

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Portland FOCUS Observer

Oregon State Fair Aug. 23 - Sept. 3

The Oregon State Fair will begin its 139th year with a special \$1 admission price, a parade, a flag raising ceremony and a huge fireworks show. For the first time since 1967, the fair and West Coast Bank are offering \$1 admission with one can of food for everyone between 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. All food donations will go to the Oregon Food Bank. For more info., call 503/974-3247, 1-800-833-0011 or visit www.oregonstatefair.org.

Mt. Hood Huckleberry Festival Aug. 24-26

Huckleberries are now in season. Marking this event is the annual Mt. Hood Huckleberry Festival & Barlow Trail Days at the Mt. Hood Village, located at 65000 East U.S. Highway 26 in Brightwood. There will be plenty of huckleberry foods, watermelon contest, Native American ceremonies and more for the whole family. Admission and parking is free. For more information, call 503/622-4798.

Run for the Wind II Aug. 24 - 26

Chinook Winds Casino & Convention Center is hosting "Run for the Wind II," August 24-26. Saddle up and cruise to the coast for summer's coolest bike event at Chinook Winds Casino, Run for the Wind II, a benefit for the Oregon Veterans Motorcycle Association. Help Oregon's veteran community while enjoying three days of fun, excitement and good times... plus a chance to win an Indian Motorcycle. For more information, call Les Eisenbarth at 1-888-244-6665, ext. 5839.

Homowo Fest. of African Arts Aug. 25-26

The twelfth annual Homowo Festival of African Arts will be held at Portland State University's South Park Blocks on Aug. 25 and 26, from 1-8 p.m. The event is expected to attract more than 10,000 people over the two days. There will be African music and dance presentations, African food, children's activities and folk art demonstrations throughout the weekend. Call 503/288-3025 or go online to www.homowo.org.



African sights and sounds will fill the South Park Blocks for the 12th annual Homowo Festival - a traditional Ghana harvest celebration on Aug. 25 and 26.

Fenix TX Sunday, Aug. 26

Also known as Riverfenix, this Houston-based group consists of singer/guitarists Willie and Damon, bassist Adam and drummer Donnie. Fenix TX will be performing, plus other guest performers Lefty and Ten Times a Day on Sunday, Aug. 26, 8 p.m. at the Roseland Theatre. Call 503/224-8499.

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra Aug. 29

As a bonus to all members of the community, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra will perform a free concert on Wednesday, Aug. 29, at 7 p.m. in Esther Short Park. The performance, sponsored by the City of Vancouver, is an addition to the Summer Concert series and features Georges Bizet's "L'Arlesienne: Suite #2" and Aram Khachaturian's "Masquerade."

Community Music Center Concert Aug. 31

Perry Robinson with Kings on Straw Mats will be in concert on Friday, Aug. 31 at The Community Music Center, located at 3350 S.E. Francis St., 8 p.m. Their sound is a mix of atonal Jazz, African rhythm, and ambient music with a touch of DJ thrown in.

In Print Healing the Rift Between Black Couples

By Donna L. Franklin
TOULOUSE: 2000

The current divorce rate for black couples has quadrupled since 1960 and is now double that of the general population, rates of domestic violence in black marriages are skyrocketing, and nearly half of married black men admit to having been unfaithful. Clearly, all is not well with black couples. In "What's Love Got to Do with It?," Donna Franklin, one of the country's leading African-American sociologists, speaks out on these painful, complex issues, providing an incisive and riveting analysis of the gender tensions that are the legacy of slavery and its aftermath.

Franklin breaks new ground in explaining why black men and women have trouble relating to each other and examines their profoundly different starting points, which are influenced by generations of racism and injustice. She shows how black women's strength and self-sufficiency can be used to nurture relationships. Likewise, she teaches black men how to support one another and their relationships with women without excluding women, as has happened with the Million Man March.

The challenge of mending the rift between black men and women is formidable, but can be made easier. Understanding is the first step on the path to healing.

Alberta Street Fair: A Neighborhood Celebration



A colorful mix of foods, entertainment and activities make up the Alberta Street Fair.

Northeast Portland's premier street fair is coming again to the Alberta neighborhood. The Alberta Street Fair 2001 is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 15, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Now in its fourth year, the fair will stretch along Alberta Street from 14th to 31st. As in the past, the street will be filled with multi-cultural dance, music, art, street theatre, food, kid's activities, community services and just plain fun as the street celebrates its cultural diversity. On the main stage,

such groups as Black Angel (soul), Gypsy Caravan (Middle Eastern music and dance), and Lions of Batucada (Brazilian Marching Band) will perform. But the entertainment isn't limited to a stage. The street will come alive with street theatre, street performers from the neighborhood and entertainment offered by the many businesses along the street.

An eclectic variety of activities and entertainment will be available from the street that has hosted the "Last Thursday Artwalk" for the last 4 years. A free

paper lantern workshop, a "Handkerchief Brigade Parade," "Trashion Show" (a public participatory fashion show spoof), to an actual wedding are just some of the activities planned for that day.

