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**Arts & ENTERTAINMENT**

**Black History Concerts at Ethos**

**Neighborhood center hosts 3 original productions**

Ethos Music Center at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in north Portland will host three original productions in February that honor the stories of black artists and musicians in celebration of Black History Month.

During the weekends of Feb. 4-6 and Feb. 11-13, Ladies with the Blues presents "Billie's Blues—Tonight at Mama's Jam" and "No More Pity Party Blues." The audience is taken back to New York in the late 1930s and witness to the struggles and



Billie Holiday

self-discovery of the great Jazz vocalist Billie Holiday.

"No More Pity Party Blues" is a creation of award-winning actress and singer Brenda Phillips. Through a combination of jazz, blues, and spoken word, Phillips employs her

talents to their full blues capacity as she sweeps the audience up in a melodically heart-wrenching vocal performance.

"Sherman: A Jazz Opera" will be showing on the weekends of Feb. 18-20 and Feb. 25-27.

Featuring Janice Scroggins, Reggie Houston, and LaRhonda Steele, this production centers around the life of saxophonist Sherman Thomas and the role Portland played in the jazz world during the 1940s and 50s.

The production is a preview of a larger project Ethos hopes to embark on in the near future that further illuminates Portland's impact in jazz history. Thara Memory and S. Renee Mitchell provide the musical score and the libretto.

For more details, visit [ethos.org](http://ethos.org).

**African American Read In**

-- Concordia University invites the community to hear local celebrities and leaders read works from their favorite African-American writers at the 15th annual African American Read in, Sunday, Feb. 13 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hagen Campus Center.

**Differences and Similarities --**

'Collective,' an arts project by Portland ceramicist Hsin-Yi Huang, was conceived as a means to explore how individuals blend conformity and individuality to function in an interconnected and interdependent society. Her works are on display at the Portland building, 1120 S.W. Fifth Ave., through Feb. 11.

**Last Polar Bear exhibit --** At the World Forest Center Discovery Museum, photographer Steven Kazlowski documents the devastating urgency of global warming's impact on the Arctic in the photo exhibit, The Last Polar Bear: Facing the Truth of a Warming World. Show runs through April 3.



**Norman Sylvester Band --** Boogie Cat Norman Sylvester and his band performs Friday, Feb. 4 at the West Linn Saloon; Saturday, Feb. 5 at the Top Shelf in Vancouver; and Friday, Feb. 11 at Clyde's.



**Murals Exhibit --** The exhibit "Walls of Heritage, Walls of Pride: African American Murals," showcasing murals from Portland artists and all over the country takes place at the Oregon Historical Society through Feb. 13.

**Mel Brown Live --** Portland jazz giant Mel Brown performs at Salty's on the Columbia every Friday and Saturday night. Known as the "Gentleman of Jazz,"

**ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE**

Brown has a career spanning over 40 years.

**Slough Celebration --** On Friday, Feb. 4, 6-9 pm, the Columbia Slough

Watershed Council invites the community to the 12th Annual Slough Celebration and fundraiser; includes dinner, drinks, silent auction, award presentations, creative videos, and live music. Melody Ballroom, 615 S.E. Alder St. For tickets, visit [columbiaslough.org](http://columbiaslough.org) or call 503-281-1132.

**Mysteries of Ancient Egypt --** Through cutting-edge

modern technology, the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry will take visitors on a journey back in time to experience the mysteries and wonders of ancient Egypt in the new exhibition "Lost Egypt: Ancient Secrets, Modern Science," now playing through May 1.



**Discount Admission --** OMSI visitors pay only \$2 per person for general admission on the first Sunday of each month as well as discounted admission of \$5 to the Planetarium, OMIMAX Theater and USS Blueback submarine.

**Doll and Teddy Bear Show --** For all ages, Saturday, Feb. 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the National Guard Armory, Northeast 33rd Avenue and Marine Drive.

**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](http://pdxjazz.com).

**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.

**Explore What Makes You Tick --** OMSI's new highly interactive exhibit "Identity: An Exhibition of You" explores the physical, psychological and social elements in your life and challenges our notions of personal identity.