

# ARTS & LIFESTYLE

## Of Interest ...

### Female barbershop singers to compete in Winston

Nine hundred members of Blue Ridge Region 14, Sweet Adelines International will participate in the 33rd Annual Regional Competition and Convention at the M.C. Benton, Jr. Convention Center March 28-29.

Event tickets to the barbershop singing event are \$15. The Show of Champions, an extravaganza of barbershop excellence featuring the top five quartet and chorus winners, will take place the evening of March 29 at 8. Show tickets are \$20. Tickets will be available at the convention center one hour prior to each event.

This year's competition is entitled "Leaping to Success." Nearly 40 quartets and choruses, including Golden Triad Chorus of Winston-Salem, under the direction of Marcia O'Neil, will compete. Quartets will compete on Friday, March 28 starting at 5 p.m. Chorus competition will commence at noon on Saturday, March 29.

Singers will come from North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia to fill the air with four-part harmony while demonstrating, at the highest level, their skills in barbershop singing and high-energy choreography. Both quartets and choruses will be competing for the top prize; to qualify to compete at the international level of the organization.

### Piano prodigy Gonzalo Rubalcaba will perform at UNC

Cuban-born piano prodigy Gonzalo Rubalcaba, called "one of the greatest musicians in jazz" by The New York Times, will perform on March 29 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The 8 p.m. solo concert in Memorial Hall will cap off Carolina Performing Arts' 2007-2008 jazz series and headline the music department's 2008 Festival on the Hill.



Rubalcaba

Rubalcaba (pronounced "Gone-SAL-oh Roo-ball-CA-ba") fuses American styles with traditional Cuban rhythms. He has made more than 20 albums, most in a piano trio, but enlisted a quintet for "Avatar," released last month. He won a Latin Grammy for his 2002 album "Supernova."

As a teenager in Havana, Cuba, Rubalcaba spent years honing his versatile style in the city's many jazz clubs. In 1985, he formed his own band, Grupo Proyecto, and his unique blend of Afro-Cuban jazz caught the ear of legendary jazz trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie.

Tickets for the concert, \$24 to \$50, are available at (919) 843-3333, online at [www.carolinaperformingarts.org](http://www.carolinaperformingarts.org) and at the Memorial Hall Box Office on Cameron Avenue, open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays.

### Moviegoers will screen "Uncounted"

The Moviegoers will screen "Uncounted - The New Math of American Elections" at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 27 at Grace Presbyterian Church, 3901 Carver School Rd.

A 15-minute video reel of clips from films that will be featured at this year's RiverRun International Film Festival, which will be from April 23-28, will also be shown at 6:05 p.m.

"Uncounted" has been called an explosive documentary that claims that election fraud that changed the outcome of the 2004 Presidential election led to even greater fraud in 2006. The controversial feature-length film is by Emmy award-winning director David Earmhardt.

The Moviegoers post-film discussion will feature Phil Dickinson, the education committee chair of the Voting Rights Coalition; Joyce McCloy, a coordinator with the North Carolina Coalition for Verified Voting; Jonathan Peterson, a Democracy North Carolina Field Organizer; and Linda Sutton, secretary of the Forsyth County Board of Elections.

Mary Dickinson, vice president of the Forsyth County Democratic Party, will moderate the discussion.

There is no admission fee, but reservations are required at either, [TheMoviegoers@aol.com](mailto:TheMoviegoers@aol.com) or 336-661-0339.

### Mariah Carey says: 'I know I'm called 'ditz' moron'

NEW YORK (AP)—Mariah Carey knows her indisputable talent clashes with her sexed-up image as a "ditz." "It's a dichotomy, I understand," the 37-year-old Grammy winner tells Allure magazine. "I understand that people think I am a ditzy moron."

The singer—who was treated for exhaustion in 2001 after a public meltdown—says she still struggles with her confidence.

"I've always had really low self-esteem, and I still do," she says. "What's weird about that is being onstage, and the love that you get, and the adoration that you feel from your real fans. It's hard for a partner to compete—just imagine."

Carey and ex-husband Tommy Mottola, the former chairman and CEO of Sony Music Entertainment, divorced in 1997. She has described that relationship as controlling and says: "I had to make a decision: either lose myself completely or learn to stand up for myself. You have to be very courageous to do that."

She says she'd marry again—preferably, to someone who knows where she's coming from.

"That's a big deal for me: feeling like somebody else can't fully understand me because they're not in show business. It shouldn't matter, but it does, because the energy it takes to be 'on' is a lot," she says.

Carey's latest album, EMC2, arrives April 15. Her previous album, "The Emancipation of Mimi," has sold 10 million copies.

## Angelou and Catlett chat planned

### Event will be fundraiser for Delta Arts Center

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Poet and author Dr. Maya Angelou will conduct a conversation with famed artist Elizabeth Catlett on Saturday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Delta Arts Center. The event will serve as a fundraiser for Catlett's 93rd birthday and as a fundraiser for Delta Arts Center.

Catlett says she "began to get more of an idea about what art is" as an art major at Howard University.