Fair goers will be eligible for prizes from the Alberta Street merchants with an interactive activity in the form of "The Alberta Street Passport." Passports are available from local merchants the day of the fair.

For more info, call 503-972-2206 or visit them online at www.albertastreetfair.com.

"Contact," A Broadway Hit on Love

During the last year, any visitor to New York has seen her. She peers out from the side of buses and adorns posters all over

the city. She's a fixture on coffee mugs, mouse pads and even in floaty pens. She's the Tony winning Best Musical "Contact's" "Girl In the Yellow Dress." As "Les Miserables" had its young Cosette and "the Phantom of the Opera" its mask, a dancing figure of a mysterious and beautiful woman in a shimmering, sexy yellow dress has become the iconic emblem for the hit show which arrives at Portland's Keller Auditorium on Sept. 4-9. The musical is directed and choreographed by Susan Stroman and written by John Weidman.



"Contact," a trio of one-act sensual stories told

entirely through dance about people in the wild pursuit of love, is performed to a wide range of music by a cast of 24 dancer/actors who captivate and seduce the audience. According to the director, all three pieces have to do with contact - the ability to connect. And all three pieces are about fantasies. With "Contact," it is a dance play. No one sings on stage.

Musical numbers range from Stephane Grappelli's rendition of Rodgers and Hart's "My Heart Stood Still," to pieces by Grieg, Tchaikovsky and Bizet, to Robert Palmer, Dean Martin, the Beach Boys and The Squirrel Nut Zippers.

Immediately upon opening, "Contact" became the hottest ticket in New York and soon moved to Lincoln Center Theater's larger,

Broadway house, the Vivian Beaumont Theater, where it continues to play to sold-out houses, night after night.

For ticket information, call the Portland Opera Box Office at 503-241-1802 or Ticketmaster at 503-790-ARTS.

kmhd for the love of jazz

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FREE CONCERTS IN YOUR PARKS!

BRING YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS & A PICNIC BASKET FOR FUN-FILLED AFTERNOONS OF MUSIC AND ART

KNOTT PARK
NE 112TH & SACRAMENTO, SUNDAY, AUGUST 19th
(Rain location: Parkrose High School Gym, 12003 NE Shaver, same date and time)
AFTERNOON EVENTS BEGIN AT 3:00 PM
Performances and art activities for all ages
OREGON SYMPHONY CONCERT AT 7:00 PM
Murry Sidlin, conductor
The orchestra will perform a selection of light classics and popular favorites.
Food and beverages available for purchase.

KENTON PARK
N BRANDON AVE. BETWEEN N. KILPATRICK & ARGYLE ST., SUN., AUG. 26th
(Rain location: Roosevelt High School, 6941 N Central, same date and time)
AFTERNOON EVENTS BEGIN AT 3:00 PM
Performances and art activities for all ages
OREGON SYMPHONY CONCERT AT 7:00 PM
Murry Sidlin, conductor
The orchestra will perform a selection of light classics and popular favorites.
Food and beverages available for purchase.

TOM MCCALL WATERFRONT PARK
BOWL AREA SOUTH OF HAWTHORNE BRIDGE; THURS., AUG. 30TH
(Rain date: Friday, Aug. 31st)
Portland Youth Philharmonic, Huw Edwards, conductor, at 5:00 pm
OREGON SYMPHONY CONCERT AT 7:00 PM
James DePreist, conductor
The Oregon Symphony performs classical and popular works including Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, complete with fireworks & cannons!
Food and beverages available for purchase.

DONATE YOUR USED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS: All of the Oregon Symphony in the Neighborhoods concert locations will serve as drop-sites for VHI Save the Music. In partnership with AT&T Broadband and KINKfm102, the Symphony encourages donations of used band or orchestral instruments to be used in various school music programs in the Portland area. Tax receipts will be available.

The City of Portland and The Regional Arts & Culture Council present:

OREGON SYMPHONY IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS

Special support for the Oregon Symphony in the Neighborhoods series provided by:

AT&T Broadband, NW Natural, KINKfm102, Washington Mutual

Education activities supported by the Patty Vemer Education Fund

KENNEDY SCHOOL
McMenamins

AUGUST EVENTS

Tuesday, August 7, 14, 21 and 28
LIVE IRISH OPEN SESSION
Courtyard Restaurant · 7pm to 10pm · No cover · All ages

Sunday, August 19
CRAIG CAROTHERS' SONGWRITERS IN THE ROUND
Kennedy School Gym · 7:30pm · \$7 · All ages

Thursday, August 30
BATTLE OF THE BANDS AND BARBECUE
X Angels vs. Steve Bradley Band
Kennedy School Gym · No concert cover · 7pm · All ages

MOVIES ON THE BIG SCREEN
Kennedy School Theater
Showing great movies every evening with afternoon matinees on Saturday and Sunday. Pizza and our own wines, ales and cocktails are available.

McMenamins Kennedy School
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(503) 249-3983 · www.mcmenamins.com