



The Historic Lincoln Theatre Presents
Langston & U: The Life & Times of the Voice of the Harlem Renaissance
Special Celebrity Guests:
Ruby Dee
André De Shields

WASHINGTON, D.C. – August 28, 2009 – As part of the Greater U Street Festival, the U Street Theatre Foundation, will present a two – day tribute to the Harlem Renaissance on September 17th and 18th. Coined the *Black Broadway* by singer and Washingtonian Pearl Bailey, the historic Lincoln Theatre stage will come alive with film, music and dance; with special tributes and appearances by **Ruby Dee**, **André De Shields**, the **Gay Men’s Chorus** and **Edgeworks Dance Company**.

On **September 17, 2009 at 7 p.m.**, the Historic Lincoln Theatre will celebrate the legacy of Langston Hughes, the dominant male voice of the Harlem Renaissance. This event will be hosted by veteran actress **Ruby Dee**, a personal friend of Hughes, she has appeared in films that span a generation such as 1950’s *The Jackie Robinson Story*, 1961’s *A Raisin in the Sun* , and 1989’s Spike Lee hit *Do the Right Thing*. Most recently, Ms. Dee was introduced to a new generation of filmgoers as Mama Lucas in *American Gangster*, starring Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe for which she received an Oscar nomination. She brings extraordinary insight to this program.

The program will be complimented by the legendary actor **André De Shields**, best known for his work in *The Wiz* and *Ain’t Misbehaving*, his theatrical narrative will embody the thoughts and emotions of Langston’s poetry. Along with performances by the **Gay Men’s Chorus** and **Edgeworks Dance Company** a revealing look into the life, work and loves of this legendary artist make this a must do event. **Ticket Price - \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door.**

The Harlem Renaissance was an explosion of brilliant prose, poetry, politics and music by African-Americans ready to say their piece in the 1920s and early '30s. Yet before the Harlem Renaissance, there was the vibrant beat of the U Street corridor. An artistic movement that was fueled by an ingenious cadre of Washingtonians, including musician and composer *Duke Ellington* and writer and poet figure *Langston Hughes*

Join us as we explore the extraordinary energy of the Harlem Renaissance. Tickets can be purchased at the Lincoln Theatre box office 10:00 am to 6:00 pm or through Ticketmaster outlets. Visit www.lovethecolin.com for more detailed information.

About the Lincoln Theatre:

The historic Lincoln Theatre is a non profit performing arts venue located in the vibrant U Street district and managed by the U Street Theatre Foundation. Originally a vaudeville theatre and movie house open in the 1920s, the “Jewel on U” has reopened as DC’s National Theatre and a cultural crossroads where culturally diverse and stimulating entertainment programming is offered. Visit www.lovethecolin.com for more information.