

THE CHRONICLE BRINGS YOU ENTERTAINMENT AROUND THE TRIAD

# ENTERTAINMENT

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## Observe National Arts Week with local arts opportunities

Nov. 12 to 18 has been designated as National Arts Week. What that means to us as a people is traditional. Traditional in the respect that it has been the tradition of ancient African cultures to nourish and cultivate "The Arts." It has been one of our ancestral traits almost lost by modern African-Americans as we assimilated into mainstream America.

The arts develop a sense of life -- an appreciation for the nuances of living -- that cannot be derived elsewhere. Music, for example, is known as the "International Language" -- it soothes the soul in times of despair. And, in the case of the blues, it has been said that "it hurts so good." Development and support of the arts is one of the signs of the degree of advancement in any particular society, and it is one we, African-Americans, cannot afford to abandon.

One of America's leading professional black theatres is based

The festival itself was of such a magnitude that the front page of the

beginning to do great things. As co-sponsor of the Young Black Writers' Series, this group of professional writers takes high school students who have shown a talent for writing and delves deeper into the fundamentals of writing with a focus on eventually becoming published.

This same group works even more closely with hopeful adult poets and authors to introduce them to the required steps to become published. This same group presents public readings from time to time in order to assist in exposing our modern writers to open audiences throughout the state.

One particular series with special appeal to the masses is titled "Black Writers Speak." In conjunction with Urban Arts of The Arts Council, Inc., the local chapter of the North Carolina Writers Network is doing its part to contribute to the literary greatness of our time.

The Delta Arts Center, located in the heart of East Winston at 1511 E. Third St., presents opportunities throughout the year to support the arts. In conjunction with Associated Artists of Winston-Salem, Delta Arts Center is presenting a three-part program on Samella Lewis. Dr. Lewis is a renowned artist, educator and expert on African-American art. Born in New Orleans, she received her bachelor's degree from Hampton Institute, and is the recipient of many grants and outstanding awards. Her work is in museum collections throughout the country.

The first segment of the Delta Arts program features an exhibition of 17 prints through Dec. 1. On Friday, Nov. 17, Dr. Lewis will lecture on "African-American Female Artists." The final segment of the program will be a printmaking workshop conducted by Dr. Lewis

on Saturday, Nov. 18, at the Sawtooth Building at 226 N. Marshall St.

Many of these opportunities are laid at our feet for us to only take the time to participate. Art is as important a part of our culture as mathematics and science. It must not be tossed aside as a frivolous extravagance. Many of Winston-Salem's art havens are some of the best-kept secrets around. Let us share the wealth and take the time to enjoy the arts and preserve our culture -- present and past.

Art has a way of embellishing life itself. It has a way of increasing the quality of life for all of us, and putting us in touch with those better qualities in each of us.

*Reggie Johnson is the executive director of Urban Arts of the Arts Council Inc.*

## ARTS REACH

By REGGIE JOHNSON



here in Winston-Salem. It is one with a strong enough national reputation that it brought the National Black Theatre Festival to Winston-Salem this past August. Not only did the North Carolina Black Repertory Company provide an opportunity for all of us to enjoy excellent performances for a week, but it also contributed to a significant economic impact for many Winston-Salem businesses.

Entertainment Section of *The New York Times* covered the extravaganza. The North Carolina Black Repertory Company is a gem in our own backyard that we should take advantage of and support their performances. The repertoire is varied enough for everyone to find something which appeals to them.

Under the direction of a local playwright, a budding chapter of the North Carolina Writers' Network is

## Delta Arts Center celebrates 'African-American female artists'

When you hear the word artist, do distinct impressions of men come to mind? And, if you were asked to name three Afro-American artists, would they all be men? Most likely, few female artists will come to mind without prodding, and even fewer Afro-American female artists will be recalled.

So who are some of the accomplished Afro-American female artists and why should you be interested in them? This question and others will be addressed tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m. at the Delta Arts Center. At that time, Dr. Samella Lewis, artist and art historian, will discuss "African-American Female Artists." This talk will be insightful and will provide the community with the opportunity to learn from one of the foremost authorities of Afro-American art. Dr. Lewis is editor of the quarterly publication *The International Review of African American Art*.

Dr. Lewis will be here just for the weekend. Even though, for most of us, the arts are not familiar domain, I certainly hope you will make the most of this opportunity to grow. Hoping that you will attend this lecture, I'm including some information about selected artists who may or may not be discussed by Dr. Lewis. This information is for you, but if you have children, please share this with them. Thus, they will begin to develop a solid background in the arts.

