

WSSU students semifinalists in national arts competition

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Works of art by two Winston-Salem State University students are being featured in an exhibit at the Kenkeleba Gallery in New York City as part of a Verizon program aimed at supporting African-American youths and education.

"One in Four," a piece that drives home the fact that one in four African-American males is in prison, was created by WSSU student Jonathon Logan. WSSU student Ebony Marshall's piece is called "Birth."

The students were semifinalists in Verizon's 2003 HBCU Student Art Competition. Their works of art are being featured with those of 17 other students from historically black colleges and universities.

Verizon in January announced its 2003 student competition at the National Black Fine Art Show (NBFAS) in New York, where Kenkeleba Gallery was an exhibitor. About two dozen semifinalists were chosen from among 153 entrants.

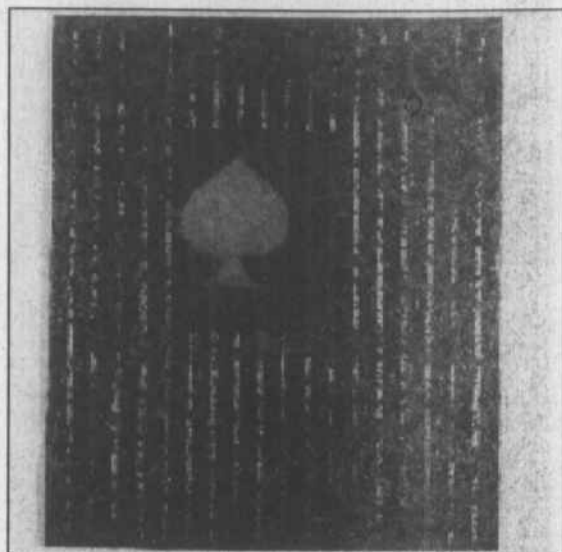
The winning art will be judged on creativity, originality, presentation and potential for gallery exhibition. The



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grand prize winner will receive \$2,000 and a 12-week paid internship in the creative department of Verizon's advertising agency, Burrell. In addition to the student awards, a \$25,000 Verizon Foundation Art and Technology Grant will be awarded to the fine arts department of the grand prize winner's college.

The works of art will be featured at the Kenkeleba Gallery through Aug. 16, and then Verizon will feature the semifinalists' works of art online at www.verizon.com/artcompetition.



Above: Jonathon Logan's "One in Four." Ebony Marshall's piece, at left, is called "Birth."

Updates of judging also will be available online.

The Kenkeleba Gallery, 214 E. Second Street, promotes the works of professional African-American,

Latino, Asian-American and American Indian artists.

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AME

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thought I had (tuberculosis), but no one could find what was wrong with me and (doctors) gave me up for dead. But while I was in there, the Lord began to speak to me, and I do know he told me that I either had to preach or die," Williams said.

Had she not answered the call from God, Williams believes she would have died, leaving her husband and seven children behind. That spiritual encounter with God on her death bed, said Williams, drastically altered her belief about a woman's place on the pulpit.

"I didn't have any doubt about my ministry, and I didn't have any doubt about God calling women to preach. That (experience) really convicted me and let me know that God can call anybody he wants to."

After being ordained in 1972, Williams went on to evangelize. In 1988, she took up her pastorate of several AME churches around North Carolina, from Morganton to Mars Hill, before being appointed pastor at Union Bethel. She succeeds the church's former pastor, Rev. William Probst, who passed away earlier this year.

Rev. Mary Peterson, who has been pastor of St. James AME Church for four years, said she looks forward to collaborating with Williams in the community. Williams said she prefers to see their ministry not in terms of gender but in terms of being called to do the work of God.

"I think it is our time and our



Photo by Courtney Guilland

Lula Mae Williams is Union Bethel AME Church's first female pastor in the church's more than 100-year history.

season because truly the glass ceiling has been shattered....Women are moving to the forefront, and it really is past time because we bring all of the gifts and graces that any other minister or pastor would," Peterson said.

Brenda Revel attends Union Bethel and has known Williams since she was a child. She is delighted that Williams has returned to the church to pastor its 75 members.

"It (the gender of the pastor) really doesn't make a difference...God gave our congregation what it needed. She is just who we needed," Revel said.

Throughout her life, Williams said, the Lord has showed her numerous things, from a vision of her dead mother to a prompting about the untimely death of one of her children.

"There has been a lot that

(God) has showed me. He was letting me know how he was dealing with me and telling me that I needed to carry on his ministry. I know that I have been called (to pastor)," said Williams, who said she doesn't give much thought to her being Union Bethel's first female pastor.

Although Williams would like to remain at Union Bethel for good, she said she will go wherever God leads her.

"I started out here and I feel like God wanted me to end up here and I feel good about it. I feel good about it," Williams said. "To God be the glory."

Williams hopes the church will build a new sanctuary and turn the existing sanctuary into a fellowship hall within the next four years.

Having put that great task in God's hands, she said He hasn't failed her yet.

