

DC★BLACK

Theatre & Arts Festival



2019
PROGRAM BOOKLET
JUNE 21 - JULY 7, 2019

PARTNERS AND FRIENDS

BBAR



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES



WELCOME



From the very beginning **Building Bridges Across the River's THEARC Theater** has been the home of the DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival. It is because of this extortionary partnership that we have grown to be one of the nation's most sought-after festivals of arts. Each year we host nearly 30,000 faithful theatre goers, playwrights, actors, family, and friends who make the pilgrimage to the Nation's Capital to participate in this extraordinary celebration of Black Art.

The DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival is a 10-day Multidisciplinary Arts Festival celebrating extraordinary stories by people of African descent. Each year the Festival offers an impressive menu of more than 150 provocative and ground-breaking performances, by local East of the River and national Artists, Writers, Filmmakers and Musicians.

Leading the 2019 DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival as our gala event will be **LETTERS FROM ZORA** starring Vanessa Bell Calloway - winner of the 2014 NAACP Theatre Awards. **LETTERS FROM ZORA** is an authentic multi-sensory experience of an extraordinary woman who defied the social conventions of the day and lived a life of her own creation.

It is our distinct privilege to partner once again with the Building Bridges Across The River as we continue to entertain, enlighten and educate the communities east of the river, and beyond.

Nana Malaya Rucker
Board Chair



WHY EAST OF THE RIVER

While the Anacostia River is not especially wide, the resources and opportunities available to individuals living in Ward 7 and 8 are a vast distance from those afforded to Washingtonians in the other six wards. Wards 7 and 8 have a population of approximately 150,000 residents. Over 92 percent of residents living east of the Anacostia River identify as Black/African American.

Wards 7 and 8 serve as home to 40 percent of DC's youth, nearly half of who live at or below the poverty line. The unemployment rate for young adults is twice the

national average in Ward 7 and nearly three times the national average in Ward 98. Seventy-three percent of Ward 8 families are headed by a single-parent household. Historically, children living east of the Anacostia River fare poorly in educational opportunities and only 4 out of 10 youth who begin high school in Ward 7 and 8 will graduate.

Building Bridges Across the River conceived the concept of THEARC to address these many disparities while simultaneously investing in community revitalization. We are proud to have BBAR as our title sponsor this year.



SHOWS



AFRO GODDESS A ONE WOMAN SHOW BY CHERIE DANIELLE



THEATRE ● FILM ● MUSIC

THE OFFICIAL

KICK OFF

PARTY

FRIDAY | JUNE 21 • 2019
TIME 7:00PM | DCBlackTheatreFestival.com

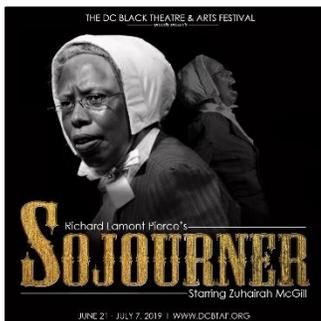
Come Party Like an Artist

THEARC BLACKBOX 1801 MISSISSIPPI AVE SE WASHINGTON, DC

FRIDAY – JUNE 21, 2019

THEATRE

Sojourner Starring Zuhairah McGill
First World Theatre – Philadelphia, PA



Become a part of American history as it unfolds before your eyes... through a reporter's interview, Mr. Pierce pulls you into a riveting in-depth view of the life of Sojourner Truth, the first African American woman in the suffrage movement, abolitionist, and confidante to Abraham Lincoln. Begin to understand through Sojourner's unmitigated audacity to make things happen, the depth of her impact on the abolition of slavery, women's rights, prison reform, America and the world.

Date & Time: June 21, 2019

Time: 7:30PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

MUSIC

Chronicles of Life Featuring Tyra Levone
Washington, DC



Tyra Levone is a soulful R&B Singer/ Songwriter/ Producer from Washington, DC. Through emotional, honest, and transparent lyrics, Tyra's music reflects the struggles of everyday people. Tyra Levone's first single "If Only I Knew," released in 2015, expresses great joy, sorrow, and Tyra's personal life lesson...this too shall pass. In her debut album, "Testimony: A Soul Set Free," (2017) Tyra bares her soul through musical testimony, with the hope to inspire "the awakening of knowledge, peace discovered on the journey and the freedom to live boldly."

Date & Time: June 21, 2019

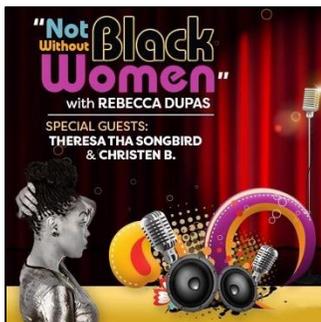
Time: 9:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

POETRY

Not Without Black Women Featuring Rebecca Dupas
A DOSE OF DUPAS - Washington, DC



Following the 2019 release of **Not Without Black Women**, an original book of poems by author Rebecca Dupas, present a 90-minute performance of poetry and song to honor the perspective, passion, and power of Black women. The show will feature original works by Rebecca Dupas with special guests **Theresa Tha Songbird, Christen B, Shelly Say So and K Love The Poet**. Join us as we explore navigating the world as Black women. Journey with us through the beauty of being Black, the micro-aggressions of the workday, the relentless trauma of the news cycle, the power of love, and the infallible resilience of femininity.

Date: June 21, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

SATURDAY – JUNE 22, 2019

THEATRE

The Funeral

The Lawrence Theatre Company – Wilmington, DE



The funeral takes a realistic look at what happens when a family member passes away. These topics affect many families but are not talked about. With the loss of a loved one comes the struggle of planning a funeral while filled with a host of emotions. Jasper Norman Williams Sr. is gone and now the secrets, lies and conflicts seem to be replacing him. The lies create questions, anger, hurt and shame for some of the members of the Williams family. Will they be able to recover as a family and as individuals? Will the deception break up the family permanently and leave them with scars too deep to come back from? The funeral will take you on a roller-coaster ride of emotions.

Date: June 22, 2019

Time: 1:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Sweet Jenn

Lakeetha Blakeney – Concord, NC



Sweet Jenn: A Living Exhibit takes us back in time to the antebellum south just after Emancipation, We meet Jenny Butler, a slave who opens the window to her life and shares a piece of her soul with us, she is doing her best to go on with life while she awaits the return of her love, Charles, and her lost children. Sweet Jenn is a poignant story of love, heartache, triumph and hope.

Date: June 22, 2019

Time: 1:00PM

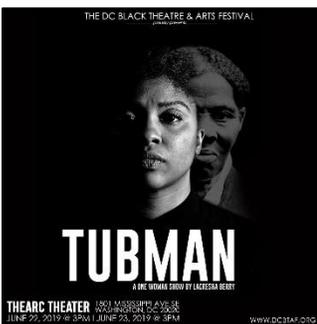
Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Tubman

Lacresha Berry – Queens, New York



This one woman show presents the story of Harriet Tubman reimagined as a young woman growing up in Harlem through a theatrical lens. Harriet Tubman is a heroine and American legend in her own right. This session will take the story of Harriet in the 19th century and places her in the 21st century; laced with the problems facing African-American youth all over the country. And especially focusing on the mistreatment of black girls in schools. What would happen if a young woman like Harriet became a leader in this new world? Would her struggle be the same? Would she know her power?

Date: Saturday - June 22, 2019

Time: 3:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Strings

Charles Curtis – New York, NY



A detective turned modern day vigilante, a lawyer with an ulterior motive, and the strings that bind them both. While Derek prepares to defend the man he just met, they each find that neither is truly innocent. This show speaks of friendship, race, a corrupt system, and that no matter how fast we run our past catches up with us eventually.

Date: Saturday - June 22, 2019

Time: 3:00PM

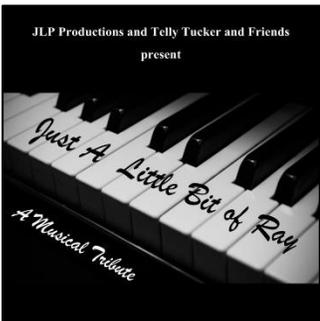
Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Just A Little Bit of Ray

JLP Productions and Telly Tucker & Friends – Lynchburg, VA



Just a Little Bit of Ray as a part of the DC Black Theatre and Arts Festival and as an acknowledgment of Black Music Month. Just A Little Bit of Ray – a tribute, pays homage to the late musical genius Ray Charles. Charles delved into multiple genres of music. Singers will perform a sampling of the Grammy Award winners - blues, soul, and country. Just A Little Bit of Ray features songs of Charles including I Got A Woman, Georgia On My Mind, Shake a Tail Feather, The Night Time is the Right Time, and many more. Just A Little Bit of Ray is not just a concert. Stories and anecdotes about Ray Charles will be shared.

Date: June 22, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Theatre Meets Church

Nanette Marie – Columbus, Ohio



Church will never be the same after you witness this gospel comedy! Theatre Meets the Church puts your favorite—well, at least interesting—characters you know and want to love, on blast! What happens when a theatre group rehearses at a new church? This comedy play explodes with the gospel truth!

Date: June 22, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

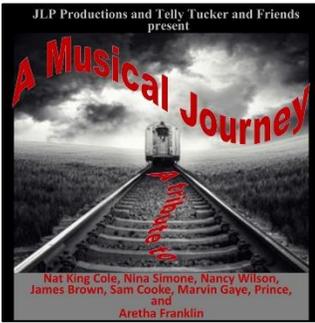


Charles Curtis is a Westchester, NY native musician, actor, director, teaching artist and playwright. He has earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Voice Performance from Presbyterian College prior to his graduate studies in Music and Counseling at the University of South Carolina. As a performer, his credits span different performance medium including opera, musicals, stage plays and film. As a playwright, Curtis is proud to be Axial Theatre's first playwrighting scholarship recipient, as well as his work having been selected for performance at the National Black Theatre Festival (2011), DC Black Theatre Festival (2014), Atlanta Black Theater Festival (2016), and most recent, Fresh Fruit Festival (2017).

THEATRE

A Musical Journey

JLP Productions and Telly Tucker & Friends – Lynchburg, VA



A Musical Journey as a part of the DC Black Theatre and Arts Festival and as an acknowledgment of Black Music Month. A Musical Journey is a tribute to music legends (Nat King Cole, Nina Simone, Nancy Wilson, James Brown, Sam Cooke, Marvin Gaye, Prince, and Aretha Franklin) who have left an undeniable mark on the music world. Most people listen and appreciate the music of these musical legends, but don't know the hardships these singers endured in order to give us timeless and unforgettable music.

Date: June 22, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

A Little Black Lie

Crossfield House Productions – Ontario Canada



Michael and Stacey are ready to get married and live their best lives together; but when skeletons from the past begin to come to light, Michael is forced to face some uncomfortable truths about himself and his family or risk losing everything. While helping Michael deal with his past, Stacey decides to confront her own unresolved issues that threaten to jeopardize her happily ever after. They both soon learn "What happens in the dark must come to light."

Date: June 22, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

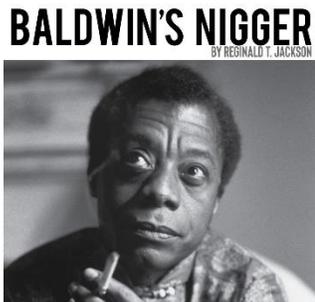
Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Baldwin's Ni\$\$er

Reginald Jackson – New York, NY



BALDWIN'S NIGGER is a raw, in your face, roller coaster ride and bio-drama about the life and loves, sorrows and successes of National Treasure James Baldwin. Approached by a white, male, stranger, offering a Million Dollars for the Civil Rights Movement, Baldwin invites this friend or foe to his room at midnight. They immediately spar like prize fighters trying not to get hit, but provocation leads to conflict and lust. Will both get what they want or will someone be exposed and left in a fetal ball of

Date: June 22, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15



MUSIC

11th Annual I Give a Damn Jam

Washington, DC



Date: June 22, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



Derrell Lawrence is an American actor, filmmaker, writer, director, executive producer and upcoming author. He is perhaps best known for his feature film debut, *Life Isn't Fair* in 2007. He earned several awards including, "The Highest Achievement for New Filmmaker" at the Jokara-Micheaux Film Festival, as well as both "The Silver Award" and "The People's Choice Award" from the Philadelphia International Film Festival and Market for *Life Isn't Fair*. He is also known for his work with the independent feature film *Happy Holidayz* in 2008 that premiered in Philadelphia, PA and Arkansas.



