

2019 GORDON PARKS CELEBRATION

(50th Anniversary of the film *The Learning Tree*)

Schedule of Events

Thursday, October 3rd

PHOTO EXHIBIT in the Lunt Lobby of the Fine Arts Center. The **Merl Humphrey Photography**-sponsored photo contest will be on display with the theme of “My Learning Tree, Life Lessons Learned.” Winners will be announced at the Chamber Coffee.

PHOTO EXHIBIT in the Gordon Parks Museum and Lobby of the Fine Arts Center. The Gordon Parks Mercy Foundation Collection with some of Gordon’s photos and poems will be on display.

PHOTO EXHIBIT in the Lobby of the Fine Arts Center. Some behind the scenes photographs of the film *The Learning Tree* will be on display.

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Registration open outside of Museum.

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. — Ft. Scott Chamber of Commerce Coffee at the Gordon Parks Museum.

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. — Showing of the film *The Learning Tree* in the Gordon Parks Museum. **FREE.**

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Guided Trolley Tour of Gordon Parks’ Fort Scott & *The Learning Tree* Film Scene Locations. Meet at the entrance of the FSCC Ellis Fine Arts Center. See the places in Fort Scott that are part of Gordon Parks’ history. **Fee: \$7.**

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. — Showing of the film *The Learning Tree* in the Gordon Parks Museum. **FREE.**

7:30 p.m. – “Looking Through the Lens at the Historical Greenwood District in Tulsa”

Photographer, Painter, Author and Photo Journalist; Don Thompson will show through photographs and short stories the demise and rise of the Greenwood District during the 1960's and 70's and the recovery that is now taking place in the 21st century through the faces and spaces he captured with over 50 years of photographic experience. FSCC Ellis Fine Arts Center/Gordon Parks Museum. **FREE.**

Friday, October 4th

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Registration open outside of Museum.

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. — Showing of the film *The Learning Tree* in the Gordon Parks Museum. **FREE.**

9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. — “**Masters Class of Jazz and Blues**” Queen Bey, Kansas City’s Ambassador of Jazz will make a presentation on music and the history of jazz and blues. FSCC Ellis Fine Arts Center Auditorium. This presentation was supported in part by the Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. **FREE.**

10:05 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. — “**A Conversation with Choice of Weapon Honorees.**” The 2019 “Choice of Weapons Award” honorees Karole Graham, Stephen Perry and S. Pearl Sharp. FSCC Ellis Fine Arts Center/Auditorium. **FREE.**

11:30 a.m. — “**Remembrance Service of Gordon Parks.**” Come and gather at the gravesite of Gordon Parks for a memorial service. Evergreen Cemetery. (If inclement weather, the location will be in the Ellis Fine Arts Center). **Buses are not allowed in the cemetery.**

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. — Grab a sack lunch from the lobby (**\$8-purchase that day**) and join us in the museum.

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. — “Gordon Parks Projects Presentation” Students from the Gordon Parks High School in St. Paul, MN will share some of their latest work and projects about Gordon Parks. **FREE.**

2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. — “Sarah, Ella, and Bessie: The Mothers of Gordon Parks” John Mason, Associate Professor, Associate Chair, and University of Virginia Department of History. Three women, all of them mothers, played crucial roles in Gordon Parks' life. His own mother, Sarah Parks, profoundly shaped his character. Ella Watson, who resembled Sarah in many ways, was the subject of his first great photograph. Bessie Fontanelle, like Sarah and Ella, was the glue which held her family together and was the center around which one of his finest photo-essays revolved. FSCC Ellis Fine Arts Center/Gordon Parks Museum. **FREE.**

