

Julian Pierce Law Scholarship established at NC Central University

The newly formed Julian Pierce Law Scholarship Steering Committee of Robeson County, North Carolina and the North Carolina Central University (NCCU) School of Law of Durham, North Carolina have joined forces to host a fundraiser in honor of the late Julian Pierce on Thursday November 20 at the Porter Plaza in Pembroke, North Carolina. The net proceeds from the Julian Pierce Endowment Gala will be deposited in the Julian Pierce Law Scholarship Endowment held at NCCU School of Law.

Julian Pierce, a Lumbee Indian, was born in Moore County, North Carolina. He had 12 brothers and sisters and was the child of tenant farmers. The first person in his family to graduate from college at Pembroke State University, now known as University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Pierce obtained a position as a chemist with Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company in Newport News, Virginia.

After a few years of working as a chemist, Pierce decided to pursue a law degree and was accepted into law school at NCCU. A graduate with honors of the NCCU law school class of 1976, Pierce obtained a position with the United States Security and Exchange Commission in Washington, DC. While in Washington, DC, Pierce earned a

Masters of Law in Taxation. Two years after working with the SEC, Pierce was asked to return to North Carolina to become the first director of the Lumbee River Legal Services, a poverty law office in Pembroke. Pierce readily accepted and served as the director for 10 years.

In 1988 Pierce ran for a newly created Superior Court Judgeship in Robeson. Tragically, prior to the primary election, Pierce was murdered, his body having been found shot in his home. Although his primary campaign opponent Joe Freeman Britt was automatically declared the winner in the primary, a count of the votes indicated that Pierce had won posthumously.

Pierce is known throughout the local community to have used his law degree to advocate for community services from health care to recognition and preservation of Lumbee Tribe. He is remembered as an individual who was "for the people."

Twigg, Abrams, Strickland & Trehy, P.A. of Raleigh, North Carolina (now known as Twigg, Beskind, Strickland & Rabenau, P.A.) established the Julian Pierce Scholarship Endowment in 1999 to honor the legacy of service for which Julian Pierce stood. The Pierce Endowment was created with a donation of \$25,000, and since then has risen to nearly \$50,000. Members of the Pierce Law

Scholarship Steering Committee began planning this scholarship fundraiser in August of this year. The steering committee aimed to increase the endowment to ensure that the NCCU School of Law is able to award scholarships annually to talented and deserving law school students.

During the fall 2003-2004 academic year, NCCU School of Law awarded the first Julian Pierce Scholarship to Joshua Malcolm, a third year law student from Pembroke. Malcolm is the son of J.T. and Vera Malcolm of Pembroke. Prior to coming to law school Malcolm graduated from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Air Force, where he served for seven years in active duty as an aviator. In addition to being a member of the Class of 2004 at NCCU Law School, Malcolm will also complete his Masters of Science degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Malcolm is married to Meloria Revels Malcolm and has two children, Forrest age 7 and Alaina age 4.

When asked about being the first recipient of the Pierce Scholarship, Malcolm stated, "It is truly an honor to be the first recipient of this (Julian Pierce) scholarship. I sincerely appreciate receiving the financial assistance. However, I must confess

that going back and reading and talking with others about the accomplishments of Mr. Pierce has been the biggest reward. It has again reminded me of what it means to be committed to your community."

The Pierce Scholarship Endowment Gala will begin at 6pm with a cocktail hour (cash bar) and a dinner and tribute to follow at 7pm. Miss Lumbee Morgan Hunt and Miss Fayetteville Kelli Wallace, and the Pierce Gospel Singers (Julian Pierce's sisters), will perform at the Gala. Tickets are \$100 and may be purchased from a steering committee member or through the NCCU School of Law at (919)530-7823. Steering committee members include Edward Bullard, E. Knox Chavis, Dale Deese, Anthony Griffin, Arnold Locklear, Henry Oxendine, Rodney Oxendine, Julia Pierce (Julian Pierce's daughter), Freda Porter and Earl H. Strickland. For more information on the Julian Pierce Law Scholarship Endowment at NCCU School of Law, contact the Office of Development Affairs, 1512 South Alston Avenue, Durham, NC 27707 or (919) 530-7450.



Julian Pierce

Contra Dance planned at Red Springs

A Contra Dance will be held November 15 from 7:30-10:00 p.m.

in the gym behind Flora McDonald Academy in Red Springs, NC. Caller will be Linda Thomas and the band is Gaelstorm.

Come one, come all for a great evening of live Celtic music and contra dancing. No experience necessary. No need to bring a partner. You don't even have to dance if you don't want to. The music is a treat in and of itself. Just bring a smile and a desire to have the best time of your life.

The caller, Linda Thomas is equally talented with beginners and long-term dancers. She will have you cutting the rug even if you have never danced before. She is one terrific caller!

