

Transforming Romps Through Dance

Multicultural film highlights Jefferson series

What can possibly be more fun than dancing? Watching youngsters transform their energetic romps into graceful and disciplined interpretations of music.

A free community screening of "Mad Hot Ballroom," an award-winning film that follows New York City fourth and fifth graders as they journey into the world of competitive ballroom dance, is presented Monday, April 2 at 6 p.m. at Jefferson High School, 5210 N. Kerby, room C-39.

The film is the latest showing for the north Portland school's monthly Multicultural Film Festival.

This two-thumbs-up, touching documentary ties our loyalty to students who may have otherwise hitched their ambitions to wayward stars. We are rooting for the students, and for their parents and their teachers, as we are secretly rooting for ourselves as parents and teachers.



"Mad Hot Ballroom" is a documentary about a group of 11-year-old New Yorkers who take up ballroom dancing.

Portland State University's Dr. Jacqueline Temple and Jefferson's Jennifer Doncan will present this


joyous documentary, and after the ensuing discussion, you may be tempted to get out there and dance!

The film festival is a public service that welcomes community participation to regularly renew a commitment of respect for each culture and to extend to our

community the quality education we are dedicated to deliver to our students.

"This is just one example of our commitment to the betterment of all in our wonderfully diverse community - "the Soul of Portland," Doncan said.

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Jazz Greats Perform Friday

The Portland Jazz Festival presents legendary jazz guitarist Pat Metheny, performing with innovative jazz pianist Brad Mehldau and his quartet on Friday, March 30 at 8 p.m. at the Newmark Theater, 1111 S.W. Broadway.

Metheny, a 16-time Grammy Award winner and baby boomer guitar god, embraces everything from Ornette Coleman to contemporary jazz.

Mehldau is a brooding Gen-X prince of the

piano.

After admiring each other for years they're now on the same label, touring with Mehldau's band mates - drummer Jeff Ballard and bassist Larry Grenadier.

Tickets are available at all Safeway/Ticketwest outlets.



Pat Metheny and Brad Mehldau

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