

History of Jazz & Hip-hop 101

Free concert to empower youth with cultural and artistic knowledge

The New Griot Project (NGP), an arts outreach initiative that draws on the shared musical, cultural and artistic heritage of jazz and hip-hop to inform and empower youth, presents a free jazz and hip-hop concert on Saturday, May 29 at 7:00 P.M. at the Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 N.E. Knott Street.

The concert features several Portland jazz and hip-hop artists, including rapper Cool Nutz, jazz trumpeter Thara Memory, jazz pianist Darrell Grant, The Original Cats of Jazz, and smooth jazz group N'Touch, as well as breakdancers the Rose City Break-

ers, poet Renee Mitchell, Project workshop students and others.

**Free Jazz & Hip-hop Concert
Saturday, May 29, 7pm**

**Matt Dishman Community
Center, 77 N.E. Knott St.**

These performances are the culmination of a three-week program sponsored by the Leroy Vinnegar Jazz Institute at Portland State, and conducted in partnership with the Blazers Boys & Girls Club and Portland Parks and Recreation. Funded in part by a grant from the Regional

Arts and Culture Council, The New Griot Project Workshop teamed young people with professional artists in a 10-day after-school workshop held at the Blazers Boys and Girls Club.

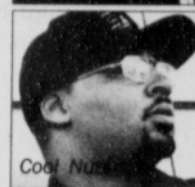
Students learned about jazz from trumpeter Thara Memory; were shown the connection between hip-hop and African music by rapper Mic Crenshaw and drummer David Parks; and viewed the work of Portland painter Isaaka Shamsud-Din. Young emcees, poets and musicians collaborated with faculty artists to compose original poetry and songs



Darrell Grant



N'Touch



Cool Nutz



Renee Mitchell



Thara Memory

on themes of empowerment and social justice, and will perform these works on May 29.

In addition, workshop students created public service announcements (PSAs) for KBOO radio, and began work on a mural which, when completed, will be transformed into a 20 x30 ft. outdoor mural on East Burnside.

The New Griot Project was inspired by the West African tradition

of the "griot" as a storyteller who perpetuates the oral tradition and history of a village or family. The goal of NGP is the empowerment of Portland youth by putting into their hands and minds the tools with which to tell their stories - investing those stories with knowledge and appreciation for musical, cultural and artistic heritage, and assisting them in carrying their message to the larger community.



Sean Combs and Alexander Mitchell (AP photo)

Combs Makes Broadway Debut

(AP) — Sean Combs, the hip-hop impresario has made his Broadway debut in "A Raisin in the Sun" at the Royale Theatre in New York.

He co-stars with actress Phylicia Rashad in Lorraine Hansberry story of a black family's South Side Chicago apartment in the late 1950s.

Rashad dominates the household and the play, giving a lovely,

touching performance as the strong-willed woman who wants to lift her family out of the ghetto on the wings of a \$10,000 insurance policy left by her late husband.

Combs has a compelling physical presence, debuting as the woman's son, an angry dreamer, frustrated with his job as a chauffeur for a wealthy white man.

Actress Starts Record Label

Fans in Europe recall first being introduced to Lunden De'Leon as Joanne Mbutu on the hit German television series Vital Signs. Three years later, the sultry actress has catapulted that breakout role into a successful career by starring in more than 50 movies and television shows.

Today, she's giving other African-American talent a chance by starting an independent label for musicians.

The supermodel turned actress

opened the doors to her Los Angeles based record label Dirty records in September, signing award-winning rocker DH Peligro of Dead Kennedys, Red Hot Chili Peppers and Nailbomb.



Lunden De'Leon

**KEVIN & KEN BERRY'S
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND OLD SCHOOL PARTY
FRIDAY, MAY 28th, 2004
AT SHENANIGAN'S
4575 N. Channel on Swan Island
9pm - 2am
Hors d'oeuvres served**

**Best dressed and dance contest \$100.00 each
Tickets \$21.50 in advance \$25.00 at the door
Tickets available at:**

**Geneva's - Njeri Hair Design - One Stop Music
A Step Above - Tracy's Unforgettable Nails**

30 and over

**For more information or tickets delivered call:
503-869-1701**

70's & 80's music, "Dress to Impress"



Alan Jones

Darrell Grant

Renato Caranto

Nancy King

**go out and listen
to live music...**