Jennifer Lipford Petticolas, a retired educator, is a native of Lynchburg, Virginia. She graduated from Dunbar High School. She completed her undergraduate work at Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina. She earned a Master's Degree in English Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Lynchburg College. Her passion is writing. The passion for writing started when she was a student at Dunbar High School. Her mission as a writer is to make a difference.



Troy Crossfield is a writer, producer, and actor who has been in the entertainment business since 2002. He has been featured on stage (*Joy In The Morning*), TV (*Da Kink In My Hair*) and film (*Abandoned Souls*) and has a songwriting deal with Sony ATV/DTP. Troy felt that it was time to start producing and writing his own content, and in 2016 Crossfield House Productions was born. Since then, he has written two sold out, award winning play and has a short film in pre-production. Crossfield House Productions is a company you will be hearing a lot about in the future.



Reginald T. Jackson has received a New York City Mayor's Citation and a Arts and Cultural Foundation Award for his work in Arts-In-Education -- teaching creative writing and playwriting throughout the New York City School System. With dual bachelor degrees in both Music and Theatre from CCNY, he has served as the Education Director for the Foundation of The Dramatists Guild's Young Playwrights Festival, and an Arts-Educator/creative writing instructor for the New York City High School Division of the New York City Board of Education; where he authored the only official curriculum for playwriting which continues to be used by the New York State Regents Board for Regents Certification in Theatre.

SUNDAY – JUNE 23, 2019

THEATRE

Sweet Jenn

Date & Time: Sunday - June 23, 2019 @ 1:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

A Little Black Lie

Date & Time: Sunday - June 23, 2019 @ Time: 1:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Tubman

Date & Time: Sunday - June 23, 2019 @ Time: 3:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Strings

Date & Time: Sunday - June 23, 2019 @ Time: 3:00PM

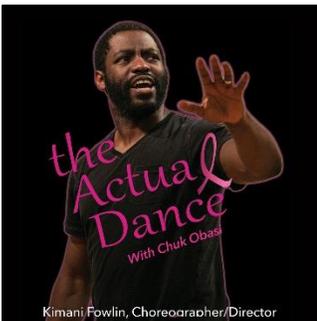
Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Actual Dance

Samuel A. Simon – Washington, DC



The Actual Dance is an award-winning play that has moved audiences to laugh, cry and then cheer for five years. A love story with a happy ending, The Actual Dance is told through the eyes and heart of a husband as he struggles with his worst fears in what everyone expects to be his wife's losing battle to breast cancer.

Date: Sunday - June 23, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Baldwin's Nigger

Date & Time: Sunday - June 23, 2019 @ Time: 5:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Funeral

Date & Time: June 22, 2019 @ 1:00PM

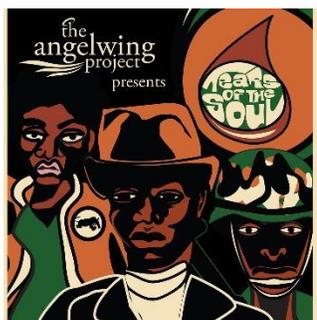
Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Tears of the Soul

The Angelwing Project – Baltimore, MD



How do we handle the tears that reach our soul? Meaningful, gripping and heartrending, Tears of the Soul is a powerful stage drama that transports audiences back to 1968, known as the year that shattered America. The nation was at the height of the highly protested Vietnam war, black empowerment was on the rise with black militant groups struggling to understand their power. Racism and violence were rampant in the growing urban ghettos and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the prominent leader of the Civil Rights movement and non-violent protests met his violent demise on a Memphis balcony.

Date: Sunday - June 23, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

POETRY

Kelly Beech Poetry

Washington, DC

Date & Time: June 23, 2019 @ 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THE LIVING LEGACY SERIES

CAMPAIGN 72'
FEATURING DOMINIQUE C. BROWN AS SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

THE EVE OF JACKIE
STARRING CHESTER GREGORY AS JACKIE WILSON

THE BOY FROM TROY
The Life of Congressman John Lewis

SOJOURNER
Starring Zuhairah McGill

SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME
Forever Ella
FEATURING DESIRE' DUBOSE AS ELLA

JUNE 21 - JULY 7, 2019 | WWW.DCBTAF.ORG



NO MORE

“IT’S JUST THE WAY PEOPLE ARE”



There is never an excuse for domestic violence or sexual assault. It's time we all speak out to stop the violence.

No more excuses.
No more silence.
No more violence.

JOYFUL
HEART
FOUNDATION

EIF ENTERTAINMENT
INDUSTRY FOUNDATION

NO MORE

TOGETHER WE CAN END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT

www.nomore.org

Blair Underwood

MONDAY – JUNE 24, 2019

THEATRE

Sweet Jenn

Date & Time: Monday - June 24, 2019 @ 1:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Actual Dance

Date & Time: Monday - June 24, 2019 @ 7:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Someone To Watch Over Me

Center for Black Arts & Culture – Washington, DC



Someone to Watch Over Me, a riveting innovative work about the prolific life of The Ella Fitzgerald.

Date: Monday - June 24, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

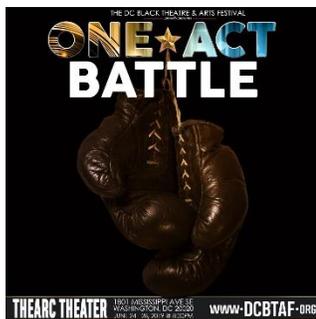
Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

One Act Battle - Comedy

Center For Black Arts & Culture – Washington, DC



More than a competition, this one-act competition is more like fighting Muhammad Ali in his prime! The One-Act Battle is a five-day competition divided into 4 categories; Drama, Comedy, Adult theme and Anything Goes. Each night the audience cast their votes to select the best play of the evening. The winning play from each evening moves on the final round; the battle to end all battles! The right to hold the title “DCBTF’s Heavy Weight Champion of the World!”

Date: Monday - June 24, 2019

Time: 8:30PM

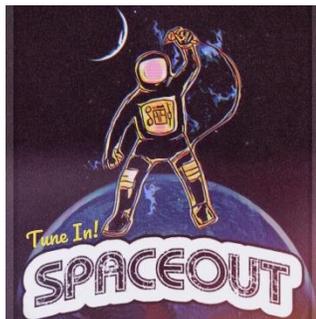
Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$12

POETRY/MUSIC

TuneIn - SpaceOut

Jayshana: The Last Poet – Washington, DC



A musical journey through the DMV's most inspiring artists. Through beats, rhymes, song and dance the other-worldly energy of the area manifests on stage. Produced and introduced by Jayshana, The Last Poet, the show opens with love. The Vibe Queen will elevate you to a strawberry high. Artist and co-producer, Who's Los is meteoric and metaphoric. 90Wyse brings the rocket fuel to propel a spacecraft. Slater the Genius gets lyrically out of this world. The artist Asé closes the show but will only elevate us to a higher star. Space queens dance through the musical performance and bring us earthlings that much closer to tuning in and spacing out.

TWO SHOWS - TWO LOCATIONS:

1st Show Date: Monday - June 24, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

TUESDAY – JUNE 25, 2019

THEATRE

Sojourner Starring Zuhairah McGill

Date & Time: June 25, 2019 @ 1:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox 1801 Mississippi Ave SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

FILM

Short Film Competition

Date & Time: Tuesday - June 25, 2019 @ 5:00 – 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Awakening

Date & Time: Tuesday - June 25, 2019 @ 7:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Someone To Watch Over Me

Date & Time: Tuesday - June 25, 2019 @ 7:00PM

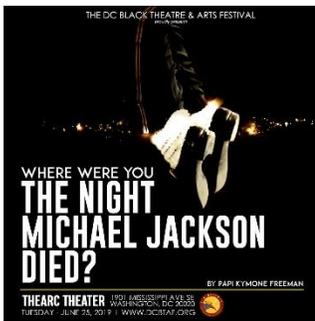
Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Where Were You The Night MJ Died

Papi Kymone Freeman – Washington, DC



Join the party when strangers have a chance encounter that fateful night June 25th, 2009 in a club in Little Havana in Miami after MJ's last curtain call. The contrast between US and Cuban relations is on full display as an ocean of divide is narrowed by a dance floor and the eccentric legacy of MJ blurring the lines between Black and White, young and old, poor and rich, right and wrong. Written by award-winning playwright Papi Kymone Freeman and co-founder of We Act Radio, DC's Best Social Justice Radio Station 2017 by Washington City Paper. Five actors and a DJ bring this incredible stage reading to life and takes us back to the good times.

Date: Tuesday - June 25, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

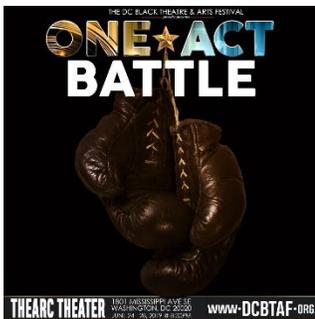
Location: THEARC Theater - 1901 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

One Act Battle - Drama

Center For Black Arts & Culture – Washington, DC



More than a competition, this one-act competition is more like fighting Muhammad Ali in his prime! The One-Act Battle is a five-day competition divided into 4 categories; Drama, Comedy, Adult theme and Anything Goes. Each night the audience cast their votes to select the best play of the evening. The winning play from each evening moves on the final round; the battle to end all battles! The right to hold the title "DCBTAF's Heavy Weight Champion of the World!"

Date: Tuesday - June 25, 2019

Time: 8:30PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$12

Our mission is to create a diverse group of outstanding theater artists whose distinctive visions will give an artistic identity of uncommon richness and variety to all performances, for all people.

MUSIC

Empress J.

Empress J Music – Washington, DC



Empress J. is a Bajan-American Soca artist who lately has been blazing stages in the soca arena. She is no rookie to music being featured on radio stations such as Hott 95.3 in Barbados, TNT Radio, Team Soca, Caribbean Power Jam, and much more. Empress J has been on the American music scene for years doing various genres of music including Gospel, Hip Hop and yes even Rock! But at her core she is Soca! Her raspy, but sensual register, and unique blending of Caribbean and American vibes, makes Empress J's gritty and unapologetically raw lyrics something to remember!

Date: Tuesday - June 25, 2019

Time: 8:30PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Desi Seck - A Camden, NJ native, Ms. Desi Seck earned a MFA in theater from Sarah Lawrence College and a BS from Northeastern University. She has also completed the Women and Power Program at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Ms. Seck has received the Valentine Foundation Award for female executives, a Leeway Transformation Award given to social change artists, and is a Geraldine Dodge Foundation Emerging Leader. As a playwright, Ms. Seck is most proud of attracting first time theatergoers in the African American community. As an artist, Ms. Seck uses theater to improve life and literacy skills for at-risk children.



MICHAEL COYLAR'S MOMMA

This play just might change your life!



