

# African American Film Fest Opens April 30

Filmmakers love coming to Seattle for the Langston Hughes African American Film Festival (LHAFF). And for this 8th Annual Festival there will be a high number of filmmakers in attendance, some new and some seasoned with recent awards and accolades.

This nine day festival from April 30 to May 8 features a powerful lineup of almost 40 thoughtful films that include Seattle premieres, local directors, a LGBT focus, Weekday Happy Hour Films, Ladies' Night, Teen Fest, talkbacks and panel discussions. Each year this festival sparks memorable and provocative discussions from across the aisle and across neighborhoods.

Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center, at 17th and Yesler, continues to undergo major facility renovations, so the festival, like last year, will temporarily move to two locations –both within LHPAC's Central District neighborhood. The opening and closing night films will both take place at the Quincy Jones Theatre in Seattle's Central District at 23rd and Alder, next door to Garfield High school. All other films will show at the Central Cinema, also located in the Central District at 21st and Union. The panel discussion "Black Filmmaker Brunch, on May 7, will be at the Northwest African American Museum.

This annual African American Film Festival is expected to draw more than 2,500 people passionate about creating and appreciating films by and about Black people in the world. The festival spotlights dozens of feature-length and short films by independent filmmakers, and the rare



opportunity to chat face-to-face with filmmakers, industry professionals and Seattle leaders. Tickets are \$5 for youth under 16 and seniors and \$8 for adults. The All-Access Langston Pass is \$50. All film details, including show times, locations and ticketing information, are available at [www.langstonblackfilmfest.org](http://www.langstonblackfilmfest.org) or by calling 206-326-1088.

LHAFF, co-sponsored locally by 4Culture and Comcast, offers a unique blend of returning filmmakers whose careers have grown much in line with LHAFF's amazing growth (Alrick Brown,

Ava Duvernay, Charles Officer, and Joe Dougherty). Relatively new filmmakers such as Tanya Wright, who are eager to premiere their work with film savvy Seattle audiences, are also featured.

Director Alrick Brown returns to LHAFF for a fourth year after a successful screening of his new film KINYARWANDA at Sundance 2010, which received an Audience Award. This year he's making his feature film directorial debut and premieres KINYARWANDA for Seattle audiences at the festival's opening night. KINYARWANDA is based on true accounts from Rwandan genocide survivors who took refuge at the Grand Mosque of Kigali and the madrasa of Nyanza. It recounts how the Imams opened the doors of the mosques to give refuge to the Tutsi and those Hutu who refused to participate in the killing. The film interweaves six different tales that together form one grand narrative that provides the most complex and real depiction yet presented of human resilience and life during the genocide. Alrick Brown was at LHAFF in 2004 with The Adventures of Supernigger in 2008 with Death of Two Sons, and again in 2009 with Us: A Love Story.

Filmmaker, actor (HBO's True Blood) and author Tanya Wright will be in town for the festival's closing and premieres her new film Butterfly Rising. She will also give away signed copies of her book, Butterfly Rising, to all ticket-buyers who purchase advance tickets for the festival closing before 5 pm on May 7. Butterfly Rising tells of two broken souls who steal a vintage

Opening Film:  
**KINYARWANDA** 4/30 – 7 p.m. Sundance Award Winner! Filmmaker Alrick Brown in attendance. \$20; Quincy Jones Theatre, 400 23rd Ave. Seattle.  
 Closing Film: **Butterfly Rising** 5/8 – 7 p.m. Filmmaker Tanya Wright (HBO's True Blood) in attendance. \$20; Quincy Jones Theatre.

truck and head out on the open road to a fated encounter with the mythical, magical 'Lazarus of the Butterflies.' When her brother dies, singer Lilah Belle sets out on a road trip to escape her grief, but not before coaxing the scandalous, new-to-town woman Rose Johnson to go with her. What occurs with the strange Butterfly Man transforms their destinies and binds the women forever.

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**VIDEO: Obama Leads Moment of Silence for Shooting Victims**  
 Ben Feller AP White House Correspondent  
 01/10/2011 08:40 am PST

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**Soap Opera Insiders: Racism Rampant at CBS Television, Sony Entertainment**  
 Brendon Brooks and Sam Richard Special to the Skanner from the Los Angeles Sentinel  
 01/09/2011 12:00 am PST

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Monday, January 10, 2011

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- Phil Ochs Remembered in Reverential Documentary
- Colin Firth Delivers Nonpareil Performance in 'The King's Speech'
- Reluctant Monarch with 'The King's Speech'

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<p>2011-01-12</p> <p><b>and Wellness Fair</b></p> <p>on and demonstrations.</p> <p>the free aerobathon! 9 a.m. – 1</p> <p>Community Center 700 NE 136th</p> <p>ter</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Health</p>
<p>2011-01-12</p> <p><b>Debt Collection</b></p> <p>Officer will speak at First</p> <p>Church of Christ on the</p> <p>as made in canceling</p> <p>Park Ave.</p> <p>nal Church</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Finances</p>
<p>2011-01-12</p> <p><b>ention Center</b></p> <p>routes? Discover the vast array of artwork,</p> <p>bility achievements. To make reservations call</p> <p>e visitor information desk at 10:30 a.m. 777 NE</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Walking</p>
<p>2011-01-12</p> <p><b>Can Be Done?</b></p> <p>on this problem, but to emphasize solutions.</p> <p>Church 4046 NE Milk, Jr. Blvd. (bring your own</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Society</p>

### Weather

Portland, OR

**Severe Weather Alert**

42°F

Partly Cloudy

Feels Like: 35°F

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Portland Area Traffic

Hwy: 5 westbound

JAM FACTOR

CLEAR

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**Hundreds Gather for Loretta Smith's Swearing In**

Brian Robinson Of The Skanner News  
 01/07/2011 03:08 pm PST

Newly elected Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith – the second African American to serve in...

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