

ARTS & LIFESTYLE

OF INTEREST

'Wake Up to Poetry'

Wake Forest University and Winston-Salem poetry lovers will gather at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 5 at the Community Arts Café at 411 W. Fourth St. for the 2nd annual Wake Up to Poetry reading and celebration. The event is free and open to the public.

The evening will include poetry readings and a poetry open mic, open to all university and community poets. Food and beverages will be available for sale throughout the event, and free appetizers will also be offered. Any poet reading a poem during the open mic will receive a voucher for free food and a beverage.

The celebration is the culmination of a poetry contest held earlier this year for Wake Forest University students. Over 200 submissions were received and four winning poems were chosen by three judges from outside the WFU community. The judges are Alan Michael Parker, English professor and director of Creative Writing at Davidson College, Metta Sama, assistant professor and director of the Creative Writing Program at Salem College, and Julian Semilian, poet and filmmaking professor at UNC School of the Arts.

Wake Up to Poetry is sponsored by a collaboration of Wake Forest University departments and institutions, including premier sponsor IPLAcE (Interdisciplinary Performance and the Liberal Arts Center), the English Honors Program, the Dillon Johnston Writers Reading Series, the Department of English, the Interdisciplinary Humanities Program, Wake Forest University Press and Three to Four Ounces student literary magazine.



Semilian

WSSU student exhibit

Graduating seniors from the Department of Art and Visual Studies at Winston-Salem State University will hold their Senior Thesis Exhibit from Wednesday, April 9 - Friday, May 2. An opening reception will be held on Friday, April 11, from 6 - 8 p.m.

Senior exhibitors will also show their works on Wednesday, April 9 from noon to 2 p.m. in the gallery as part of the WSSU University Scholarship Day. This event will kick off the re-opening of the Diggs Gallery following facility renovations.

The exhibition will feature works of 16 students: Bree Baldwin, Shakillia Bobo, Diandra Brown, Maleek Brown, Aundrea Bruton, Akinyele Cameron-Kamau, Irwin Clawson, Deric Cooper, Kelvin Douglas, Frederick Graham, Christine Holland, Justin Jackson, Aquila Jones, Victor Toodle, Darius Turner and Brian (Buck) Warren. Student works represent a range of mediums including studio art and computer graphics, large-scale portraits, atmospheric architectural landscapes, figurative and graphic creative arts, and digital projections of works of animation and 3D modeling.

Honor for author

North Carolina author Rev. Jasmine Beach-Ferrara's first short story collection, "Damn Love," has received national recognition as an honorable mention for the PEN/Hemingway Foundation Award for Debut Fiction. She has also been nominated as a finalist for a Lambda Literary Award in General Fiction. Beach-Ferrara was raised in Chapel Hill and currently lives in Asheville.



Beach-Ferrara

"Damn Love" includes short love stories set in North Carolina and San Francisco. These stories emerge from the fault lines of American life, uncertain territory where identity, risk and desire come together, and where reconciliation can be found in even the most flawed efforts to connect. Stories from this collection have previously been published in American Short Fiction, The Harvard Review and Crazyhorse.

Beach-Ferrara was a NEA Literature fellow in 2010 and received her MFA from the Warren Wilson Program for Writers. Just as her literary work focuses on LGBT lives, she also works as the executive director for the Campaign for Southern Equality, a non-profit organization that advocates for LGBT rights throughout the South. Beach-Ferrara is a minister in the United Church of Christ. She is married to Meghann Burke.

The PEN/Hemingway Foundation Award is funded and administered by the Ernest Hemingway Foundation. An award ceremony is set for April 6.



WSSU Photo by Garrett Garris

Student artists learn from law students.

Law students tell student artists how to protect their work

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

On March 21, the Wake Forest University Law School Pro Bono Group and Winston-Salem State University's Diggs Gallery co-hosted an Arts and Entertainment Law Clinic at the gallery for WSSU students.

The clinic provided invaluable assistance to students seeking federal and state protection of their intellectual property. Visual artists, graphic designers, performing artists and a poet took advantage of the session. WFU law students Stacy Jones, Chris DiGirolamo, Disha Gandhi, Leslie Evans and Michael Glotzbach covered topics such as copyrights, trademarks and patents, proper aspects of a contract for artists and how to handle disputes.

The law students were supervised by Steve Virgil, founding director of the Community Law Clinic and associate clinical professor, and Professor Beth Hopkins, who serves as director of outreach at WFU School of Law.



Tate

"This partnership with Beth Hopkins and Steve Virgil was important to Diggs Gallery because of our commitment to providing learning experiences for WSSU students that complement the curriculum in ways that are practical, engaging and fun," said Belinda Tate, Diggs Gallery director.

Students gave the event high marks.

"I really enjoyed each presentation. I feel that each student from Wake Forest Law School vividly painted a clear picture that opened my eyes to a lot of aspects of art law," said Frederick Graham Jr., a WSSU student who took part.

Bree Baldwin, a WSSU fine arts major said, "The workshop on Art and Entertainment Law was useful and informative. I received information about how to protect myself when given an opportunity to design a work of art for a client and the proper procedures to have a contract put in place to protect myself."

New ED at Black Rep

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Taylor Thierry has been named the executive director of the North Carolina Black Repertory Company. She succeeds Geraldine Patton, who retired last year.

According to a news release from the Black Rep, Thierry is an accomplished marketing professional who has managed multi-million dollar projects for multiple Fortune 100 companies. Part of the reason she was hired is because of her extensive history in the growth and development of people, brands and businesses. Black Rep officials says those skills will come in handy as the agency evolves.