STARRING MICHAEL COYLAR

JUNE 28, 2019 @ 9PM

JUNE 29, 2019 @ 5PM

JUNE 30, 2019 @ 5PM

THEARC THEATER

1901 MISSISSIPPI AVE SE

WASHINGTON, DC 20020

WEDNESDAY – JUNE 26, 2019

THEATRE

Sojourner Starring Zuhairah McGill

Date & Time: Wednesday - June 26, 2019 @ 1:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox 1801 Mississippi Ave SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

FILM

Web Series Competition

Date & Time: Wednesday - June 26, 2019 @ 5:00 – 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Awakening

Date & Time: Wednesday - June 26, 2019 @ 7:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Someone To Watch Over Me

Date & Time: Wednesday - June 26, 2019 @ 7:00PM

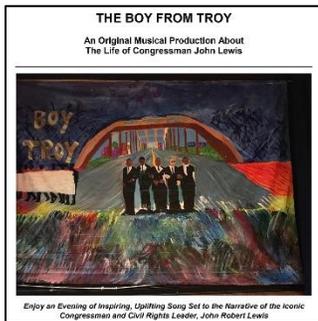
Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE
Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Boy From Troy

Washington, DC



The Boy From Troy is an original musical production of uplifting song set to the narrative of the life of civil rights icon and congressman John Robert Lewis, that chronicles six episodes of his life from when he was a boy growing up in heavily segregated Troy, Alabama, to his first meeting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to Congressman Lewis' election to Congress in 1986. The production's world premiere was performed to cheers, tears and a standing ovation. The production is based on John Lewis' own words – his autobiography, *Walking with the Wind*, written with Michael D'Orso, and *March, A Graphic Novel*, written and illustrated with Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell.

Date: Wednesday - June 26, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

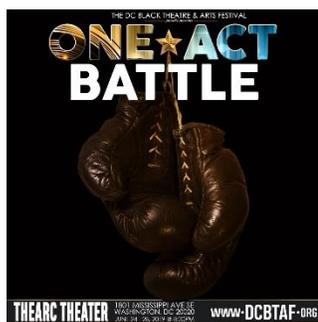
Location: THEARC Theater - 1901 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

One Act Battle – Solo/Duo

Center For Black Arts & Culture – Washington, DC



More than a competition, this one-act competition is more like fighting Muhammad Ali in his prime! The One-Act Battle is a five-day competition divided into 4 categories; Drama, Comedy, Adult theme and Anything Goes. Each night the audience cast their votes to select the best play of the evening. The winning play from each evening moves on the final round; the battle to end all battles! The right to hold the title "DCBTAF's Heavy Weight Champion of the World!"

Date: Wednesday - June 26, 2019

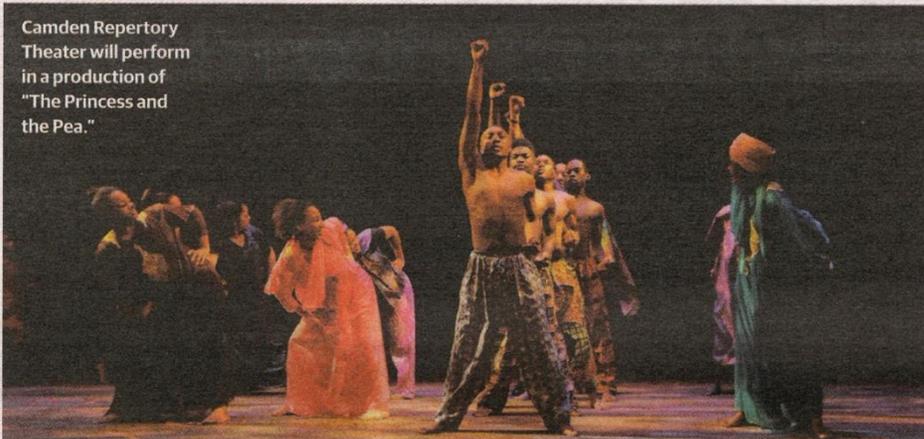
Time: 8:30PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$12



weekendpass



Camden Repertory Theater will perform in a production of "The Princess and the Pea."



Comedian Michael Colyar tells the story of his relationship with his mother in the one-man show "Momma."

17 days, hundreds of voices

The DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival keeps growing and telling more stories

FESTIVALS

The original game plan in 2010 was supposed to keep things simple. For the first DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival, local playwright Glenn Alan and his dedicated team would spotlight one new play a day over seven days. They put out a call for submissions to fill the two remaining slots after hand-picking the first five plays — and ended up getting over 140 responses in return.

"At that point, we knew we were thinking too small," says Alan, the executive director of the festival. "We then resculpted the work to take as many plays as we could, and that first year we probably did 70 plays."

Nine years later, the festival has swelled into a lot more than just a theater event. The 2019 edition, running Friday to July 7, brings music, dance, visual art and films to several venues across the D.C. area, mostly concentrated in Southeast. (This year's 470 submissions set a record for the festival.) To Alan, expanding the festival was crucial to addressing a larger diversity problem in the local theater scene.

"If you look at some of our big theaters, like Arena Stage or Woolly Mammoth, what you'll

get from them is a play about or for African Americans, but it only talks to one group," he says. "But there's also a whole other group that they miss, or don't know about. With festivals like ours, we go in and pull apart the culture, so that the culture's subculture is represented."

This means bringing into the fold works that don't speak solely about race. One of this year's highlights is "Momma," a one-man play in which comedian Michael Colyar chronicles his relationship with his mother and his struggles with substance abuse. One of the featured films, "Rumination," depicts one man's grief after a tumultuous breakup.

On top of that, the festival's 100 or so staged plays and play readings are so diverse that they're split into three categories — traditional, gospel and urban. This year's participants hail from all over the world, though there was a special effort made to highlight playwrights, actors, dancers, filmmakers, artists and musicians from D.C.'s Ward 8.

"We specifically went after east-of-the-river artists," Alan says. "We not only wanted to uncover, discover and introduce artists that are east of the river,



"The Eve of Jackie," starring Chester Gregory, re-creates the final complete performance of soul singer Jackie Wilson.

3 highlights of this year's fest

► 'Not Without Black Women'

Anacostia Playhouse, 2020 Shannon Place SE; Fri., 9 p.m., \$15. Based on a 2019 book of original poems by educator and motivational speaker Rebecca Dupas, this production will recognize the struggles — and the achievements — of black women through song and poetry. Dupas and four other artists will take the stage.

► 'Prison to Home'

Anacostia Arts Center, 1231 Good Hope Road SE; June 30, 1 p.m., \$15. Re-entry into society isn't easy or straightforward for ex-prisoners, and filmmaker Bridgetté Holmes' documentary sheds light on this long-standing issue. With input from current and former inmates, along with court officers, "Prison to Home" offers a wide look into the prison system.

► 'The Eve of Jackie'

THEARC Theater, 1901 Mississippi Ave. SE; July 5, 7 p.m., July 6, 8 p.m., July 7, 5 p.m., \$25. Actor and musician Chester Gregory plays legendary African American soul singer Jackie Wilson, a two-time Grammy Hall of Fame inductee. The production chronicles Wilson's final complete performance, on Sept. 28, 1975, just one day before he collapsed from a heart attack onstage.

but also help to develop them."

The festival's works span different countries, and people of all different backgrounds are taking part in and being represented at the event. What? It is called DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival, isn't it?

"I think an interesting caveat is that all of the plays aren't just by African Americans," Alan says. "We want to talk about African American, or African Caribbean or African African life, but that doesn't necessarily mean the writer of that is African."

With the festival nearing the 10-year mark, Alan wants to take things global — bringing artists to other countries that may not have exposure to diverse African storytelling. For now, though, the organizers plan to keep the event firmly rooted in D.C.

"This is a festival by artists, for artists. We didn't want to build a project where we could just stand up and watch it walk away," Alan says. "We wanted to build a project where we could stand up, get in and ride with you, so that all of the staff — all of the team — are also performing during the festival."

STEPHANIE WILLIAMS (EXPRESS)

Various locations; Fri. through July 7, various times and prices; go to dclblacktheatrefestival.com for details.

PHOTOS COURTESY DC BLACK ARTS & THEATRE FESTIVAL

THURSDAY – JUNE 27, 2019

MUSIC

Black Coffee Blues Band

Date & Time: Thursday - June 27, 2019 @ 1:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$10

THEATRE

Salon Shenanigans II

Messam Productions - Washington, DC



Salon Shenanigans is based off some real events that take place at Sensational Styles Natural Salon but could happen in your salon as well!!! The drama comes in when one of the stylist husband goes to jail. What will happen? Why did he go to jail? Will the relationship stand the trial!

Date: Thursday - June 27, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Theater - 1901 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$20

FILM

Innocent Convict

Date & Time: Thursday - June 27, 2019 @ Time: 7:00PM

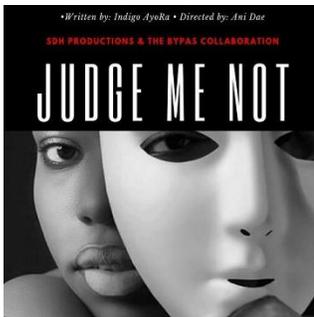
Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Judge Me Not

SDH Productions & The BYPAS Collaboration - Washington, DC



Judge Me Not is a monologue staged event of the lives of ten individuals from different walks of life, whom stories all fit under one common goal, to be Judge No more! A night of love, soul, and laughter! Sheena D. Horne Productions was established in 2012 by founder and CEO Sheena D. Horne. Based out of Washington, D.C, Sheena D. Horne Productions is unique because of its thought-provoking real-life stories that are told through acting, by doing so individuals are geared towards bettering themselves mentally, physically and emotionally. "We deliver change by addressing social issues that empowers our community."

Date: Thursday - June 27, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

Artist Spotlight

A little about the **Messam's**. **Aj and Makayla** are a power couple who have been married for 12 years. They got married on stage at the end of their first stage play. Although from two different backgrounds they manage to balance each other out. They are licensed foster parents in the state of Maryland and have fostered over 15 children, most being teenagers. They adopted 5 children before giving birth to their own biological child. They have 11 grandchildren from their children.



THEATRE

Chocolate Lounge

GiGi Holliday – Washington, DC



Live Music, Hot Ladies and Cold Drinks! That's what this revue is made of. GiGi Holliday is excited to bring back Chocolate Lounge: A Performers of Color Burlesque/ Variety show. Keeping with the rich history of burlesque, prepare to feel the same extravagant history of DC when Black Broadway was buzzing. Come dress to the nines and enjoy all that this show has to offer from a live band to shimmy and shakes of the dazzling performers. So, grab that cool chick or hip cat that's around and head on over to the Chocolate Lounge.

Date: Thursday - June 27, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

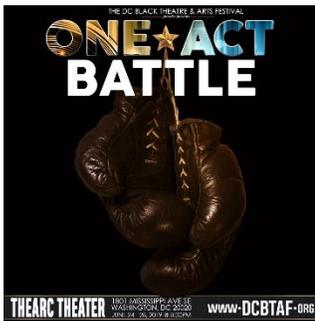
Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

One Act Battle – Anything Goes

Center For Black Arts & Culture – Washington, DC



More than a competition, this one-act competition is more like fighting Muhammad Ali in his prime! The One-Act Battle is a five-day competition divided into 4 categories; Drama, Comedy, Adult theme and Anything Goes. Each night the audience cast their votes to select the best play of the evening. The winning play from each evening moves on the final round; the battle to end all battles! The right to hold the title "DCBTAF's Heavy Weight Champion of the World!"