You will be dancing to the lively Celtic music of Gaelstorm, a favorite of dancers everywhere they go. Get ready to kick up your heels. Once Gaelstorm starts playing their toe-tapping music, you won't be able to sit still. If you like Celtic music at all, you will love Gaelstorm.

Beginners workshop: 7:30-8:00. No experience necessary. No partner necessary. Cost: \$5.00 at the door.

Olympian Billy Mills Addresses UNCP crowd

PEMBROKE, N.C.-Growing up in Pine Ridge Indian Reservation makes it impossible to succeed, at least that is what Olympic gold medalist Billy Mills heard growing up.

Mills spoke to a crowd of around 500 at the Givens Performing Arts Center Tuesday night, as part of UNC Pembroke's Distinguished Speakers Series, to talk about what he says is the greatest challenge in the world, overcoming perceptions. Mills, an Ogalala Lakota (Sioux) Indian, talked about overcoming perceptions of Native Americans.

"Other people's perceptions almost broke me," Mills said. "I remember my dad telling me not to worry about other people's comments."

Mills has been orphaned at age 12, he grew up in one of the poorest Indian settlements in the nation. He wanted to be a boxer but lost all his matches. He tried football and was knocked down, so he got up running.

"I started running in high school, winning races, and when I joined the Marine Corps, I knew I wanted to be in the Olympics," Mills said.

And Mills was stunningly successful. In the 10,000-meter run of the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo,

he came from behind three other runners at the tape to record one of the biggest upsets in history. He remains the first and only American to win the Olympic 10k and that record still stands.

"Anyone with a mission who lives up to the values and responsibilities of success is teaching sacredness to others," Mills said. "because values are sacred and sports teach life values."

Mills is a strong believer in integrity no matter the goal.

"Value-based empowerment will guide you to your goals," Mills said. "Follow your values, and you will achieve your goals for the benefit of yourself and mankind."

Mills has lived by that code and shared it with others since his Olympic heroics. He has carried that message back to the reservation to help his people and beyond.

After his speech, Mills stayed to sign autographs, pose for pictures and speak with everyone who stood in line. Prior to the speech, he taped a 30-minute television show with UNCP's WNCN-TV. Film maker Spike Lee is the next UNCP Distinguished Speaker at GPAC on February 2, at 7 p.m.

My Visit With.....Jana

by Mary Barton Largent

I received a call from JANA's manager, Stephan Galfas to come to Greensboro on Sunday, November 2, 2003 to see and interview JANA.

If you are wondering who JANA is and have never heard of her, I am delighted to fill you in.

Jana uses singing and dancing to send a message to young people, especially the Native American. Her motivational speeches along with performances for schools and events are educational. She encourages education, cultural identity and knowledge and for people to pursue their dreams.

Jana is the first Native American female to hit *Billboard's* Dance charts. Her most recent single, "Stairway to Heaven," made number 6 on the charts and earned her the 2002 Native American Music's Song of the Year Award.

Jana will soon splash her name on the silver screen.

In March, Jana will begin filming an independent Indian comedy, "Dreamcatcher," starring Wes Studi and Drew Lapaca. She will also play the title role in a historical romance "Breanna's Sunrise," co-starring Patrick Swayze.

Jana plays a national talk show host in the female lead role. She is a rising star in pop music.

with a powerful and range-shattering voice. Jana holds several prestigious honors, including a Grammy for Best Pop Artist (2001) 2 nominations for 2003 Grammys-Female artist of the year/Pop song of the year. Starred in her first feature film "Pocket Angel."

Native American Music Awards- 2 time winner for Best Pop Artist/Single of the year.

Featured on the cover of Native People's Magazine May/June 2002.

Headlined opening ceremonies for 75,000 people at the Boy Scout National Jamboree.

Co-Host of New TV show "Dance Hits USA"

Headlined Native American New York Blues Festival in New York City. Performed at the Presidential Inaugural Ball in January 2001. Co-wrote "Kiss and Tell," on 2001 Grammy nominated album, Fearless, by Crystal Lewis. Her single, "More than life," Remixed by MTV's DJ Skribble and Anthony Acid, one of the year's biggest dance records. Featured in Purina's 2000 Cat Food Calendar along with Ashley Judd, Mel Gibson, and Danny Glover.

That's just a few of her accomplishments!

This is quite a step for a young lady from the Lumbee stronghold

of Robeson County, North Carolina, who was so shy as a teenager that she wouldn't sing outside her shower until she was 18. Her dance and music has taken her from North Carolina to the New York area where she settled in Connecticut. She maintains her ties with her family and the Lumbee Tribe.

At every opportunity, she lobbies for the Lumbee's quest for full federal recognition and was recently named to a tribal commission to act as a public relations ambassador.

She credits her success to her parents, Jim and Olene Sampson who still live in Charlotte. She grew up in Baltimore and Charlotte, but still considers Robeson County her home. She visits her relatives every other month in Robeson County.

