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FRIDAY, DEC. 31

Portland's hoppin' on NYE

music/party

Over the past several months and in large part due to some attention paid it by the local art community, Portland has quickly emerged as a viable alternative to the Frankfort Avenue/Bardstown Road end-all-be-all of Louisville art and culture. This weekend, the folks in Portland will ring in the new year with a couple of enticing shows so good that we'd like to encourage you to drive more than 10 minutes away from your house (and west of Ninth Street) to digest some good tunes and other stuff.

At the Portland Festival Building, a beautiful old church on Northwestern Parkway, local legends King Kong present their version of funk and blues. The Children open, along with DJ Kit Chaps, which features two members of VHS or Beta.

A few blocks over at Adorno Studio, the Squallis Puppeteers put on their unique show, with live music from Ut Gret, Kyene Drum Ensemble and some surprise guests.

In our expert opinion, these shows are more than worth driving for, and perhaps even laying out cab fare if you like the sauce. —*Stephen George*

Portland Festival Building
3329 Northwestern Pkwy
772-3048
\$8, 21+; 10 p.m.

Adorno Studio
2418 W. Main St.
767-8051
\$10; 9 p.m.