

## BMHC, Harlem week, jazz in the valley

Ron Scott | 8/8/2019, 1:09 p.m.



On Aug. 8, **Bronx Music Heritage Center** at 1303 Louis Nine Blvd., will present its new series New Voices in Latin Music, at 7 p.m. New Bojaira (Bo-hi-ra) blends jazz improvisation with flamenco rhythms and singing to create a combination a multi-cultural excursion.

The band will include; pianist Jesús Hernández, singer/flutist Alfonso Cid, bassist Tim Ferguson and drummer Mark Hoten. The band will join forces with saxophonist Peter Brainin and flamenco dancer Elisabel Torras. If you have never experienced flamenco dancing don't miss this opportunity. Admission is \$7. For more information visit [thisisbronxmusic.org](http://thisisbronxmusic.org) or call 917-557-2354.

As a partner with HARLEM WEEK Jazzmobile will present their annual Great Jazz on the Great Hill (West 106th Street and Central Park West) on Aug. 10, 4 p.m.-7 p.m.

Featured musicians include; trombonist, composer and vocalist Wycliffe Gordon. His repertoire includes singing the blues and infusing fire into his jazz compositions; Harlem's own Alyson Williams will bring her personal brand of R&B, soul and jazz to the big hill. Harlem Renaissance Orchestra is returning from their blazing performance at the Newport Jazz Festival and fresh off their recent Grammy album win for their album "Anniversary," performs their own brand of New York hardcore salsa with prominent pianist and arranger Oscar Hernández leading the band. This dynamic orchestra uses their own style to reverberate with the sounds from those days when the architects like Tito Puente, Eddie and Charlie Palmieri, Johnny Colon and Ray Barretto ruled.

The all-woman ensemble Sage refuses to be categorized. These young ladies have their own unique style and each are rising bandleaders, who as a collaborative force, blend jazz in and out of its normal spectrum. The musicians are; Harlem's noted saxophonist Lakecia Benjamin, pianist Yayop Ikawa, bassist Mimi Jones, Charisa The Violin Diva, violinist Kersten Stevens and drummer Taylor Moore.

Some upcoming highlights for HARLEM WEEK include “Summer in the City” on Aug. 17 featuring; The Higher Education Fair & Expo from noon-5 p.m. offers students and parents information on private, state universities and HBCUs. Some colleges represented at the fair are; SUNY Purchase, SUNY Old Westbury, Columbia University, Hunter College, Clark Atlanta University, MeHarry Medical College and Spellman. “Our program gives students and parents an opportunity to get vital information on financial assistance, requirements for scholarships, the application process and other resources,” stated Winston Majette, executive director of HW & Higher Education Expo Coordinator with Michael Flanigan.

On the same day the Harlem “Spelling Bee” takes place at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture from 3 p.m.-5 p.m. “This is one of those special events that will make you say wow,” said Jackie Rowe Adams, the founder. The Spelling Bee includes students from kindergarten to fifth grade with no more than 15 participants. “All of the children are awarded certificates and other gifts,” noted Adams. She is also the founder of “Harlem Mothers and Fathers Save,” a nonprofit organization for parents and family members who have lost children to gun violence.

Later in the evening from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. ImageNation Film Festival will screen “If Beale Street Could Talk” (adapted from James Baldwin’s 1974 novel) at St. Nicholas Park Great Lawn (West 135th Street). Moikgantsi Kgama founded ImageNation in 1997, “I felt there were films about Black people that needed to be distributed by us.”

Link: <http://amsterdamnews.com/news/2019/aug/08/bmhc-harlem-week-jazz-valley/>