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Step Afrika! visits Guilford

Meredith Veto

Staff Writer

The high-energy dance troupe called Step Afrika visited the college 7:30 p.m. Feb. 15 in Dana Auditorium in celebration of Black History Month.

Step Afrika is an internationally renowned dance ensemble that combines forms of stepping, tap, South African gumboot, clogging, hip-hop, house and freestyle dancing in their routine. The group's technique is drawn from African dance traditions as well as the stepping popularized by African American fraternities and sororities.

The Washington Post described Step Afrika as "a skillfully arranged rhythmic combination of clapping, body slapping, stomping and shouting inspired by schoolyard

games."

"Basically it started when, living in South Africa, we came across this dance called the 'Gumboot Dance,'" Brian Williams, founder and director of Step Afrika! USA, said. "Seeing that, we wanted to find a way to create a link between stepping and this dance and particular, but most importantly, a link between South Africa and America."

The group involved the audience by inviting students on stage to participate in the dancing.

Esther Nissao was one of the audience members who volunteered to dance on stage with the troupe. "I liked being on stage ...they tried to engage the audience in sharing their moves. It was great

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[HTTP://STEPAFRIKA.COM/01_THE_COMPANY.HTM](http://stepafrika.com/01_the_company.htm)

The company of Step Afrika! performed at Guilford in Dana Auditorium on Feb. 15

Next year's Bryan speakers announced

Taleisha Bowen

Associate Editor

What do politician Mikhail Gorbachev, journalist Cokie Roberts, author Mary Pipher, and historian Michael Beschloss all have in common?

They will all speak to students, faculty, and staff from the college, as well as the Greensboro community at large over the course of the

2004 - 2005 academic year.

On Feb. 19, the college announced that Gorbachev, Roberts, Pipher, and Beschloss will speak in the Bryan Lecture Series on the theme of "Challenges Facing Democracy."

"We're looking forward to focusing on challenges facing democracy with the four Bryan Series speakers next

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Spelman's Tatum to speak on racial identity

Dylan Grayson

Staff Writer

Beverly Tatum, president of Spelman College since 2002 and author of *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?*, will speak at 4 p.m. Feb. 27 at New Garden Friends Meeting about racial identity in the United States. Admission is free.

"Tatum is a nationally recognized authority on racial issues in America," Ty Buckner, Director of College

Relations, said in the Feb. 13 *Guilford Beacon*. "Her research includes the study of racial identity development in teens, the impact of race on classroom dynamics and the experiences of African American families in white communities."

Tatum earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from Wesleyan University, master's and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan, and a master's in religious studies from Hartford Seminary in

Connecticut.

She was an administrator

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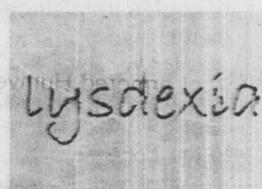
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Dr. Beverly Tatum



Quaker artist returns to Guilford

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