

The Making of an MLK Celebration



Portland jazz and Gospel singer Janice Scroggins will perform Monday, Jan. 15 at the annual tribute to Martin Luther King Jr.

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Their first program was a scholarship fundraiser for students of color at Catlin Gable High School. KGW Channel 8 recorded the service, which aired the following Sunday. From 1980 to 1985 KBOO broadcast a radio version of the show from the entire upper floor of their then downtown offices.

Each year, producers have added a little more diversity into the show's mix, with national and U.S. ambassadors, senators and local leaders serving as inspirational speakers.

As the audience grew and the repertoire expanded, so did the need for a bigger space. In 1986 organizers moved the show to Whitaker Middle School.

1986 also marked the first year the entire nation celebrated King's memory. A movement to create a

federal holiday had been building since King's death in 1968, culminating in 1980 when musician and African American social activist Stevie Wonder released a single called "Happy Birthday" to rally support for a day of recognition.

Wonder and other activists staged marches on the steps of the nation's capitol each year, succeeding in 1983 when an overwhelming majority in the house and senate led President Ronald Reagan to sign the federal King Day Bill into law.

These annual marches aired live on KBOO, followed by a broadcast of the Portland tribute, which by 1989 had outgrown Whitaker's space and relocated to Jefferson High School. Performances were staged at Jefferson's auditorium for a total of 13 years, interrupted by just two years in between at the University of Portland Chiles Center.



The African Gospel Acapella will be part of this year's "Keep Alive the Dream" Martin Luther King Jr. tribute.

This year's celebration takes place at Highland Christian Center, in their new location at 7600 N.E. Glisan. The move to Highland was made for several reasons, said Berry, executive producer. Highland holds a capacity of 1,400 as opposed to Jefferson's 1,100, they

have their own television studio production facilities on site and the space is more accessible for senior citizens and people with physical disabilities.

Berry said he never expected the show to grow so large, but community participation statewide, even

coming in from Washington, has spiked interest and increased the performance repertoire.

"King said don't focus on his accomplishments," Grice said. "We focus on his achievements through the arts with a cultural theme that provides truth and clarity."

'Keep Alive the Dream' Monday

On Monday, Jan. 15, beginning at 11 a.m., World Arts Foundation, Inc. is proud to present its 22nd consecutive "Keep the Dream Alive" tribute to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The program will take place at a new venue this year, Highland Christian Center, 7600 N.E. Glisan St. Also new viewers can watch broadcasts of the show at various times throughout the day. Portland Community Media Channel 11 will air the show from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Portland Public Schools Channel 28 from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.; and KBOO Radio 90.7 FM will air live from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The tribute will honor Portland's unsung heroes — business and civil rights leaders, judges and educators — with Lifetime Achievement awards.

This year's entertainment include the Jefferson Dancers, blues singer Linda Hornbuckle with Janice Scroggins, Portland Symphonic Choir, African Gospel Acapella, plus a dramatic portrayal from stage and film actor Agrippa Williams, who is set to star in a nationwide film release later this year.

Donations of \$3, or three items of non-perishable food, will be accepted at the door.

Harry Jackson Retires After 26 Years

continued ▲ from Front

tack, a stroke or worse, Jackson has adopted a healthier lifestyle and expects to bounce back even better than before.

But that's not to say it will be easy for him to leave behind his passion for police work, especially his dedication to youth outreach — a civic problem recognized by all, but mired in bureaucracy and philosophical differences in opinions.

"I hate leaving, but there's a possibility I can come back and work on this from a different angle," Jackson said.

Jackson's straightforward approach to policing has earned him reverence in north and northeast, but also criticism within the bureau. But for better or worse, his legacy is that of an officer with genuine

ties to his community.

"People call me old fashioned, but I call myself old school," he said.

For Jackson, old school is about interaction, taking citizens on ride-alongs and getting them to understand where they live by gaining new perspective. It hasn't always been easy though — he recalls a time in the mid 1980s when he was reprimanded by the bureau for attending a neighborhood association meeting during off-duty hours.

"They said if I represent the bureau I have to be paid, but they didn't have enough money to pay me."

It's those experiences that lead Jackson to acknowledge how tough it's been — along with the mistakes, the critics and the miles of red tape. But he also looks back on the friends

and allies he has made. Jackson's immeasurable contribution to north and northeast Portland are visible in the improvements over the years, and the community support he's received is most evident in the Harry Jackson Plaza at NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and Alberta St.

Local business leader Jack Chung dedicated the public open space to him just a few years ago.

As Jackson steps aside to welcome a younger generation of police officers, he reflects on the perspective only a half a lifetime spent on the force can bring.

"I'm proud of knowing both sides," he said. "Knowing what it's like as a minority and what it's like as a police officer, and trying to coordinate those efforts."

"Somewhere in the middle is right and fair."



Buses move off the Portland Mall Jan. 14

Most lines relocated to 3rd/4th and Columbia/Jefferson

Starting Sunday, January 14, 2007, transit buses will move off of 5th and 6th avenues in downtown Portland to make way for Portland Mall Light Rail construction. Most bus lines will serve new temporary stops located along 3rd and 4th avenues or Columbia and Jefferson streets. These changes will remain in effect through spring 2009.

Following bus relocation, construction will begin on the 8.3-mile I-205/Portland Mall MAX Light Rail Project in February. The project will bring MAX to Clackamas County, improve downtown transit service between Union Station and Portland State University, help renovate the Portland Mall and position the region for future MAX extensions.

Schedule and route adjustments will take effect on the following bus lines:

1-Greeley (renamed 35-Greeley)	17-NW 21st Ave/St Helens Rd	44-Capitol Hwy
1-Vermont	17-Holgate	44-Mocks Crest
4-Division	19-Glisan	45-Garden Home
4-Fessenden	19-Woodstock	54-Beaverton-Hillsdale Hwy
6-Martin Luther King Jr Blvd	31-Estacada	55-Hamilton
8-Jackson Park	32-Oatfield	56-Scholls Ferry Rd
8-NE 15th Ave	33-Fremont	58-Canyon Rd
9-Broadway	33-McLoughlin	63-Washington Park
9-Powell	35-Greeley	68-Collins Circle
10-NE 33rd Ave	35-Macadam	77-Broadway/Halsey
10-Harold	36-South Shore	92-South Beaverton Express
12-Barbur	38-Boones Ferry Rd	94-Sherwood/Pacific Hwy
12-Sandy	40-Mocks Crest (renamed 44-Mocks Crest)	95-Tigard/I-5 Express (merges with Line 94)
14-Hawthorne	41-Tacoma	96-Tualatin/I-5
16-Front Ave/St Johns	43-Taylor's Ferry Rd	99-McLoughlin Express

For complete information about bus service changes, visit trimet.org or call 503-238-RIDE (7433). TriMet Ride Guides (the friendly folks in the blue jackets) will be on hand to assist riders downtown in early January.



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