'Assassins' - A Killer Musical "Assassins" explores the history and fascination of presidential assassination in America, from John Wilkes Booth to John Hinckley. The winner of five 2004 Tony Jefferson). Awards including Best Revival of a Musical appears April 25 through June 4 at the Artists Repertory Theatre, 1516 SW Alder St. Tickets are \$15 to \$40, for more information call 503-241-1278 or visit www.artistsrep.org.

Battle of the Bands Benefit at Holocene -- Catch performances at Holocene by Once in the Sun, Vacuum Tree Head and The Guy Tyler Band to benefit Radiant Theatre's upcoming production of 'The Who's TOMMY'. Plus, a silent auction and door prizes -Friday April 14 at 9 p.m. Cost is \$5 to \$20 sliding scale, available at the door, for more information call 503-502-

Cirque Du Soleil -- Nine additional performances from April 19 through 23 have been added to the Portland engagement of Varekai. Performances are Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sundays at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. General public tickets are \$24.50 to \$70 and are exciting regional art event. available by calling the Admission Network at 1-800- portlandopenstudios.com for more information. 678-5440 or cirquedusoleil.com.

Ice Cube -- Notorious gangsta rapper Ice Cube comes to the Roseland Theater on Friday, April 28 at 8 p.m. Tickets for the all ages show are \$30 advance and \$35 at the door, plus service fees, available at TicketsWest.com or 503-224-8499.

Bugsy Malone Jr. -- A young mob of prohibition-era gangsters recreate the 1920 film classic at the Northwest Children's Theater. Performances are Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. through April 18 at the NW Neighborhood Cultural Center, 1819 NW Everett St. Special Spring Break matinees March 28-31 at 2 p.m. For tickets call 503-222-4480 or visit www.nwcts.org.

Ardiente Paciencia (Burning Patience) --The all-Spanish language Bellas Artes Production comes to the Milagro Theatre, 525 SE Stark St. Opening night is Friday, April 7, and continues through April 29, on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. English supertitles at Thursday and Sunday performances. Tickets are \$13 to \$18 and can be purchased at the box office, 503-236-7253 or www.milagro.org.

Traditional African Music Benefit -- Master drummer Obo Addy will perform with his traditional group Okropong in a benefit Ardiente Paciencia performance for the Toguna Cultural Center in Mali, Africa, on Thursday May 25 at 7 p.m. at Jackson Middle School, 10625 Sw35th Ave. Admis-

sion is \$5, for more information call 503-916-3411.

Live music every night of the week -- Kick off your week with live jazzevery Sunday at 9 p.m. at The Blue Monk (3341 SE Belmont). Participate in a mixed-media open mic night each Monday at the Back to Back Café (614 East Burnside). The Thorn City Improv, featuring members of Oldominion, Quivah, The Chosen and The Black Notes, perform at Conan's (3862 S.E. Hawthorne) every Tuesday at 10 p.m. Celebrate Hump Day at The Red Sea (381 S.W. 3rd Ave) after work on Wednesdays, from 5 to 9 p.m. Inch toward the weekend at the Candlelight Room (2032 SW 5th Ave) with the Black Notes, performing each Thursday. Celebrate Friday with Mel Brown, who plays jazz at Salty's on the Columbia every Friday and Saturday, and Jimmy

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Mak's on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Round off your week with live Reggae on Fridays and Saturdays at Montego Bay, (1239 S.W.

Innovation Station -- Kids will have a ball at OMSI's new Innovation Station by exploring the human side of technology. For more information, visit

On the Radio -- Groove to soul and hip-hop with Kevin Berry from 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays at 90.7 FM/ KBOO. Check out the Community Potpourri talk show from 7 to 8 a.m. Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays at 1480 AM/KBMS. Count your blessings with Melodies from Heaven from 6 to 10 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at 1290 AM/KKSL. Tune in to African American Health Radio Wednesday nights on 1290 AM/

Call to Artists -- Local artists are encouraged to show off their talent by becoming a Portland Open Studios Artist. Each year, 96 artists are chosen from the metro area to open their studios and become part of an

Trippin' through Town -- Take a trip through time to find the hottest poetry, hip-hop and soul influencing Portland on Wednesdays at the Ohm. \$7 cover. 31 N.W. First Ave.

Intense Friendship -- Insight Out Theatre Collective presents 'Kindred' by Daniel Keleher at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave. The play tracks the last 90 minutes of one prisoner's life in jail and his intense friendship with his cellmate. Shows run Wednesdays-Saturdays at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15; Wednesday performances are sliding scale Tickets are available www.insightouttheatre.org or by calling 503-234-0973.

> Belly Dance Classes -- Caravan Studios offers classes in belly dance, African dance and more. Visit www.gypsycaravan.us.

Time to Jam -- Jam Night, Portland's ever-popular comedy and variety show is at Christian Performing Arts Center, 8131 N. Denver Ave. Shows continue every Friday night starting at 9 p.m. with dinner by Mondemaj Catering next door to the show at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m.