Mary Edmonia Lewis (1843-1900 (?)) was the first black artist to

have a national reputation as a sculptor and the first black woman in America to have widespread recognition as an artist. Allegedly, the daughter of a Chippewa Indian mother and a free black father, Ms. Lewis began her stud-



## DELTA ARTS CENTER CORNER

By ANNETTE SCIPPIO

ies at Oberlin College in 1856. In 1865, she settled in Rome, where her work was greatly influenced by Greco-Roman sculpture. She returned to the United States in 1874 where she was popular for a brief period.

May Howard Jackson (1877-1931) was one of the first black sculptors to use as her themes America's racial problems. Many of her sculptures emphasized people whose characteristics she felt came from their social

conditions.

Meta Vaux Warrick Fuller (1877-1968) sculptor, attended the Pennsylvania School of Industrial Arts in 1894 and furthered her training in Paris in 1899 at the Colarossi Academy. Most critics found her works to be inspired interpretations of human life.

Laura Wheeler Waring (1887-1948) was a painter, illustrator and art teacher who was noted for her contributions in portraiture.

Lois Mailou Jones, born in 1905 in Boston, has been a major force in teaching and promoting black art. A retired professor of design and watercolor painting at Howard University, her artistic style includes influences from Paris and the Caribbean, mainly Haiti.

Selma Burke, renowned sculptor, received her training at Columbia University and later in Paris and Vienna. Her works can be viewed locally at the Selma Burke Gallery at Winston-Salem State University.

Other Afro-American female artists of interest include Elizabeth Catlett -- sculptor and printmaker; Lucille Malkia Roberts -- painter; Mikelle Fletcher -- painter; Yvette Honeywood -- painter; Faith Ringgold -- painter and sculptor; Suzanne Jackson -- painter; Irene Clark -- painter; and Xenobia Smith -- painter.

## Bridges acquitted on charges of attempted murder, voluntary manslaughter

"Different Strokes" star Todd Bridges was acquitted on charges of attempted murder and voluntary manslaughter in the shooting of a convicted drug dealer. While the decision on a third charge was pending (as of press), the worst is over for the 24-year-old former child star, whose story was one of despair, having been addicted to crack cocaine, and losing a fortune to the IRS, a forgery scam, and a scarcity of acting jobs. Mr. Bridges (who had once earned \$40,000 per episode) is feeling a lot better these days, and according to his fiancée, Becky San Filippo, plans to lecture children on the dangers of drug abuse, once everything is settled. Said Mr. Bridges' attorney, Johnny Cochran: "What we've said all along is that Todd, after going in the house, blacked out."

It's "No Comment"

For Diana Ross: Now that Randy Taraborelli's new Diana Ross bio, "Call Her Miss Ross," has hit the nation's bookstores, the superstar has clammed up tight, saying through a spokesperson that she has no intention of reading the book, which, among other things, says that Miss Ross left former lover and Motown founder Berry Gordy after being frustrated by his endless affairs with white women and the fact that he wouldn't marry her; once caught Michael

Jackson using her makeup to transform himself into her likeness; henpecked her first husband; had affairs with Smokey Robinson, Ryan O'Neal and KISS lead Gene Simmons, who dated Cher (a friend) at the time. Mr. Taraborelli says the book is really



## BEHIND THE SCENES

By LISA COLLINS

about "hypocrisy, deception, and public relations." Ironically, the 33-year-old author maintains he is the ultimate Diana Ross fan. "Anyone who knows me and reads this book will still know that I am a fan," said Mr. Taraborelli. "It's just one thing to be her fan and another to work for her."

New Album

From Townsend: Comedian-actor/filmmaker Robert Townsend's releasing a new album, but it's not anything you'd expect. Why? Well, he's singing, for one thing. The other is the material itself. The first cut from the album, scheduled for a January release, is a Christmas song (due out from Atlantic Records next month). Said

Mr. Townsend: "I always get cheap gifts, and I wanted to make a song about not getting cheap gifts, so it's my revenge song." Other selections run the gamut from "Safe Sex" to a love song to a very special lady in his life. Meanwhile, Mr. Townsend is

Culver City, CA 90233. I'll see that they are passed on.

