

Las Positas College Media Advisory

Media Advisory KGO's Brian Copeland to Perform Not a Genuine Black Man at Las Positas College

(Livermore, CA) - Brian Copeland, host of The Brian Copeland Show on San Francisco's KGO, brings his one-man show, Not a Genuine Black Man, to Las Positas College's Mertes Center for the Arts on Thursday, February 7 at 7 p.m.

As the longest running solo show in San Francisco history, this presentation, offered free via a grant from the Las Positas College Foundation, explores Copeland's formative years. "In 1972," he says, "the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing called San Leandro, California, 'a racist bastion of white supremacy.' It was named one of the most racist suburbs in America. CBS News and Newsweek covered the story. The U.S. Commission of Civil Rights conducted hearings. And then, we moved to town."

Through revealing details of growing up in the Bay Area, Copeland explores how our surroundings make us who we are.

Who: Las Positas College

What: Brian Copeland's Not a Genuine Black Man

When: Thursday, February 7 at 7 p.m.

Where: Mertes Center for the Arts, Main Theater, Building 4000, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore, 94551

Cost: Free to the public via a grant from the Las Positas College Foundation

Called a "jewel of a show" by the East Bay Times and "a beautiful mix of wry humor and heartbreak, indignation and inspiration, [and] a singular story of extreme isolation that speaks to anyone who's ever felt out of place" by the San Francisco Chronicle, Not a Genuine Black Man, is a funny and poignant look at this little-known chapter in the Bay Area's history.

About Brian Copeland

Brian Copeland has been in show business since he first stepped on the comedy stage at 18. Soon, he was headlining clubs and concerts across the country and opening for artists such as Smokey Robinson, The Temptations, Ringo Starr and Aretha Franklin. Since his start in show business, Copeland has appeared in comedy programs on NBC, A&E and MTV, spent five years co-hosting KTVU's Mornings on 2, and two years hosting KGO's Emmy Award-winning afternoon 7Live program. His first solo play, Not a Genuine Black Man, debuted in 2004 as a critically-acclaimed exploration of race and identity that became the longest running solo play in San Francisco theatrical history. Successful runs in Los Angeles and Off Broadway and a bestselling book adaptation followed. Not a Genuine Black Man has been performed in over 30 cities across America. His second solo show, The Waiting Period: Laughter in the Darkness, provides an unrelenting look at a 10-day period in his life: the mandatory waiting period before he could take home a gun he planned on using to take his own life. He has been hosting "The Brian Copeland Show" on KGO since 1995.

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