Jana said her immediate focus is her first album due out at the end of the year.

"I'm always trying to create positive energy and influence wherever I am," Jana said. "I'm always representing Lumbees and American Indians. I always use music to create positive energy. I have to stay true to myself and be focused."

Jana is very dedicated to helping Native youth in any way she can. Jana gives back to her Native community by helping others believe in themselves and their ability to achieve their goals. In her travels around the country,

Jana has met with and listened to thousands of Native youth. Their strong support is what is making Jana's special work so successful.

Jana's Native youth Motivational Presentation has become the most successful presentation of its kind in the country. Her unique blend of music, dance, and motivational speaking is reaching young people where others fail.

Jana also contributes to Native youth through her support of U.N.I.T.Y.(United Native Indian Tribal Youth), which helps prepare our Native youth to be leaders for the future. She said she is still actively involved in tribal ceremonies and celebrations and spends a lot of time on the arts and crafts that she sells on her website.

Some of this culture can be seen in her performances, as can be seen by her publicity photos. She

often wears Native American Jewelry and dresses in a way that reflects her culture.

Her concepts also include a lot of Native dancing and she said that if people really look deeply into her songs, they will see that her culture influences every aspect of her life.

"I can not ignore who I am and where I come from," she said. "I am proud that I can maintain my traditional customs while living in today's world."

"My goal is to help unify the Indian people," she said. "The Indians on the reservations don't have the same opportunity as non-reservation Indians. The Native Americans are very inclusive within the tribe and we need to expand and make other tribes aware of our culture. I would like to see more mentors to help other Native Americans. I can't forget about who I am and my goal is to help unify Indians," she said.

Her new CD is coming out in February 2004.

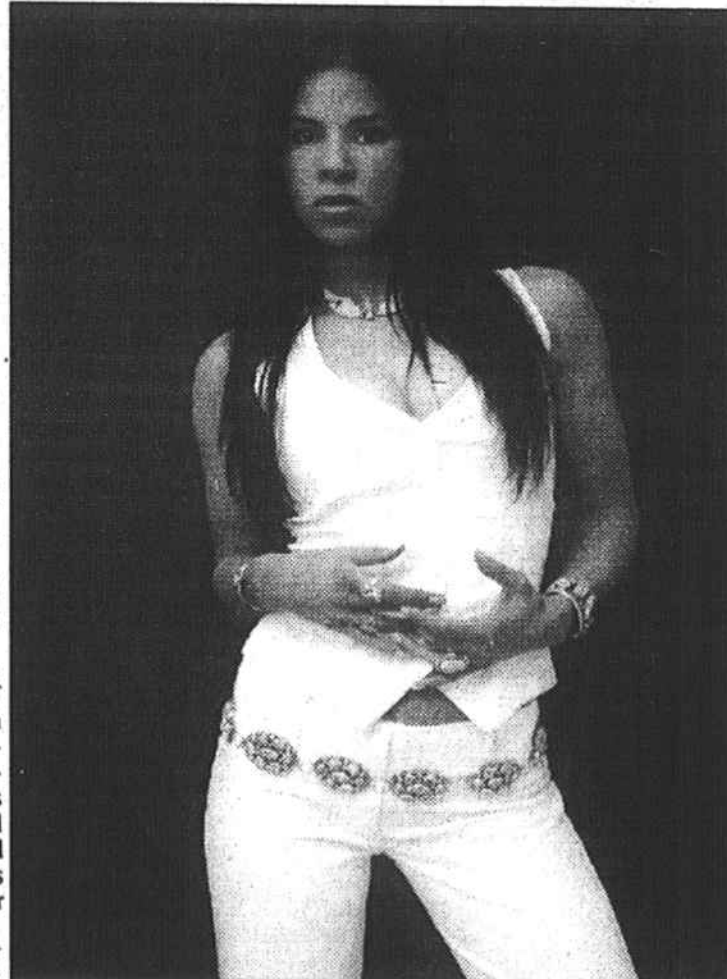
She would like to have your vote for Female Artist of the Year and Pop Rock Artist of the Year and you can go on the website at www.nammys.com and vote for her. The deadline is November 15th.

Let's vote for our home town girl

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Jana

New Town Hall in Pembroke has Open House

The Town of Pembroke has a functionally obsolete. The new new Town Hall, thanks to a large investment from USDA Rural Development and the Bush administration, provides adequate space with growth potential as well as updated security features, convenient drive thru for utility payments and technological upgrades.

The \$1.5 million for the facility is possible because of a partnership between Federal and local agencies. USDA Rural Development responded to the need by providing a \$750,000 grant and a \$750,000 loan. The town contributed \$60,000 in support of the project.

The municipal complex replaces a 50 year old building that was



Jana and Ruth Locklear Revels