This Weekend

Renowned piano player **Ahmad Jamal** performs at **Blues Alley** from Tuesday June 21 through Sunday June 26. The Alley is located in D.C. and for reservations, call 202-337-4141.

Coming to the **9:30 Club** are the groups **Soul Asylum** with **Living Colour** on Wednesday the 22 and rapper **Ice T** singing his hot hit, **Colors** on Friday the 24.

Just added for two shows at the 9:30 Club is the group **Aswad.** Their current single,

The **Arena Players, Inc.** presents a musical by **Langston Hughes, "Simply Heavenly,"** from now until June 26. Showtimes are 8:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. For more show information, call 301-728-6500.

For a special engagement at the **Warner Theatre** in D.C., **Jennifer Holliday** and **Maurice Hines** star in the new dance musical, **"Harlem Suite,"** which was conceived, choreographed and directed by **Maurice Hines.** For show and ticket information, call 202-626-1050 or 1-800-233-4050. Portions of the ticket proceeds will benefit the Doug Williams Foundation for underprivileged children.

Minister **Louis Farrakhan** appears at the **Palladium,** located at 2900 Liberty Heights Avenue and Druid Park Drive in Baltimore on Friday, June 24. Tickets can be purchased at 3010 W. North Ave. and call numbers 301-945-7766 or 566-5825 for more information.

* * *

The **Reggae Sunsplash** sponsored by **Kalahari International Productions** features reggae artists such as **Yellow Man, Pato Banton, Toots and the Maytals, Sophia George, Bloodfire Posse, Edi Fitzroy** and special guest, **Major Mackerel** on Saturday June 25 from 8 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. The sunsplash takes place at the DC Armory, located at 2001 E. Capitol St. For additional information, call 202-328-3839 or 202-483-8316.

* * *

Nell Carter and Baltimore native Andre DeShields star in the Broadway revival of "Ain't Misbehavin'," at the Morris A. Mechanic Theatre. The musical will run now until Sunday, June 26. For showtime and reservations, call 301-625-1400.

Free concert

Mayor Kurt L. Schmoke has announced plans for a free concert by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra in Patterson Park at Ortmann Field on Monday, June 27 at 8:00 p.m.

Conductor Raymond Harvey will lead the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra in a performance featuring the Morgan State Choir directed by Dr. Nathan Carter, and two guest soloists—soprano Loretta Dorsey Young and baritone Samuel Bonds.

The rain date for the concert is Tuesday, June 28 at 8:00 p.m. For further information call 783-8000.

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Coming Soon

Aswad will perform at the 9:30 Club in Washington June 30. Call 1-800-233-4050 for tickets.

Hancock comes to MD

Herbie Hancock, one of the most innovative musicians in the world, and a pioneer in the use of synthesizers and computerized keyboard instruments, will appear, along with Chick Corea and Michael Brecker at the Merriweather Post Pavilion in Columbia on June 28.

This concert is the first event in the Benson and Hedges Command Performance concert series and marks the first tour of Hancock and Corea since their memorable "Corea and Hancock 1978 Tour."

When we last checked in with him, Herbie Hancock was picking up an Academy Award and a Grammy for his exquisite score to "Round Midnight."

His gracious remarks on Oscar night paid tribute to the jazz masters of the past that influenced him so greatly. Yet anyone who knows Herbie Hancock knows he has never been one to dwell in the past.

He's long been one of the most forward looking musicians in both jazz and pop. Exhibit A: his revolutionary new pop album,

(Continued on Page 4)

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Baltimore Jazz Festival is dedicated to Eubie Blake

For the seventh year, Baltimore's Inner Harbor will be filled with the cool summer sounds of great jazz at the WJZ-13 Baltimore Jazz Festival dedicated to Eubie Blake.

The four day festival opens on Thursday night, June 23, with innovative guitarist Stanley Jordan and the brilliant saxophonist, composer and vocalist Ronnie Laws.

In recent years, jazz has moved back into the category of popular music, and on Friday night, two of the most popular performers of the current music scene, saxophonist Kenny G. and vocalist Diane Reeves will showcase their talents.

The New Age sound that is becoming increasingly popular throughout the country will be featured Saturday night, June 25 with the progressive group Shadowfax and Windham Hill recording star Scott Cossu. (Cossu replaces the previously announced Dan Siegel due to scheduling conflicts.)

Opening the concert will be the Baltimore Jazz Workshop, winners of this year's JazzQuest competition.

Jazz of a more traditional style takes the Pier Six stage on the final night of the Festival, Sunday, June 26 with the legendary Lionel Hampton and his Orchestra and the great Carmen McRae and her trio featuring Clifford Jordan.

An added feature of the Festival again this year is the popular Piano Preludes series.

This year's preludes will be a part of the concerts under the tent as some of Baltimore's best jazz pianists play a 45 minute set beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Also part of this year's Festival will be a special jazz workshop

Lionel Hampton is featured at the Baltimore Jazz Festival.

for 100 local jazz students on Friday, June 24 at the Eubie Blake Cultural Center.

James WIlliams, New York's brilliant young keyboard virtuoso who has played with such diverse musicians as Freddie Hubbard and John Faddis, will conduct the workshop.

Seats are reserved on a first come, first serve basis by calling 664-1646.

The annual musical celebration, dedicated to the late legendary composer and pianist Eubie Blake, is produced by The Baltimore Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. and renowned Jazz impressario George Wein, and will again be sponsored by WJZ-TV and The City of Baltimore.

