

# ARTS & LIFESTYLE

## Of Interest ...

### Chris Brown is in demand

NEW YORK (AP) — Chris Brown is in demand with on-demand viewers.

The TV on-demand service Music Choice said Monday the soul singer was its most requested artist in a one-year period ending in September. Fans ordered free plays of Brown's videos or interviews 43 million times.



Brown

Music Choice honored Brown on its first "Most Demanded" awards show that was available — logically enough — on-demand starting Monday.

Network executive Damon Williams said teenage girls were primarily responsible for Brown's win. He said fans would invite friends over to watch or show off the video on

their cell phones.

The Jonas Brothers and Lil Wayne were big draws, too. Wayne's "Lollipop" video was seen 12 million times.

Despite being available in less than one-third of the nation's TV homes, Music Choice says it is behind only YouTube as a popular place for people to seek out music videos on demand.

Music Choice, perhaps better known for its suite of channels that play different genres of music, sees growth opportunity with its on-demand features, Williams said. Surveys show fewer than 10 percent of the people who have the capability of getting on-demand video actually use the service, he said.

The company just started offering music videos on-demand 2 1/2 years ago.

### Jim Vincent is named honorary UNCSCA board member

University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSCA) alumnus Jim Vincent, artistic director of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, has been appointed an honorary member of the UNCSCA Board of Trustees.

His appointment, by Chancellor John Mauzeri, was ratified by the UNCSCA Board of Trustees late last month.

Vincent's is the second of seven honorary trustee positions to be appointed to represent the areas of dance, design and production, drama, film, music, visual arts and academic programs. As such, he will provide a national perspective in the dance arena.

Maya Angelou was appointed by Chancellor Mauzeri earlier this year.

Vincent joined Hubbard Street Dance Chicago (HSDC) in August 2000 following an extensive career as a dancer, teacher, ballet master and choreographer. On Nov. 2, Vincent was honored with an Alumni Achievement Award from UNCSCA. He is a 1978 graduate of the UNCSCA School of Dance.

### Film documents Liberian women's role in ending war

(GIN/NNPA) — Amid overwhelming destruction and despair, a group of Liberian women united to form a Mass Action for Peace, with Christians and Muslims taking to the streets in daily protest and prayer to end violence.

The time was 2003 and peace talks in that West African country were stalled. Barricading the conference site, the Liberian women refused to let representatives of the warring factions out of the building until they had reached an agreement.



Gbowee

Despite their courage and perseverance, despite their role in ending the war and toppling dictator Charles Taylor — the Liberian women's work went largely unnoticed by major news organizations.

"It's just this incredible disappearing story," said Abigail E. Disney, producer of "Pray the Devil Back to Hell."

The just-released film gathers new interviews and archival footage from nearly three years of peace demonstrations to illuminate an untold chapter of recent history.

Leymah Gbowee, one of the movement's leaders, has taken her work beyond Liberia to co-found Women Peace and Security Network Africa. She considers the film a "call to action" whose inspirational message translates to any culture. "I think women have the ability to mobilize around every and any issue, especially if that issue touches their heart."

### August Wilson play to return to Broadway

NEW YORK (AP) — "Joe Turner's Come and Gone," one of August Wilson's 10 plays chronicling the black experience in 20th century America, is returning to Broadway.

Bartlett Sher, who directed Lincoln Center Theater's hit production of "South Pacific," will direct the LCT revival, which will open April 16 at a theater to be announced.

Casting for "Joe Turner" — which Wilson's widow, Constanza Romero, has said was his favorite play — also will be announced.



File Photo

Dancers from Positive Image Performing Arts will be among the entertainers.

## Parade, tree lighting are Saturday

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The annual Tree Lighting Celebration will take place Saturday, Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m. in Corpening Plaza at First and Liberty streets in downtown Winston-Salem.

The event will take place immediately after the Winston-Salem Jaycees Holiday Parade, which will feature music, dancing, costumed mascots and

treats for kids. The parade begins at 5 p.m. at Fourth and Poplar streets.