Date: Wednesday - June 26, 2019

Time: 8:30PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$12

FILM

I Give A Damn Jam (Documentary)

Date & Time: Thursday - June 27, 2019 @ Time: 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

MUSIC

Tia Dae

Washington, DC



A Divine, Authentic, and Exuberant Actress and Performer, Tia Dae captivates her audience with her riveting vocal range, and her undeniably powerful, raw talent. Born and raised in Washington, DC's "Chocolate City", Tia Dae was born into funk and soul music as she was introduced to live instrumentation and performance by DC's Go-Go Music culture. With a strong and soulful sound at the age of five, Tia Dae proclaimed her destiny as a renowned entertainer and songwriter. In her twenty years, she has performed at various local hotspots in the DMV area and beyond; most importantly, she has headlined events such as Unifest, Georgia Avenue Day, the Black Family Reunion, and Blues Alley.

Date: Thursday - June 27, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

FRIDAY – JUNE 28, 2019

FILM

Sounds of Summer

Date & Time: Friday - June 28, 2019 @ Time: 5:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

FILM

The Lonesome Trail

Date & Time: Friday - June 28, 2019 @ Time: 7:00PM

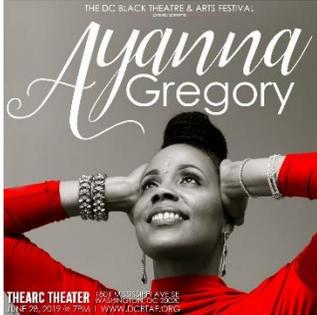
Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

MUSIC

Ayanna Gregory

Jenkins & Partners – Washington, DC



Ayanna is no stranger to the entertainment world. While growing up as the daughter of celebrated Comedian and Human Rights Activist Dick Gregory, she was blessed with the opportunity to interact with such mega talents as Bob Marley, Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, and Michael Jackson. But the glamour of the entertainment world isn't what resonated most with her. Raised with a deep awareness and concern for Human Rights, Ayanna's musical roots are steeped in the struggle of the "Freedom Movement."

Date: Friday - June 28, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$10

THEATRE

Views From Forever

Forever Duncan – Washington, DC



Alfred Duncan is a Grammy and Emmy-nominated artist & Sherrell Duncan is a certified fitness trainer and speaker. The two were introduced by a mutual friend in 2007 at a nightclub in Washington, DC. The two were social media associates for the next several years, and six years later, in 2013 Alfred sent Sherrell a Facebook message to commend her on her weightloss journey. She responded with her phone number – the rest is history.

Date: Friday - June 28, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Theater - 1901 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$25

THEATRE

A Raisin In The Sun

O'Pharow Theatre – Washington, DC



A Raisin in the Sun portrays a few weeks in the life of the Youngers, an African-American family living on the South Side of Chicago in the 1950s. When the play opens, the Youngers are about to receive an insurance check for \$10,000. This money comes from the deceased Mr. Younger's life insurance policy. Each of the adult members of the family has an idea as to what he or she would like to do with this money.

Date: Friday - June 28, 2019

Time: 3:00PM

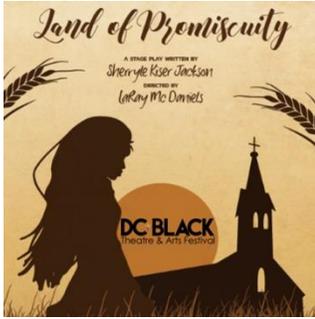
Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$18

THEATRE

Land of Promiscuity

Sherryle Kiser Jackson – Washington, DC



Ever since high school, Rebi Lucas has not led a discreet lifestyle. She has grown accustomed to using her body as a bargaining tool. Although more than a few men have known her physically, only one man has dared to love her as a true friend. Now Rebi must return to her hometown after her mother's death to face that man. The Land of Promiscuity is a story of unrequited love that will leave you wondering whether there are circumstances that make it impossible for even love to survive.

Date: Friday - June 28, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

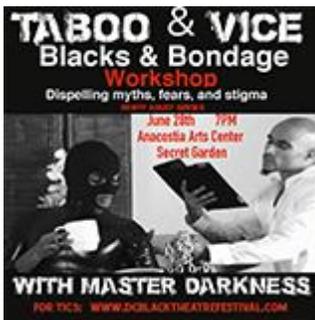
Location: African American Civil War Museum 1925 Vermont Ave NW, Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

WORKSHOP

The Art of Master BDSM

Washington, DC



Master is a word that you cannot use lightly when describing someone in life. There are many different types of Masters, I happen to be one who enjoys bringing a slave/sub to a space where they can be free. I am not here to destroy what little fabric you have left in your mind I am here for my entertainment. My entertainment is your benefit. I don't do just online play; my breath is to be felt on your skin. I am a connoisseur of life and a prodigy of experience. The only thing that separates me from most people is the fact that I will do it and I will own it. People don't understand that life is short, you have to enjoy it as much as you can and have as much fun as you can.

Date: Friday - June 28, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

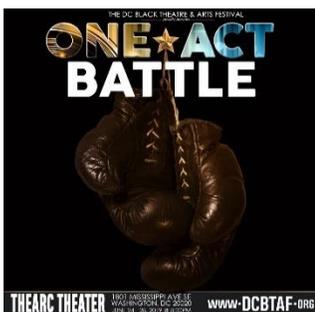
Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

One Act Battle – Championship

Center For Black Arts & Culture – Washington, DC



More than a competition, this one-act competition is more like fighting Muhammad Ali in his prime! The One-Act Battle is a five-day competition divided into 4 categories; Drama, Comedy, Adult theme and Anything Goes. Each night the audience cast their votes to select the best play of the evening. The winning play from each evening moves on the final round; the battle to end all battles! The right to hold the title "DCBTAF's Heavy Weight Champion of the World!"

Date: Friday - June 28, 2019

Time: 8:30PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$12

THEATRE

Michael Colyar's Momma

Michael Colyar Productions – Los Angeles, CA



This dramatic one-man stage show that chronicles the life of comedian Michael Colyar and highlights the importance of the love and support of his Mother as he traverses through a life filled with highs and lows. From his days of making people laugh on Venice Beach, to winning Star Search, to his ugly drug addiction and his triumphant return thanks to his Momma, God and the power of laughter. Michael's life has taken him on a journey that he is now sharing with the world.

Date: Friday - June 28, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

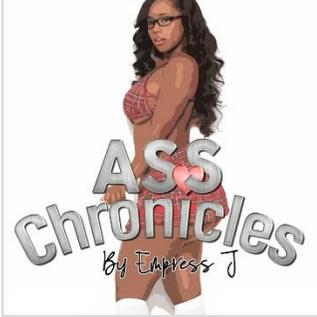
Location: THEARC Theater - 1901 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$25

THEATRE

Ass Chronicles

Empress J Productions – Washington, DC



Inspired by "The Vagina Monologues," "The Ass Chronicles" was created by Empress Joyner after her participation in the popular production. Though there are many aspects of a woman's life that are affected by and determined by her "vagina," the ass of a woman has far too long been overlooked, exploited and demonized. Empress takes you on a journey through the various aspects of women and their asses against the world! Through this journey, you will learn to appreciate, laugh, understand and adore the ass as it is chronicled in a variety of aspects.

Date: Friday - June 28, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

MUSIC

Urban Concert Series

Nina Sol & Ameka J – Washington, DC



Date: Friday - June 28, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15



Tia Dae

Two Shows

JUNE 27 @ 9PM

Anacostia Playhouse
2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

JULY 3 @ 9PM

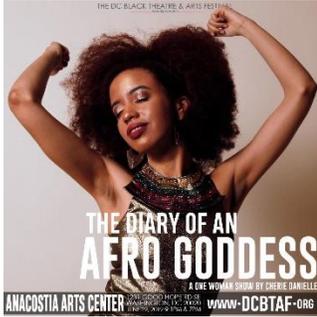
Anacostia Arts Center
1231 Good Hope Road SE Washington, DC

SATURDAY – JUNE 29, 2019

THEATRE

Diary of an Afro Goddess

Cherie Danielle – New York, NY



The Diary of An Afro Goddess, a fresh, new, unapologetic, dynamic one-woman show, written and performed by the magical and nuanced Cherie Danielle and directed by Broadway veteran and coach Marishka S. Phillips. The solo show was originally developed in "The Intimacy" workshop at "Marishka Phillips Theatrical Preparatory" and continued development at the "POTPORRI! World Women Works" reading series, produced by RHYTHMCOLOR Associates.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 1:00PM and 7:00PM

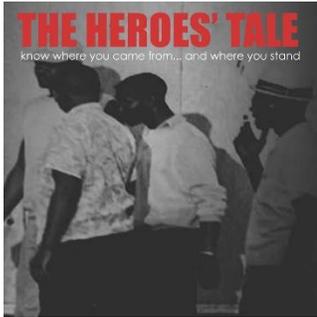
Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Heroes Tale

Cheryl and Greg Poole – Washington, DC



The story of the Dupont Circle Heroes spans the decades between 1960 and 1980 in Washington, DC. It was a time that saw racial discord amplified to screaming violence nationwide. The Civil Rights movement gave birth to freedom rides, sit-ins and rallies which decried the mistreatment and disenfranchisement of America's Black citizens, while the Peace movement spoke out against all violence and proclaimed "make love not war!" Police brutality ran rampant, and pre-DNA - countless innocent people rotted in prisons for crimes they didn't commit - the fate that befalls three of the Heroes - Feets, TJ and Black Jimmy.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 1:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Lord When Will I Get My Rose

Adeleane Dixon – Hollywood, FL



You don't want to miss this heartfelt gospel stage play that tells the story of 30 year old Latisha Johnson, a single mother who is a very educated, successful, self sufficient, Christian woman and has grown weary with being alone. She spends all of her time raising her two sons, working in upper management at a very prominent company and as the church clerk but she has come to a place in her life where she is ready to settle down and be married. Latisha is tired of waiting on the Lord for the spouse God has ordained for her and since God isn't moving fast enough.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 3:00PM

Location: THEARC Theater - 1901 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

A Raisin In The Sun

O'Pharrow Theatre - Washington, DC

Date: Saturday - June 28, 2019

Time: 3:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$18

THEATRE

Demerara Gold

Ingrid Griffith – Brooklyn, NY



DEMERARA GOLD is a solo show about a spirited, 7-year old Caribbean girl who is left in the care of her two grandmothers after her parents suddenly get visas to the U.S.A. One grandmother is a rigid recluse. The other grandmother is a religious fanatic. The girl's dreams are on hold until she gets a visa to join her parents in America. But first, she must survive in both grandmothers' worlds. Ingrid taps into her wild spirit to break away and reunite with her parents in her new home in America only to find that her battle has just begun. You'll laugh 'til you cry!

