



**Jeffrey Nickelson  
Day is celebrated  
February 22  
annually. On this  
day, African  
Americans In  
Gerontology  
encourages  
intergeneration  
activity through the  
arts.**

Special thanks to ShaShauna Staton  
for providing the pictures  
and biographical information.  
African Americans In Gerontology  
truly appreciate her and her family  
for allowing us to share this day.



African Americans In Gerontology  
P.O. Box 8148  
Colorado Springs, CO 80907  
(813) 317-4147  
[www.blacksngerontology.org](http://www.blacksngerontology.org)

# **Jeffrey Nickelson Day**



**February 22**

**"Eagle, Fly!"**

[www.jeffreynickelsonfoundation.org](http://www.jeffreynickelsonfoundation.org)

## HIStory of Jeffrey Nickelson

Shadow Theatre Company  
Founder/Executive Artistic Director  
Jeffrey Nickelson

is in his third decade of active participation in the Colorado arts community as a well-known actor, director, producer, writer and singer. Now in its eleventh season and housed in its own new, state-of-the-art facility in Aurora, Shadow Theatre Company is considered one of the nation's premier African American theatre organizations. Under Jeffrey's leadership, Shadow has successfully produced over 44 productions and instituted a series of art outreach programs for young people.

Jeffrey began his acting career in Denver under the tutelage of the esteemed, late John McCallum. For ten years while in the Air Force, he toured as an actor, director and singer, entertaining troops and raising money for worthy causes. Since then, he has worked across the country in numerous ventures, combining the theatrical medium with timely and important messages of self-empowerment, health, personal responsibility and well being.

Jeffrey serves on the board of the Colorado Theatre Guild as well as the Aurora Symphony, taking seriously the charge of growing the arts for all citizens throughout the Rocky Mountain region. Further, he contributes greatly of his time and talent by mentoring youth and minority business owners, speaking at schools throughout the city, and providing job skills to those who want to work in theatre.



Mr. Nickelson is the recipient of numerous awards and accolades for his work as a community leader, producer, director, and actor, including Best Actor in a Lead Role nomination by the Denver Drama Critics' Circle for his portrayal of Levy in the Eulipions' production of Ma Rainey's Black Bottom , and Best Actor in a Musical nomination for the Shadow Theatre Company production of In Search of Eckstine: A Love Story . In 2006, Shadow received the 2005 Mayors' Award for Excellence in the Arts, and Mr. Nickelson was named by the Rocky Mountain News as one of Colorado's top 25 leaders in the arts, culture, and entertainment. A recipient of the 2005 Denver Post Ovation Award for Best Drama, Best Actor-Drama and Special Achievement. In fact, Jeffrey has been nominated for more than 20 Denver Post Ovation awards. Just this year, Shadow received seven nominations for the Denver Post 2008 Ovation Awards. Jeffrey Nickelson was nominated for the most prestigious category, the Colorado theatre person of the year. Joe Turner's Come and Gone, produced and directed by Nickelson, was nominated for six awards: Best Drama, Best Actor Drama, Best Actor Comic Role, Best Ensemble, Best Director, Best Lighting Design.

Produced and/or Directed the Following:

Blood Knot  
Bourbon at the Borders  
Breaking the Fourth Wall  
Come Back Little Sheba  
Day of Absence  
Emergence-See  
Fences  
Flyin' West  
Four Queens No Trump  
From Okra to Greens  
God's Trombones  
Happy Ending  
Hughie  
In or Out: Doing Time  
In Search of Eckstein  
Innocent Thoughts  
Lady Day  
Macbeth  
My Children! My Africa !  
Not Here  
Paul Robeson  
Plenty of Time  
Richard III  
Sedona  
Slow Dance on the Killing Ground  
Spirit of Frederick  
Douglass  
Sweet Corner Symphony  
The Evils of Tobacco  
Little Tommy Parker Colored Minstrel Show  
Three Ways Home  
Topdog Underdog  
Two Trains Running  
Visions  
Voices From The Soul  
Waitin' 2 End Hell  
Who's Afraid of Virginia  
Woolf  
Innocent Thoughts  
Happy Ending  
Day of Absence  
A Rose Among Thorns  
Dinah Was  
Hands Of History  
Joe Turner's Come and Gone  
Smokey Joe's Cafe  
Oscar and Felix