Giving Back: The Soul of Philanthropy Reframed and Exhibited — From a moving tribute toward a triumphant movement of conscious giving for social change.

GIVING BACK
The Soul of Philanthropy
Reframed and Exhibited

Opening Night
Friday, January 20, 2017
6-9p
Concordia University, Portland OR

Presented by

MRG Foundation
Igniting social change. Advancing social justice.

in partnership with

Concordia University

This exhibit runs through March 31, 2017.

www.mrgfoundation.org
PROGRAM

Call to Community

Baramakona Drummers

6:15

Song Performance
Quantae’ Cole-Hyatt
Lift Every Voice and Sing (The Negro National Anthem) *Please Stand*

WELCOME
Kevin Matheny, Chief Development Officer, Concordia University
Roberta Phillip-Robbins Executive Director, MRG Foundation

Poetry Reading
Emmett Wheatfall
Selections: The King of Fools, Life is Larger Here, Lost in the Forest of Something Beautiful
Introduction by Linda Church, Director of Multicultural Arts & Events, Concordia University

The Soul of Philanthropy
Valaida Fullwood, Author & Exhibit creator
& Charles W. Thomas, Photographer
Introduction by Carol Tatch, Major Giving Director, MRG Foundation

Spoken Word/Drumming
Tazha Williams

Portland’s Exhibit Design
Dimeji Onafuwa, Design Research Consultant & “Giving Back” entrant
Introduction by Carol Tatch, Major Giving Director, MRG Foundation

Audience Movement Exercise
Bobby Fouther with Amaya Addy

Poetry Reading
Sharon Gary-Smith, Executive Director Emeritus, MRG Foundation
“Praise Song for the Day” by Elizabeth Alexander
Drumming accompaniment by Chata Addy

Closing Remarks
Roberta Phillip-Robbins Executive Director, MRG Foundation

Drumming Close
Baramakona Drummers

8:15

Guided Tour
Valaida Fullwood and Charles W. Thomas, Jr.
Opening Night Performers for

Our Artists (in order of appearance):

Quantae' L. Cole-Hyatt, has acting, music administration, art, as well
counseling as passions and areas of focus. He holds a Bachelors of Arts in
Sciences from David Lipscomb University, a Masters in Educational
Leadership from Belmont University, and an Ed. D, M.Ed from Oregon State
University. He comes from a family of musicians, pastors, evangelist, and a
host of other professions.

Tazha Williams is a queer Black artist: painter, drummer, poet, and
organizer who creates to explore identity, healing and transformation.

Emmett Wheatfall was a featured poet at the 50th Anniversary Celebration of
the March on Washington—Portland Event, wherein he delivered his original poem
for the occasion entitled “Miles To Go Before We Sleep.” He was the keynote
speaker at the Oregon Historical Society’s Oregon Black History
Series “March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom 50th Anniversary Programs”
screening of Dr. King’s “I Have A Dream” speech on August 28, 2013 and sat on
the Nomination Panels for the 2014 and 2016 Oregon Poet Laureates.

Baramakona, which means “youth of the village” in Bambara language of
Mali, is a youth drumming ensemble based in Portland, OR and consists of
five boys and 3 girls under eighteen. The group specializes in rhythms, chants,
and songs from West Africa that are energetic with visually stunning
techniques & arrangements.

Rejoice! Diaspora Dance Theater is an ensemble of multi-dimensional
dancers and musicians under the artistic direction of Oluyinka
Akinjiola. Rejoice! looks at tradition through a contemporary lens bridging our
vast history with our complex present, using folkloric movement as a basis of
communication to our immediate surroundings.

Chata Addy is sharing his knowledge and love of music by leading drumming
and dancing workshops in addition to performing. Chata enjoys having the
opportunity to connect with young people and pass on the gift of music. In this
capacity, Chata is working as part of the Young Audiences of Oregon and SW
Washington programming for schools.

Bobby Fouther’s career spans over fifty years of artistic expression in
the Northwest. Filling the roles of producer, director, performer, designer,
exhibitor and teacher, his work has influenced thousands of students, peers
and audiences in communities throughout the United States. Bobby was also
commissioned by the Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC) to create a
visual art piece for their Portable Works Collection that is now hanging in the
Multnomah County Office of Equity & Inclusion.
Lift Every Voice and Sing
by James Weldon Johnson, 1871-1938

Lift every voice and sing, Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.
The Soul of Philanthropy reframes portraits of philanthropy. Comprised of highly innovative presentations of over a dozen vignette stories and more than 50 black-and-white images, the exhibition conjures philanthropic musings across generations. Through the use of earphone and Ipad stations, visitors to the exhibit can hear the stories and revel in the joy that is the Soul of Philanthropy. Visitors can experience a robust offering of talks, panel discussions and public forums that accompany the exhibition and allow groups to explore a broad range of topics to ignite a movement of conscious philanthropy by empowering a generation of Americans to recognize their power and responsibility to give back.

Host your event at The Soul of Philanthropy!

Join us during the three-month run of The Soul of Philanthropy exhibit. Consider hosting your personal or business community event, meeting, conversation, or gathering in the exhibit space for Giving Back. MRG and Concordia University will be happy to help you make it happen. MRG can also provide a speaker to talk about the exhibit, lead a tour of the exhibit, and talk about our 4-year history as Oregon’s leading funder of the Social Justice movement statewide with your group.

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MRG Foundation: A listening, learning and leading foundation

MRG Foundation is Oregon’s leading funder of social change organizing. We are supported by hundreds of progressive donors, enabling us to support groundbreaking and essential organizing across the state. We stand out from our funder colleagues in the following ways:

Activist-Led Grantmaking: MRG’s unique activist-led grantmaking program empowers those most impacted by injustice to award over $800,000 each year to innovative grassroots groups advancing economic, social, racial, and environmental justice and gender equity. Our activist-led grantmaking allows MRG to be on the leading edge of the movement and provides opportunities for the personal and professional development. Since our founding we have we have granted over $15 Million to social change organizations.

Using a Racial Justice Lens: MRG applies a racial justice lens to all of our work in tandem with our multi-oppression analysis to guarantee that systemic racism does not get lost in the wider progressive, political, and philanthropic conversations. Using a racial justice lens is a proactive and comprehensive approach that seeks to produce equitable power, access, opportunities, and outcomes for all people.

Facilitating Connections and Furthering Intersectionality: MRG is in a unique position to strengthen relationships between organizations, movements, funders, issues and ideas. Our grantees and partners work on a variety of social justice issues and we are able to help them bridge divides and strengthen the movement.

Supporting Giving Back: The Soul of Philanthropy is your opportunity to join MRG Foundation’s efforts to highlight and bring greater understanding about the longstanding philanthropic traditions of African-Americans. Your partnership will connect you with a culturally diverse social justice audience and build an association with MRG, Oregon’s leading social justice funder, and our partners throughout the community and the state.

Sponsorship of these events shows the community that your organization shares MRG’s values and commitment to growing our philanthropic landscape by building a healthy, just, and joyful Oregon. It also enables MRG to bring together businesses, foundations, non-profit organizations, and supporters from across the state to support social justice. To learn more about the different levels of support available or to create a custom package please contact Carol Tatch, MRG Foundation Major Giving Director at carol@mrgfoundation.org.

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