"We are enhancing our brand and taking the company to the next level. We are so thrilled to have a person of her caliber joining us," said Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin, chairman of the Black Rep's board.

Thierry is leading the theatre into its 35th year of production and is charged with helping the organization grow in awareness, support and recognition internationally.

She has an MBA in marketing is Lean Six Sigma Green Belt-certified. As an instructor at Clark Atlanta

University, she directed students in the conceptualization of a student-run public relations firm which developed campaigns for non-profits in the southeast area.

She previously served on the NCBCRC board. When she was appointed by Black Rep Founder Larry Leon Hamlin, she asked him why he chose to make her the youngest member of the board, his reply was, "because I expect great things from you."

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with an organization that was a part of my early growth and development," Thierry said. "My goal is to showcase the talent of the NCBCRC to the world and in doing so, create an everlasting impact in the communities, global and domestic."

The late Larry Leon Hamlin founded the Black Rep in the late 1970s, creating the state's first black professional theater company. In the 1990s, he founded the National Black Theatre Festival, a popular and profitable event held under the auspices of the Black Rep, every other year. Thierry is only the third permanent executive director of the Black Rep. Hamlin led the theater company until his death in 2007; Patton then took the helm.



Greenhill opening Bearden exhibit

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Greenhill, a Greensboro art gallery, will present "Select Collection I Prints of Romare Bearden."

The exhibition and sale will take place from April 14 - June 22. The pieces are from collector Lou Milano. Bearden, a North Carolina native, helped define 20th century contemporary art.

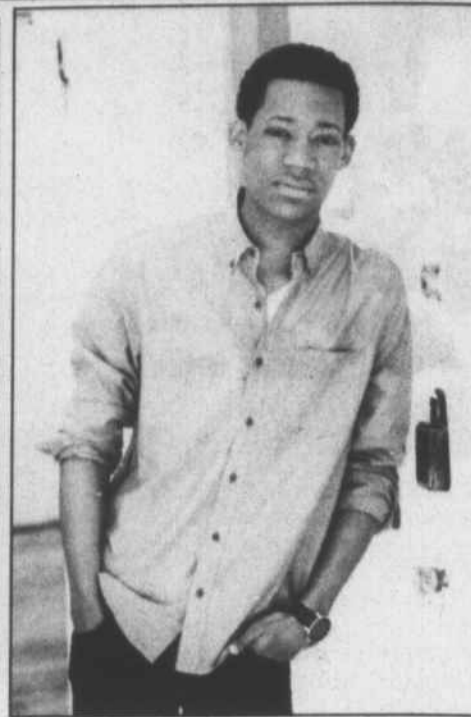
The late artist's work depicted the richness and vibrancy of African American life and was inspired by his personal experiences, the rural south and a variety of historical, literary and musical influences.

"You should always respect what you are and your culture because if you are going to mean anything, that is where it



Romare Bearden's Fallen Star

See Bearden on A8



Tyler James Williams

RiverRun honoring several notables

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Tyler James Williams, the young actor best known for his title role in the series "Everybody Hates Chris," will receive a Spark Award during the RiverRun International Film Festival, which will be held April 4-13 in Winston-Salem. The honor goes to up-and-coming talents in the film industry.

Williams, who won the 2007 NAACP Image Award for Best Actor in a Comedy Series for his role in the series, returned to primetime television last year in the NBC comedy "Go On." Last summer, he was seen on the big screen in the Tyler Perry comedy "Peeples." He also starred in the Disney Channel film "Let It Shine," for which he also received an Image Award nomination.

Williams began acting at the age of four on "Sesame Street" and later provided his voice for the animated series "Little Bill." His other television credits include "Law & Order: SVU" and numerous appearances in sketches on "Saturday Night Live." His most recent film, "Dear White People," premiered in January at The Sundance Film Festival.

Spark Awards will also go to Sophie Desmarais and Tye Sheridan. She is a blossoming young Canadian actress and the star of "Sarah Prefers to Run," which is screening in this year's Narrative Competition program at RiverRun. Desmarais recently won Best Actress in a Canadian Film at the Vancouver Film Critics Circle Awards for her role in this film.

At 17-years-old, Sheridan is the youngest Spark Award winner. He played the youngest son of Jessica Chastain and Brad Pitt in Terrence Malick's "The Tree of Life (2011)." RiverRun fans will recognize Sheridan from his role in the 2013 Festival pick "Mud."

All three actors are expected to attend the festival to receive their awards, which will be presented during a private event.

Emerging Master awards will also be presented during the festival. Filmmaker Debra Granik and actress Melania Lynskey will receive them.

Granik is an independent director and writer who is best known for "Winter's Bone," which stars Jennifer Lawrence. The film earned Granik an Academy Award nomination for Best Adapted Screenplay.

New Zealand native Lynskey first gained widespread international attention when she starred in Peter Jackson's Academy Award-nominated "Heavenly Creatures." She is well known to television audiences for her role as Charlie Sheen's crazed stalker on "Two and a Half Men" and has held leading and scene-stealing turns in many films, including Steven Soderbergh's "The Informant," Sam Mendes' "Away We Go (2009)" and Jason Reitman's "Up in the Air."

The tribute ceremony for Lynskey will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 12 at UNCSA Gold Theatre and will be moderated by Winston-Salem native Angus MacLachlan, who directed Lynskey in his debut directorial feature "Goodbye to All That," which will premiere next month at the Tribeca Film Festival.

Tickets for each event are \$12. RiverRun will screen 145 films, including 82 shorts and 63 features from 33 countries. For a full schedule and ticket information, go to



Lynskey