



G R O S S M O N T
C O L L E G E

News Release

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Grossmont College Hosts Legendary Jazz Greats

EL CAJON – The public will have a rare opportunity to meet and learn about the careers of two extraordinary jazz artists at “A Day of Giants” on the campus of Grossmont College.

Jeannie Cheatham, known as the Queen of the Kansas City Blues, and legendary jazz artist John Handy will talk about their lives, careers and craft from 2 to 3:30 p.m. on Feb. 21, at Griffin Gate in Grossmont College’s student center.

Cheatham is a pianist, composer and author whose full-throated vocals and rousing barrelhouse piano led her to perform with rhythm and blues icon Big Mama Thornton for a decade, and, in the 1980s, tour with Cab Calloway. “Sweet Baby Blues,” her debut album with her late husband Jimmy Cheatham on the Concord Jazz label, was awarded the Grand Prix du Disque de Jazz, the French equivalent of a Grammy. The album, which includes “Meet Me With Your Black Drawers On,” is regarded as a blues classic.

Handy, whose soulful and fiery saxophone style is instantly recognizable to generations of jazz fans worldwide, has performed in the world’s great concert halls, including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Berlin Philharmonic Auditorium, and at preeminent jazz festivals including the Monterey Jazz Festival, Newport Jazz Festival and Chicago Jazz Festival. His highly acclaimed original compositions, “Spanish Lady” and “If Only We Knew,” both earned Grammy nominations for performance and composition.

The event is free and part of the celebration of Black History Month at the college campus.

Grossmont College is located at 8800 Grossmont College Drive in El Cajon. For driving directions and a campus map, visit “campus information” at www.grossmont.edu

College and Community Relations

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