



Sorority members (front row, from left) Evelyn Sanders, Patsy Squire, Ricquel Pratt, Ann Moye, Norma Corley, Donna Mickens, Theresa Scott (back row) Sarah Alston, Clarissa Felder, Valeria Edwards, Sharina Baker, Demetria Smith, Benita Brown, Joyce Mack, Alisha Oakes and Jackie Spencer.

SORORITY AWARDS EDUCATORS

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Beta Lambda Chapter of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. sponsored its 10th Bi-Annual Excellence in Education Awards and Vital Issues Scholarship Breakfast on Saturday, June 1 at St. John CME Church.

The event is the organization's effort to pool resources to gain insight into ways to help students attain their highest potential in the educational arena. Each year during the event, the sorority recognizes educators from the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System.

Young Educator awards went to Jakeia Payne, Jessica Smith and Talaya McManus.

Excellence in Education awards went to Coach Bobby Collins, Spencer Hardy, Alesia Hilton, Dr. Felecia Piggot-Long, Velvet McGregor, Joyce Mack, Melanee Mills, Patsy S. Murrill, Tiffany Pankey, Tiffani Richardson and Gladys Wilson.

The Distinguished Educator Award winners are Ida Witherspoon, Rev. Steve Doral Stowe, Roberta Parson, Pricilla Jackson-Wiggins, Dr.



Kenneth Rocker Jr. with Ashley Penn.



2013 Parent of the Year Malissa Pompey (center) with Sharina Baker and Chapter President Ann Moye (right).

Betty Alexander, William Toney, Evelyn Howie, Shirley Kindle, Johnetta Huntley and Doretha Bryd.

The Classified Educator Awards were presented to Damian Anderson, Shirley Boyd, Denise McCoy, Ronda Gordon, William Fulton, Preston Jones and Sheradica Squire.

This year, Larry Womble, a former educator and member of the N.C. House, was presented with the Chapter Citation Award. His service and devotion to education and the entire Winston-Salem community is certainly appreciated and beneficial to all of us.

Kenneth Rocker Jr. and Ashley Penn, scholarship winners, were also recognized, as was "Parent of the Year" Malissa Pompey.

Mayor Allen Joines, Sen. Earline Parmon and City Council Member James Taylor provided greetings and opening comments. The keynote speaker, Rev. Dwight Hash, pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church, spoke on the theme of the event, "Promoting the Destiny of African American Youth."

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under often taxing circumstances.

"All of us are chasing a dream, and it gave us something to look forward to," Leak said.

Public nominations were sought for each of the 27 categories. The nominated entertainers in each category put on a showcase earlier in the year for a panel of judges charged with picking the winners. In the case of ties among the judges, online voting by the public decided the winner.

The event had all the trappings of televised award shows. The name of each nominee in each category was read, and there was a drum-roll before the winners' names were called. The victors walked to the stage to applause to give acceptance speeches, some even slipped in a few lines of a song. Winners expressed gratitude to their supporters, collaborators and fans and praised the ceremony for providing recognition and inspiration.

"It's a pleasure to be finally heard, I love that," Male Country Artist winner Matthew Allivato told attendees. "And to everyone that's in this building who thinks they can be a musician or an artist or anything that so many tell you 'no,' do it and don't care what people tell you."

Virginia Walker, a rapper known as State Da Truth, was also a winner, taking home the Female Hip Hop Artist award. Though she has performed at numerous venues locally and around the state, the Forsyth County Entertainment Award was her very first honor.



Rhoades

for his Testimony Mime Ministry.

"It's very humbling; it gives you drive to go on," Furches said of his back-to-back honors.

Though dancing at churches, weddings and family gatherings keeps him busy, Furches said he keeps the fourth Saturday of each month open so that he can feed and perform for the homeless at Macedonia Worship Center.

Several special honors were also presented. The Crystal Diamond Honorarium - given to entertainers who were pio-

neers or have made major contributions - were presented to music producer Patrick Douthit (also known as 9th Wonder), promoter Jarrard Goldsmith of Goldfinger, Inc. and Diamond Life Concerts, and Community Arts Cafe owners Jim and Cathy Tedder. Lynn Rhoades and Nathan Ross Freeman, co-founders of the teen writing organization Authoring Action, were each presented with an award.

"If this is about saving lives, if this is about enlivening souls, if this is about handing the world over, putting the world into the hands of our youth, then I'm up for this," Freeman said in accepting his award.

Attendees also heard from AIDS Care Service Director Jesse Duncan and activist Wanda Brendle Moss, both of whom talked about the mission of the agency and HIV/AIDS awareness, and a diverse array of musical acts - Carlos Bocanegra, Cedric Moser and Dion Fowler (who hosted the event).

Taylor Ann Fleshman, John Hollerman and Khiana Meyer received Teen Entertainer awards, and Ginaya Meyer received the Teen Artist award. Other awards went to Christian Voit (painter), Meredith Sanchez (female actor), Lance Megginson (male actor), Manning Crowell

Robins earns scouting honor

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Elizabeth Robins has earned her Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouting.

To earn the honor, Robins, the daughter of Edwin and Victoria Robins and a member of Troop 41242, focused on improving the use of volunteers of Crisis Control Ministry and expanding the participation in the Gift of the Month program. She developed and distributed a survey to more than 600 current volunteers and used that information to evaluate the effectiveness of the current program. Robins then marketed the volunteer program and initiated the Gift-of-the-Month program to local churches.

By earning the Girl Scout Gold Award, Robins has become a community leader. Her accomplishments reflect leadership and citizenship skills that set her apart.

"Earning the Girl Scout Gold Award designation is truly a remarkable achievement, and this young woman exemplifies leadership in all its forms," said Marcia Cole, chief executive officer of Girl Scouts Carolinas Peaks to Piedmont. "She saw a need in her community and took action. Her extraordinary dedication, perseverance and leadership, is making the world a better place."



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