


Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



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Urban Arts Dance Program serves aspiring artists

In 2005 two Portland artists, Jenelle Yarbrough and Dana Ingram, came together with a shared vision to provide accessible training at a professional level to aspiring dance artists. In that moment a movement was born and the Urban Arts Dance Company was born.

"We believed in what we were doing, but we had no idea that these young artists were so hungry for it" says Artistic Director Jenelle Yarbrough.

Over the past four years, Urban Arts has held summer intensives, annual spring concerts, junior choreographer programs, as well as offering an arts expose program which included travel to Los Angeles to study, train and network with some of the top choreographers and dancers in the United States.

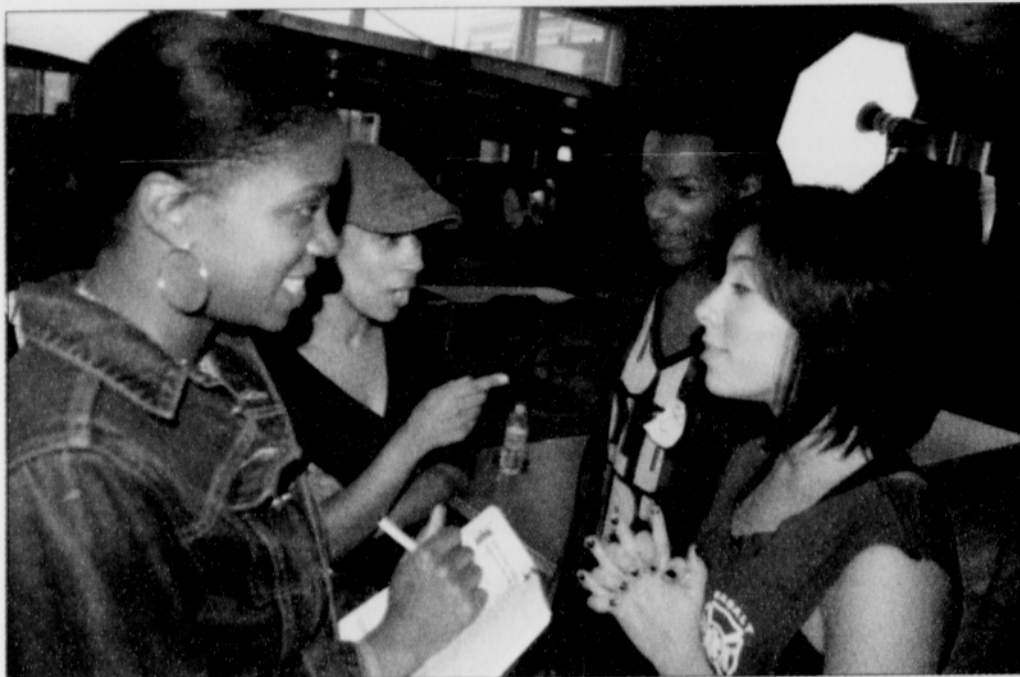


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Urban Arts Dance Company Instructors Dana Ingram (from left) and Jenelle Yarbrough have some pointers for dancers Kenrel Wesson and Marina Shimada during auditions on Saturday at the Vega Dance Lab in southeast Portland.

Urban Arts Directors and partners continue to provide professional training to area dancers through workshops, performances and outreach projects.

Urban Arts' efforts are focused on opening a dance studio to house the dance company and to serve many more aspiring artists.

"Imagine a place that houses the break dancer, African

dancer, and the ballerina -- that's powerful" explains Dana Ingram, the company's other artistic director.

But Urban Arts can't continue its success without the support of art lovers, community members and local businesses who believe in providing these artists the opportunity.

In preparation of their 5th

annual concert- Urban Arts has just held auditions for the 2009-2010 performance year. The directors and company members, new and returning, are excited to get started on new choreography for an amazing production.

To learn more about Urban Arts Dance Company, and to support aspiring artists, visit the website: urbanartsdance.com.

Young People's Film Festival

The 33rd Annual Young People's Film & Video Festival, a free event produced through the Northwest Film Center's Young Filmmakers Program, will be held on Sunday, Sept. 27 at 2pm at the Whitsell Auditorium, 1219 S.W. Park Ave.

The only event of its kind in

the Northwest, the vestival celebrates artistic excellence, technical achievement and originality in live action, documentary and animated films and videos made by kids, schools and youth organizations in Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Montana, Idaho and Utah.

Winning students will be on

hand to receive public recognition, certificates of achievement and praise from family, friends and the community. A reception, in the Portland Art Museum's sculpture courtyard, will immediately follow the festival screening, which has a runtime of approximately 90 minutes.

Festival to Host Jazz Vocalist

Cuban jazz star Jessie Marquez will bring her soothing vocals of North American harmony and Latin emotion to Portland when she performs Friday, Sept. 25 for two concerts, at 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., as part of the Festival of Hispanic Arts and Culture at Milagro Theatre, 525 S.E. Stark St.



ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Northeast Farmers Market -- The new Portland Farmers Market in the King Neighborhood at King School Park completes its inaugural seasonal year on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Predators of the Serengeti -- Come hear the roar as the Oregon Zoo shows off its newest and most ambitious exhibit with three African lions and other animals that are home to the Serengeti.

Ursula -- The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in north Portland hosts a provocative play about St. Ursula, a young girl inspired by an encounter with Christ who leads 10,000 virgins to reject marriage overtures from a prince. Show times are at 8 p.m., Thursdays through Saturdays and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. through Oct. 3. General admission, \$10.



Behind the Scenes -- Portland's historic Pittock Mansion presents "What's behind that door" tours on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 10a.m. to 3p.m. Mansion guides will lead small groups through areas of the celebrated home not ordinary open to the public.

Dickens' Classic -- Marissa Neitling and Shea Mackinnon star in Oliver! the musical play based on Charles Dickens' classic novel. Performances through Oct. 18 at the Lakewood Center for the Arts, 368 S. State St. in Lake Oswego.

Vancouver Harvest -- The Clark County Historical Museum's 6th annual Harvest Fun Day promises a full day of free activities, contests and displays on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. inside the museum and

in the parking lot just west of the museum at 1511 Main St. in downtown Vancouver.

Live Jazz -- Every Friday and Saturday from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Third Degrees Lounge at the River Place Hotel, 1510 S.W. Harbor Way. No cover or minimum purchase. For more information, visit pdxjazz.com.

Totally Gospel II -- Peninsula Open Bible Church, 8225 N. Peninsula, hosts all styles of gospel, country, and contemporary music with host Riny Horst each Friday night from 7:30 p.m. -- 9:30 p.m. For more information, call 503-335-3132.

Battle to Vote -- The Clark County Historical Museum, 1511 Main St. in Vancouver, hosts a free women's suffrage exhibit through the end of the year. Washington was an early leader in giving women the right to vote.

Music Millennium Free Shows -- The Music Millennium, 3158 E. Burnside, hosts in-house live performances. Enjoy free music and the opportunity to meet artists. Call 503-231-8926 for a schedule.

OMSI After Dark -- OMSI After Dark is a night at the museum for the 21 and over crowd filled with food, drink and science fun; \$10 fee. For more information, call 503-797-4000 or visit omsi.edu.

Food and Entertainment -- Sliders Grill, 3011 N. Lombard, features an eclectic assortment of performers on the main stage, accompanied by delicious food. Call 5459-4488 for more information.

Funk, Jazz, R&B -- Tahirah Memory brings her funk, jazz and R&B to the Blue Monk on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m.

