

# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

## Navigating Conflicts with Dance

*'Been Ready' shines light on race and gender issues*

For us in the Black community, we've always been told "stay ready so you don't have to get ready." As in ready for the discrimination, ready for the prejudice, ready for the racism.

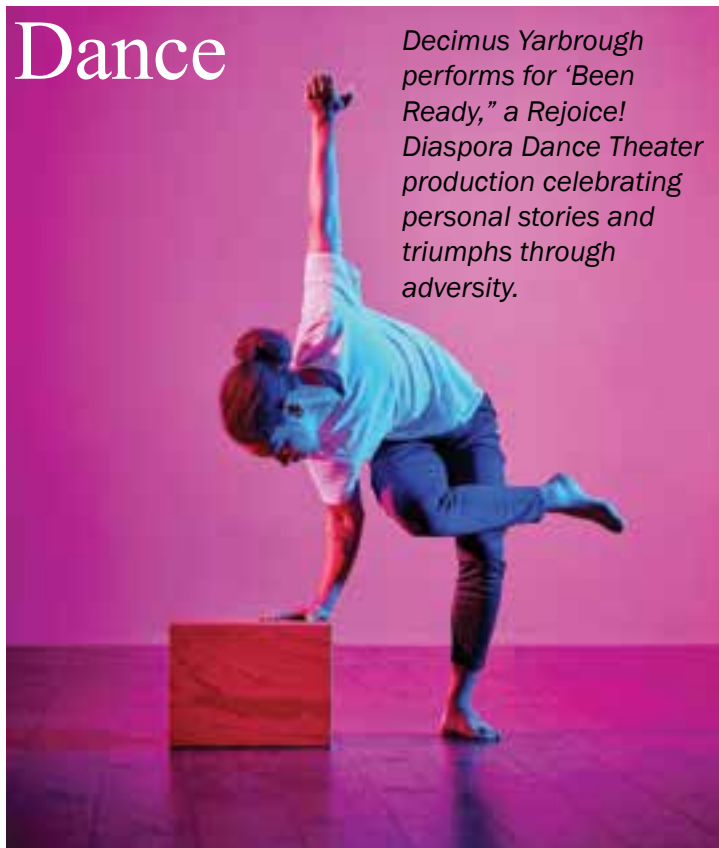
Rejoice! Diaspora Dance Theater with support from The Portland Institute of Contemporary Art present "Been Ready," an original show by composer and house DJ Cody "Coflo" Ferreria that celebrates personal stories and triumph through adversity.

Been Ready brings together five

personal experiences navigating conflicts that are inherently imbued with layers of race, gender and bias. With an inward focus, the production gives a better insight on what makes us ready.

A preview show is held on Thursday, Feb. 13 with opening night on Friday, Feb. 14 and shows continuing Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 15-16, all at 7:30 p.m. at the Portland Institute of Contemporary Art, 15 N.E. Hancock St. Tickets are \$20. Visit [rejoicediasporadance.com](http://rejoicediasporadance.com)

Rejoice! Diaspora Dance Theater is a Portland-based contemporary dance ensemble led by the bold vision and artistic direction of Oluyinka Akinjiola. Rejoice! seeks to diversify the contemporary dance landscape with untold stories and under-told perspectives from communities of color.



Decimus Yarbrough performs for 'Been Ready,' a Rejoice! Diaspora Dance Theater production celebrating personal stories and triumphs through adversity.

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**LIVING ROOM REALTY**

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](http://pcs.org), by phone at 503-445-3700 or in-person from the box office.

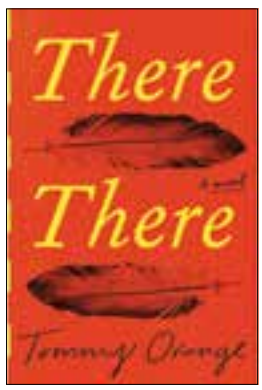


From the African Perspective – The Cascade Festival of African Films continues through Feb. 29 with free screenings of 30 feature films, documentaries and short films from more than 20 nations. The films are shown at either the Moriarty Auditorium on the PCC Cascade Campus or the Hollywood Theatre. For a complete schedule, visit [africfilmfestival.org](http://africfilmfestival.org).

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

### ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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.



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](http://nwfilm.org).

Norman Sylvester Band – "Boogie Cat" Norman Sylvester and his band plays Friday, Feb. 7 at Wilf's at Union Station; Saturday, Feb. 8 at the Spare Room; Friday, Feb. 14 at the Half Penny in Salem; Saturday, Feb. 15 at the Vinyl Tap; Saturday, Feb. 22 at Prime Time in Forest Grove; and Friday, Feb. 28 at Clyde's.

Zoo for All – The Oregon Zoo has launched "Zoo for All," a discount program that provides \$5 admission for low income individuals and families. Visitors may purchase up to six of the \$5 tickets by

bringing a photo ID and documentation showing they participate in low income service, like the Oregon Trial Card, Medicaid, Section 8, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and Head Start.

Discount Tickets – Low income families and individuals can purchase \$5 tickets to classical musical performances in Portland as part of a unique program called Music for All. Participating organizations include the Oregon Symphony, Portland Opera, Oregon Ballet Theater, Chamber Music Northwest, Portland Youth Philharmonic, Portland Baroque Orchestra, Friends of Chamber Music, Portland Chamber Orchestra, Portland Piano International, Portland Symphonic Choir, Cappella Romana and Portland Vocal Consort.



Beauty Explored – The breakout hit comedy 'School Girls' or 'The African Mean Girls Play' by Ghanaian-American playwright Jocelyn Bioh explores the challenges facing teenage girls across the globe and cautions that while beauty may be only skin deep, its pursuit can cut much deeper. Shows at Portland Center Stage at the Armory through Feb. 16. For tickets, visit [pcs.org/schoolgirls](http://pcs.org/schoolgirls).

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