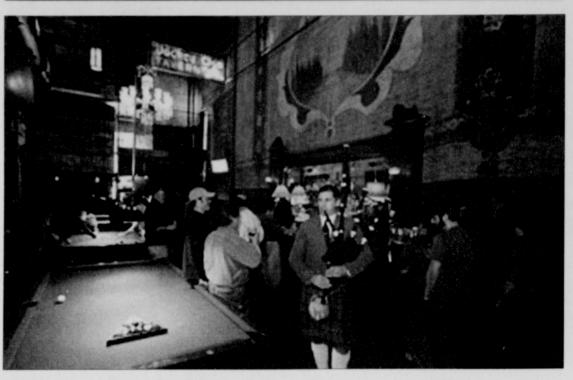
Multicultural Film Festival -Jefferson High School hosts a

free multicultural film festival each first Monday of the month through May from 6 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call J. Doncan at 503-916-5180.

Sesame Street Interaction -- The Portland Children's Museum presents "Can You Tell Me How to Get To Sesame Street," using television's chroma-key technology so local kids can see themselves on TV alongside their favorite Muppet characters. For information, call 503-223-6500 or visit www.portlandchildrensmuseum.org.

Hip-hop Dance Classes -- Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation is hosting family friendly hip-hop dance classes for ages 5 to 18. Various lessons teach rhythm, technique, coordination, agility, combinations and teamwork through urban dance moves. For more information, call 360-696-8236.

# Focus



## Bagdad Back Stage Opens

Breweries has opened its new- high.

est bar, Back Stage behind the Other features include a the Bagdad silver screen with to the more recent history as in hands.

McMenamins Pubs & ceilings nearly seven stories the 1970's hippie hangout named The Back Stage.

The mural was created by Bagdad Theater, 3702 S.E. spectacular mural scaling the six McMenamins artists who Hawthorne. The venue fea- back wall and depicting the worked day and night to comtures pool tables, a full bar and history of the Bagdad from plete the 20' x 20' mural while seating for up to 50 people, the 1930's Vaudeville times to climbing scaffolding and wearencompassing a space behind the Hollywood movie premiers ing hard hats, all with brushes

## Second **Thursday** Calendar Grows

Put a spring into your step at including: the Second Thursday Music Walk this week on Mississippi Avenue. ing, 832 N. Beech Ave.

The weather is getting warmer the monthly event featuring mu- sippi Ave. sic, entertainment and open houses. Participating Mississippi 3552 N. Mississippi Ave. restaurants, studios and clubs between Skidmore and Fremont 3552 N. Mississippi Ave. will showcase the diversity of local talent throughout the night, ages at Quirks and Quandaries,

Free music at Amnesia Brew-

Gallery Viewing at Belle N. Mississippi Ave.

Music at Mississippi Studios,

Live music at Mississippi Pizza,

Easter crafts for kids of all

3955 N. Mississippi Ave.

Pet Portraits from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Salty's Dog Shop, 3741

and crowds continue to grow for Époque Salon, 3713 N. Missis- Historic Mississippi Avenue invites you to stroll down the avenue and enjoy the sights, sounds, surprises and people. Located in north Portland between Interstate Avenue and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.



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#### Music and Stage

The Blue Monk on Belmont plays

live jazz every Sunday night at 9 p.m. For a schedule, visit www.thebluemonk.com. Thorn City Improv, featuring members of Oldominion, Quivah, The Chosen and The Black Notes perform at Conan's every Tuesday at 10 p.m., 3862 S.E. Hawthorne. Interstate Bar and Grill has mature live music at 4234 N. Interstate. The Black Notes play Thursdays at the Candlelight Room. Mel Brown plays jazz at Jimmy Mak's on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and at Salty's on the Columbia every Friday and Saturday. A Community Unity Breakfast is held every third Thursday at SEI at 7:30 a.m. Skip Elliott Bowman Jazz Trio plays Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon at Hannah Bea's, on Northeast MLK Jr. Blvd. and Shaver. R&B and live funk bands perform weekends at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center. After work, stop by The Red Sea, 381 S.W. 3rd Ave. from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays. Don't miss Reggae Thursdays at Savannah's at First Thursday celebrations at 8 p.m. DJ OG ONE spins R&B at Savannah's on Fridays. Savannah's Restaurant welcomes Ron Steen Jam Session Sundays at 8:30 p.m. Live Reggae Fridays and Saturdays at Montego Bay, 1239 S.W. Jefferson. Politics and Poetry is every first and third Thursday at AJ Java's Internet Café from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Chicago Style Steppin is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Fridays at Matt Dishman Community Center and Sundays from 7 to 11 p.m. at Flirts Holiday Inn Airport. DJ Vance spins on Saturdays at Bookies Sports Lounge on North Lombard and Albina; no cover before 10 p.m.