

ARTS & LIFESTYLE

OF INTEREST

Reality star at DCCC

Davidson County Community College will host Tory Belleci from the Discovery Channel's Emmy-nominated show "MythBusters" as part of the Campus Speaker Series.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held from 11 a.m. to noon on Monday, Nov. 11 in the Mary E. Rittling Conference Center on the Davidson campus.

Belleci will take students, faculty, staff and community members behind the scenes to uncover the truth behind popular myths and legends by mixing scientific method with curiosity and ingenuity.



Belleci

"MythBusters," which is in its 14th season, follows a cast of special effects experts as they attempt to test and debunk urban myths and legends with wild experiments. Some myths the team has put to rest include: whether dirty cars are more fuel efficient than clean cars, if plugging a gun barrel causes it to backfire, and if it is possible to beat police speed cameras.

Belleci has been with the show since it began in 2003, first doing work behind the scenes and then becoming one of the show's co-hosts. While on "MythBusters," Belleci has jumped out of several planes, wake-boarded behind a cruise ship, been chased by a crocodile, stared down a bull and swam with sharks.

Craftsmen fair turns 50

More than 100 of the finest artisans from across the southeastern United States will fill the booths at Piedmont Craftsmen's 50th Fair on Nov. 16 - 17 at the Benton Convention Center.

The Fair, which presents a broad sampling of the finest work available in artist-designed handmade home goods, wearables, jewelry, furniture and decorative items, kicks off a year-long celebration of Piedmont Craftsmen's 50th Anniversary.

Piedmont Craftsmen, founded in 1963 by a group of craft artists and craft collectors, held their first Fair in the original Krispy Kreme Factory, hoping to build audiences and appreciation for quality craftsmanship. Quality craftsmanship and excellent design have always been the hallmarks of Piedmont Craftsmen. The annual fair showcases some of America's most talented contemporary fine craft artists in a setting that allows shoppers to meet the craftspeople, talk to them about their work, and view demonstrations of craft techniques.

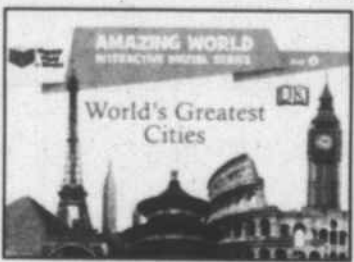
Fair proceeds support the programs of the non-profit Piedmont Craftsmen. The guild conducts workshops, mounts exhibitions and operates a gallery and shop in the heart of the Downtown Arts District.

Admission to the Fair is \$7 for adults and \$6 for senior citizens, students and groups. Children under 12 are admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Learn more at <http://piedmontcraftsmen.org>.

Happy Meal Books launched

From Nov. 1 - 14, McDonald's will offer books for Happy Meal customers, providing more than 20 million books to families across the U.S. Throughout the two-week Happy Meal Books offer, families will be able to enjoy four original books featuring McDonald's Happy Meal characters.

This is the latest step in McDonald's ongoing efforts to enrich the lives of families, and part of a broader book strategy that will combine the fun of the Happy Meal, new partners and technology to inspire more family reading time.



As part of the launch of Happy Meal Books, McDonald's is collaborating with Reading is Fundamental (RIF), the largest children's literacy non-profit in the U.S., to help more children and their families discover the joy of reading. RIF will distribute 100,000 Happy Meal Books to children who do not have easy access to books.

Also starting on Nov. 1, McDonald's will give families anytime access to reading with a new interactive digital book each month through the end of 2014. The free interactive e-books will be available on McPlay via McDonalds.com and the McDonald's Happy Meal App.

The Happy Meal Books, as well as the DK Publishing e-books, will also be available for download at HappyMeal.com. Spanish versions of McDonald's Happy Meal Books will be available on McDonalds.com and MeEncanta.com.



Dr. Myron Brown (at the piano) poses with the WSSU choir.

WSSU's Brown to play with Symphony

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Winston-Salem State University Assistant Professor of Music Dr. Myron D. Brown will be the guest pianist for Winston-Salem Symphony concerts on Saturday, Nov. 16 (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday, Nov. 17 (3 p.m.) and Tuesday, Nov. 19 (7:30 p.m.).

He will perform with Symphony musicians on Mozart's "Concerto for Piano No. 19 in F Major, K. 459."

