

# Local artists anticipate art-friendly policies from Clinton administration

By Lori Krimminger  
Staff Writer

During his first few months in office, President Bill Clinton has not taken official action affecting the arts positively or negatively, but that hasn't dampened the optimism local artists feel for the administration.

Adam Barr Bill, a local illustrator, said he had a "wait and see" attitude about the Clinton administration.

Clinton will give the elements of the community that support censorship of controversial art more of a fight, Bill said.

Artists can relax for at least four years now that Clinton is in the White House, artist Sudi Rakusin said.

"He's a possibility, there's hope now," said Rakusin, whose own artwork caused a censorship controversy last year.

A woman who had scheduled her wedding reception at the Horace Will-

iams House moved to the Siena Hotel at the last minute because she thought a bare-chested female warrior featured in one of Rakusin's paintings was too risqué.

According to Rakusin, President Clinton stands for less censorship of the arts.

Clinton has indicated that he plans not only to end content restrictions but also to continue federal arts funding and help the arts become an integral part of education in all communities.

But promoting the arts means more than just bankrolling them — by inviting poet Maya Angelou to participate in his inauguration, Clinton demonstrated the importance the arts have to him and his administration.



Bill Clinton

Debbie Selinsky, deputy director of the Duke University News Services, said she was pleased with the new president's policy on the arts.

"Money's the thing," Selinsky said. "We're all realistic enough to know that Clinton can't do much to increase the amount of federal funding for the arts. But the presentation President Clinton has offered definitely says something good about the arts."

Clinton has a feel for the arts and respects them, she added.

Clinton does not favor content restrictions on projects funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The philosophy has already earned him popularity points among endowment officials.

Linda Downing of the NEA in Washington, D.C., said she hoped her organization would benefit from the new administration.

"He's pro-art and pro-Endowment," Downing said of the president.

## Bibbs

she thought Bibbs had a right to seek a place on the board but would not comment on his abilities.

"As a member of the board, I should not comment on another board member's abilities," she said.

But Woods said anyone, especially a student, who met the requirements for the position was free to seek it.

"Students are directly affected by the decisions of the board," Woods said. "Anyone who is eligible for the seat has a right to run for the board. All of us have a right to seek seats on the Board of Governors."

Woods said that while students were not active participants in the processes of the BOG, there were representatives of both the Faculty Senate and the Student Government Association on the BOG.

"I definitely think there should be more interaction with students," she said.

"They are the heartbeat of the institutions and should guide our policies about them," Woods said.

Robert Jones, former chairman and present member emeritus of the BOG, said Bibbs had gained valuable experience through his dealings with the board.

"I think Mark, by being on the board as a nonvoting member, has a good feel for a lot of activities of the board," he said. "He has taken it very seriously and is now trying to become a full-fledged member."

## RHA

said. "This year there are other issues taking students' attentions, as well as the problem with the weather holding students back from returning to campus."

Presnell said that the plan had a lottery system in the event that there were more applicants than spaces available but that it would not be needed this year.

Jones said he thought the board already had a good understanding of students' feelings and campus issues due to the diverse nature of the board members.

"The purpose of this board is to create policy for the operation of our school system, and we have a very diversified board and bring together the experiences of many different people," Jones said.

Jones said Bibbs had been a respected member of the board despite his age. "He has been given every courtesy and been respected by every member of the board," he said.

"He has not been acting like a young upstart trying to make a mark, but instead been very mature," Jones said. "He represents the kind of person you would want to see on the board."

R. Phillip Haire, attorney and BOG member, said he was reluctant to comment upon Bibb's quest for a voting seat. "I don't think it's proper for another board member to comment," he said.

Haire said the board had excellent contact and feedback from students, but that student board members would not be there for long.

"You have to realize that the board is here day in and day out, but students come and go," he said. "We try to be helpful to students, as we are ultimately working for the students, not for ourselves."

