

# Black History Month



Black History month is in February. The remembrance of minority accomplishment was established by the efforts of Dr. Carter G. Woodward.

## 'Unchained Memories' Premier

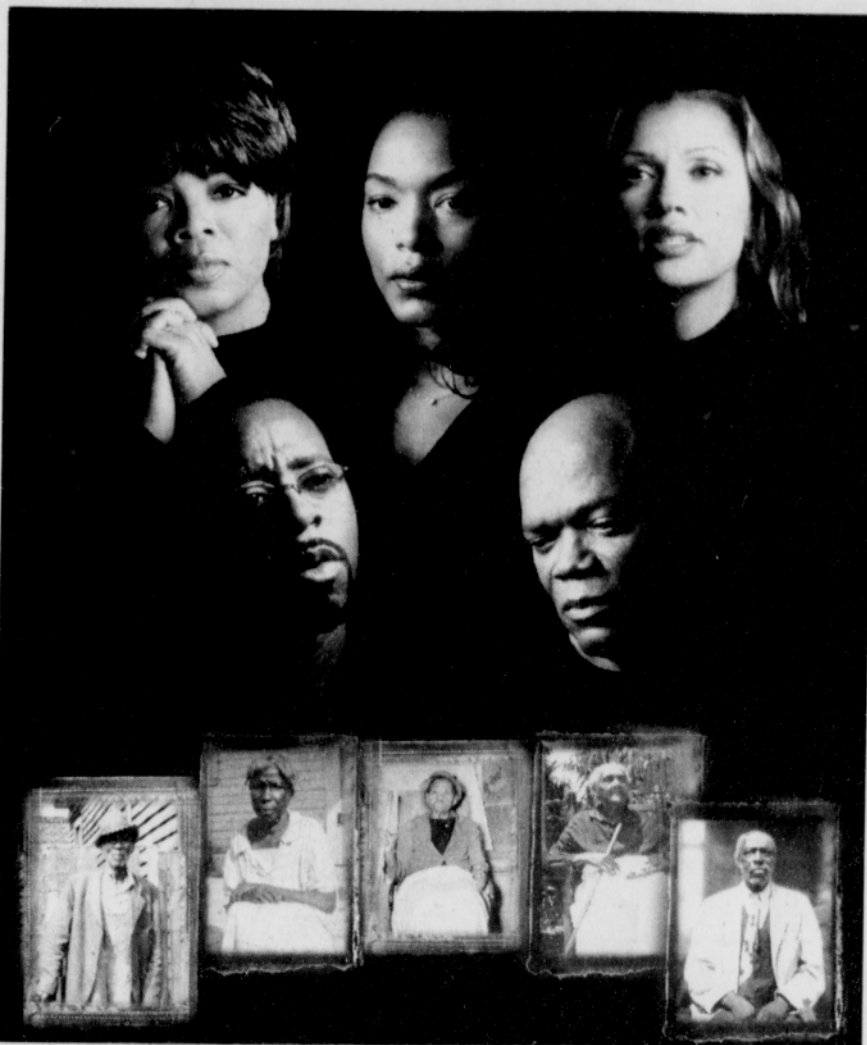
Film presents dramatic selections from slave narratives collection

As a part of Black History Month commemoration, the Oregon Historical Society will present a premier screening of an HBO documentary film, "Unchained Memories: Readings From the Slave Narratives," at McMenamin's Kennedy School Theater, located at 5736 N.E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave., on Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 6:30 p.m.

The film presents dramatic selections from the Slave Narratives Collection, compiled between 1936 and 1938 for the Work Projects Administration for its Federal Writers' Project. Transcripts from interviews with more than 2,000 one-time slaves were put together by the WPA group to form a unique firsthand record of slave life.

"Unchained Memories" presents pieces of these interviews, through on-camera, emotion charged readings by narrator Whoopi Goldberg and guests Oprah Winfrey, Samuel L. Jackson, Angela Bassett, Don Cheadle, Vanessa L. Williams and others.

The footage will be interspersed



The premier screening of the HBO movie "Unchained Memories: Readings from the Slave Narratives" will feature Whoopi Goldberg, Oprah Winfrey, Samuel L. Jackson, Don Cheadle, Angela Bassett and others.

with archival photographs, music, film and period images. The 74-minute documentary will air on HBO on Monday, Feb. 10.

Dr. Darrell Millner, Professor of

Black Studies at Portland State University, will introduce "Unchained Memories" at the Kennedy School premier and lead a discussion with audience members after the screening.

For more information on this event or other Oregon Historical Society activities, contact Ken DuBois at 503-306-5221.

## Reed College Hosts Reparations Advocate

Black History Month celebrated with prominent African Americans

In honor of Black History Month, Reed College is bringing to campus slavery reparations advocate Randall Robinson, sociologist Orlando Patterson and poet Sonia Sanchez.

The goal of these visitors is to provide a series of programs that will be useful to the Reed community in addition to the larger Portland community.

Each of these lecture events begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Kaul Auditorium. They are free and open to the public.

