

Kimberley Park students live through Black History

By KIM UNDERWOOD
WINSTON-SALEM/FORSYTH COUNTY SCHOOLS

First Lady Michelle Obama came to Kimberley Park Elementary School.

So did Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr., Venus and Serena Williams, Chris Paul, George Washington Carver, Coretta Scott King, Nelson Mandela, Thurgood Marshall, Maya Angelou, Louis Armstrong and Mohammed Ali.

In celebration of Black History Month on Feb. 22, third-, fourth- and fifth-graders at the school portrayed notable African-Americans in a "Living Wax Museum." As younger students came through the auditorium with their teachers, they would stop in front of one of the people being portrayed and, speaking in first person, the student portraying him or her would tell the younger students about his or her life and accomplishments.

Although most of the students stood, fifth-grader Makayla Moore sat — the better to portray Rosa Parks, who made history by declining to give up her seat on a bus to a white person. Makayla chose Parks because she respects what Parks did.

"She didn't want to give up her seat because

she didn't like how blacks were treated," Makayla said. "She wanted to change the world."

Fifth-grader LaDonna Campbell chose to be Mahalia Jackson.

"I like her songs," LaDonna said.

In her research, LaDonna learned that Jackson marched with Martin Luther King, Jr. and was the first black gospel singer to perform at Carnegie Hall.

When LaDonna grows up, she wants to become a lawyer so that she can help people.

Destiny Dunn likes running so she decided to portray Wilma Rudolph, the first American woman to win three gold medals at a single Olympics. When Rudolph was little, Destiny said, she had to wear a brace on her left leg. She overcame that to become a great runner.

Jamiya Sanders chose Coretta Scott — later Coretta Scott King — because she likes to read and Coretta Scott was a writer.

The girls' teacher in the all-girls fifth-grade class is Kimone Campbell. For Campbell, preparing for the living wax museum was a good way for the girls to get a sense of where they have come from and where they need to go. Plus, it

helps them develop an appreciation for what others have done for them.

It has other fringe benefits as well, said media coordinator Yvette Evans. "It helps the kids become more comfortable speaking in public," she said.

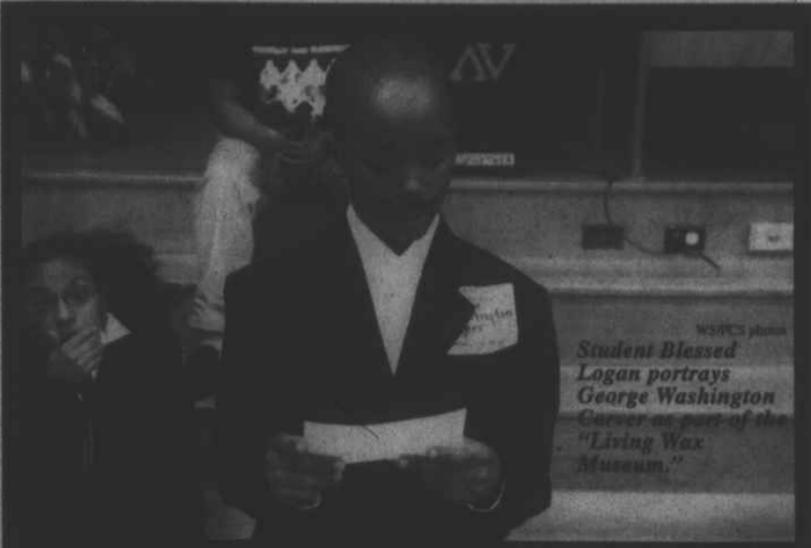
In her third grade class, Anna Powell gave her students the option of picking out someone, or, if they didn't know who they wanted to portray, she would give them a name. James Leggette knew little about Nelson Mandela before he started doing research and learned that he was a South African who worked to end apartheid.

"They should have equal rights," James said.

After being assigned Thurgood Marshall, Christian Arellano learned that Supreme Court Justice was born on June 2, 1908, and that he was a really good student.

Doing the research and writing their presentations was a good project, Powell said. "I have seen a lot of growth in their writing and confidence."

Fifth-grader Justin Bruson, who portrayed basketball player Chris Paul, has yet to see Paul, who played at Wake Forest, play in person but he sure has liked watching him play on television.



Student Blessed Logan portrays George Washington Carver as part of the "Living Wax Museum."



Student LaDonna Campbell portrays Mahalia Jackson as part of the "Living Wax Museum."