Malloy

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describes as the love of Malloy's life, was a favorite teacher of Davenport's at Atkins High School. When Davenport developed polyps, Malloy performed biopsies and put her mind at ease.

"I always call him my favorite doctor because he has magical hands. He has helped so many of us and saved so many lives," Davenport said.

State Rep. Earline Parmon credits Malloy with bringing her back from the brink of death. She tearfully told the birthday crowd about an incident that happened 31 years ago. Parmon was severely burned by hot grease from a chicken fryer. A family friend took her to Malloy at Kate Bitting Reynolds, then the city's black hospital.

"Dr. Malloy cared, and I am here," Parmon said. "He worked for months and months to save my life." Malloy performed 26 skin grafts on Parmon.

Parmon and state Rep. Latry Womble were among the main architects behind the birthday celebration for Malloy. The two also worked to land Malloy the prestigious Henry Frye Trailblazer Award from the N.C. Legislative Black Caucus last month. The award is the highest honor handed out by the caucus.

Womble and Parmon left the Legislature for a short time Saturday so that they could drive here to attend the birthday celebration.

"We are here to be in the presence of this giant of a human being," Womble said.

Womble presented Malloy with a special citation from the governor. Mayor Allen Joines presented the retired doctor with a fancy paperweight featuring the city's logo.

Malloy spoke little during the event. He admitted that all of the kind words left him speechless.

"I don't think I can say anything. I am overwhelmed," he said.

Malloy never took time to think about the effect his work has had on patients. He just loved his job, he said.

"I used to tell young interns that you could make a million dollars a year, but if you don't



Photo by Kevin Walker

Rembert Malloy speaks as Earline Parmon listens.

love what you do, you are being underpaid," Malloy said.

Malloy has had more than enough phenomenal life experiences to fill a book. He was trained at Howard University School of Medicine by Dr. Charles Drew, the man who developed a method that made blood transfusions possible. Drew, whom Malloy and others called "Big Red" because of his complexion, was a major influence on Malloy. It broke Malloy's heart when he traveled to a Burlington hospital in 1950 to learn that Drew had died from injuries he sustained in a car wreck.

Malloy has spent the years since trying to dispel a popular rumor that Drew died because, ironically, the Burlington hospital refused to give him a blood transfusion because he was black. Malloy and others maintain that Drew was not denied a transfusion and that his injuries were so severe that one would not have saved him anyway.

Malloy never remarried after his wife died. Their love was

strong, friends said, and Malloy has never really been the same since her passing.

"He won't dance with another woman," said his daughter-in-law, Deborah DeNairo. "He says, 'The only woman I have danced with is my wife.'"

Malloy and his wife's 50-year marriage produced one son, Rembert Malloy Jr., who lives in Walnut Cove. Malloy has one grandson.

Although he hung up his stethoscope long ago, Malloy is as active as his body allows him to be. In his 80s, he often joined marchers for the annual Martin Luther King Day trek from Mt. Zion Baptist Church to Benton Convention Center. He was also the Sunday school superintendent at his church, United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, for 25 years before giving up the position in January.

Malloy said he has lived a full life, but he never imagined that his life would be so long.

"I didn't think I (would) live to be this old," he said. "God has blessed me."

NCLB

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may include having their day-to-day operations micro-managed.

NCLB is not so different from the ABCs of Public Education program that North Carolina has used for the last seven years. But the two systems use different standards to measure success. ABCs measures students' growth from year to year. NCLB sets a standard that all students in a series of subgroups must meet. Schools can have a number of subgroups, which can include students in various racial/ethnic categories and a number of other categories.

"We understand that this can be very confusing," Superintendent Don Martin said in a statement. "The goal of both programs is to increase student proficiency; however, progress is measured differently in the two models."

Only students in 11 of Forest Park's 13 subgroups met the NCLB standard. Of the 17 subgroups at Atkins, only students in nine met the target. Three of the 21 subgroups at Hill did not make the NCLB grade. All three schools have not measured up to NCLB standards for the last two years. (The state was using the NCLB standard before it was signed into law.)

Ironically, under the state ABCs system, Hill and Forest Park have no reason to hang their heads. Both schools earned the School of Progress distinction under the ABCs program, meaning that 60 to 79 percent of students at the schools tested at or above grade level. Atkins was labeled a Priority School under ABCs, which means that 50 to 59 percent of students there tested at or above grade level.

Forest Park principal Herman Lane said he doesn't expect parents to pull students out of the school as a

result of the letter.

"The majority of our parents know us, and they know the kind of job we strive to do," he said.

Lane said he is all for accountability, but he fears that his staff will be dejected by the NCLB figures when in fact the school has made great strides. As the school leader, Lane said he plans to urge his staff to stay the course so that the school can close the relatively small gap that is keeping it from achieving the new federal standards.

"We have done a lot of great things for our kids, but (NCLB) is the law," he said.

Atkins principal Sterling Garris did not return a call seeking comment on his school's NCLB results. Hill has an interim principal who did not work this week.

In all, only 24 of the county's 67 schools meet NCLB guidelines this year, but only those that receive Title I money are subjected to such early penalties.

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