The Tree Lighting event will also feature a full-slate of entertainment. The Greater Cleveland Avenue Christian Church Choir, the Academy of Dance Arts, Positive Image Performing Arts, the R. J. Reynolds High School jazz band and a cappella chorus and

the North Carolina Black Repertory Company are among those expected to perform. Miss Forsyth County, Santa Claus and Mayor Allen Joines will be among the special guests.

Joines is slated to light the giant tree, which is erected each year by the City Vegetation Management Department. It will be decked with more than 20,000 lights.

## Eatery opens in historic Old Salem building

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Old Salem can now claim another piece of history. It is home to the first-ever Mayberry Restaurant housed in a historic building.

The restaurant, popular for its ice cream, soups and sandwiches, opened atop Winkler Bakery in Old Salem on Nov. 15.

Because of rules governing historic buildings, the new restaurant's signage cannot be affixed to the Winkler building; instead, a sign hangs on the back porch facing Main Street, and has to be removed nightly.

The restaurant has counter service as well as seating for 22 in two cozy, rustic dining areas. The menu follows that of other Mayberry restaurants.

"We are extremely pleased to have Mayberry providing food service in the northern end of the historic district" said Eric Hoyle, vice president of finance at Old Salem Museums & Gardens. "This is convenient to our visitors, staff and Salem College."

The Mayberry Restaurant Group also operates a deli-style Mayberry restaurant in the Old Salem Visitor Center.

The restaurant has been busy serving people visiting Old Salem, as well as businesspeople and residents from the surrounding area. It is open from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Counter service and limited table service are available.



Photo by Layla Farmer

The Mayberry sits atop the Winkler Building.

## Art by local students will hang in gallery

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

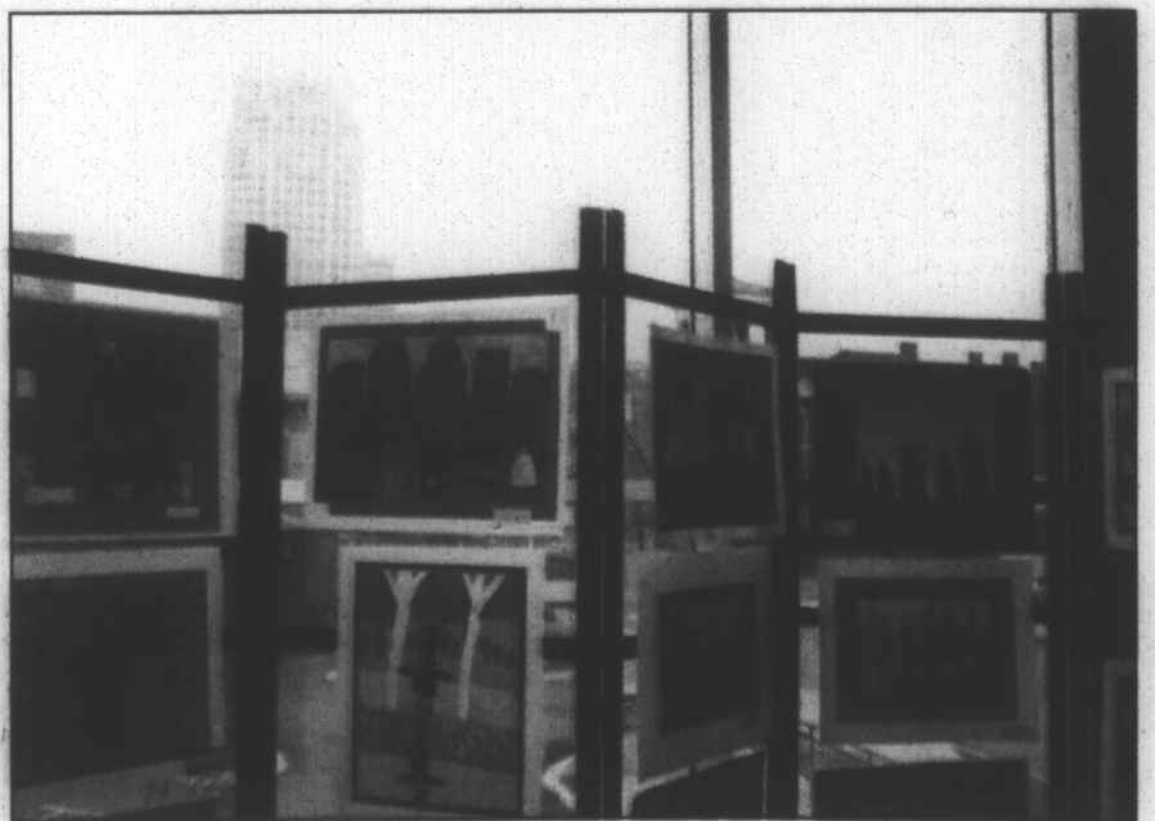
Works of art created by local students will be on display at Reynolda House Museum of American Art beginning tomorrow (Dec. 5).

