Friday, February 12, 7:30 PM in Terrell Hall, Room 122, PCC Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth.

**TABLEAU FERRAILLE** (1997, Senegal, 85 min.), directed by Moussa Sene Absa. Set in a fictional present day Senegal. It is fictional, but in many ways a very realistic portrayal of the realities of post-colonialist exploitation and corruption. The central character is Daam (played by music superstar Ismael Lo), a young government official, who is European-educated and politically naive; he is no match for the conniving entrepreneur, President. When Daam decides to take a second wife to join his beautiful and infertile first wife,

he plays right into President's self-serving hands. In Wolof and French with English subtitles.

Thursday, February 11, 1:30 PM, and Saturday, February 13, 7:30 PM, in Terrell Hall, Room 122, PCC Cascade Campus.

### Black Theatre Production

The performance of "Our Young Black Men are Dying and Nobody Seems to Care," on Monday, Feb. 22 in the Little Theatre on the Sylvania Campus (12000 SW. 49<sup>th</sup> Ave.) at noon, and the North Star Ballroom at 635 N. Killingsworth at 7 PM. The James Chapman play tells stories of hope and despair, and the struggles, obstacles and triumphs of the African-American male. The *Washington Post*, *Boston Herald* and *The Village Voice* have all given high-praise to Chapman and his moving portrayal of African-American life.

### Vessels Wedding Planning Workshop

VESSELS, "Tableware With Meaning," has scheduled its series of popular wedding planning workshops for prospective brides- and grooms-to-be. Titled "Before Jumpin' the Broom" Wedding Workshops, couples can select from one of two convenient dates, February 27 or March 27.

Each session will run from 1-3 PM and will be held at VESSELS, at 2605 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, corner of Russell. The cost is \$5 per person. Seating is limited; reservations are required, by calling 503/249-1952. The grooms-to-be are admitted free!

The workshop will feature de-

tails on wedding invitation procedures and traditions and offer many helpful do's and don'ts to follow in announcing this big event. Other segments include important things to consider when planning the wedding, and suggestions for adding cultural touches into the wedding ceremony.

### Voices Of Color

Celebrate Black History Month at a book launch for *Voices of Color*, a thought-provoking new anthology featuring political, feminist and cultural perspectives of African American, Chicana/o, Asian Pacific American and Native activists. Northwest contributors and civil rights fighters will read and sign books. Saturday, February 20, at 1 PM. Hosted by Reflections Coffee and Bookstore and Freedom Socialist Party. Reflections Coffee and Bookstore, 446 NE Killingsworth, Portland. Everyone is welcome. For rides or childcare, call 503/228-3090. Wheelchair accessible.

### Poetry Celebration

The Northwest African American Writers Workshop (NAAWW) will host a Black History Month poetry celebration February 13 at the North Portland Branch Library (512 N Killingsworth) from 3 to 5 PM. The celebration will also serve



A Dance Celebration in Ghana, Africa.


as the group's farewell to the library. The North Portland Branch Library will be closing for a year of remodeling. NAAWW members have currently had about 50 books published. For more information, call the library at 248-5394.

### Video Showing

The dramatic video, "Wild Women Don't Have the Blues" reaches back into history to profile the legendary Black singers of the 20's and 30's and depicts the lives of blues women who battled racial and gender exploitation by the music industry. "Wild Women Don't Have the Blues" recreates the gutsy stories of these pioneering women who left an indelible mark on the music and heart of America.

### Bridge Builders

The Bridge Builders will be holding their Third Black History Month Celebration and The Prospective Gents Club "Rites of Passage" Announcement at the Portland Arts Museum on Sunday, February 28 at 7 PM. Call 503/306-2960.

  
 TODAY, YOU CAN'T DRIVE  
 DOWN THE STREET WITHOUT  
 NOTICING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
 OF AFRICAN AMERICANS.

From medical breakthroughs to advances in technology, African Americans have made an enormous impact on our society.

Individuals like Garrett Morgan, who helped usher in the era of traffic safety by inventing the electric traffic signal, the precursor to the modern traffic light.

For all these achievements and more, Toyota celebrates Black History

Month. Without them, our world would be a very different place.



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INVENTOR

TOYOTA everyday