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 3:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Finding Her

P.S. Perkins – Washington, DC



FINDING HER is a storytelling trilogy, written and spoken in the style of the fictional memoir, examining the life of a young girl coming of age and the women who nourished and struggled to bring her through. These stories represent the everyday Heroines that may not receive the accolades, medals, awards of recognized warriors, but exemplify the strength, love, and courage embodied in every woman when need arises. In doing so, they find their greater purpose in those they serve and often save - including themselves.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 3:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Together Through the Pain

Frontline Ministries – Baltimore, MD



Ripped from the headlines and based primarily on actual events, Together Through the Pain explores the agony, fears and commonality of women who have experienced the loss of a child due to gun violence. Within the context of a self-help group meeting, seven Baltimore mothers – all of whom are dealing with the devastation resulting from that loss – bare their souls to each other and to you, seeking and giving the understanding, comfort, and encouragement they need to move on.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

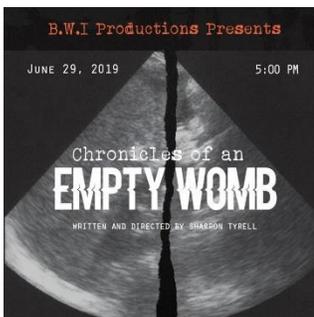
Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Chronicles of an Empty Womb

B.W.I. Productions – Baltimore, MD



Do you really want to know how we (women and men) feel and what we think? Infertility is a mountain of emotions that can come crumbling down at any moment. "Chronicles of an Empty Womb" stage play expresses the real and raw emotions that come with infertility. There are various stages of infertility that is not always talked about or shared. Infertility is not just a woman issue, which society has made it seem while men are quietly removed from the impact of it. Infertility is a human issue that men and women both experience in different ways.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Campaign 72

Odell B. Ruffin – Los Angeles, CA



"Campaign 72" one woman theatrical production, which explores the first African American Shirley Chisholm woman candidate for Democratic presidential nomination United States campaign amongst racial tension in 1972.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Michael Colyar's Momma

Michael Colyar Productions – Los Angeles, CA

Date & Time: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

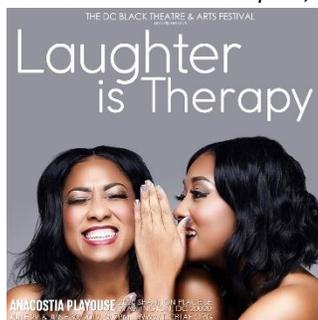
Location: THEARC Theater - 1901 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$25

THEATRE

Laughter is Therapy

Roni Graham – Philadelphia, PA



Laughter is Therapy, takes the cliché of turning life's lemons into lemonade and whips up a batch of her own recipe infused with emotional vigor. At its core, the show has a message that is good for the soul: no matter what you endure, you can make it through with a little laughter. Always the type to "laugh at things that aren't funny," Graham takes what some might see as a character flaw and wrote a show based on her dark sense of humor and even darker life experiences. Centered around her upbringing in Philadelphia in the 1980s and '90s, Graham discusses physical and sexual abuse, navigating the foster-care system, surviving a shootout, and much more.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Here Comes the Sun

Ted Johnson – Atlanta, GA



Five men estranged from their respective families live together in a group home for disabled veterans. The men are confined to a life of pain and depression, when change comes. This change comes in the form of a kind spirit, unassuming and gentle, but present. After being touched by this spirit, these men life change forever.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Belle and The Bulldagger

Aiyi'nah "Simply Nay" Ford – Washington, DC



The Belle and The Bulldagger takes you on a journey with Belle and Di. Who are they? Belle is best described as a sultry, yet sophisticated, Femme. Di is a no-cut cards, dapper Butch. The infamous duo have matured and recall scandalous accounts of living and loving freely during the Civil Rights Movement. Explored their emergence from the bigoted South to the Nation's Capitol. We will learn more than a few lessons from Ricki B. when the curtain closes, you will know the hidden facts from the front-lines of the freedom rides. Don't take our word for it! You will hear directly from the very famous faces that these women rabble-raised with and you admire. The story has been told, the truth has not.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019 **Time:** 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Theater - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

WORKSHOP

A Journey Into Burlesque

New York, NY



Are you a bad girl? Then show 'em what you are working with at this striptease burlesque workshop. Cool off this summer by taking it all off with a sexy strip tease workshop. Sip pre-class cocktails at 6:30pm and then dance it off from 7-8pm with Mandarine Moon-Fly and DC's own Black Magic.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

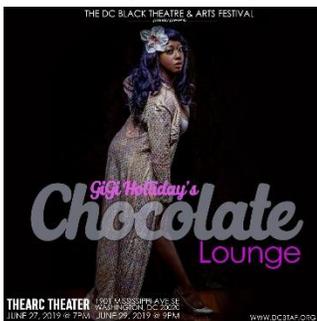
Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$10

THEATRE

Chocolate Lounge

GiGi Holliday – Washington, DC



Live Music, Hot Ladies and Cold Drinks! That's what this revue is made of. GiGi Holliday is excited to bring back Chocolate Lounge: A Performers of Color Burlesque/ Variety show. Keeping with the rich history of burlesque, prepare to feel the same extravagant history of DC when Black Broadway was buzzing. Come dress to the nines and enjoy all that this show has to offer from a live band to shimmy and shakes of the dazzling performers. So, grab that cool chick or hip cat that's around and head on over to the Chocolate Lounge.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Heroes Tale

Cheryl and Greg Poole - Washington, DC

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019 **Time:** 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15



THEATRE

Second Chance

Talib Andre – New York, NY



Holy Matrimony, it's been seven years and Marcellus and Nefertiti Evers have decided to renew their wedding vows amongst a host of family and friends. Will they be able to infuse the joy of romance back into their marriage, or is it too little – too late...?

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

MUSIC

Millie's Juke Joint

Washington, DC



Passion at the Juke Joint is a showcase of erotic performing arts. Join your host Ms. Millie at her Juke Joint as she brings you some steamy hot entertainers. This is not a show for the faint at heart. Come and enjoy comedy, burlesque, sultry singing and everything in between in this gritty little Juke Joint.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

Scandalous

— Dramatic, Forbidden, Romantic & just a little Naughty —

THE SCANDALOUS EXPERIENCE:

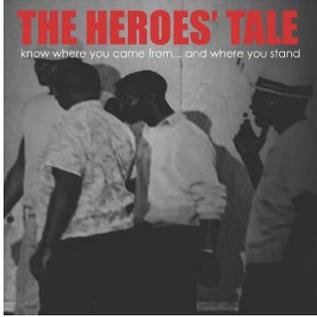
Scandalous is an hour-long immersive experience of seduction and sensuality. It is an opportunity to explore a world of awareness through interactive demos and displays. Come into our world of the Erotic Garden to experience a different side of intimacy brought to you with varied modalities that will tantalize all your senses. Roam from station to station and tour without pressure, fear or condemnation our scandalous exhibits. Feel uninhibited as you look on while masked (masks will be provided). Relax and enjoy one of our specialty COCKtails before the main event of the evening, the stage play "The Ass Chronicles" June 28th and "Passion At The Juke Joint" erotic arts showcase June 29th.

SUNDAY – JUNE 30, 2019

THEATRE

Heroes Tale

Cheryl and Greg Poole – Washington, DC



The story of the Dupont Circle Heroes spans the decades between 1960 and 1980 in Washington, DC. It was a time that saw racial discord amplified to screaming violence nationwide. The Civil Rights movement gave birth to freedom rides, sit-ins and rallies which decried the mistreatment and disenfranchisement of America's Black citizens, while the Peace movement spoke out against all violence and proclaimed "make love not war!" Police brutality ran rampant, and pre-DNA - countless innocent people rotted in prisons for crimes they didn't commit - the fate that befalls three of the Heroes - Feets, TJ and Black Jimmy.

Date: Sunday - June 30, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

A Raisin In The Sun

O'Pharrow Theatre - Washington, DC

Date: Sunday - June 30, 2019

Time: 3:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$18

THEATRE

Demerara Gold

Ingrid Griffith - Brooklyn, NY

Date: Sunday - June 30, 2019

Time: 3:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Parallels in Blackness

Glenn Alan – Washington, DC



Parallels is the 15th play written by DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival founder – Glenn Alan. This story travels through time, creating an uncomfortable place in the comparison of Black life from the moments African Americans stepped foot on American soil. Told with just two characters, this rich and haunting story unfolds leaving you breathless at times, hopeful at times and a live at times.

Date: Sunday - June 30, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Heroes Tale

Cheryl and Greg Poole - Washington, DC

Date & Time: Sunday - June 30, 2019 @ 5:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Michael Colyar's Momma

Michael Colyar Productions – Los Angeles, CA

Date & Time: Sunday - June 30, 2019 @ Time: 5:00PM

Location: THEARC Theater - 1901 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$25



MUSIC

Restored Vocal Band

Washington, DC



Ayanna is no stranger to the entertainment world. While growing up as the daughter of celebrated Comedian and Human Rights Activist Dick Gregory, she was blessed with the opportunity to interact with such mega talents as Bob Marley, Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, and Michael Jackson. But the glamour of the entertainment world isn't what resonated most with her. Raised with a deep awareness and concern for Human Rights, Ayanna's musical roots are steeped in the struggle of the "Freedom Movement."

Date: Sunday - June 30, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox 1801 Mississippi Ave SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Not the Man I Married

Rosie Rogers – Woodbridge, VA



Date: Sunday - June 30, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Main Stage – 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Here Comes the Sun

Ted Johnson – Atlanta, GA

Date & Time: Sunday - June 30, 2019 **Time:** 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Laughter is Therapy

Roni Graham – Philadelphia, PA

Date & Time: Sunday - June 30, 2019 @ 7:00PM

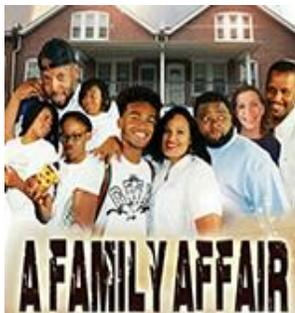
Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

FILM

A Family Affair

Shirelle "Diamond" Hogans – Wilmington, DE



A Family Affair gives behind closed doors depiction of the escalation of social issues that plague our communities and how they present themselves in day to day life. It showcases the WHAT HAPPENED/underbelly of the ACE's that we treat in trauma care and is supportive content to compliment the findings and recommendations of the recent CDC report provided for the City of Wilmington, Delaware. A FAMILY AFFAIR starts the conversation to educate, empower and equip our community to THRIVE. Directly connecting the experienced social issues with available community and national resources begins the journey to rebuilding a healthy functioning family unit open to life's positive possibilities.

Date & Time: Sunday - June 30, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

MONDAY – JULY 1, 2019

FILM

Let's Talk: Domestic Violence *Greenville, NC*



Let's Talk is a series of documentaries that highlight issues affecting the African American Community. "Let's Talk: Domestic Violence" highlights the stories of Black women who have suffered and survived physical, mental or emotional abuse. While this documentary serves as a platform to open public discussion about private matters, it also serves as a warning to women who see signs but choose to ignore them.

Date: Monday – July 1, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$10

FILM

Sinners Wanted

Joshua Jenkins & Jimmy Jenkins – Washington, DC



A Pastor and a Prostitute — this ain't your average love story. Leo Shepherd, a young vibrant minister from Atlanta, Georgia, relocates to Washington, DC, for a opportunity to pastor a church. On the first night of his installment a prostitute named Ginger Clementine known as "GiGi" interrupts the service when she bursts through the church doors breathing heavily, obviously running from a bad situation.

Date: Monday – July 1, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Main Stage - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

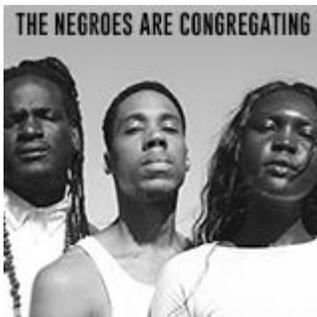
Ticket Pricing: \$15

Talk Back with the writers/directors – The Jenkins Brothers

THEATRE

The Negroes are Congregating

Natasha Adiyana Morris – Toronto, Ontario



The Negroes Are Congregating is a personal and contemporary piece delving into the psyche of generational internalized racism. Delivered through a fusion of spoken word, satire, and soulful dialect, audiences will enter a realm of private truths and leave with an understanding of what it means to be Black, proud, and ready.

Date: Monday – July 1, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



Natasha Adiyana Morris is an award-winning playwright whose work has been presented in Canada, the United States, and Europe. Recognized for founding the successful PIECE OF MINE Festival, she is the recipient of several accolades including SummerWorks' New Performance Text Award (2018), the Ontario's 2015 Leading Women Building Communities Recognition Certificate and The Black Canadian Awards' Leadership Certificate, as well as featured on CTV's Canada AM (2015). Being a strong advocate for continued education, Adiyana completed a Metcalf Arts Management Intern for Volcano Theatre and Peggy Baker Dance Projects. She has interned under Obsidian Theatre's Philip Akin in producing (2013), completed an artistic residency from anitafrika.dub theatre, and graduated from Etobicoke School of the Arts' drama program.