Student Destiny Dunn portrays Wilma Rudolph as part of the "Living Wax Museum."

"I grew up a Clippers fan," Justin said.

A number of students had dressed up and were looking particularly sharp for the day, including third-grader Larry Blackburn who wore a white suit and a

tie to portray boxer Joe Louis.

Blessed Logan's mother, Dorothy, brought him a suit to wear as George Washington Carver. Getting him to wear it was no problem.

"He would be happy to dress that way every day," she said.

Asked what makes her son special, she said, "His heart and his compassion for people."

New moves for WFU transcend traditional Reynolda campus boundaries

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

From the Brookstown area to Innovation Quarter, Wake Forest University is making a series of moves that aim to expand the University's engagement with the surrounding community in addition to its geographic footprint.

With several graduate programs, undergraduate science classes and interdisciplinary centers inhabiting an increasing number of rehabilitated spaces outside the main entrances of the Reynolda Campus, Wake Forest is making community involvement and continual innovation easier and more accessible.

"By transforming historic real estate into modern educational facilities ideal for academic programs and community gathering spaces alike, Wake Forest is transcending the traditional boundaries of the Reynolda Campus in ways that invite the community in," said Provost Rogan Kersh. "Wake Forest is committed to stronger, more meaningful connections among academics, arts, innovation and community engagement in Winston-Salem, our shared City of Arts and Innovation."

Last fall, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences established a striking new downtown presence, the Graduate School @ Brookstown, in the historic Brookstown Mill at 200 Brookstown Ave. The 14,000 square-foot third floor of the building is now home to Masters of Arts programs in Documentary Film (DFP), Interpreting and Translation Studies, and Liberal Studies, as well as Lifelong Learning programs. The facility will also be home to a new emphasis in Sports Storytelling, launching this fall from the DFP.

Bradley Jones, Dean of the Graduate School of



Hatch



Kersh

"Wake Forest is committed to stronger, more meaningful connections among academics, arts, innovation and community engagement in Winston-Salem, our shared City of Arts and Innovation."

— Rogan Kersh, Provost

Arts and Sciences, said the combination of these features will translate into a recruiting advantage for prospective students, especially those in creative fields.

"Being within walking distance of Winston-Salem's vibrant Arts District is especially appealing to our documentary film students, who are already collaborating with the Milton Rhodes Center, New Winston Museum, and the RiverRun Film Festival," said Jones.

Wake Forest University's Pro Humanitate Institute and the Anna Julia Cooper Center rang in the New Year in a new location that makes civic engagement and collaborating with community partners easier for everyone involved.

In January, both entities found a new home in the historic 6,000 square-foot Davis House at 2599 Reynolda Road, at the corner of Polo Road, which offers a welcoming space

for community partners benefitting from civic engagement and social justice initiatives involving Wake Forest students, faculty and staff.

The Pro Humanitate Institute combines learning, teaching, research, service, and action; provides meaningful programming that encourages academic scholarship; fosters civic engagement; and addresses community-identified needs. The Anna Julia Cooper Center advances justice through intersectional scholarship.

Melissa Harris-Perry, founding director of the Anna Julia Cooper Center and executive director of the Pro Humanitate Institute, says the new location will serve as a bridge between the University and many of the people it serves.

In addition to its new location, the Pro Humanitate Institute will continue to maintain an office and staff presence in Benson University Center

for programming and events that take place on campus, such as Volunteer Service Corps, Project Pumpkin, Hit the Bricks, and Wake 'N Shake.

In September 2015, the University confirmed plans to offer undergraduate academic programs in Wake Forest Innovation Quarter, a nationally recognized burgeoning hub of innovation in biomedical science and information technology.

Wake Forest undergraduate students could begin taking classes and conducting research in

Innovation Quarter as early as January 2017. Space is being planned to accommodate up to 350 students by 2021.

Wake Forest has leased space in a former R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company building from Wexford Science and Technology. Wexford is currently renovating space in the 60 series building, adjacent to the planned home of the Wake Forest School of Medicine, to accommodate classrooms and laboratories for innovative undergraduate science programs.

"Our interest in Wake Forest Innovation Quarter allows us to explore fully the intersection of arts and science, scholarship and entrepreneurship, and tradition and innovation," said Wake Forest President Nathan O. Hatch. "An undergraduate presence in Wake Forest Innovation Quarter would add to the growing synergy among the city's academic institutions, while supporting intellectual collaboration, research opportunities and community engagement."

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