On Wednesday, Feb. 5 Randall Robinson, author of "The Debt: What America Owes Blacks," "Defending the Spirit," and "The Reckoning: What Blacks Owe Each

Other" will lecture on slavery reparations. Robinson is a graduate of Harvard Law School, the founder and president of the TransAfrica Forum and is a leading voice in support of reparations for African Americans.

Orlando Patterson and John Cowles will speak on Thursday, Feb. 13. Winner of The Sorokin Prize and the National Book Award, Patterson is an internationally renowned sociologist and is known for his work on race, immigration, and multiculturalism.

On Wednesday, Feb. 19, Sonia Sanchez will read poetry and discuss social activism. She is a poet, playwright, social activist, feminist and author of more than a 15 books.

## PCC Cascade Hosts African Film Festival

Annual event to feature 19 films during month of February

Portland Community College will host the popular and diverse 13th Annual Cascade Festival of African Films, in honor of Black History Month, through the month of February at the Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth. All screenings will be in Terrell Hall 122, unless noted otherwise.

All of the festival films are free and open to the public.

The festival, which features 19 films this year, has grown to be a big favorite among film buffs. Last year the festival featured an appearance by actor Danny Glover and attracted a record of 4,000 people.

"This year's films are all outstanding," said Mary Holmstrom, an organizer of the festival. "They all have extraordinary stories to tell and images to reveal. They have very important things to tell us about African history, the urban African woman, religion and spirituality, civil war and HIV/AIDS. They also celebrate music and dance, love and freedom, and the indomitable human spirit."

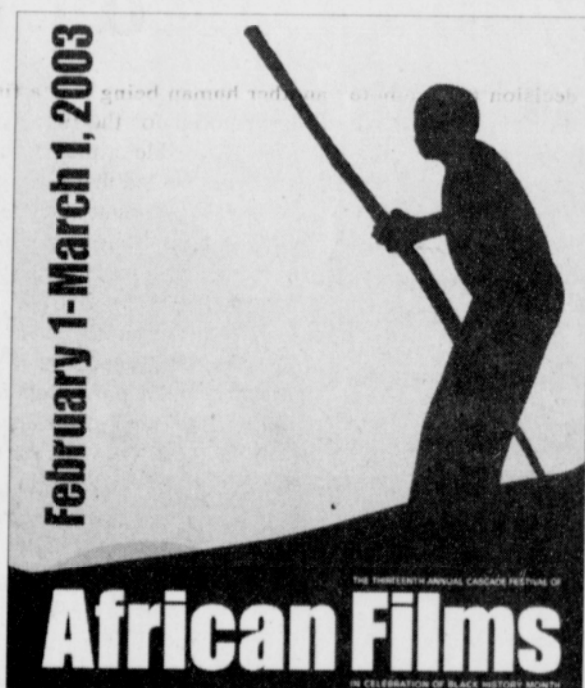
The festival will open with the Senegalese film, "Karmen Gei" directed by Joseph Gai Ramaka, on Saturday, Feb. 1 at McMenamins Kennedy School, 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave. There will be screenings of the film at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. The film is loosely based on Georges Bizet's opera "Carmen," and is believed to be the first African-produced movie musical ever made.

Ethiopian film director Haile Gerima will present his documentary film, "Adwa: An African Victory," at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 6 at the Hollywood Theatre, 4122 N.E. Sandy Blvd. The film chronicles the epic Battle of Adwa of 1896, in which an army of Ethiopian men and women defeated an invading Italian army against impossible odds.

At PCC Cascade on Feb. 13, the Thursday Evening Documentary Series will include "Adwa," "Bilalian," "Scenarios from the Sahel" and "It's My Life" on the subject of AIDS in West and South Africa.

Films about the lives of two of Egypt's great artistic and literary giants, the singer Umm Kulthum and the writer Naguib Mahfouz, will be presented on Feb. 20.

"Kirikou and the Sorceress," the popular animated children's film based on a Congolese folk tale, is the featured film for Family Film Day at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22 at McMenamins Kennedy School. Two of Cilia Sawadogo's short anima-



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— Mary Holmstrom, PCC Cascade Festival of African Films organizer

tions will also be shown: "The Cora Player" and "Christopher Changes His Name."

The festival concludes with Women Filmmakers Week. "Mama Africa: Growing Up Urban," three short films by women directors from Namibia, Nigeria and South Africa, will be shown on Feb. 27 and 28, and "Satin Rouge," the new Tunisian film by Raja Amari about female sensuality, will show on Feb. 27 and March 1. The festival will also host the young African American filmmaker Aminah Bakeer Abdul-Jabbaar to Portland. She will present her film "Bilalian" at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 27, at PCC's Terrell Hall 122 on the Cascade Campus. "Bilalian" traces the history of the transformation of the Black Muslim movement from the Nation of Islam of Elijah Muhammed into the orthodox Islam of the Muslim Society of America.

The complete listing and descriptions of films are on the festival Web site at [www.cfaf.net](http://www.cfaf.net).

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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision stirred the nation's conscience with his dream of a better world for our children.

Today as we celebrate his birth, let us remember the progress we have made yet be mindful of the challenges still before us.

Let's all strive to keep the dream alive.

SAFEWAY