FILM

Hair Like Fall

Annapolis, MD



Hair Like Fall is about growing up with black hair in a world that does not accept you. This film parallels hair's evolution in conjunction with how the seasons change. It focuses on identity, discovery, love and acceptance.

Date: Monday – July 1, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



Natasha Adiyana Morris is an award-winning playwright whose work has been presented in Canada, the United States, and Europe. Recognized for founding the successful PIECE OF MINE Festival, she is the recipient of several accolades including SummerWorks' New Performance Text Award (2018), the Ontario's 2015 Leading Women Building Communities Recognition Certificate and The Black Canadian Awards' Leadership Certificate, as well as featured on CTV's Canada AM (2015). Being a strong advocate for continued education, Adiyana completed a Metcalf Arts Management Intern for Volcano Theatre and Peggy Baker Dance Projects. She has interned under Obsidian Theatre's Philip Akin in producing (2013), completed an artistic residency from anitafrika.dub theatre, and graduated from Etobicoke School of the Arts' drama program.

From the creator and executive producer of Bravo's "Your Husband Is Cheating On Us", BET's The Clean Up Woman, UPTV's Community Service and coming to Aspire Martin, Malcolm and Me

PLAYWRIGHT WORKSHOP

LEARN HOW TO GET YOUR STAGEPLAY ON TOUR AND TV



HOSTED BY TWO-TIME TELLY AWARD WINNER

JD LAWRENCE



THEARC THEATER

1901 MISSISSIPPI AVE SE
WASHINGTON, DC 20020
SATURDAY JULY 6, 2019 @ 12PM

www.DCBTAF.ORG

MEET THE JENKINS BROTHERS

JIMMY JENKINS

Undoubtedly talented and committed to his craft, Jimmy Jenkins is a breakthrough director and producer from Prince George's County, MD. He is the middle son of Pastor John K. Jenkins, Sr and First Lady Trina Jenkins of the First Baptist Church of Glenarden in Glenarden, MD. He attended Elmhurst College in Chicago, IL where his passion for theater and film blossomed. He was an athlete and when a severe injury forced him to return home to Maryland, he started United Empire, a multi-dimensional company that offers services in production, film, music and athletics. Jimmy went on to graduate from Salisbury University with a bachelor's degree in media production and minor in film.

Though young in age, Jimmy demonstrates the skill and commitment of a seasoned veteran in the entertainment industry. In, 2011, Jimmy wrote, directed and produced his first theatrical production, Heartless Journey. Over the next few years he directed and produced "Transpose: The Orchestrator", a stage play entitled "Zion," a full length feature film Transpose: The Movie. He became known as the youngest director to produce and full length stage play, the youngest filmmaker from Washington, DC and the youngest to sell out the Prestigious Magic Johnson Theater in Largo, MD.

SINNERS WANTED

JOSHUA JENKINS

Joshua is a young man of faith, courage, and submitted to God just as his biblical counterpart. He employs the medium of Christian theater, film and preaching with cutting edge delivery as its foundation to make ministry relevant to a generation declared out of reach due to the tactics, schemes, and strategies that the enemy uses in his quest to get them to abort their destinies. As motivational speaker, teacher and preacher he has impacted audiences across the Washington, DC, Virginia and Maryland.

Joshua is a graduate of Bowie State University, with a Bachelors of Science in Mass Communication with a concentration in Broadcast Journalism and a minor in Theater. Joshua is a former officer of the Prince Georges County Police Department where he served for 7 years, and has been making his wave as a playwright, director, spoken word artist, and preacher for the last thirteen years. In his breakthrough productions "Valley High", "eLeMeNtS of yOUr GaRmEnT", "Broken House", "Church Folk" and "Breaking Down", Joshua uses frank, unfiltered discussion to confront long held church and societal taboos.

WWW.SINNERSWANTED.COM

TUESDAY – JULY 2, 2019

FILM

Fraternizing

Devin Bridgers – Washington, DC



This is a Short film about 2 young women, making their way through the workforce while interacting with potential suitors on the job. Estelle is a 20 something who is extremely internal and her friend Shonda is the polar opposite. Through a myriad of life happenings this romantic comedy will show the road to Estelle finding her voice and Shonda learning to speak a little less.

Date: Tuesday – July 2, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Negroes are Congregating

Toronto, Ontario

Date: Tuesday – July 2, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

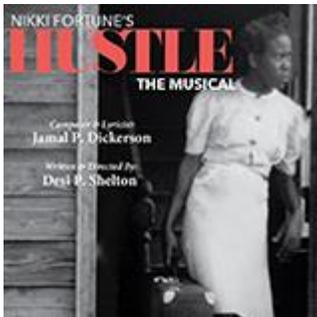
Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Hustle – The Musical

Nikki Fortune – New York, NY



Inspired by the novel Hustle Written by Nikki Fortune, Hustle The Musical is a passionate drama about life, love and the power of faith in a fast paced world. Produced by a team of African-American Women, Hustle The Musical will have you dancing in your seat, clutching your pearls and holding back tears of joy. Each character will resonate in your life, reminding you of family, friends and stories that make up the diaspora of a rich African American Experience. Written & Directed by Desi P. Shelton. Composed by lyricist Jamal P. Dickerson

Date: Tuesday - June 2, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Main Stage - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$25

THEATRE

Monologue Battle

Various Cities



The story of the Dupont Circle Heroes spans the decades between 1960 and 1980 in Washington, DC. It was a time that saw racial discord amplified to screaming violence nationwide. The Civil Rights movement gave birth to freedom rides, sit-ins and rallies which decried the mistreatment and disenfranchisement of America's Black citizens, while the Peace movement spoke out against all violence and proclaimed "make love not war!" Police brutality ran rampant, and pre-DNA - countless

Date: Tuesday - July 2, 2019

Time: 8:30PM

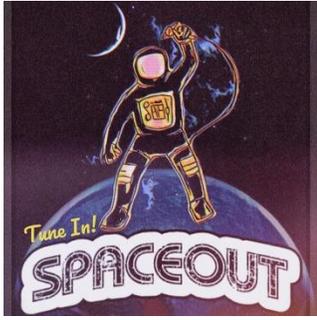
Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$12

POETRY/MUSIC

TuneIn - SpaceOut

Jayshana: *The Last Poet* – Washington, DC



A musical journey through the DMV's most inspiring artists. Through beats, rhymes, song and dance the other-worldly energy of the area manifests on stage. Produced and introduced by Jayshana, *The Last Poet*, the show opens with love. The Vibe Queen will elevate you to a strawberry high. Artist and co-producer, Who's Los is meteoric and metaphoric. 90Wyse brings the rocket fuel to propel a spacecraft. Slater the Genius gets lyrically out of this world. The artist Asé closes the show but will only elevate us to a higher star. Space queens dance through the musical performance and bring us earthlings that much closer to tuning in and spacing out.

2nd Show Date: Tuesday - July 2, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



25-years-old, PG County Native with dual citizenship in Queens, New York. With the help of a group of talented musicians and trusted friends, **Jayshana** will be producing for the first time in the DC Black Theatre and Arts Festival. #TuneInSpaceOut is a musical celebration that seeks, not only to spread the gospel of the talent in the area, but to pay all of the artists for presenting. Not only can you buy tickets for yourself, but you can donate The Gift of Music to someone less fortunate who could use the extra fun!

Nikki Fortune is a beauty entrepreneur, licensed cosmetologist / instructor, and author with more than 20 years of experience in business development, brand management and merchandising. As founder of Runway Lashes Cosmetic, Beauty Spa and Salon Studios in Long Island, and leader of a 30-person team throughout the United States for Marketing Excellence, Nikki brings affordable luxury beauty, sales and marketing services to the community. She is also a 2016 Graduate of the MBE Program at Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College.



GiGi Holliday is Washington DC's resurgence of glitz, glamour, and allure. Armed with eyelashes and an arsenal of glitter she has enticed audiences with her clever blend of sass and wit. Lady GiGi Holliday had her start after studying the art of burlesque in Trixie Little's Burlesque Bootcamp and graduated in May 2010 with a double major in class and sass and a minor in tit-elation. Since then her presence has graced stages in Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts, North Carolina, New York, Virginia, Georgia, Louisiana, Washington State and her native home Washington, DC where she was one of the first burlesque performers in 60-years to perform at the historic Howard Theater.

Multi-published author and career educator, **Sherryle Kiser Jackson** brings her Soul-Satisfying brand to the content she creates. Her triumphant debut novel, *Soon and Very Soon* (2007) was followed up by five other traditionally published novels. She has gone on to self-publish several titles under her own imprint as well. Her first stage play, "Battle of Wills," debuted as part of the 2015 DC Black Theatre Festival where she will make her 2017 return with her new play, "Discarded". Sherryle pursues her passion of creating content for the screen, stage and television



WEDNESDAY – JULY 3, 2019

FILM

Mama's Song

David Wendell Boykins – Los Angeles, CA



David has worked in Hollywood for the past 12 years as a freelance Camera Operator for many television reality shows. He's also written, directed, produced, or worked in a combination of these roles for many short films and internet commercials. David graduated from the Los Angeles Film School where he studied directing, cinematography and producing. His thesis project, Prime of Life was named as a semi-finalist in The Urban Insider's Short Screenplay Competition. Prime of Life has also been featured at the Roxbury Film Festival in Boston MA, the 1st Annual Fresh Cut Review and the Black Hollywood Education and Resource Center 15th Annual Film Festival.

Date: Wednesday – July 3, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$7.00

THEATRE

Never Thought I was Black Till I came to America

Anna Mwalagho – Nairobi, Kenya



Come check out "Never Thought I was Black Till I Came to America," a one-woman stand-up performance by Anna Mwalagho that'll educate, evoke your thoughts, and have you laughing in stitches. Anna is a multi-talented performer who uses comedy, storytelling, poetry, acting, music, and African dance to present rich, insightful, and hilarious social commentary.

Date: Wednesday – July 3, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15.00

THEATRE

Hustle – The Musical

New York, NY

Date: Wednesday – July 3, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Main Stage - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$25

THEATRE

Monologue Battle

Various Cities



The story of the Dupont Circle Heroes spans the decades between 1960 and 1980 in Washington, DC. It was a time that saw racial discord amplified to screaming violence nationwide. The Civil Rights movement gave birth to freedom rides, sit-ins and rallies which decried the mistreatment and disenfranchisement of America's Black citizens, while the Peace movement spoke out against all violence and proclaimed "make love not war!" Police brutality ran rampant, and pre-DNA - countless

Date: Wednesday – July 3, 2019

Time: 8:30PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$12

THEATRE

Monologue Battle

Various Cities



The story of the Dupont Circle Heroes spans the decades between 1960 and 1980 in Washington, DC. It was a time that saw racial discord amplified to screaming violence nationwide. The Civil Rights movement gave birth to freedom rides, sit-ins and rallies which decried the mistreatment and disenfranchisement of America's Black citizens, while the Peace movement spoke out against all violence and proclaimed "make love not war!" Police brutality ran rampant, and pre-DNA - countless

Date: Wednesday – July 3, 2019

Time: 8:30PM

Location: Anacostia Playhouse - 2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$12

MUSIC

Tia Dae

Washington, DC



A Divine, Authentic, and Exuberant Actress and Performer, Tia Dae captivates her audience with her riveting vocal range, and her undeniably powerful, raw talent. Born and raised in Washington, DC's "Chocolate City", Tia Dae was born into funk and soul music as she was introduced to live instrumentation and performance by DC's Go-Go Music culture. In her twenty years, she has performed at various local hotspots in the DMV area and beyond; most importantly, she has headlined events such as Unifest, Georgia Avenue Day, the Black Family Reunion, and Blues Alley.