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. — “From The Czar of Black Hollywood to the Oscars: Fiction and Filmmaking from Kansas”. Shayna Israel, Project on the History of Black Writing/Department of English, University of Kansas and Danyelle M. Greene, Film and Media Studies, University of Kansas. The presentation will focus on 3 major Kansas filmmakers: Oscar Micheaux (Great Bend) Gordon Parks (Ft. Scott), and Kevin Wilmott (Junction City), comparing and contrasting the contributions of three groundbreaking authors and filmmakers in three different eras of American cultural history. FSCC Ellis Fine Arts Center/Gordon Parks Museum. **FREE.**

5:30 p.m. – 6:30p.m. Guided Trolley Tour Gordon Parks’ Fort Scott & *The Learning Tree* Film Scene Locations. Meet at the entrance of the FSCC Ellis Fine Arts Center. See the places in Fort Scott that are part of Gordon Parks’ history. **Fee: \$7.**

7:00 p.m. – “A Night of Jazz” (Social Hour starts at 6:00 p.m.) Featuring, Queen Bey (Kansas City’s Ambassador of Jazz) along with Heavy Hors d’oeuvres and Cash Bar available. FSCC Ellis Fine Arts Center.

Fee: \$25.00 which includes heavy hors d’oeuvres and tea or water. Reserve Tickets by Wed, Oct.2. This performance was supported in part by the Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Saturday, October 5th

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. — Showing of the film *The Learning Tree* in the Gordon Parks Museum. **FREE.**

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.: Registration open outside of Museum.

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. — “Behind *The Learning Tree*” Reunion with some of the *The Learning Tree* cast members: Karole Graham, Stephen Perry and S. Pearl Sharp, along with David Parks, photographer, film director and author, film crew and extras along with panel discussion and presentations. FSCC Ellis Fine Arts Center. **FREE.**

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.— “Picnic at the Park” Come and enjoy a cook-out lunch at Gunn Park, a scene location in the film *The Learning Tree*. Shelter House #1. (In case of inclement weather, the location will be in the Ellis Fine Arts Center). **Please Reserve Tickets by Friday, Oct 4. Fee \$8.**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00p.m. – Guided Trolley Tour of Gordon Parks’ Fort Scott & *The Learning Tree* Movie Scene Locations. Meet at the entrance of the FSCC Ellis Fine Arts Center. See the places in Fort Scott that are part of Gordon Parks’ history. **Fee: \$7**

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. — Showing of the film *The Learning Tree* in the Gordon Parks Museum. **FREE.**

7:00 p.m. – “Celebration Tribute Dinner.” (Social Hour starts at 6:00 p.m.) Dinner and evening of tribute; 50th year anniversary retrospective of the release of the film *The Learning Tree* and presentation of the 2019 “Gordon Parks Choice of Weapons Award” to Karole Graham, Stephen Perry and S. Pearl Sharp cast members of the film *The Learning Tree*. River Room, 3 W. Oak. This tribute dinner is supported in part by Peerless Products, Inc. in Fort Scott, KS. All seats reserved. **Fee: \$30.00. (Reserve by Wed, Oct.2)**

Sunday, October 6th

10:00 a.m. — Breakfast at Nate's Place. Enjoy breakfast at one of Fort Scott's finest! Located on the corner of National & 8th Street, you're sure to find something on the menu to please. Check it out at: lyonstwinmansions.com/nates-place-restaurant. **(No ticket required-everyone pays for their own)**

TICKET PURCHASE FOR THE 2019 CELEBRATION:

Friday, October 4th Night of Jazz -Reservation Only (all other tickets may be purchased on site).

Please reserve by Wednesday, October 2 please!

Saturday, October 5th Picnic at the Park -Reservation Only (all other tickets may be purchased on site).

Please reserve by Friday, October 4 please!

Saturday, October 5th Tribute Dinner-Reservation Only (all other tickets may be purchased on site).

Please reserve by Wednesday, October 2 please!

A Night of Jazz: I would like to purchase _____ tickets at \$25 each for a total of \$ _____.

Picnic at the Park: I would like to purchase _____ tickets at \$8 each for a total of \$ _____.

