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THE APPLICATION DEADLINE
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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Playwright Unveils 'Sweet Mama Jones'

Tribute musical opens with free performance

Adopted at three months old, Portland Playwright Kwik Jones has dedicated his new musical "Sweet Mama Jones," to the woman he has known as mother, Azzie Jones, a former foster parent whose loving spirit inspired the show's hopefulness of fostering children.

In the play, which debuts with a free admission reading of Act I, Mama Jones' senses are diminished with age, but she (played by Onnie Irby) takes on two rowdy sisters (played by Charlise Paschal and Symone Embaye) to keep them from being separated in the marry-go-around of the foster care system. As uncertainty lingers, attitudes fly, and a tragedy surfaces, Mama Jones is forced to make an even tougher decision: Live or die.

The performance will take place Saturday, April 7 at 2 p.m. at Ethos/Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave. For seating, call Studio20 entertainment at 503 415-1292.



Portland Playwright Kwik Jones holds a picture of Azzie Jones, the woman who raised him as a foster parent and the inspiration for his new musical "Sweet Mama Jones."

Auditioning for 'The Voice'

Lady Kat "True Blue" and her Portland band The Brotha' Blues will perform a live audition for The Voice at Gators Bar and Grill, 6605 S.E. Powell, on Sunday, April 8, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The event promises to be an excellent night of music. The audience will be encouraged to vote for your favorite Lady Kat number to be submitted to The Voice as her audition song. The Voice is an NBC reality talent show with celebrity coaches Cee Lo Green, Adam Levine, Christina Aguilera and Blake Shelton

Lady Kat has a low, rich, full bodied voice that carries



Lady Kat 'True Blue'

the likes of Etta James, with a little of Wynonna's twang, and the depth of Della Reese! Born and raised in the Northwest she was surrounded by the sounds of blues and country music.

Spreading her wings to venture forth to pursue her dream as a national, even global blues artist, she has performed with phenomenal groups like the Northwest Women Rhythm 'n Blues group which is made up of several local and national artists in and around the Northwest.

Gators will also be serving a prime rib dinner with all the trimmings for \$9.95.