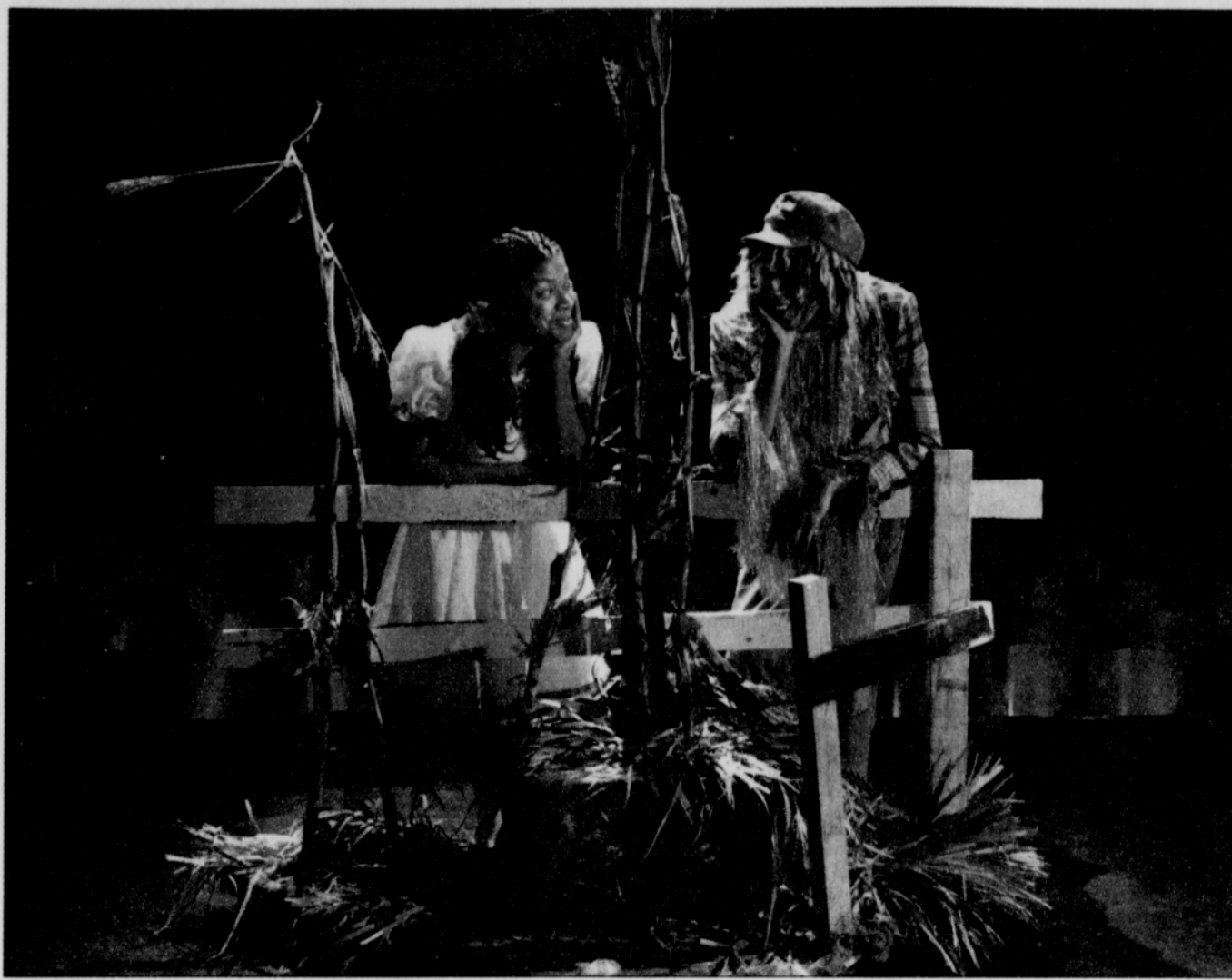


Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Angela Freeman stars as Dorothy and Quincy Hickson is the Scarecrow in the Stumptown Stages musical 'The Wiz,' opening Friday at the Jefferson High School auditorium. PHOTO BY PAUL FARDIG

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'The Wiz' Opens Friday

'Come on and ease on down the road'

Stumptown Stages' fourth season of bringing quality musicals to Portland audiences is marked by the presentation of 'The Wiz,' the Broadway show that won 7 Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

Based on the Wonderful

Wizard of Oz, the musical is an African-American adaptation of the tale we all know by heart. Dorothy is blown by a tornado into Munchkinland where she meets the Scarecrow, the Tinman, and the Cowardly Lion and they all go off to see the Wizard of Oz.