Guitarist Stanley Jordan, who is opening this year's festival, is carrying on the tradition of such musical giants as Charlie Christian, Les Paul and Jimi Hendrix.

Tickets for all Pier Six concerts are available at the Pier Six Box Office Monday through Friday, from noon to 6:00 p.m., and on performance days from noon through intermission.

Tickets are also available at all area Ticket Center outlets and the Baltimore Arena Box Office. Concertgoers can charge tickets by phone by calling TeleCharge at (301) 625-1400. (Out-of-state residents may call 1-800-638-2444.)

There is a service charge for tickets purchased through TeleCharge and at area ticket outlets.

The WJZ-13 Harborlights Music Festival is sponsored by WJZ-TV, The Pepsi-Cola Company of Baltimore, The 6 Gallant Men of Olds and Baltimore's Best, B-104, and is produced by The Baltimore Center for the Performing Arts, Inc.

The Concert pavilion is located at Pier Six and Pratt Street along Baltimore's Inner Harbor.

For additional information, call the Pier Six Box Office at (301) 727-5580.

Scott-Heron to perform at Fort DuPont Park

By Sheryl Michelle Jeffries

Gil Scott-Heron is recognized as one of the most eloquent musical commentators of this decade.

Anyone who has followed his career knows that he has always chronicled the issues of the times, with "Johnannesburg," "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised," "We Almost Lost Detroit," "Angel Dust," or "Shut 'Em Down."

Scott-Heron, who holds a Master's degree in English from Johns Hopkins University, is also a novelist.

Although his books have been successful, Scott-Heron turned to music as a vehicle of communication to a wider audience because "people aren't reading novels anymore."

As Gil has said, "Rhythmically accompanied poetry, bebop, reggae, blues... all of them are a part of the heritage of black music in this country.

"For as long as I've been writing, I've been trying to cover 360 degrees of the life experience.

"Things don't bear repeating," Scott-Heron says. "So I try to do something different with each successive album.

"I take an idea and try to paint people a picture that will stand independently, to show them an angle they otherwise may not have seen, whether it's on alcoholism, drug addiction, criminal justice, or revolution."

Gil Scott-Heron, along with Amere Facade, will perform at Fort DuPont Park in D.C. on June 24 and 25. For showtimes, call 202-426-7723.

Jam '88 comes to Arena

Doug E. Fresh and Kool Moe Dee headline the Jam '88 tour coming to the Baltimore Arena on June 24.

The original "Human Beatbox" with the ability to imitate an almost unlimited array of instruments and effects, the multi-talented Harlemite, is an accomplished (self-taught) singer/ rapper/ composer/ dancer. He mesmerizes audiences.

Doug, without a record contract, became a legend in his own time. "There were a lot of rappers out there who were just too bad," says Fresh, "who in addition to performing also has future ambitions of obtaining a law degree.

"You must be prepared for the future," he insists. "Music has been what I wanted to do since I was seven and played a preacher in a school play. But being a lawyer is also a dream that someday I'll realize too."

Catch Doug E. Fresh in Jam '88 at the Baltimore Arena June 24. Call 301-733-8000 for more information.

Gladys Knight, Pips, O'Neal to sing at the Meyerhoff Hall

By Sheryl Michelle Jeffries

The legendary group Gladys Knight and the Pips, along with popular recording artist, Alexander O'Neal, will perform here in Baltimore on June 26 as part of the 21-city Michelob Class Acts tour.

Gladys Knight and the Pips consist of Gladys' brother Merald (Bubba) Knight, and their cousins Edward Patten and William Guest.

Today, after 35 years in the music business, Gladys Knight and the Pips remain together and the group's popularity and heavy demand remain intact.

"All Our Love," is the group's newest release and it presents them in a classic rhythm and blues/pop approach.

The album has already reached the top of the charts.

In reference to Gladys Knight and the Pips continuing as a group venture, Gladys had this to say, "Gladys Knight And The Pips are still together and we'll always be together in one way or another.

"We are together because we choose to be not because we have to be."

Alexander O'Neal has been a major force in the music industry today. With the release of his second album, "Hearsay," he brings himself several steps closer to his goal of appealing to all age groups.

Sparked by the number one Black hit, "Fake," the album casts the 35-year-old Mississippi-born, Minneapolis-bred singer in an assortment of vocal roles.

O'Neal's first big break came when he joined a Minneapolis band called Flyte Tyme. The group also included Jimmy Jam, Terry Lewis, and Monte Moir. Under the direction of Prince, and with the addition of Jellybean Johnson, Flyte Tyme became The Time, and went on to score hits which included "Ice Cream Castles," "Cool," "777-9311," "Jungle Love," and "The Bird."

A fourth superb single has just been released from the blockbuster album and the track is "The Lovers."

For further information about the show, call the Meyerhoff at 301-783-8000.

Gladys Knight And The Pips come to the Meyerhoff in Baltimore.

Moe Dee to headline with Fresh

"I'm a rhyme connoisseur," raps Kool Moe Dee, the rapper of "Wild, Wild West" and "How Ya Like Me Now" fame.

Kool Moe Dee (a.k.a. Mohandas Dewese) was first attracted to rap "because of the beats, which reminded me of funk, originally my favorite style of music" and also "because poetry and rhymes always fascinated me."

Kool Moe Dee will perform along with Doug E. Fresh and Eric B. in Jam '88 at the Baltimore Arena an June 24 at 7 p.m. Call 301-733-5000 for ticket information.