

McMillan

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er this overlooked master artist, we offer hope that other exceptional black artists, now lost to history, may someday be found."

On view at the African American Atelier, Inc. — which is in the Greensboro Cultural Center at 200 N. Davie St. — is "The Art of James C. McMillan: Loss and Redemption," an expanded version of the McMillan's West Coast show. This exhibition captures McMillan's meticulous attention to the human figure as a collective, intellectual humanity. Bennett will show "The Art of James C. McMillan: Elegance and Line" in the Steele Hall Art Gallery at 900 East Washington St. A recently completed large-scale surrealist-style oil painting, "Contemporary Symbols (2011)," will be on view for the first time. Both shows will run from March 20-May 6.

The exhibitions are co-organized by Dr. Alma S. Adams, co-founder and curator of The African American Atelier and Bennett professor, and Charlotte Sherman, Director of the Heritage Art Gallery of Pacific Palisades, Calif.



DIED

Films

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RiverRun has also added a screening of shorts made by North Carolina filmmakers to the festival lineup — a component that organizers say sets RiverRun apart from other regional film festivals.

"RiverRun is proud to feature films from all over the world, but it is extremely important to us that we include some local flavor in the Festival," said RiverRun Program Manager Mary Dossinger. "We don't often have enough room in the programs to include all we would like, so we decided to create an entirely new shorts program to spotlight some of the best short films we received from North Carolina filmmakers this year."

The Festival will open on April 8 with a screening of "Win Win," Thomas McCarthy's quirky comedy starring Oscar-nominee Paul Giamatti and Amy Ryan. The festival will close with a screening of François Ozon's "Potiche," a comedy set and filmed in the colorful style of the 1970s.

Between these fantastic opening and closing films, there is a full roster of phenomenal, ground-breaking features. Also, throughout the Festival, RiverRun will hold a variety of discussion panels with experienced and up-and-coming artists from the world of independent film. These panels are an opportunity for audiences to learn from jurors, filmmakers and industry guests. The panel topics this year include: "Screenwriting and Adaptation," "DIY (Do-It-Yourself) Filmmaking" and "Careers in Film."

This year, Festival films will be shown at a/perture cinema (311 W. Fourth St.), Hanesbrands Theatre (209 N. Spruce St.) and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (1533 S. Main St.). Tickets are now on sale at the Stevens Center box office, via www.riverrunfilm.com or over the phone (336-721-1945).

For a complete Festival line-up or for details about volunteering, visit www.riverrunfilm.com or call 336-724-1502.

Jealous

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ty volunteers."

But there is much transforming still needed, he said.

"The problems now are just as urgent as they've ever been," he stated. "I don't want anybody to believe that segregation is dead or that we killed Jim Crow."

Inequities in the justices system adversely affect not only minorities, but poor whites as well, said Jealous, who likened the 'War on Meth' in low income white communities to the 'War on Crack' that was waged in low income black communities decades ago.

"We don't have one national drug policy, we have two," Jealous said. "We have one for people who have resources and one for people who don't."

Though minorities may be the first to suffer under an unjust policy or regulation, sooner or later, its effects will reach the general population, as they did with the foreclosure crisis, Jealous said.

"Racial privilege can't protect any of our children from the worst scourges in our country," he told the group.

He implored the audience not to be intimidated by circumstances or odds, reminding them that slavery too, once seemed an impossible institution to overturn.

"If you act because of your fears, if you act in response to your fears, you are a coward," Jealous said. "If you act in spite of your fears you are courageous ...and the problems you confront in society will recede away from you."

He told the story of Jotaka Eaddy, who, as a high school student, helped galvanize her racially-polarized school in South Carolina around the cause of abolishing the death penalty. Eaddy, who was working at McDonald's at the time, was moved by the story of a 16 year-old boy who was facing the death penalty. The state of South Carolina banned the execution of persons



A packed house listens to Jealous in the new WFU Welcome Center.



Photo by Layla Farmer

WFU Law Students Aisha Forte and Gabrielle Jackson

under 18 in 2005 as a result of the activism of Eaddy and others. Jealous asked each audience member to choose a social wrong that they want to right before they die.

"Jotaka's brilliant and she's beautiful, but no more so than anyone else in this room," he said. "She had plenty of reasons to turn her back and walk away but she was on fire and she knew the one thing she wanted to change before she died."

Eaddy's story resonated with

second-year law student Aisha Forte.

"I was definitely inspired by the story of the young organizer," commented Forte, a native of Raleigh. "It re-motivated me to still work for the cause."

A product of the Wake County School system, Forte said the turmoil that surrounds it now also piqued her interest. Wake County has unveiled a controversial redistricting plan that would lead to racial segregation at most schools.

Forte's friend, Gabrielle Jackson, a first-year law student, said she witnessed many of the same issues in her native Florida.

"The things he talked about in education, I definitely noticed as well," Jackson commented. "I always went to predominantly white schools, and I could definitely tell the difference in the resources."

Local NAACP Chapter President S. Wayne Patterson said he was happy that Jealous's speech shed light on some of the issues the state and local NAACP chapters are currently grappling with.

"I was very well pleased. I think his speech was right on it," Patterson said. "He addressed some of the issues that needed to be heard here in Winston-Salem /Forsyth County."

Several audience members posed questions to Jealous after his formal remarks. In his responses, he addressed everything from the organization's stance on abortion to immigration and Congress's treatment of the Muslim community.

Rev. Carlton Eversley, co-founder of the grassroots organization Concerned Citizens for Educational Accountability and Achievement, asked Jealous for advice on addressing the re-segregation of the Winston-Salem Forsyth County School System. Jealous told him to look for allies in new and unexpected places.

"We really all, quite frankly, just need to reach out more, engage more people in the conversation," Jealous said. "We do ourselves a great disservice in our democracy when we assume we know not just what people think, but what they're capable of agreeing to."

Program

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three group session leaders.

"For women in the program, they will sit with their peers, a nurse and their medical provider in a circle and discuss different aspects of prenatal care in a fun, educational and supportive setting."

Imagine walking in the door every time you come to see your provider and not having to wait. Instead, you go right to a room to check yourself in, weigh yourself and meet with your provider. You are with about 10 to 11 other women who are due around the same time you are. While the provider

gives each of you individual assessments, you have time to socialize and participate in learning activities. You share a snack, or discuss how your baby just started kicking or other aspects of your pregnancy experience."

The March of Dimes makes such grants to help fulfill its mission of preventing birth defects and infant

mortality.

"This grant addresses significant maternal and child health issues such as the high rates of preterm birth that are of concern in our community," said Marcia Swartz, March of Dimes program services chair.

"Here in Forsyth County, we found that we could help

mothers and babies through the Obstetrics and Gynecology clinic at the Downtown Health Plaza. We are grateful that our successful fundraising efforts, such as March for Babies, make it possible for us to support new efforts to help more babies to be born healthy in Forsyth County."



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