Short Takes:

Whoopi Goldberg is tired of all the press regarding the pregnancy of her 15-year-old daughter, Alexandria. However, the fact is that Alexandria is due to make Ms. Goldberg a grandmother very soon... Danny

Glover has got to be the busiest black actor in Hollywood. The actor just took off to Hawaii to start filming "Flight of the Intruder" with Brad Johnson...

The Real Reason

Behind ABC's Cancellation of "A Man Called Hawk?" For most TV series, it is a lack of viewer response and support that inevitably brings cancellation, but executive producer Travis Clark says that was not the case with "A Man Called Hawk." "We got letters and letters and when they went to New York to set the schedule, we were on the schedule. Then they said it's not an 8 o'clock show and there's not a slot for us. But rather than say there's not a slot now, but what we'll do is to produce the show for midseason (which is standard operating procedure), they cancelled the show." Today, Mr. Clark says he has his own ideas about why the series was cancelled. "I think," said Mr. Clark, "that people were responding too much to this show in a positive way, because this is the first

time in the history of television, that you had a black lead -- an Afro-American man who had power, strength, and answered to no white person." . . . However, the cancellation of "Hawk" has not put Mr. Clark out of work. In fact, he and writing partner Steve Duncan have just completed initial work on a new all-black soap opera for NBC.


Next Week: Eddie Murphy releases his latest film

-- "Harlem Nights."

Lisa Collins is a free-lance writer and syndicated columnist based in Los Angeles. She has written more than 200 articles on a variety of issues for a number of national publications from *Essence* to *Design* magazines. Her background in the field of entertainment reporting is extensive, featuring cover stories and interviews with the likes of Richard Pryor, Michael Jackson, and Prince.

### WSSU Lyceum Event

## Sweet Honey In The Rock



**November 19**  
**Sunday 8:00 p.m.**  
Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium  
Winston-Salem State University

**Admission: \$6 in advance**  
**\$8 at the door**

**Ticket Info: call 750-2227**

- Acclaimed gospel group
- Played to sold-out audiences in New York City's Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center and Town Hall
- Performs a cappella
- Diverse repertoire
- Does sign-language interpretation for the deaf

Thursday 16	Friday 17	Saturday 18	Sunday 19	Monday 20	Tuesday 21	Wednesday 22
• "Present Laughter," 8 p.m., through Nov. 19, Theatre Alliance, at Augsburg, Comm. Center, Broad and Sixth streets, 725-7181. • "Curse of the Starving Class," 8 p.m. Nov. 16, 17, 18, 2 p.m., Nov. 19, NCSA Performance Place. • The YWCA is offering Aquatics and Aerobics classes in the mornings and evenings. Call Jane Robinson, 722-5138.	• Samella Lewis will lecture on "African-American Female Artists," 7 p.m., Delta Arts Center. • Big House Gaines Basketball Classic, 7 p.m., Coliseum; also Nov. 18. • The YWCA is now offering racquetball lessons. Call Doug Ford at 722-5138.	• Samella Lewis leads a workshop, "Lineprints and Monoprints," 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Sawtooth Building. • Chicago Night, 8 p.m., Sawtooth Center. • Workshop: "Audience and Program Development," 9 a.m., Urban Arts, 305 W. Fourth St. • The YWCA is offering aerobics and body sculpting on Saturday mornings. Call 722-5138 for more information.	• "Sweet Honey in the Rock," WSSU Lyceum Series concert, 8 p.m., K.R. Williams Auditorium. • Dr. Q Super Dyn-o-Mite Disco, 8 until closing tonight and Sunday, American Legion Post No. 220, 2332 N. Liberty St. • The YWCA offers family and recreational swimming from 1 to 5 p.m. Call 722-5138 for more information.	• "Stained Glass Lamp" workshop, Nov. 20, 27 and Dec. 4, Sawtooth Center, 6:30-9:30 p.m., 723-7395. • Performances-in-Progress, 12:15-12:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Free performances by School of the Arts students.	• "Getting Ready for Winter," 12:30-1:30 p.m.; youngsters ages 4-5 are invited to prepare plants and greenery for winter and holiday season. Reynolda Gardens, 759-5593. • Coed Volleyball (adults) Tuesdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m., MLK Rec. Center. Free. • Performances-in-Progress, 12:15-12:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Free performances by School of the Arts students.	• Performances-in-Progress, 12:15-12:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Free performances by School of the Arts students. • Women's Basketball, 7:30-10 p.m., MLK Rec. Center. Free. • Table Tennis (adults), 7:30-9:30 p.m., MLK Rec. Center. Free.