The collection — "Seeing Our City Through Our Students" — was done as a collaborative with Reynolda House's fall exhibition — "Seeing the City: Sloan's New York," which will run through Jan. 4, 2009.

The student art show includes work from participants in the Sawtooth School for Visual Art's 2008 Summer Honors Program; an exhibition of middle and high school art that was on display recently at Delta Arts Center; and an exhibition of elementary school art on view at the Children's Museum a few weeks ago.

"Seeing Our City Through Our Students" will be on view at Reynolda House from Dec. 5 — Jan. 4.

According to Reynolda House Assistant Curator Allison Slaby, "The students were so imaginative in their treatment of the city. I love the different media — collage, paint, pencil, and crayon — and the different styles, from realism to abstraction. Most of all, though, I love seeing the varied



Reynolda House Photo

Some of the art was on display recently at the Children's Museum.

ways the students interpreted the assignment. Some show the city exactly as it appears before them, while others present a scene that captures their hopes for the future of the city. Still others concentrate on people — our neighbors who make

Winston-Salem so dynamic. It's inspiring to have young people participating in a dialogue with us about the place they call home."

The student exhibition is a result of collaboration among several community partners,

including the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools' art teachers and students, Arts Education Program Manager Lynn Foltz; and NBCT Lead Teacher for Visual Art Heidi Wicker.

## State marker honors Strayhorn

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

A marker was dedicated Saturday to legendary composer Billy Strayhorn in front of the Hillsborough (N.C.) fire station on Churton Street.

Although born in Dayton, Ohio, on Nov. 29, 1915, as William Thomas Strayhorn, he and his family frequently visited his grandparents in Hillsborough. In fact, David Hajdu, Strayhorn's biographer, contends that North Carolina became the

legendary composer's spiritual home. Strayhorn's grandparents owned a piano and introduced him to music through gospel



Strayhorn

tunes. He attended first grade in Hillsborough, where he gave his first musical performances, and was described later by a classmate as "small and bright."

After his family moved to Pittsburgh, Strayhorn visited Hillsborough during summers through his teenage years. He met Duke Ellington in Pittsburgh and became Ellington's primary collaborator for more than 25 years. The versatile composer, arranger and pianist also penned the jazz standards "Lush Life," "Satin Doll" and many other well known pieces in the Duke Ellington songbook.

Although long overshadowed by Ellington, Strayhorn has been the subject of two biographies and the 2007 documentary "Lush Life" aired on PBS. When Strayhorn died of cancer in 1967, Ellington said his friend "had no aspirations to enter into any kind of competition, yet the legacy he leaves, his oeuvre, will never be less than the ultimate on the highest plateau of culture."

Strayhorn, who was openly gay, was also a close friend of Civil Rights Icon Martin Luther King Jr.

The marker was erected through the N.C. Highway Historical Marker program, which is administered by the Office of Archives and History and is part of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources.