



The Ebell of Los Angeles Spotlights Black Artistry During Black History Month with Two Presentations

LOS ANGELES, February 6, 2023 – The Ebell of Los Angeles invites Angelenos to celebrate Black History Month with two very special events honoring Black artistry in the month of February. On Sunday, February 19, soprano Alaysha Fox and pianist Lenny Hayes will perform a concert of spirituals and classics organized by African Americans for LA Opera (AALAO). Following the dazzling musical presentation, on Monday, February 27, Black American artist, Phoebe Beasley, will join best-selling author Wendy Gladney, for lunch and a lively conversation on Beasley’s journey as an artist and the abounding contributions of Black Americans in art. These and many other exciting events are open to the public allowing all members of the community to explore the art collections, gardens and historical campus of The Ebell of LA while they enjoy the special programs.

The 2023 Black History Month Events at The Ebell of Los Angeles:

February 19, 2023: African Americans for LA Opera: Black History Opera Recital | 12:00 p.m. program, 1:00 p.m. reception; Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door

Soprano Alaysha Fox, a rising star and current member of the Domingo Colburn Stein Young Artist Program at LA Opera, recently sang the leading role of Giorgetta in *Il Tabarro* with Opera Santa Barbara and was an apprentice artist with Santa Fe Opera in the summer of 2021. She’s sung multiple roles with LA Opera, gracing stages large and small throughout the city. She will be joined by pianist Leonard Hayes, recently selected as a 22/23 Piano Spheres Emerging Artist, for an emotional program themed around “Black Voices on Love, Loss and Resilience.”

The concert is organized by African Americans for LA Opera, a chapter of Los Angeles Opera’s Opera League. AALAO is dedicated to increasing the awareness of opera throughout the Los Angeles-area and to providing a center for African American opera lovers in Los Angeles.

More information & tickets: <https://ebellofla.org/event/aalao-black-history-recital-02-19-23/>

February 27, 2023: Speaker Series, Monday Lunch: Artist Phoebe Beasley in Conversation with Wendy Gladney | 11:30 a.m. social, 12:00 p.m. lunch, 12:30 p.m. program; Tickets: \$60

Phoebe Beasley is an accomplished Black American artist and the only artist whose art has been awarded the Presidential Seal under two different U.S. Presidents – George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton. In 2012, she was one of 44 artists commissioned to make a collage on a life-size bust of President Barack Obama. Her work has been purchased by some of the country’s most elite celebrities.

In conversation with Ebell Member and best-selling author, Wendy Gladney, the pair will discuss Beasley’s personal journey from her early days as a college artist in Ohio, to moving to Los Angeles in search of a sprawling career in arts. They’ll also discuss how important contributions from Black

artists have historically been overlooked and will enlighten us on the importance of early arts exposure. Guests will take in samples of Beasley's art, which will be on display.

More Information: <https://ebellofla.org/event/speaker-series-phoebe-beasley-02-27-23/>

To view full program of events hosted by The Ebell of Los Angeles, please visit <https://ebellofla.org/membership/club-events/>

About The Ebell of Los Angeles

The Ebell of Los Angeles is a nonprofit organization founded in 1894 by women for women. It is focused on providing a vibrant and inclusive arts and culture hub that fosters the educational, cultural, and social growth of women. At The Ebell, women convene to learn, create, collaborate, innovate, and champion one another to transform the lives of women. The organization's philanthropic efforts include the RCA endowment which awards annual grants totaling \$120,000 to 10 nonprofits that assist women and children in need, and the 100-year-old Ebell Scholarship Endowment that has awarded more than 5,000 scholarships to local college and university students. The group's historic campus located in the Hancock Park/Windsor Square area is an iconic landmark listed on the US National Register of Historic Places.

About The Ebell's Historic Campus

The historic Ebell structure and theatre were built in 1927 and designed by renowned architect Sumner Hunt. The campus originally served as a central hub for learning and arts lectures in support of the education of women; the Art Salon was one of the first art galleries in Los Angeles to showcase the work of female artists. With three levels and 80,000 square feet, the renaissance-inspired building is a noted architectural treasure listed on the National Register of Historic Places and a designated Los Angeles Cultural Monument. The building includes a grand dining room, art salon, courtyard garden, 1,238 seat Broadway-style theater and dozens of smaller rooms filled with historical artifacts and original design details.

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