

The Lyric Theatre and Cultural Arts Center

BFED Committee Report



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Lyric Theatre & Cultural Arts Center is to preserve, promote, present, and celebrate diverse cultures through artistic presentations of the highest quality, educational programming and outreach, film, and opportunities for community inclusion.

The Lyric Theatre Community Impact Programming

Black History Cultural Celebrations

- *Jason Thompson Exhibit Reception (227)*
- *MLK: A Dream Deferred MLK (77)*
- *Convocation (152)*
- *Selma the Musical (559)*

Black History Month Events Still to Come

- *Antwon Lindsey Film Festival and Talkback*
- *We Cried Power Documentary*
- *Beloved - Film Screening and Discussion*

Cultural Holiday Celebrations

- *Miracle on Third Street (129)*
- *Kwanzaa (80)*

Back to School Carnival (205)

Feed the Soul (145)

Lyric Anniversary Gala Celebration (41)

Woodsongs (7136)

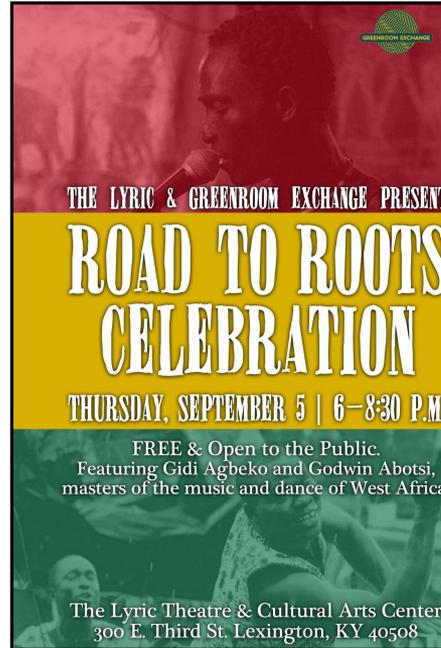
Back to School Carnival

The Lyric Theatre hosted our annual Back To School Carnival on the Saturday, August 3, 2019 to celebrate the start Fayette County Public School Year. We partnered with the William Wells Brown Community Association as well as vending partnerships with several community organizations. The Lyric purchased backpacks and gave them away to the kids while they enjoyed free school supplies, games, activities, and snacks!



The Roots and Heritage Festival

During the weekend following Labor Day — the Lyric Theatre becomes the center point for the Lexington Roots and Heritage Festival. The Lyric hosted a “Meet and Greet” with free snacks to allow the community to meet the new Executive Director. The Lyric Theatre, in partnership with Greenroom Exchange also hosted *The Road to the Roots* which featured Ghanaian artists Gidi Agbeko and Godwin Abotsi, masters of the music and dance of West Africa.





The Lyric Theatre & Cultural Arts Center

Anniversary Gala

October 19, 2019

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Enjoy an evening of celebration as we commemorate the 9th anniversary of our grand reopening in 2010.

Entertainment | Silent Auction | Food & Refreshments
\$30 a person

Get your tickets now by calling (859) 280-2218
Or learn more at www.lexingtonlyric.tix.com
300 E. Third Street | Lexington, KY 40508

Lyric Theatre 9th Anniversary Gala

Our annual gala celebration celebrating the anniversary of the Lyric Theatre reopening in 2010 was a modest yet very elegant affair with a fabulous Jazz Trio playing through the evening. The anniversary event included a silent auction fundraiser featuring beautifully framed historical black and white photos from the Lyric's past.



Miracle on 3rd Street

The Lyric Theatre annual Holiday Celebration was rebranded and reintroduced as Miracle on 3rd Street. We partnered with the Lexington Fire Department and the Lexington Police Department to bring Black Santa to the Lyric to make his Grand Entrance on his red fire truck sleigh. We encouraged attendees consider bringing an unwrapped toy to be given to a family in need to support our partnership with the Lexington F.O.F. Firefighters Toy Program. FREE EVENT with holiday activities including: Make Handmade Ornaments for the Lyric Community Tree, Decorate Holiday Cookies, and an Ugly Sweater Contest.



Kwanzaa Celebration

The Lyric Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Invites You To Our 9th Annual



KWANZAA
CELEBRATION

Thursday, December 26
5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
FREE & Open to the Public
300 E. Third St. Lexington, KY

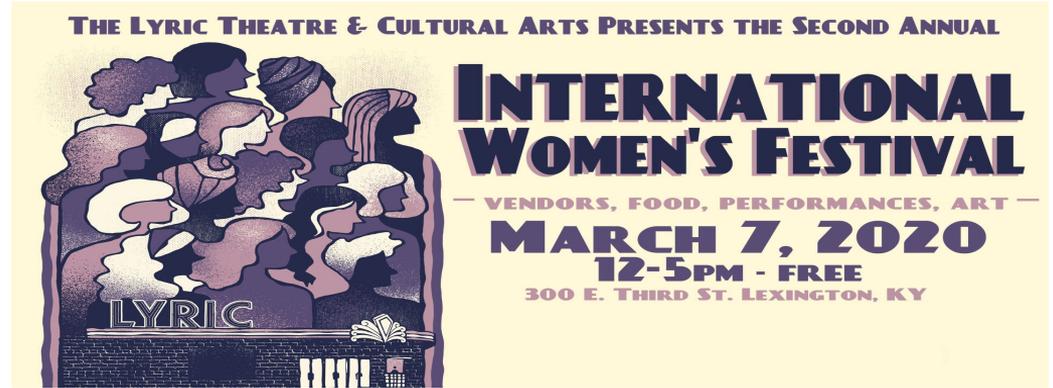
 **5:00 - Screening of 'The Black Candle'**
A documentary about the struggle and triumph of African-American family, community, and culture, using Kwanzaa as a vehicle to celebrate the African-American experience. The seven principles of Kwanzaa (unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith) are so important to African-Americans today. The documentary explores the holiday's growth out of the Black Power Movement in the 1960s to its present-day reality as a global, pan-African holiday embraced by over 40 million celebrants.

 **6:30 - Dr. Haki R. Madhubuti**
A leading poet and one of the architects of the Black Arts Movement, Haki R. Madhubuti—publisher, editor and educator—has been a pivotal figure in the development of a strong Black literary tradition. He has published more than 30 books and was also featured in 'The Black Candle'. Join us for a discussion about Kwanzaa, the Black Power Movement, African American history, and more!

The Lyric Theatre Annual Kwanzaa celebration opened with a screening of the Kwanzaa documentary *The Black Candle* about the struggle and triumph of African-American family, community, and culture, using Kwanzaa as a vehicle to celebrate the African-American experience. The featured event speaker, a leading poet and one of the architects of the Black Arts Movement, was Dr. Haki R. Madhubuti—publisher, editor and educator and a pivotal figure in the development of a strong Black literary tradition who was also featured in the Kwanzaa documentary.

International Women's Festival

The International Women's Festival has become a Lyric staple as it ushers in the 2nd year of celebrating women growing from a one day festival in its 2019 inaugural year to a two day festival in 2020. This year's festival will feature a kickoff concert at the Rockhouse Brewery. Attendees will be treated to performances, international food, shop with local vendors, information about local organizations, and browse an art exhibition specifically created and curated to celebrate International Women's Day.



Woodsongs

November 19, 2019 at the Lyric Theatre was a celebratory milestone for our Monday night guests as Woodsongs Old Time Radio Hour celebrated its 1000th show broadcast. Special guest artists for this historical event was the legendary Riders in the Sky.

