

METRO

The Portland Observer

HEALTH & Beauty

Preventing cold and flu, plus tips for managing your hair. See pages B2 and B3, inside

36
years of
community service

SECTION B

Ballet Flamenco

Acclaimed dancer
coming to Portland

A Portland audience will soon explode in excitement for the dazzling work of flamenco artist Eva Yerbabuena.

Accompanied by her outstanding musicians and singers, Yerbabuena brings her new production, "Ballet Flamenco Eva Yerbabuena" to the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall for an exclusive performance on Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m., presented by Portland's White Bird Dance series.

Based in Seville, Spain, Yerbabuena is considered by many to be the most important and exciting flamenco artist working today. She receives accolades for the purity of her work and the intensity of her spirit.

She last played in Portland to a wildly enthusiastic sold-out house in the spring of 2004.

Yerbabuena was featured in Stomp's award-winning IMAX film "Pulse," and has won every major Spanish choreographic award, most notably the Premio Nacional de Danza 2001, a recognition of her place among the great figures of flamenco.

Dance Insider describes her as not only an impressive flamenco dancer, but an impressive dancer, period.

Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster locations and the Portland Center for the Performing Arts Box Office on Southwest Broadway and Main.

Eva Yerbabuena is one of the world's most exciting flamenco dancers. Whitebird Dance brings her to Portland's Schnitzer Concert Hall on Wednesday, Nov. 29.



PHOTO BY OUTUMURO



Playwright Lava Alapai tells the story of a woman who's just learned she's black.

Playwright Challenges Racial Issues

Satire follows journey
of self-realization

A local playwright is challenging racial issues with levity and bravery in her world premiere production "Mutt" opening Friday, Nov. 24 at North Portland's Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center.

Lava Alapai tells the story of a bi-racial young adult's mistaken Caucasian self-identity. She follows the harrowing yet achingly funny journey of Serena Matthews as she comes to the realization of her own race.

Both a playwright and performer, Alapai speaks out on untold aspects of racial tension such as black racism towards mixed-race people, and a multicultural person's confusion when

The play digs deeply into questions of cultural ownership, unwritten rules of racial identity, and the boxes we are pushed into by race.

trying to be "black enough."

The play is loosely based on Alapai's personal experience of moving from her home in Honolulu, Hawaii, to West Virginia for her first year of college in 1992. Raised by her Japanese mother and grandmother and her Hawaiian grandfather, she'd never been exposed to black family members.

Experiencing her "blackness" in the mainland South was an entirely surprising experience — one she wasn't equipped to handle at the time that is beautifully transformed into a very personal fiction in "Mutt."

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Serena is 18 years old when she learns from her guidance counselor (Jane Fellows) that she is

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Sisters in Action Celebrate 11 Powerful Years

Sisters in Action for Power, the grassroots organization for young women promoting racial, economic and gender equity, will hold their 11th Annual Celebration on Friday, Nov. 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the King Elementary School cafeteria, 4906 N.E. Sixth Ave.

The theme of the evening is "Passing the Torch: Emerging Leaders — A Vision Comes True."

Sisters in Action for Power Executive Director Amara Perez is leaving the organization and will pass the torch to Terenie Faison, a longtime

member and youth leader.

The new staff leadership team will include Chirece Olugbala and Courtney Jones, also longtime members and graduates of the group leadership program.

For more information, call 503-331-1244.

Community Calendar

Work Against Abuse

Community Advocates invites those interested in protecting children from abuse to become an event volunteer, event outreach, technology expert, graphic artists or office support team member. For more information, call 503-280-1388.

Women in Community Service

Volunteer female mentors are being sought by Women in Community Service to work with incarcerated women at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. The women provide support and encouragement for inmates transitioning from prison back into the community. For more information, call 503-570-6614.

Black History Museum

The Black History Museum of Oregon is seeking brilliant minds of concerned individuals to help in restructuring the museum foundation's committee. For information, call 503-284-0617.

Global Exchange

Thursday, Nov. 16, at 6 p.m. at the PSU

Smith Center Ball Room, Portland State University Students for Unity, present Nigerian environmental and human rights activist, Omoyele Sowore: a former political prisoner, speaking of the death and destruction caused by multinational oil companies throughout the Niger Delta.

Oregon Food Bank

The Oregon Food Bank seeks volunteers on Mondays from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, to sort and repack perishable foods. Call 503-282-0555, extension 272 or visit the web at Oregonfoodbank.org.

Racial Profiling Discussion

Tuesday, Nov. 21, from Noon to 1 p.m. at the Portland State University's Smith Memorial Student Union, Multicultural Center, Smith 228, JoAnn Bowman, the associate director of Oregon Action, will discuss "Racial Profiling and Resistance in Portland".

Title Wave Book Sale

Multnomah County Library's Title Wave Used Bookstore, 216 N.E. Knott St. hosts a customer appreciation sale Friday, Nov. 24, from 5:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Treasures

hidden throughout the store. For more information, call 503-988-5021 or visit multcolib.org/titewave.

Women of the Season

Sunday, Nov. 26, at 4 p.m., the Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, 3128 N. Vancouver Ave., presents: honored guest Jessica P. Manaway, Evangelist C.P. Monk, Lady Della Johnson, and Missionary Zina McGee to share the gospel and rebuild hope.

Volunteer for Crisis Line

Want to make a difference in your community? Volunteers and advocates are needed for the Portland Women's Crisis Line. The needs include on-call advocates to respond in person or over the phone, outreach and educational efforts, and fundraising and administrative duties. Call 503-232-4176 for more information.

Home buying Classes

Portland Community Land Trust helps first time and low-income homebuyers purchase homes at below market price. Attend a free, one-hour class to learn more about the program. Contact Kelly@pclt.org or call 503-493-0293.

Bradley-Angle House

The Bradley-Angle House needs volunteers to help its outreach against domestic violence. Women of color and bilingual women are encouraged to call. For more information, call 503-282-9940.

December Zoo Lights

The walk-through winter wonderland Oregon Zoo Lights comes to life throughout the month of December. The festival includes: the lighted zoo train, choral and ensemble music, puppet shows, and a model train display. Festival hours: Sunday — Thursday, 5:00 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Closed: Dec. 24 and Christmas Day. Contact 503-226-1561 or visit oregonzoo.org for more information.

Parenting Classes

Newborns don't come with instruction manuals but parents and parents-to-be can attend classes through Providence Health Systems to learn about a variety of topics from pain and childbirth to breastfeeding to infant CPR and much more. For a schedule of events, call 503-574-6595 or visit: providence.org/classes.

"Scrooge Lives" Craft Bazaar

Mt. Hood Community College will host the 37th annual craft bazaar, at the Gresham Campus Lounge; Room 1051. The bazaar is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 29 and Thursday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information contact: 503-491-7260.

Holiday Ceramics Sale

Mt. Hood Community College invites the public to attend the 23rd annual student works sale to be held in the Visual Arts Center Gallery at the MHCC Gresham Campus, Tuesday, Dec. 5 through Friday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 503-491-7309.

Fashion Show Saturday

Men's and women's casual, business, evening and wedding apparel will be featured at the "Imagine the Possibilities" fashion show, Saturday, Nov. 18 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Kennedy School-McMenamins. A portion of the profits will benefit the Woodlawn Boys of Distinction, an after-school program started by preeminent African American teacher Lionel Glegg.