The concerts will also feature "Siegfried Idyll" by Richard Wagner and "Symphony No. 4 in B-flat Major" by Ludwig van Beethoven. The concert series will be conducted by guest conductor Philip Mann, music director of the Arkansas Symphony



Mann

Orchestra.

The "Music Lovers' Luncheon," a fun and informative pre-concert lunch with Maestro Mann, Brown and Beethoven scholar Dr. David Levy, will take place Friday, Nov. 15 at noon at The Piedmont Club,

200 West Second St. Reservations are required for the luncheon and can be made by calling 336-724-7077.

The Nov. 16 performance is part of the Kicked-Back Classics Series. After each Kicked-Back concert, concert-goers can join the maestro, guest artists and members of the orchestra for Brews with Bob at W-S Prime in the Marriott.

This series is part of the Winston-Salem Symphony's Angel Tree partnership with the Salvation Army. Concert goers are encouraged to donate new unwrapped toys for children up to age 12 at the concerts.

Brown won the Alys Stephens Piano Competition at Birmingham-Southern College for three consecutive years, from 2002 to

2004, and is also a three-time winner of the Frances & Dorsey Whittington Concerto/Aria Competition at Birmingham-Southern College.

In 2004, he received the Trotter Award for "Most Outstanding Performance" from the Alabama Music Teachers' Association and the Theodore Presser Scholarship from the Presser Music Foundation.

In June 2008, Dr. Brown performed in "A Celebration of Black Music 2008," at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. That same year, he was selected as the winner of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra's "Piano Idol" competition.

Shortly afterward, he

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Easton signs on for Dancing Classrooms

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Take the Lead North Carolina has been awarded a Wells Fargo Arts in Education grant by the Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County.

Take the Lead will use the grant to implement its Dancing Classrooms program at Easton Elementary School. Eighty-seven fifth graders at Easton, as well as their teachers, will participate at no cost to the school or students. They will learn dance moves in preparation for the Dancing Classrooms Team Match Competition in December, when Easton will compete against Forest Park, Hall Woodward, Old Town and Shady Grove (in Davie County) elementary schools for gold, silver and bronze medals in the tango, foxtrot, swing, merengue and rumba. The competition will take place at Easton on Dec. 12.

"We are committed to educating the whole child. Too often, we forget the importance of dance and movement and how they need to be connected to learning," said Easton Principal Bea Veto. "Dancing Classrooms develops experience, helps the students problem solve and grow as they learn. It provides positive socialization and 21st Century skills of cooperation and negotiation. And it's fun! The students need to know that



Children learn dance moves during a Take the Lead session.

learning is fun."

Dancing Classrooms Site Director Ann Guill is grateful that the Arts Council has embraced the program and is pleased to see Dancing Classrooms grow locally from serving two schools in 2009 to serving more than 15 schools today.

Dancing Classrooms, which started in New York City in 1994, wraps life lessons around ballroom dancing and is an arts in education, youth and character

development program that promotes healthy living and gives its students a leg up for success.

The Dancing Classrooms program has been chronicled widely in national and international news coverage, as well as in "Mad Hot Ballroom," an award-winning documentary, and "Take the Lead," a feature film starring Antonio Banderas as the program's founder, Pierre Dulaine.

A REUNION OF LEGENDS



Singer/actress Dolly Parton poses with rapper/singer/actress Queen Latifah last month on the set of Latifah's new daytime talk show. Parton was a guest on the Oct. 21 show. Parton and Latifah starred together in the 2012 film, "Joyful Noise."



Filmmakers and actors on the set of "Title Fight."

National award for emerging cinematography

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Joseph Blankinship, a college senior studying cinematography at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) School of Filmmaking, won third place in the Society of Camera Operators' 2013 National Student Operator competition. The awards were announced at the organization's annual meeting in Burbank, Calif.

Blankinship, a High Point resident, was recognized for his work as camera operator on the student film "Title Fight," which premiered at UNCSA in May. He received a student membership in the society.

"This award was a wonderful surprise that seemed to validate everything I've worked for at UNCSA," he said. "It was kind of like a few of my greatest camera operator idols saying I really can do this!"

Cinematography faculty member Thomas Ackerman said the award is an important recognition.

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