

Maya Angelou: words for our future?

by Kimberly Hubbard

Maya Angelou is a legendary artist who captured the nation's attention as the first poet laureate in 30 years. She has a lifetime appointment as a Reynolds Scholar at Wake Forest University. According to Ebony magazine, her eyes seem omniscient, as though she could look into a person's soul; yet they are observant and not judgmental. Angelou's countenance reveals the strength of her character.

When she is not lecturing in a college classroom or acting, she is hosting her PBS television series; Maya Angelou's America: A Journey of the Heart. Maya is a person of many parts includ-



Maya Angelou

ing director, dancer, actress, singer, and professor. Also she is a voracious reader, a brilliant raconteur, a great cook, and is fluent in many languages.

Her accomplishments include writing ten books, receiving 30 honorary doctorates, and being nominated for an Emmy Award for her performance in Roots. One of her recent engagements includes reading "On the Pulse of the Morning" at the White House. Mrs. Angelou was inspired to write by W.E.B. Dubois, Fredrick Douglas, Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, and sermons by various Black preachers. According to Ebony magazine, all her poems reflect the theme, that human beings are more alike than they are unlike in their virtues. Maya has many lessons in living a productive life that she leaves with her audiences. These lessons are spirit, grace, sensuality, friendship, healing, giving, and family.

NCSSM gets robbed, raped, and otherwise assaulted

by Amy Cash

Does it ever feel sometimes as though NCSSM is a totalitarian government? With the soaring crime rate of the surrounding neighborhood, new security regulations have been instituted at the school. In general, the student body feels as though many of these regulations are unnecessary.

Over the past few years, NCSSM has changed from a relatively free environment to one filled with rules. Often, the students disagree with some of these rules, as is the case with Emily Gillespie. 'I don't agree with them. If we are mature enough to come to this school, then I think we are mature enough to look after ourselves to a greater degree,' she states. Many students find the security guidelines to be infractions of their freedom.

Some teachers, however, applaud the new

security measures. Latin teacher Dr. Lucia Stadter remarked, 'I was very glad when they put up those screens last year (on the windows in ground Hill). Sometimes I am here at night for tutorials, and nobody comes.' Although the teachers are not directly affected by the crime rate of the surrounding neighborhood, they do feel the need for good security.

As a result of the criminal activities occurring close to school, NCSSM will eventually hire more security guards. Just recently, the school was allotted \$70,000 to hire 3 new security guards. It is debatable as to whether or not these new guards are necessary. 'The security guards do not look very frightening. I don't feel very protected by them,' stated Sharon Nikfarjam. She also replied that she felt the guards were more like simple door-lockers than anything else.

Moreover, some students perceive a problem with the portrayal of the Walltown neighborhood. Nikfarjam remarked, 'I go through Walltown and my first instinct is that these houses are so cute and small. Then the police officer tells us that it is a crime-infested area.' Gillespie agrees. 'I think the whole 'Walltown is hell, and that's where you'll get killed' is dumb. Even if stuff did happen to people, they would not beef up security measures, they would just restrict us.'

Over the last few years at NCSSM, the security regulations have changed due to the increasing amount of crime in the surrounding neighborhood. Whether or not this is a positive development depends solely upon the individual. It is left to the student body and faculty to discuss this issue and decide what should be done concerning the future of security at NCSSM.

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