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Haire said that students often had attended and spoken at meetings of both the BOG and the Board of Trustees but that the BOT often had more input on the day-to-day affairs of individual campuses.

"We always try to hear what students have to say," he said. "You will probably find that North Carolina is at the forefront of student involvement in administration."

Charles Flack Jr., secretary of the BOG, said Bibbs' experiences on the board had prepared him for the position of a voting member.

"Mark comes from what I think is a vantage point to be considered to run," he said. "He already has his contacts and is familiar with the legislative process."

Flack said Bibbs brought enthusiasm and the vantage point of a young person to his current position on the board.

"The vantage point of students is very important," Flack said. "I personally feel like, at the level of the Board of Governors, you are once removed from the students and the campus. It's tough; sometimes we forget about student concerns."

Flack said Bibbs had the unique position of a student who could help the other members see a different view of the University.

"His niche is where he is. He brings with him his view, as we all do," Flack said.

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minority residents.

Individuals and pairs of residents can participate in the plan, Barnes said. An orientation meeting for the program participants is scheduled for this fall.

"It was our hope to diversify the campus with this plan," Barnes said. "We think there was a lot of optimism and enthusiasm last year. This year it seems that people are doubtful of race relations on campus and don't feel an urgent need to participate."

All the participants Barnes interviewed this year said they enjoyed the program and had experienced no racial backlash, he said.

Applications next year's plan are due by Friday at 5 p.m. and should be turned in to the housing office on the first floor of Carr Building. Applications are available at the housing office.

In addition to turning in an application, applicants need to pay the \$75 room deposit or defer the deposit by 4 p.m. on Friday at the cashier's office.

## Campus Calendar

**THURSDAY**  
10 a.m. Tar Heel Recycling Program will hold their TARP Olympics in the Pit until 2 p.m.

11 a.m. African-American Senior Celebration Committee will sell authentic Class of '93 Kente Stoles for \$25 in front of the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center until 1 p.m.

12:30 p.m. Latin American Speaker Series will welcome Marcia Sherrod to speak on volunteer opportunities in Latin America with Amigos de Las Americas in 226 Union.

1:30 p.m. Rape Awareness Committee will sponsor a program with Ellen Plummer, Coordinator of Sexual Assault Support Services at Duke, in 206 Union.

6 p.m. Association of International Students will organize a Morris Dancing and Country Dancing Workshop with The Cotswolds in the Great Hall of the Union.

Presbyterian Student Center will gather for a home-cooked dinner and a presentation from the UNC Housekeepers' Support Group at 110 Henderson St. Information: 967-2311.

Vietnamese Students Association will be selling newly arrived T-shirts for \$10 in 201 Dey.

7 p.m. Chimera will hold an organizational meeting for members interested in helping with ChimeraCon in 215 Saunders.

UNC Law School Forum will welcome The Honorable Terry Sanford to speak on "The United Nations' Mission Without The Cold War" in Memorial Hall.

7:30 p.m. Self-Knowledge Symposium will sponsor the Zen Questions lecture with speaker Richard Rose in Toy Lounge in Dey Hall.

9 p.m. WXYC 89.3 FM will present Television Personalities "Closer To God" on Inside Track.

**ITEMS OF INTEREST**  
Alpha Phi Omega will start Blue/Gold Week today.

International Relief Committee is working to help the people of Bosnia. If you want to become involved or learn about the situation, contact Adam at 914-3380.

Carolina Union Activities Board Social Committee is looking for participants for the Dating Game II. Applications are located at the Union desk.

Masters of Accounting Students offer free tax assistance for Form 1040EZ, Form 1040A and Basic 1040 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at the Carboro Baptist Church, 100 N. Greensboro St., through April 15.

UCS announces a summer advertising internship position with Loeffler Ketchum Mounjoy of Charlotte for sophomores and juniors. A drop box will be available until April 1 in 211 Hanes Hall.

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## Recruiter on campus

CAREER FAIR, MARCH 31, STUDENT UNION, 12 NOON - 4 PM

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