Date: Wednesday – July 3, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Touching Myself: An Ode to Audre Lorde

Performing Fusion Theatre – Boston, MA



Audre Lorde laid down an ultimatum when she said the erotic means satisfaction is possible, in every aspect of life. Two American women who love being together explore eroticism. However, it is a time of intense racial and sexual injustice and violence in the US; and one of them feels safer than the other.

Date: Wednesday – July 3, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15



FRIDAY – JULY 5, 2019

THEATRE

Diary of an Afro Goddess

Nicky Sunshine – New York, NY



Confessions of a Massage Parlor Madam is just one of those stories. Although the show shines a light on the dark underbelly of sex work, Sunshine also hopes the show will educate her audience on sex work and what both women and men in this industry experience. Based on Nicky Sunshine's initial aspirations as an actress and how rejection and low self-esteem led her down a path of sex work and addiction.

Date: Friday – July 5, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Anacostia Arts Center - 1231 Good Hope Road, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Eve of Jackie

Chester Gregory – Los Angeles, CA



A tribute to the life and music of the two-time Grammy Hall of Fame inductee, The Eve of Jackie takes audiences on an intimate journey back to September 28, 1975—the final complete performance that left audiences with memories of the heart and soul that is Jackie Wilson. Award-winning actor, singer, and songwriter Chester Gregory captures the essence of Wilson with “such physical and vocal dexterity that it’s almost impossible to imagine that anyone else could do it.”

Date: Friday – July 5, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Location: THEARC Main Stage - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$25

THEATRE

Touching Myself: An Ode to Audre Lorde

Performing Fusion Theatre – Boston, MA

Date: Friday – July 5, 2019

Time: 7:00PM

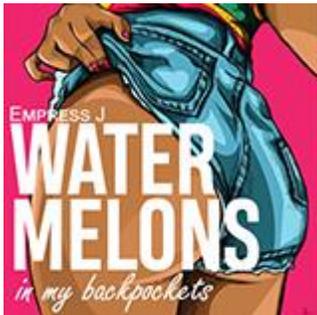
Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

Water Melons In My Back Pocket

Empress J. – Washington, DC



Watermelons In My Back Pocket is a one-woman show that testifies and proclaims positive body image in a world obsessed with skinny and plagued with low self-esteem. Told by Little Calypso Blue, a sassy, smart but confident little girl who identifies with her diverse family dynamics. Each family member reflects unique quality that has influenced how Calypso embraces who she is with the watermelons in her back pocket. What's a little girl with a big butt to do? "Tell the tale because every tale has a tail to tell". This one-woman shows will take you on an unforgettable journey into the lives of women facing issues that millions of woman face everyday.

Date: Friday – July 5, 2019

Time: 9:00PM

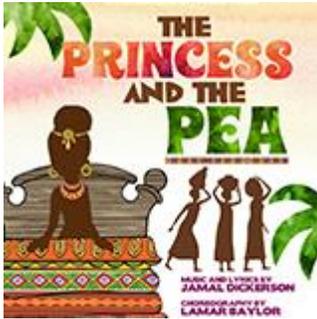
Ticket Pricing: \$15

SATURDAY – JULY 6, 2019

THEATRE

The Princess and the Pea

Desi P. Shelton – Camden, NJ



For nearly 10 years, the Camden Repertory Theatre Company has graced the DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival with amazing work! THIS YEAR WILL BE NO DIFFERENT - Camden rep is showing up and showing out with a re-imagining of The Princess and the Pea!

Date: Saturday – July 6, 2019

Time: 2:00PM

Location: THEARC Main Stage - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Eve of Jackie

Chester Gregory – Los Angeles, CA



A tribute to the life and music of the two-time Grammy Hall of Fame inductee, The Eve of Jackie takes audiences on an intimate journey back to September 28, 1975—the final complete performance that left audiences with memories of the heart and soul that is Jackie Wilson. Award-winning actor, singer, and songwriter Chester Gregory captures the essence of Wilson with “such physical and vocal dexterity that it’s almost impossible to imagine that anyone else could do it.”

Date: Saturday – July 6, 2019

Time: 8:00PM

Location: THEARC Main Stage - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$25

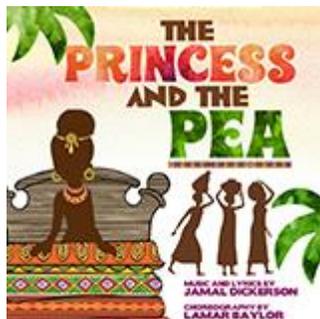


SUNDAY – JULY 7, 2019

THEATRE

The Princess and the Pea

Desi P. Shelton – Camden, NJ



For nearly 10 years, the Camden Repertory Theatre Company has graced the DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival with amazing work! THIS YEAR WILL BE NO DIFFERENT - Camden rep is showing up and showing out with a re-imagining of The Princess and the Pea!

Date: Sunday – July 7, 2019

Time: 2:00PM

Location: THEARC Main Stage - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$15

THEATRE

The Eve of Jackie

Chester Gregory – Los Angeles, CA



A tribute to the life and music of the two-time Grammy Hall of Fame inductee, The Eve of Jackie takes audiences on an intimate journey back to September 28, 1975—the final complete performance that left audiences with memories of the heart and soul that is Jackie Wilson. Award-winning actor, singer, and songwriter Chester Gregory captures the essence of Wilson with “such physical and vocal dexterity that it’s almost impossible to imagine that anyone else could do it.”

Date: Sunday – July 7, 2019

Time: 5:00PM

Location: THEARC Main Stage - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Ticket Pricing: \$25



VISUAL ARTS



VISUAL ARTIST STINA ALEAH

ARTIST | PAINTER | AUTHOR

Stina Aleah

Wilson, NC



Welcome to Stina Aleah! Somehow you've found your way to my site and I appreciate you. A little about Stina... Stina Aleah is originally from Elyria, OH. She ran track for the Ohio school system and was recently inducted into the Hall of Fame for her many accomplishments in track and field. After taking an art class in high school due to a track injury (broken femur), Stina Aleah began nurturing a talent not many can claim to own. As a fine artist, namely oil painting, Stina Aleah has become synonymous with greatness and perseverance. Stina has taken the time to hone her craft over the years. In doing so, she's exhibited nationally, with 2 recent solo exhibitions in Miami, FL.

Date: June 21 - 23, 2019

Location: THEARC Community - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PHOTOGRAPHY

Louis Preston III

Washington, DC



Louis' photographs are of a Ghana you may have missed, an Africa unexpected. The riches of Ghana that are her people, that are her offspring, that are her children. In these images, see them laugh, see them stare serious and stern. See them smile shy and winsome. See them embrace me, a distant relative, with the music of laughter and openness and kindness. See the shapes of this land, see the land as the people make it, this coastal cradle, self-civilized snapshots, my father's father's fathers. See the faces of family welcoming me back into what I have been, but I've never known, offering love and a symphony of stories.

Date: June 29 – July 1, 2019

Location: THEARC Blackbox - 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

David W. M. Cassidy

Upper Marlboro, MD



David W. M. Cassidy grew up in Compton and Los Angeles California. Graduated from George Washington (now Preparatory) High School in 1973. He received a B. A. in Urban and Rural Studies, University of California, San Diego, Third College, 1978. He served in the United States Navy as a Hospitalman (HM2), Field Medical Tech, X-Ray Tech, and Emergency Medical Tech. A graduate of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), C.H. Mason Seminary, 1990 graduated with honors and received the Master of Divinity degree. Rev. Dave was licensed in 1982, and ordained in 1990 by Bishop George Dallas McKinney Jr., Southern California 2nd Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, of the Church of God in Christ. David W. M. Cassidy is a published writer, a published artist. He is a self-taught artist who has had no formal artistic education post high school. His medium of choice is oil painting. He is known for a cubist abstractionist style, the boldness of expression and attention to details of color and composition in his paintings. His artwork is owned by over 60 collectors through the United States and Africa. Author of, The Art of My Life, Blurb.com, and he has designed artwork for United Methodist Publishing House VBS projects; African Methodist Episcopal Church Devotionals, book covers, etc.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Location: THEARC Community - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Erasto Curtis Matthews



Born in Reading, Pennsylvania and raised in East Orange, New Jersey, Erasto Curtis Matthews moved to the Washington DC area over 30 years ago as a student at Howard University. He began exploring his artistic talents as a teenager by drawing portraits of friends, family and his favorite musicians. Self-taught, he began painting later in life and his unique abstraction based style is heavily influenced by elements of African culture and African American life. His work is grounded in vibrant color combinations and unique otherworldly settings.

Date: June 21 - 23, 2019

Location: THEARC Community - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

B/ue Robin - The Artist of Love

Washington, DC



My work explores various forms of love from a male perspective. At the of age 3, I lost my mother and was left with an enormous emptiness inside. My grandparents stepped in to raise me and my two younger brothers. A year later, my grandpa died and my grandma was left to raise us alone, whilst struggling with the almost crippling grief of losing a daughter and husband before their time. Watching grandma as I grew up, I became fascinated with understanding how to deal with the absence of a loved one...and how to balance the rolling tide of joy and pain from day to day.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Location: THEARC Community - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Edmond Wilson

Elkridge, MD



Edmond has been an artist for as long as he can remember. It started in New Jersey as a toddler, when he discovered crayons and painted on the vinyl shades covering his bedroom window as his canvas. Through childhood, he would draw pictures out of his brother's football books and magazines. In middle school, his art developed when art teachers introduced him to painting. In high school, the love really flourished when he learned to draw still life and live models. After graduating high school, Edmond was accepted to one of the top colleges in the country, The School of Visual Arts (SVA) in NYC. He only attended SVA for one year due to cost.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Location: THEARC Community - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Thomas Dade

Washington, DC



"The BlaQ Picasso" Thomas Dade "The BlaQ Picasso" was born and raised in Washington, DC and currently works out of his studio in Hagerstown, MD. Thomas is an alumnus of the esteemed Duke Ellington School of the Arts. His work is inspired by music, identity and mystery.

Thomas is primarily an abstract painter, that uses various mediums to conceptualize his vision. Thomas credits his passion to become a working artist to working as an assistant to International artist Sam Gilliam and sculptor/architect John L. Dreyfuss.

Date: Saturday - June 29, 2019

Location: THEARC Community - 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Amor La Luna



Amor is a multidimensional visual artist recognized for her distinct paintings of ancient symbolism, otherworldly nature scenes and in-depth perspective on an African-centered matriarchal antediluvian world combined with science fiction elements. Her latest continued work, "Return of The Great Mother" is a mixed series of paintings and multimedia.

Social media sites:

Instagram: @amorlaluna Facebook: Amor La Luna

Date: June 22nd

Location: 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Michael Webster

Washington, DC



Michael was raised in the inner city by his grandparents. As a child, limited in resources and means, he always had a love and passion for visual art. In his youth, Webster devoted his leisure time to fully developing his artistic skills and honing his craft as a visual artist. As a teenager, he soon discovered his love for comic books. Michael started collecting comics to read, while studying the artwork and story lines. This helped him enhance his technical and creative abilities; soon after, he started to create his own comic books. As a young adult, Michael fine-tuned his artistry by creating visual works around the clock. During this time, he expanded his artistic interests to all facets of visual art—including gift cards, t-shirts, comic books, and portraits. Webster fully embodies the old adage, “The sky is the limit.” As a successful visual artist, Michael has also strengthened his knack for writing. Emerging in the literary world, nearly two decades ago, with his debut book, “Lime Life” and coming soon “Inner City Justice.”