"It's something creative you have to plan and work on," she discovered. Armed with a cum laude Bachelor of Science and Art from Howard, Catlett headed south to North Carolina to teach art at Durham High School. But the yen for knowledge beckoned her back to school. She obtained her masters at the University of Iowa.

"There, I got into my first sculpture class," she recalls, "and I liked it better than painting. So



Maya Angelou

I decided to get my degree in sculpture instead of painting."

The degree she earned, in 1940, was the first master of fine arts—the highest degree in art ever granted at the University of Iowa at that time.

A tenured teaching position at Prairie View College in Texas helped her later to become head of the art department at Dillard University in New Orleans. Always the student, though, Catlett went to study ceramics at the Art Institute in Chicago. After that, she moved east to teach at what is now Hampton University.

She would later realize that she had to expand her artistic



Elizabeth Catlett

scope.

"I had work for all people," she said. "I had to do more than just work with Black subject matter."

She learned woodcarving while teaching at a local art school in Mexico. Catlett later earned the prestigious Julius Rosenwald Foundation grant and was able to gain prominence through exhibitions at southern Black colleges—at that time one of the only venues open to Blacks who wanted to appreciate art.

Throughout her career, Catlett has been the recipient of numerous commissions, awards and prizes, both large and small.

Most notable, Catlett has created a 10-foot bronze statue of Louis Armstrong for the City of New Orleans and life-size bronze bust of poet Phyllis Wheatley for Jackson State College in Mississippi.

In her ninth decade of life, Catlett received the International Sculpture Center's Lifetime Achievement Award in Contemporary Sculpture and was honored by the Art Institute of Chicago. Catlett continues to work in her studio in Cuernavaca, Mexico and has remained steadfast to what she sees as the challenges of her lifetime; exposing racial and social injustice, celebrating the African American and Latin American woman, and graphically depicting the African American experience and the relationship of art to people. Her work today encompasses the same, rhythmic, expressive qualities as when she first began, conveying the positive strength of her people and all humanity.

Delta Arts Center is located at 2611 New Walkerton Rd. For ticket information, call 336-722-2625 or email, [delta2611@bellsouth.net](mailto:delta2611@bellsouth.net).



## BELLE OF THE BEAUTY BALL

Photo by Gerald Janssen/PRNewFoto/Coty Inc.

Singer/actress Vanessa Williams, far left, hosted Coty Inc.'s 33rd Annual Beauty Ball on March 12 at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City. The event is a benefit for the March of Dimes. Pictured with Williams are Coty Inc. CEO and Beauty Ball Chairman Bernd Beetz and Beauty Ball Co-Chair Designer Vera Wang. Coty is a mega beauty products company whose brands include Pierre Cardin, Stetson, Jovan and Calgon. This year's event raised nearly \$1.2 million. Over the past 33 years, the Beauty Ball has raised more than \$25 million to benefit the March of Dimes New York Division.

## UNC's Williams will give Gallery Talk

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Professor Heather Williams will give a Gallery Talk Tuesday, April 1 at Reynolda House Museum of American Art.

Williams, who is Harvard and Yale educated, teaches in UNC's History Department. She also writes about African-Americans in the 18th and 19th centuries.

During her 5:30 p.m. talk, she will describe the symbols and



Heather Williams

meanings passed through generations in the work of African-American quilt-makers and take questions from the audience.

Reynolda House is currently showing "Ancestry & Innovation: African American Art from the American Folk Art Museum," which features a variety of quilts.

Williams is the author of "Self Taught: African American Education in Slavery and Freedom." She is currently

researching the separation of African American families during the antebellum period and subsequent attempts to reunify families following emancipation. She is also an artist who creates quilts that incorporate photographs, letters, sheet music, and other gleanings from the past.

A cash bar reception will follow the talk. For further information, call 336-758-5150. Admission is \$5.

## Gospel singers will perform with symphony

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem Symphony will present a gospel extravaganza called "A Symphony of Praise" on March 29 at 7:30 p.m. at Reynolds Auditorium.

The event will feature members of several local choirs and choruses performing as the Gospel Festival Chorus with symphony musicians. Talent from the Winston-Salem State University Choir, the Twin City Choristers, the Winston-Salem Symphony Chorale, Ambassador Gospel Choir and several other local churches are all slated to perform as part of the chorus. African drummers will also play along with the symphony and the singers.

Musical selections will range from spirituals such as "Ride on King Jesus" and "Soon I Will Be Done," to gospel hymns like "Hallelujah" from "Soulful

Messiah," to contemporary Christian tunes like "Total Praise" and "Circle of Life" from "The Lion King."

Symphony Maestro Robert Moody will partner with D'Walla Simmons Burke, the director of Choral and Vocal Studies at Winston-Salem State, to conduct the Gospel Festival Chorus and orchestra musicians.

Burke has taught at WSSU for more than 19 years and founded the University's Burke Singers, a female a cappella ensemble committed to performing African-American sacred songs, African and African-American civil-rights support songs, and songs of world political awareness.

Tickets are \$15--\$50, and student, senior, and group discounts are available. For more information, go to [www.wssymphony.org](http://www.wssymphony.org) or call 336-464-0145.



Moody



WSSU's D'Walla Burke will co-conduct the concert.