Celebration Tribute Dinner: I would like to purchase _____ tickets at \$30 each for a total of \$ _____.

Total Registration Cost.....\$_____.

Name, Address: _____

Phone # & Email: _____

_____ CHECK ENCLOSED payable to the Gordon Parks Museum or

_____ Bill to my _____ VISA or _____ MasterCard. Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ 3-digit Security Code _____

Questions? Call us at 620-223-2700, ext. 5850 or email: gordonparkscenter@fortscott.edu

16th Annual Gordon Parks Celebration October 3-5, 2019



*Of the filming of
The Learning Tree*

Honoring *The Learning Tree Cast Members*



Karole Graham



Stephen Perry



S. Pearl Sharp

Fort Scott Community College, Fort Scott, KS
gordonparkscenter.org

Untitled, Fort Scott, Kansas, 1969. Photographer Unknown
Copyright: Courtesy of and copyright The Gordon Parks Foundation.

16th Annual
Gordon Parks Celebration
presents-

"Night of Jazz"



Danny and Willa Ellis Fine Arts Center

Friday, Oct. 4th

Performance starts at 7:00pm

- Jazz Singer, Queen Bey
- Heavy Hors d'oeuvres
- Cash Bar Available
- Social Hour at 6:00 pm
- Ticket Price \$25 each



Tickets available at the Gordon Parks Museum
Call 223-2700, ext 5850 to order by phone or email
gordonparkscenter@fortscott.edu. Please Reserve by Wed, Oct 2, 2019



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arte.gov

This performance event was supported in part by the Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

**MERL HUMPHREY
PHOTOGRAPHY PRESENTS**

**The 2019 Gordon Parks Celebration
Photo Contest**

(Open to any non-professional photographer)

**THEME: "My Learning Tree,
Life Lessons Learned."**

*Inspired by the Gordon Parks-directed film *The Learning Tree*.*



Gordon Parks
THE GORDON PARKS MUSEUM
Fort Scott, Kansas

Questions?

Email: gordonparkscenter@fortscott.edu
or call 223-2700, ext. 5850

CONTEST INFORMATION

What is it? A photo contest inspired by a quote from Gordon Parks. The theme of the contest is "My Learning Tree, Life Lessons Learned." is open to any amateur photographer. Photographers are invited to capture the essence of this metaphor from Mr. Parks.

Who can participate? Amateur (nonprofessional) photographers of all ages and skill levels are invited to take pictures for the project.

How many photos can I enter? No more than 2.

Are the prizes? Yes! There will be a first place (\$100), second place (\$75) and third place (\$50) prize and up to five honorable mentions. Winners will be announced at the Gordon Parks Celebration. Finalists and honorable mentions will also receive a set of 4 poster prints from the Gordon Parks Museum. **All photos submitted will be on exhibit during the 15th annual Gordon Parks Celebration on Oct. 3, 2019.** All photos will also be posted on the Museum Facebook page.

How do I submit? Photographs must be submitted via e-mail to gordonparksphotocontest@gmail.com. All photos must be JPEG in format and limit file size to less than 2 MB. Your email should have your title and name on it, along with your photo in jpeg format. All entries will be confirmed via email. **Photographers should submit a title, along with their name, address, email, and phone number.** If under 10 years old please include parent's information.

When do I have to submit my entries? Photos should be received via email by **Wednesday, September 25, 2019** at the latest.

Anything else I need to know? It is the photographer's responsibility to make sure they have permission to take and use the photograph subject's image.

Sponsored by Merl Humphrey Photography
5 N. Main St., Fort Scott, KS
620-223-4150



Kansas
Department of Commerce
Creative Arts Industries Commission

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This 16th annual celebration was supported in part by the Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Peerless
ARCHITECTURAL WINDOWS & DOORS

Thank you to Peerless Products, Inc. for their generous support to our Celebration Dinner at the River Room.