

Dear Barbara,

Here is the Event Reservation Request. I am very excited about this event, the final Mel Blanc lecture, which we propose holding in Lincoln Hall on June 29, 2011.

The previous three lectures in the series take place June 8, 15 and 22. They examine the music Mel Blanc heard here, the vaudeville he saw, and the multi cultural, linguistically diverse nature of the South Portland neighborhood in which he grew up. All of these threads come together in the final lecture which focuses on the years Mel Blanc spent working in Portland radio.

Mel Blanc first stepped behind a radio microphone when he was 15. That was in Portland in 1923, when radio was one year old. He joined KGW's immensely popular Hoot Owls program four years later, and became the writer/producer/performer of his own show six years after that. He spent eight years in Portland radio before moving to Hollywood and becoming the most influential voice actor in the history of animation.

Portland radio historian Craig Adams will be our guest speaker on June 29, along with Robyn Tenenbaum from Live Wire radio.

First we will screen a rare film from Dennis Nyback's collection which features Mel Blanc performing on radio. Then Dennis and I will ask Craig Adams to talk about the shows on which Mel Blanc appeared in Portland radio, and then Robyn Tenenbaum will tell us how that history compares with Portland's current radio scene. After that, we will open the conversation up to questions from the audience.

This lecture will contain many surprises, even for long time Portland history nuts.

Oregon Cartoon Institute is fiscally sponsored by Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission, a 501 (c) (3) non profit organization. Would Portland State like to partner with us on this lecture so that we are an internal, rather than external, event?

The history behind this request: I went to Oregon Historical Society asking if they would like to parter with us for the Mel Blanc lecture series. They said they would like to if they could hold one of the events over here in their pavilion. However, their pavilion holds under one hundred people, and I expect the number of people who would attend from Oregon Jewish Museum, Ethos Music Center, Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission, and Oregon Cartoon Institute plus the people from the Oregon Historical Society would be larger than that.

OHS suggested I contact First Congregational Church, which they use for large lectures. When I brought up the possibility of Lincoln Hall, they were very enthusiastic.

We are prepared to offer PSU students a student rate, either only on this particular lecture, or on our entire lecture series, as our part of the partnership. The complete Mel Blanc Project package would contain admission to all four lectures plus admission to

Heather Perkins' live performance of her original Bugs Bunny composition. The other three lectures and Heather's concert will be at Ethos Music Center, in NE Portland.

You mentioned that PSU normally requires all outside events to be ticketed through their own (PSU's) box office. Because we are offering this lecture as part of this four part lecture series, and we are selling lectures in a package deal, it may be confusing and difficult to have tickets to the Lincoln Hall lecture offered only through PSU's box office. People would not be able to buy a complete package of tickets to the Mel Blanc Project through us, but would instead have to buy twice: the three lectures at Ethos Music Center through brownpapertickets.com and then this lecture's tickets separately through the PSU box office.

Perhaps PSU has handled similar situations in the past. Perhaps it is possible to come up with a solution.

I am hopeful that we can find a solution, and that PSU would be interested in partnering with us on this project. Mel Blanc, a performing artist of world renown, received his high school education right in Lincoln Hall.

Please let me know if I can supply any information you need in order to make this decision.

Sincerely,

Anne Richardson
(503) 250 4997