

'For Colored Girls'

Group performs at Interstate Firehouse

A passionate and fearless story of what it is to be of color and female will captivate audiences in a staged reading of 'For Colored Girls who have Considered Suicide — when the Rainbow is Enuf,' by Ntozake Shange.

The production is scheduled at 7:30p.m. on both Sunday, March 20 and Monday, March 21 at north Portland's Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center.

Olivia Admire, Terese Brazzle, Shawnti Eaden, LaVerne Green, Sharon Martini, Cowanda Matthews, and Lorri Williams, star in the IFCC event.

"For Colored Girls," was first performed in 1974 to acclaimed success at Joseph Papp's Public Theater and on Broadway. The Obie Award-winning production has excited, inspired, and transformed audiences all over the country.

IFCC's Storytellerz Readers Theater is reintroducing audiences to



PHOTO COURTESY ISAIAH BOUIE/SIX21PIX

Shawnti Eaden (from left), LaVerne Green, Cowanda Matthews, Terese Brazzle, Lorri Williams and Olivia Admire star in a Storytellerz Readers Theater production of 'For Colored Girls' at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in north Portland.

the words that have defined the hopes, fears, needs and desires of the modern black woman as part of Women's History Month.

Storytellerz' goal is to bring theater to everyday folks who do not believe they would ever be able to perform, either because of a lack of formal theater training or the inability to learn lines. Nevertheless, they wish to be on stage bringing their love of the theater to an audience that does not necessarily embrace the experience of live theater.

Literacy is the key to our exist-

ence, and while there are wonderful literacy programs and support for young readers, this project is specifically designed to include our inner city community, from youth

to seniors, and to encourage them not only to read, but to enjoy theatrical plays as well.

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for seniors and students plus three

cans of food.

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center is at 5340 N. Interstate Ave.

For information visit www.ifcc-arts.org or call 503-823-4322.



Coming to Portland Center Stage

Cynthia Jones and Felicia V. Loud star in 'Crowns,' an award-winning play based on photographer Michael Cunningham and journalist Craig Mayberry's acclaimed 'Crowns: Portraits of Black Women in Church Hats'. The play evokes the lives and stories of 54 "hat queens," ranging in age from 22 to 78, who are captured in the "crowns" they wear to church each Sunday. The production is one of seven plays announced recently for the company's 18th year.

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