

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

'Oh Freedom' Drama at WSU-Vancouver

The Washington State University Vancouver campus is celebrating Black History Month in February by creating space to honor the achievements, contributions and lived experiences of peoples of the African and Black diaspora.

The public is invited to join the campus community for a dramatic performance of "Oh Freedom: Commemorating the Spiritual and the Underground Railroad" on Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 4 p.m. in the Firstenburg Student Commons, Room 105. This event is free. RSVP at vancouver.wsu.edu/events.

"Oh Freedom" commemorates the powerful connection of the spiritual and the Underground Railroad through five dramatic movements. Carefully selected prose narratives



Wesley Williams II



H. L. Wright II

from historical scholars, poems from specific time periods and spirituals that align with the text will give you the opportunity to commemorate the fusion of narrative

and song to describe the evil, ugliness and authentic beauty of this significant time in U.S. and world history.

Wesley Williams II is the creator and producer of "Oh Freedom." He performs with H.L. Wright II.

WSU Vancouver is located at 14204 N.E. Salmon Creek Ave., east of the 134th Street exit from either I-5 or I-205.



New York-based rapper Homeboy Sandman will perform Sunday, Feb. 2 at Mississippi Studios.

Homeboy Sandman on Tour

New York-based rapper Homeboy Sandman has embarked on a West Coast tour supported by Quelle Chris and will be performing at Mississippi Studios in north Portland on Sunday, Feb. 2.

Sandman recently released "Dusty," a collection of 15

soul-assessing confessionals that shows his lyrical word-smith is as strong as ever. His work has been featured at numerous media outlets including The Guardian, Pitchfork, NPR, Rolling Stone, Stereogum, XXL and more.

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Hedwig and the Angry Inch – Portland Center Stage at The Armory is kicking off the New Year with "Hedwig and the Angry Inch," starring Portland's Delphon "DJ" Curtis Jr. as Hedwig and Ithica Tell as Yitzhak. Part rock concert, part cabaret, part stand-up comedy routine, show plays through Feb. 23 in the Ellyn Bye Studio at The Armory. For tickets, visit pcs.org, by phone at 503-445-3700 or in-person from the box office.

Sweat – Profile Theater presents the Portland premiere of African American playwright Lynn Nottage's Pulitzer Prize winning play Sweat, a story that captures global capitalism's impacts on the lives of a diverse group of workers through a wincing story of people losing their livelihood, becoming desperate and lashing out at themselves and each other. Now playing through Feb. 2 at Imago Theater, 17 S.E. Eighth Ave.

Everybody Reads – Multnomah County Library invites the community to participate in Everybody Reads 2020, featuring Tommy Orange's debut novel about the urban Native experience, "There There." Free copies are available at library locations or download the e-book or audiobook from the library catalog.

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Chinese New Year – Lan Su Chinese Garden, downtown, celebrates Chinese New Year with special events through Feb. 9, including lion dances, lighted lantern parades and other cultural activities.

Reel Music Festival – The 37th edition of Portland's beloved Reel Music Festival features a line-up of cutting-edge films focused on some of today's—and yesteryear's—most thrilling musicians. Runs through Feb. 16 at the Whitsell Auditorium at the Portland Art Museum. Admission is \$10 and \$8 for students and seniors. Visit nwfilm.org.

Black Experience on Canvas – Portland artist Arvie Smith, a renowned painter of the black experience, will showcase some of his new work in a solo exhibit '2 Up and 2 Back,' now showing through Sunday, Feb. 2 at the Disjecta Contemporary Arts Center, 8371 N. Interstate Ave.

Norman Sylvester Band – "Boogie Cat" Norman Sylvester and his band plays Saturday, Feb. 1 at Catfish Lou's in Beaverton; Friday, Feb. 7 at Wilf's at Union Station; and Saturday, Feb. 8 at the Spare Room.

Film Screens with Call to Action – See the injustice and consider the solutions behind a new trend making African American girls the fastest-growing population in the criminal justice system when Warner Pacific University, HOLLA and Bars to Bridges host a public screening of the documentary "Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in School," on Monday, Feb. 3 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.



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