Date: June 20th & July 6th

Location: 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Pam Moultrie

Washington, DC



Pam has dedicated her life to creating. At age five, she began her career in the arts as a model. Since then, she has worked on fashion design, large-scale murals, paint treatments, and canvas artwork. She is a self-taught artist. In 1986 while studying fashion design at The University of The District of Columbia, Moultrie founded her first clothing company, Nubiance. In 1995, she resolved to incorporate her passion for artistic expression and interior design, and formed IWS, Interiors With Style. Pam enjoys the hands-on nature of her work. She graces walls with colorful creations and can't resist adding texture along the way. Abstracts, portraits, and landscapes are among her favorite subjects to depict on canvas

Date: June 21st to 23rd & June 28th to 30th & July 5th

Location: 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Jamil Burton

Newark, New Jersey



An American artist and illustration painter. He lived a large part of his life in the state of New Jersey and North Carolina and attended Northern Nash Sr. High school, graduating in June of 1993. Jamil has formal training in fine art and illustration; Savannah Art & Design, St. Paul's College and Katherine Gibbs School. He has completed numerous commissions professionally various companies, galleries, organizations and schools such as Williford Elementary School, Mount Vernon High School, The United Way. He has illustrated children's books, most recently, Hannah's World in collaboration with Tara S. Lewis and Oli the Octopus written by Kenneth Hamilton. Inspired by his community and the love of life and family, Jamil hopes to paint images of love & happiness. Painting a picture of his community and society, the good and bad, Jamil hopes

to provoke thought, a feeling, and emotions. Take a look at the windows (paintings) of his soul.

Date: June 28 - 30th & July 1st

Location: 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

Kristal McLaughlin



Kristal a native Washingtonian, and a mom of a beautiful daughter, named Sage. By day, she serves as a mental health professional with a local public district advocating on behalf of parents, students and the community. When she is not advocating, Kristal spends her time helping people look and feel beautiful; and creating beautiful Art. She is Founder/Owner of the company, Locs Of Sage, LLC. A mobile-salon company whose vision is to "apply wisdom through natural hair." Within her artistry, she also is an accomplished Visual Artist. With contemporary styles and visual cues; her art highlights the importance of mental health and personal freedom. Activism (especially here in DC) is shown throughout her work. Some of her work was featured in local nonprofit organizations and government agencies in various print forms to help heal the community and advocate to and for those who may be dealing with some form of adversity in their life.

Date: June 23rd & 30th & July 1, 2 and 7th

Location: 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Zoë Isaac



Zoë is a formally trained Fashion and Interior Designer who fell into Jewelry design quite naturally as an extension of the all-encompassing world of Design. He holds a B.S. in Fashion Design, from Howard University and studied Interior Design at Marymount University. She believes that jewelry is living, breathing art and finds the majority of her design influences & muses coming directly from nature. Some of her humankind muses are Carmen De Lavallade, Geoffrey Holder, Iris Apfel & Debbie Mazar all of which she believes exude a certain daring, class and ageless style. Zoe teaches Jewelry Making & Sewing Classes from time-to-time but concentrates most of her efforts on creating one-of-a-kind pieces in which she always infuses a piece of her spirit. She wants each and every owner of her pieces of art/her jewels to connect with them in some way and create their own story with it. "It is not solely about the piece, but the story that's connected with it..."

Date: June 21 - 28th & July 1, 2, 4, 5 & 7

Location: 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

La-Mario Chez Jackson



La-Mario, was born La-Mario Jackson in the state of Virginia. He has been a student of art all of his life. He has completed numerous art classes throughout his formative school years but has never had any formal art training. The advancement of his art knowledge has come from years of practice, reading and a gift from his father in heaven. He sold his first painting on August 15th, 1998. My first show was in Largo, Maryland on July 8, 1999. After that, he decided to showcase his art in various events around the nation. He currently resides in Upper Marlboro, Maryland and as a child lived in Virginia and Washington, D.C. He gained tremendous experiences from living in these different places, but the concept behind Chez originates in the streets of Southeast, Washington, D. C during the summer of 1988 when "Chez" was born. Two of his closest friends gave him the name Chez. From that day on, he has been known as Chez. He was young then, and with aspirations to draw, but he was living a life that was leading him nowhere fast. He would hangout on the streets trying to survive the best way he knew how. The path he was taking would only lead to a life of

destruction. After years of this type of living and observing his friends getting locked-up, killed or just plain lose their minds, he decided to make a change, because in the streets, you live fast and you die young. Times were fun, but dangerous and everything seemed to be getting closer to the end. One day, he received a call telling him that one of his closest friends had been killed. This brought great sadness to his heart and it still does. A month later, after the killing of his friend, his brother was killed and this truly hurt him, leaving him in great despair. He use to sign his paintings with his regular name, but because his love and appreciation for those two friends; the same two friends that helped him grow and protected him from danger, were so great that he decided to sign every painting with Chez in remembrance of them. Reminding him of where he came from and how it all played a significant part of who he is today. His painting career has blossomed since those days and every step he takes is a great blessing from God. Thank you for your valuable time and taking an interest in his art. You are witness to a self-managed art business built to express, develop, enrich and hopefully enlighten your state of mind.

Date: June 21 – 23, June 28 – 30 & July 5th

Location: 1901 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Cierra Lynn



Cierra has built her career in art and fashion by following her heart and setting her own rules! Creator and owner of the Cierra Lynn collection, Cierra is a published artist, designer, and teacher that turned her passion for art into a profitable business. Known for spreading love and positive messages with brilliant brush strokes and vibrant colors, Cierra Lynn is adding a new look to the fashion industry. Cierra discovered her talent for art in elementary school. From crayons to markers, markers to paint; from designing nameplates for her classmates and teachers to winning school-wide art competitions, her love for art grew rapidly. Cierra started to develop her own distinctive style, wearing bold colors and prints. Embracing her unique style, she began to hand paint and handcraft clothing and accessories for friends, roommates, sororities, fraternities, donated pieces to local high schools, and participated in on and off campus fashion shows and so much more. After receiving her BA in Fine Arts from Norfolk State

University, Cierra started teaching early childhood education. After working for 4 years as a teacher, Cierra was laid off. After months of applying for jobs, Cierra had to come up with a plan on how to provide for her daughter. With a lot of faith, Cierra decided to take her destiny into her own hands, turn her passion into a profit and become an entrepreneur.

Cierra Lynn has now become an influencer in the art/fashion industry. With her unique and bold style, she uses her love for art to spread love and the importance of being an individual. As Cierra Lynn grows, she strives to be the best mom to her daughter by allowing her to follow her heart and own her creativity. Cierra also strives to promote individuality, self-love and encouraging words through art and fashion.

Date: June 21st & Building 1901 June 22 - 23rd

Location: 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Yousra Elkhalfifa



Yousra is a rising 3rd year law student at the American University Washington College of Law. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Art from the University of Minnesota. She was born in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.). Her parents came to the United States, after living in U.A.E. for 9 years, when they were granted a political asylum due to their human rights work in Sudan. After being held as political prisoners, they decided to immigrate to the U.A.E. and then to the United States. She has always been inspired by her parents' story and seeks to follow in their footsteps and make a positive impact in her community. She grew up between Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. and Iowa City, IA. Her unique experience has shaped her view on the world and has allowed her to find a path where she can explore all the intersectionalities that make up her identity as a black, Muslim, immigrant woman. The paintings on display are part of her "Women of Color" series, which was inspired in 2014 by the lack of positive representation of black and

brown women in her art history courses. The "Women of Color" series focuses on depicting the black woman as powerful, exalted, and dignified. She enjoys painting in an expressive and painterly manner; She wants the viewer to see the artists' hand. Her artwork is inspired by Frida Kahlo, Jackson Pollock, and Amedeo Modigliani. Yousra hopes that the audience feels inspired and empowered by her paintings.

Date: June 21st & July 5 & 6

Location: 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Kevin Alexander



Kevin is a 24 year old graphic designer from Landover Maryland. His favorite kinds of music are R&B hip-hop/ go-go, rap some rock 'n' roll and pop. Please check out his art and read his comics and books produced by his own start up production company 2graphic Productions LLC.

Instagram: @peepthisshxt, @go.g1v3

Blog/website - www.g1venlearn.com

Date: June 22nd & July 5th

Location: 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Keiona Clark



Keiona is an artist and curator based in the Washington, DC metro area. She is the Gallery Manager for 39th Street Gallery located in Brentwood, Maryland, Curator for Gateway, CDC which is the catalyst for arts-driven economic revitalization of the US Route 1 corridor and the surrounding Prince George's County communities within the Gateway Arts District, including Mount Rainier, Brentwood and North Brentwood, Maryland, and the founder and CEO of the DMV League of Artists an artist collective that facilitates opportunities, explores possibilities and builds bridges for creatives. Keiona has not only proven herself to be a force in the "Art" of business; she is also an Artist/ Creative inspired by her love

for art. She is a (stage 3B) breast cancer survivor who was inspired to create shortly after her chemo infusions. Surviving cancer helped her decide that her life would be centered upon her passion for art. She has always had a natural talent for art as a young child and took to art as soon as she was able to hold a crayon. With no formal training she creates from inspiration through experience, expressing her emotions and focusing on inner energy, and sometimes contemplation; creating expressive, lyrical and thoughtful qualities of work. Non-traditional application of paints and technique make her art original, inspirational, and unique.

Date: June 28th - 30th

Location: 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

PAINTER

James Terrell and Zsudayka Nzinga Terrell



James and Zsudayka are a husband and wife team of visual artists living in Washington, DC. They paint beautiful, vibrant afro futurist abstract portraits. Both artists have been featured in galleries and museums across the country. James received the East of the River Distinguished Artist Award in 2017, and studied art at Howard University and Parson School of Art and Design. Zsudayka pursued a career in journalism before shifting her focus to a career in the arts. The Terrells work closely with local nonprofits to develop youth art programming in their community, and both have been teaching art for 10+ years. At first glance, their artwork may appear very similar, but upon further study, the distinct differences in overall style and painterly approach become prominent. Zsudayka's works highlight the black woman's

experience in America using unique linear patterns reminiscent of fabric stitching and touches of realism. Zsudayka's patterns also consume the background of most of her paintings, entrancing the viewer in a mash of color and lively, flowing brushwork. James's paintings are often slightly flatter in appearance and more abstract with the use of large blocks of color, bold outlines, and detailed patterns to create his figures, which are mostly male. A few of James's paintings also reference his passion for music with the inclusion of musical instruments.

Date: June 29th & July 6th

Location: 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

PAINTER

Artlisia Bibbs



Visual Artist.... Artlisia Bibbs captures life's journey through bold, colorful expression. Born in Mississippi, Artlisia is proud to have called the Washington DC metropolitan area home for over 30 yrs. Artist Statement I give voice, shape & color to America's social and cultural landscape, through visual art. My Mother is both an artist and educator that cultivated my interest in art at a young age. I obtained a BS in Education from Mississippi Valley State University in 1984 and begin a successful 28-year career as a Management Consultant. I began pursuing art as a profession in 2010. I became the Gallery Director for the Rock House Gallery in Key West, Florida in 2016 which was a wonderful way to introduce me to the business of art. Today, I'm the Acting Executive Director of the Ward 7 Art Collaborative. Our philosophy is simple. We teach students of all ages not only the tools for success in the way they express art, but also the tools for success in how they express life. We integrate the elements of art: line, color, value, texture, shape, form and space into each course of study. Students discover who they really are; beyond boundaries, beyond limitations and beyond definitions. As an artist, I am a figurative painter

exploring the world through bold use of color and texture. My deepest yearning is to create beautiful, inspiring, thought-provoking works of art that causes the viewer to muse. The most important characteristics of my art each piece tells a story, captures a moment of exploration or an expression of the human experience with a visual message. As an artist, I feel we are the custodians of our culture, of our time. My current state of awareness and environment profoundly impacts each work I create. I create from my soul, telling a story through visual art that is uniquely my own. Allowing each customer to take that creative energy into their space.

Date: July 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5th

Location: 1801 Mississippi Ave, SE Washington, DC

