

## Confronting stigmas of homelessness and addiction

Participants in Living Stages' Theatre for Real Life' artist residency at Bud Clark Commons will present "Hurry Up and Wait" a performance of two original interactive forum plays reflecting the challenges low-income community members face in accessing healthcare services, and dealing with the stigmas of former homelessness and addiction.

The event will be held Thursday, June 4 at 4 p.m. in the Bud Clark Commons Day Center Multipurpose Room, 655 N.W. Irving, and is open to the public free of charge.

The performance will feature theatre created and performed by formerly homeless community members, and offer the chance for audience members to actively engage with the issues presented in the play by stepping onto the stage

# Theatre for Real Life



PHOTO BY JOSEPH GLODE

Theatre for Real Life offers low-income participants the chance to step from the streets onto the stage, and offers audiences the chance to take action – on the stage and in real life – to counteract injustice wherever it happens. Participating on stage are DeWanna Harris, Transition Projects outreach specialist, and Michael Brunner and Kepha Israel, both mentors for Transition Projects.

Healthcare: the Haves, Have-Nots, and the Story of Brittany Pumpernickle" were created during the workshop process and reflect the cumulative experiences and stories of a wide number of program participants.

Living Stages is a Portland-based 501c3 arts organization committed to the practice of interactive theatre as a process for community engagement, action and transformation. This public presentation culminates Living Stages' year-long artist residency at Bud Clark Commons, funded by the City of Portland, Percent for Art, in partnership with Home Forward and Transitions Projects, and administered by the Regional Arts and Culture Council.

Living Stages was selected out of 9 community-based arts organizations in a competitive process for this artist residency, with the goal of engaging the community at Bud Clark Commons in the art of theatre creation and performance.

"Ours is an unfinished theatre" says Living Stages Creative Director, Tamara Lynne. "As long as social injustice exists, we present our questions and our struggles— and then rely on our audiences to come up with ideas to transform the outcome of our play. Our hope is that the theatre inspires action not only on the stage— but also in real life."

For more information, contact Living Stages at [teatrocambio.org](http://teatrocambio.org) or email [tamara@livingstages.org](mailto:tamara@livingstages.org).



## Be a Dream Walker

Join N/NE Business Association & the NE Coalition of Neighborhoods

Free Dreamwalks throughout the summer in NE Portland, aka the "Soul District", using parts of the MLK Dream Run route

With over 1,500 runners, walkers, and volunteers last year, "Double-down" is our motto this year so bring a friend!

Meet fellow community folks and professional trainers from LA Fitness, ME Fitness, and others to help get you in shape and ready for this year's run!

Register to run, walk, or volunteer @ [www.mlkdreamrun.org](http://www.mlkdreamrun.org)

### MORE THAN A DREAM

SPIRIT OF PORTLAND AWARD WINNING EVENT

**Weekend Celebration Sat. & Sun. Aug. 1st & 2nd**

Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's "I Have A Dream" speech

Benefiting Youth Entrepreneurship & Empowerment

Featuring Music, Food, Entertainment & Professional Chip-Timed Races

BBQ Cook-off Contest on Saturday, August 1, starts at Noon

For more info call us at: 503-841-5032

TRAINING WALKS/RUN CALENDAR

Saturday  
MAY  
**23<sup>rd</sup>**  
Meet at Whole Foods on NE 15th & Fremont St at 10 AM

Wednesday  
JUNE  
**3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Meet at Geneva's S. P. NE 5601 MLK at 6pm

Saturday  
JUNE  
**13<sup>th</sup>**  
Meet on 77 NE Knott St at Matt Dishman's at 10 AM

Saturday  
JUNE  
**27<sup>th</sup>**  
Meet at ME Fitness on NE MLK at 10 AM

Saturday  
JULY  
**11<sup>th</sup>**  
Meet at AJ Java 6425 N Albina Ave at 10 AM

Wednesday  
JULY  
**15<sup>th</sup>**  
Meet at Crown Q Market 445 Killingsworth at 6 PM

Saturday  
JULY  
**25<sup>th</sup>**  
Meet at Whole Foods on Fremont & 15th at 10 AM

AUGUST  
Sat  
**1<sup>st</sup>** Taste of the Dream Event  
Sun  
**2<sup>nd</sup>** MLK Dream Run '15



to suggest ideas and possible actions.

Since September, over 60 low-income participants engaged in Living Stages' Theatre for Real Life program, with the majority of participants in transitional housing or formerly homeless.

The two plays created, "Take a Number" and "Inequities in

## Baccalaureate for Hope and Pride

The Portland Black Baccalaureate is back. In a commitment to honor local graduating seniors and held in the African tradition of inviting the entire village and community to the celebration, members of the Portland African American Leadership Forum's African American Leadership Academy, are bringing back the annual ceremony.

The Black Baccalaureate exemplifies the importance of recognizing people of the rich, diverse cultures that make up the African Diasporas for attaining a

high school diploma. This recognition also offers an opportunity, for some, to graduate in preferred surroundings.

The Black Baccalaureate takes place Sunday, June 14 at 4 p.m. at Portland Bible College, 9150 N.E. Fremont St. The graduation reception begins at 3 p.m. and both the ceremony and the reception are open to the public free of charge. All graduates must arrive by 2 p.m. To register or learn more, email [BlackBaccOregon@gmail.com](mailto:BlackBaccOregon@gmail.com) or visit [BlackStudentSuccess.org](http://BlackStudentSuccess.org).

## Obama Makes it Right

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opened to too many soldiers like him, who went uncelebrated because our nation judged them by the color of their skin and not the content of their character. But we can do our best to make it right."

Obama described how Johnson and a fellow soldier came under attack by at least a dozen German soldiers while on night sentry duty

on May 15, 1918. Both were injured, but Johnson single-handedly beat back the invading party and rescued his unconscious brother in arms, armed with just his Bolo knife after his rifle jammed.

Obama said it similarly took too long for America to properly honor or Shemin, who served at a time when the contributions in heroism of Jewish Americans in uniform were too often overlooked.