Young Black Writers' Program gears up

communicating ideas or feelings by the use of conventionalized

According to Websters, lan- duced to role models/mentors that 1400 members. Its stated purpose guage is "a systematic means of have used literature to touch all our lives. The Programming Department of The Arts Council

ARTSREACH

By REGGIE JOHNSON

signs, sounds, gestures, or marks having understood meanings."

As a community, it is through our art, especially the literary arts, that we find the means to communicate the ideas and experiences of our collective experience. Language in the written form, provides us with the tools and foundation to create a lasting structure - housing the history and heritage of African-Americans as well as the ideas of the future. Go to any library and find the works of Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, August Wilson, Alice Walker, James Baldwin, and Sonia Sanchez and you find a living history of our lives and the lives of our parents and grandparents.

As a community, it is our responsibility to make sure our children are exposed to African-American literature. Equally important, our children should have the skills and ability to express themselves and be intro-

When the North Carolina

Black Repertory company presents

its second annual religious Holiday

musical, Celebrations: An African

Odyssey, which opens December 6

at the Arts Council Theatre in Win-

ston-Salem, it will feature an ebul-

lient singing, dancing, and drum-

Reverend John Heath, as King

Atomi, Wendy Smith as Princess

Jaharri, LaTanya Black as Queen

Shaale, and Kenny Malette as the

The cast selected includes the

ming ensemble.

Elder of the Tribe.

of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County recognizes a need for a supplementary enrichment program to the public school's curriculum that nurtures writing students of today in order to develop excellence in adult writers of tomorrow. To meet this need, The

Black Writers' Program. Young Black Writers is a series of seminars for high school-aged adults which focuses on teaching a new generation about literature. It also provides specialized instruction so that these young people can learn the craft of writing.

Arts Council offers the Young

The project is co-sponsored by the North Carolina Writers' Network and is an important part of this organization's effort to promote literacy and build an audience for literature throughout North Carolina.

The North Carolina Writers' Network is a statewide literary service organization with over

Cast selected for Holiday musical

young and beautiful princess who is

stolen from her native West Africa

unfolds, veteran NCBRC perform-

ers, Carlotta Samuels-Fleming, J.W.

Smith, Sharon Frazier, Sherone

Price, Randy Johnson, and Robin

Littlejohn-Franklin join several

NCSA students and local perform-

ers in this joyous celebration of

"life, birth, and rebirth." Other cast

members are Brian Coats, Dwana

Smallwood, Natasha Williams, Tim

Reid, Celvin Lee, Tiffany Williams,

Tanya Price, Charis Johnson, Aaron

is to provide programs and services to a wide range of writers, writers' groups, bookstores, libraries, arts councils, etc.

In Winston-Salem, 25 high school-aged black students will be recruited to participate in a series of ten, two hour creative writing workshops led by two professional workshop leaders. The workshops will be held every other Saturday morning from 10-12 starting in January and ending in early June. The workshops will be held in the Art-Is House at St. Benedict's Catholic Church at 1625 East 12th Street in Winston-Salem.

Through this program, young adults are given the opportunity to write poems, plays, short stories, and even scripts. In this way, they explore the great variety of forms available for expression. In addition, the students learn the skills and tools of writing, and have the unique chance to learn more about the rich heritage found in the works of African-American writ-

The program encourages young people to explore their own creativity; provides opportunity for them to participate in this long overlooked artform; encourages their exploration of the arts as a career choice and provides positive outlets for young people to express emotion.

Writing students face appalling odds in attempting to become established authors.

Weusi Chapman. Musicians are

Hashim Salih, George Glenn,

Charles Green, and Michael

Odyssey, directed by Mabel Robin-

son and produced by Larry Leon

Hamlin, will be presented Decem-

ber 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20; and 21 at 8

p.m., and December 8, 15, and 22 at

3 p.m. only...at the Arts Council

Theatre, 610 Coliseum Drive in

Celebrations: An African

As this touching story of a Salih, Britney and Erin Hines, and

Williams.

Major publishing houses publish far fewer works by African-American writers than by other segments of the population, and literary journals and small presses print only a small percentage of work by black writers. This project may encourage some participants to pursue a writing career and make a difference to the status quo.

More importantly, it will help all participants to build the skills they need to become successful communicators. In a professional light, it brings the youth in close contact with professional authors who serve as positive role models.

If you are interested in more information concerning this program, contact the Programming Department of The Arts Council at 722-2585. Pre-registration is required.



D'Walla Simmons **Choir Director**



Lee David Legette Wind Ensemble Director

'A Christmas Celebration'

Presented by Winston-Salem State University Choir and Wind Ensemble

5 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 24, 1991 Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium

> FREE! Public Invited

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CELEBRATIONS: AN AFRICAN ODYSSEY

An exhilarating story of a young and beautiful African princess who is stolen and enslaved in America while trying to solve the mystery of "The Lost Baby King", combines African spiritual and Gospel music with traditional African dance and movement.

Directed and Choreographed by

Mabel Robinson Book & Lyrics by

Ricardo Pitts-Wiley Music by

Ricardo Pitts-Wiley, Kent Brisby & Lawrence Czoka

Traditional Movement by

Sherone Price

December 6-7-12-13-14-19-20-21 8pm

8-15-22 3pm

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Produced by Larry Leon Hamlin



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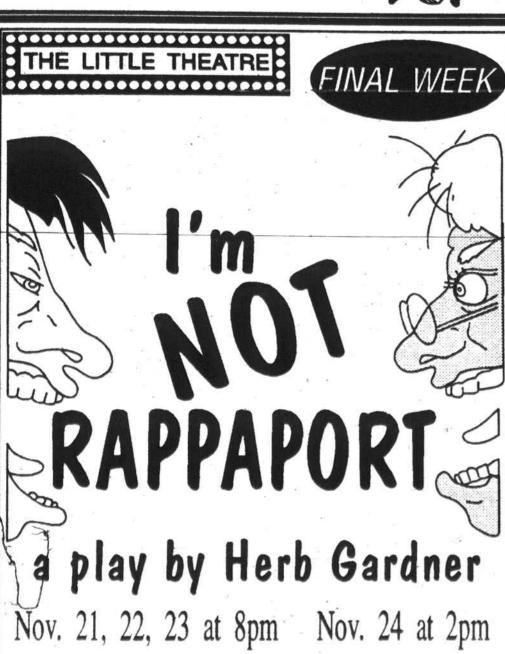
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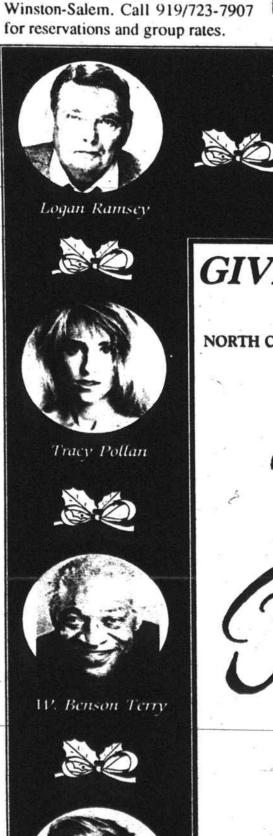
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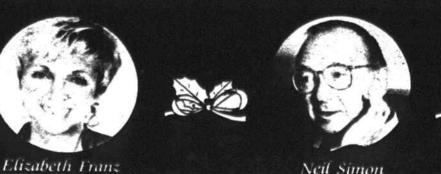
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