

MEDIA CONTACT

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Age & Gender Equity in the Arts will present Unconscious Bias Symposium in partnership with Portland State University March 3 & 4, 2017

Symposium to focus on gender equity in the arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Portland, Oregon, January 5, 2017 – Age and Gender Equity in the Arts (AGE) is organizing **Unconscious Bias: Achieving Gender Equity**, a symposium to take place on the campus of Portland State University March 3 and 4, 2017. The event will explore unconscious gender bias – how it influences our behavior and impacts our lives and the art we create.

Produced in partnership with the PSU Office of Global Diversity and Inclusion, [Unconscious Bias Symposium 2017 \(UBS 2017\)](#) will focus on gender bias in the theatre and the intersectionality of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender variance/nonconformity, and disabilities. The symposium aims to raise awareness, stimulate transformation and facilitate action plans for achieving gender equity in the arts through collaborative presentations, performances and shared dialogue.

The diverse lineup of local and national symposium presenters and performers will include Obie Award winner and Pulitzer Prize finalist, playwright, actor and poet Dael Orlandersmith; film and TV actor and comedian Michaela Watkins; noted classical Indian dance troupe, Anjali School of Dance; and award-winning vocalist, LaRhonda Steele.

The symposium, which runs Friday evening through Saturday, March 3 and 4, is open to the public. Theatre leaders and decision makers, artists, students, patrons of the arts, and advocates of equity in the arts and culture are invited to participate.

Muthaland, a solo show written and performed by actor and playwright Minita Gandhi, will be presented in tandem with the symposium at 8:00pm Saturday and 2:00pm Sunday afternoon at PSU's Lincoln Hall. Each performance will be followed by a talkback. Tickets can be purchased separately or as part of the symposium package.

"This symposium is an exciting opportunity to engage diverse voices, raise awareness of unconscious gender bias, and promote new opportunities for creating and producing socially relevant art," said AGE Founder and President, Jane Vogel. "We welcome everyone to the round table."

Registration and tickets for UBS 2017 are available via the AGE website at <http://ageinthearts.org/unconscious-bias-conference-2017/>.

A limited number of scholarships are available to help make UBS 2017 accessible to students, artists and those who are economically underserved. Visit the AGE website for more information.

Sponsors of the event include the Jackson Foundation, Pacific Power Foundation, Audi Beaverton, Angie's List Foundation and Jane Lovell.

(more)

Event Information

Age & Gender Equity in the Arts presents

Unconscious Bias: Achieving Gender Equity Symposium 2017 (UBS 2017)

March 3-4, 2017

PSU Hoffman Hall, Smith Memorial Student Union

Muthaland

Solo show featuring Minita Gandhi

Saturday, March 4, 8pm

Sunday, March 5, 2pm

PSU Lincoln Hall, LH115

Schedule: <http://ageinthearts.org/unconscious-bias-symposium-2017/schedule/>

Presenter bios & photos: <http://ageinthearts.org/unconscious-bias-symposium-2017/presenters/>

Tickets

UBS 2017 full symposium package tickets are \$150. Tickets for the Friday evening Welcome Presentation & Celebration (\$50) and *Muthaland* (\$25) are included in symposium package fee or may be purchased separately. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 24.**

Registration & tickets: <http://ageinthearts.org/unconscious-bias-conference-2017/>

Location

All events take place on the campus of Portland State University, downtown Portland:

PSU Hoffman Hall, 1833 SW 11th Ave

Smith Memorial Student Union, 1825 SW Broadway, 2nd & 3rd Floors

PSU Lincoln Hall, LH115, 1620 SW Park Avenue

Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/rmcp5WQPbKL2>

About Age & Gender Equity in the Arts

Age and Gender Equity in the Arts was created with a mission to empower and promote the visibility of women across the life span in the performing arts.

Founded in 2014 by Portland actor and activist Jane Vogel, AGE seeks to advance age and gender equity in the arts by: challenging stereotypes and prejudices; raising consciousness about the power of language and its social consequences; raising awareness about gratuitous violence against women in the arts, promoting their dignity and safety; and supporting the creation of new works that portray women as strong, autonomous and accomplished.

Through the AGE in the Arts Awards, AGE annually recognizes and grants monetary incentives to Portland-area professional theatre entities that promote and exhibit age and gender parity in their programming, leadership and casting. AGE awarded a total of \$30,000 in 2016.

AGE further advances its mission and objectives through outreach programs and public educational opportunities. www.ageinthearts.org

About PSU Office of Global Diversity & Inclusion

PSU's Office of Global Diversity & Inclusion's mission is to create a positive campus climate that celebrates diversity, builds partnerships, promotes equity and supports the entire campus community. GDI's vision is to promote the value diversity brings to the campus by helping to create an inclusive and culturally respectful university environment. <https://www.pdx.edu/diversity/>

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