



PRESS RELEASE: The Black Jew Dialogues tackles the ‘absurdity of prejudice’

Sandy C Gholston to: Archive

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Included below is a press release regarding the Saturday, Feb. 19 presentation of the Black Jew Dialogues at Ferris State University in Williams Auditorium. The show works to confront what it calls “the absurdity of prejudice” through a dynamic presentation. Any questions about this press release can be directed to Sandy Gholston, interim assistant director of News Services.

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The Black Jew Dialogues tackles the ‘absurdity of prejudice’

BIG RAPIDS – The Black Jew Dialogues, an opportunity to laugh and learn, is an entertaining and insightful look at race and cultural relations in America.

The popular show, featured last summer during a segment on CNN, comes to Ferris State University on Saturday, Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. in Williams Auditorium as part of Festival of the Arts.

Written and performed by actors Larry Jay Tish and Ron Jones, the Black Jew Dialogues takes audiences on a hysterical ride through three days the two spent together in a hotel room discussing experiences, the history of their people, and reasons for tension between African-Americans and Jews since the 1970s. The show has earned high praise from officials at college and university campuses, religious centers and other venues where it has been featured.

In the words of the actors, “Our great hope in writing the show was to use it as a catalyst to reunite our cultures. The black and Jewish communities in America share a history of pain, oppression, pride and a deep commitment to civil rights and justice. In the past several decades our communities have slowly drifted apart.”

The dialogues, confronting what Jones and Tish describe as the “absurdity of prejudice,” work to bridge the gap between the two communities.

David Pilgrim, Ferris’ vice president for Diversity and Inclusion, hopes event attendees begin thinking deeper about discrimination.

“The tension doesn’t just relate to African-Americans and Jews, but to everyone,” he said. “Audience members will benefit by learning how to overcome racism and stereotypes.”

This event, sponsored by the Diversity and Inclusion Office, is free and open to the public. For

more information about the event coming to Ferris, contact the Diversity and Inclusion Office at (231) 591- 3946.

To learn more about the Black Jew Dialogues, in general, visit <http://www.theblackjewdialogues.com/index.php>

View the CNN feature segment on the Black Jew Dialogues <http://www.cnn.com/video/#/video/bestoftv/2010/06/06/nr.lemon.black.jew.dialogue.cnn?iref=videosearch>

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