The Wiz features one of the Northwest's most noted performers Julianne R. Johnson-Weiss as Evillene, and reunites cast members Yohannes

Murphy, Eugene Blackmon, Amber C. Cobb III, Loretha Garner, and Yasmine Moore from last season's hit musical Dreamgirls. Returning to the Jefferson stage are alumni Shawn Price as Glinda and Shalanda Sims as The Gatekeeper.

Performances open Friday, Feb. 13 at 8 p.m. at the Jefferson High School Auditorium, 5210 N. Kerby Ave., with shows continuing each Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and each Sunday at

2 p.m. through March 1.

A special benefit performance for Jefferson High School and the Portland Public School District; will be held a day earlier, on Thursday, Feb. 12 at 7 p.m.

Admission is \$27 for general admission, \$25 for students and seniors, and \$18 when purchased in groups of 10 or more.

Tickets can be purchased online at stumptownstages.com or by calling the box-office at 503-381-8686.

Curious Comedy Theater presents
ARE WE THERE YET?
OR
DON'T MAKE ME TURN THIS COUNTRY AROUND!
Fridays & Saturdays
Feb. 13th - March 7th
8:00pm - \$12.00
Curious Comedy Theater
5225 NE MLK
curiouscomedy.org
503-477-9477
With Bri Pruett, Bob Ladewig, Scott Rogers, David Saffert, Stephanie Cordell, Kathryn Durkin, and Bob Ladewig

Political Satire at Curious Comedy

Curious Comedy Theater, 5225 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., presents Are We There Yet? or Don't Make Me Turn This Country Around.

Through sketches that range from smart, sharp and witty to the downright super silly, the talented Curious Comedy Mainstage cast including Bob Ladewig, Bri Pruett, David Saffert, Stephanie Cordell, Kathryn Durkin, and Scott Rogers explore the vast expanse between hope and reality, anticipation and reality, expectation and reality, and fantasy and reality. Damn reality.

Directed by Stacey Hallal, this sketch show is funnier than you can hope, more entertaining than you could ever anticipate, will exceed your highest expectations, and be more satisfying than your wildest fantasy.

Performances are Fridays and Saturdays through March 7.

Curious Comedy Theater is a non-profit comedy theater that seeks to improve the lives of the Portland community through the art of comedy.

'Cornbred' Spoken Word Debuts

The non-profit soul food café Po'Shines will begin hosting a weekly spoken word and open mic nights for youth readers and performers.

The program called "Cornbred" will debut on Friday, Feb. 13 from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Since opening in the summer of 2007 at 8189 N. Denver Ave., Po'Shines has been active in its mission to empower the community. One of their first moves was to become a partner in Teach Me to Fish, an initiative designed to empower at-risk and troubled youth by providing job training, life and performing arts skills.

This past fall, the café partnered with Write Around Portland to host a weekly writing workshop for youth writers.

"In working with a lot of young people in our community, we are increasingly aware of the hunger that they have for a place to express themselves," says Mackenzie Doyle, a general manager at Po'Shines. "We are very excited to be able to offer our café as a place of cre-

ative refuge for a burdened and misunderstood generation of youth." For more information, visit poshines.com or call 503-978-9000.

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Saturday Feb 14, 9am

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10am-2pm Workshop, with topics:

- Handcuffs, Heartcuffs, Hookcuffs to Hooked, Whole and Happy
- Broken, Damaged & Cracked But Still Valuable
- Discovering the Greatness in ME!

WOMEN'S WORSHIP
Sunday Feb 15, 5pm

- Passionate Praise & Worship
- Special Testimonies
- Electrifying Praise Dance

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