

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Renowned Director Presents 'Namibia'

As centerpiece in African Film series

The 19th annual Cascade Festival of African Films celebrating Black History Month will feature the filmmaker Charles Burnett and some of his cast of 'Namibia: The Struggle for Liberation,' starring Danny Glover.

Burnett will present the epic film as the festival's centerpiece presentation on Friday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. the Hollywood Theatre, 4122 N.E. Sandy Blvd.

Burnett, actor Carl Lumbly, and the film's editor, Edwin Santiago, will be



Charles Burnett

in attendance along with Portland Mayor Sam Adams.

"Charles Burnett is one of the country's foremost African-American directors, a truly great filmmaker," said

Michael Dembrow, Portland Community College composition and literature instructor, film festival organizer and state representative. "His 1977 film, 'Killer of Sheep,' was designated a national treasure."

Burnett, a native of Vicksburg, Miss., is a MacArthur Award-winning filmmaker. He grew up in the Watts neighborhood of Los Angeles and eventually earned bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of California, Los Angeles.

His work concentrates on the lives of the African-American middle class, which were seldom treated in films.

"His films take us to the heart of the African-American experience with honesty and great beauty, free from the stereotypes that usually plague Hollywood films," added Dembrow. "We are extremely honored to bring Charles Burnett to Portland to show his new film from Namibia."

The Cascade Festival of African Films features more than 20 films from or about the African continent. All of the screenings are free and open to the public with most of the films playing on the PCC Cascade campus in north Portland.

For complete listings and more information, visit africanfilmfestival.org.

Forced Sterilizations Cast Ripples

continued from Front

The play is written by Helen Hill, a founding member of Bay City Arts Center, a thriving arts center dedicated to supporting creativity in Tillamook County. She has focused on social justice issues for stage and radio for over 10 years.

Chosen by New York's Black Experimental Theatre to be part of the 2006 Core Project, "Perfection" went on to win the 2006 Radiant Theatre's Emergence Festival of New Women Play-

wrights.

The edge-of-your-seat drama is directed by Drammy winner Brenda Phillips and stars Andrea White, Habiba Addo, Josh Belville, Veronica Everett, Garfield Wedderburn, Alex Fuchs, Brian Kettler.

This month's performances at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Killingsworth are each Thursday through Saturday nights at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Admission is \$16-\$20. For tickets call 503-205-0715 or visit ifccarts.org.

'Perfection' Play benefits King School


The cast and crew of the play "Perfection," are supporting the Martin Luther King SUN School Program with a benefit performance at the school, located at 4906 N.E. Sixth Ave., on Wednesday, Feb. 18 at 8 p.m.

SUN schools are operated as partnerships between schools and community-

based organizations or public agencies.

The play, based on real stories, is about the forced sterilization of men and women, especially minorities and disadvantaged populations, which occurred from the early 1900s through as late as 1971.

Tickets are \$15 at the door.



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—Rosa Parks


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