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# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Parents battle for ethical superiority in the Artists Rep production *God of Carnage*, a Tony award-winning comedy.

## Parents Battle in 'God of Carnage'

Portland's Artist Repertory Theater has kicked off its 29th season with *God of Carnage*, a comedy and Tony winning play by Yasmina Reza that tells the story of two sets of parents who meet to discuss a bullying incident in what they hoped would be a "civilized manner."

As the evening wears on, that intent goes awry, and the play turns ferociously hilarious, shocking and disturbing, as the parents battle for ethical superiority.

Set in a renovated loft apartment in The Pearl district, what begins as a calm, collected negotiation between two high-powered and well-to-do couples quickly unravels into a situation where both parties are stripped of their urbane pretense. At times violent, at times crude, at times intoxicated, the parents' attempt to rise above the carnal inclinations of their developing children turns into a battle between the sexes, and a

test of their marriages.

Performances opened Sept. 6 and continue through Sunday, Oct. 9 at the Artists Repertory Theatre at Southwest 16th Avenue and Alder Street. Shows are Wednesday through Sunday at 7:30 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. A matinee at 11 a.m. also is scheduled on Wednesday, Sept. 28.

Advance tickets \$20-\$42; Students \$20. Call 503-241-1278 or visit [artistsrep.org](http://artistsrep.org).

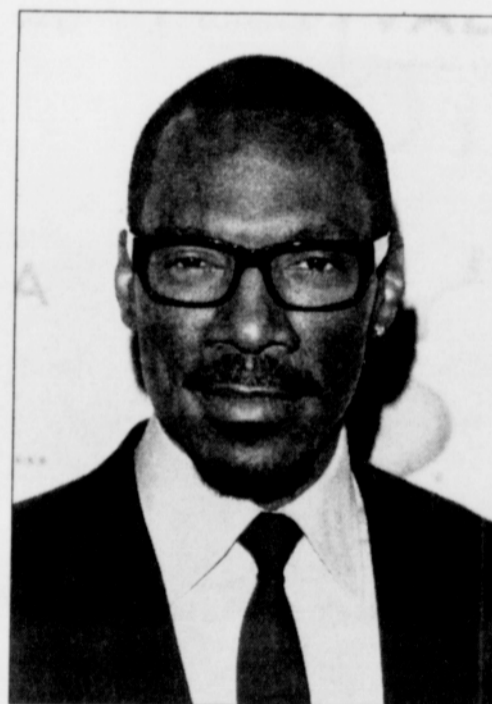
## Oscar Turns to Eddie Murphy for Comedy

(AP) — In the tradition of Bob Hope and Johnny Carson, and later Billy Crystal, Steve Martin and Whoopi Goldberg, Oscar is going back to its comedic roots with Eddie Murphy as host.

The actor and comedian will host the 84th annual Academy Awards.

The last comic to host the show alone was Jon Stewart in 2008. A singing, dancing Hugh Jackman took over in 2009, and in recent years, pairs of actors have helmed the show.

This is Murphy's first time hosting the Academy Awards. He said in a statement that he's "enormously honored" to join the ranks of the



Eddie Murphy

forementioned Oscar hosts.

Show producer Brett Ratner called Murphy "one of the greatest and most influential live performers ever" and cited him as an inspiration for his filmmaking career.

"Rush Hour" exists because of Eddie Murphy," Ratner said. "Chris Tucker was to 12-year-old kids when I was doing 'Rush Hour' what Eddie Murphy was to me when I was 12. I have such love and idolize the guy."

The producers said Murphy will likely select a writing team and contribute his own jokes and material to the Oscar show, set for Feb. 26 at the Kodak Theatre in Los Angeles.

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## Gay Fair on the Square

The Portland Gay Men's Chorus presents the third annual Gay Fair on the Square on Sunday, Sept. 18,

from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. This event spotlights the LGBT community in Portland's Pioneer Courthouse Square and will include over 60 organizations in a festival of music, conversation and connections.

The chorus will be performing music from their recent and mo-

mentous concert in New York City honoring the first responders of 9/11.

Included in the fair will be athletic teams, gay youth groups, art communities, HIV support groups, and various LGBT business, social and networking groups.