

ARTS & LIFESTYLE

Of Interest ...

White headlining UNCF tour

UNCF – the United Negro College Fund – has announced actor Brian White and TV producers Monique Jackson and Kita Williams will headline the 2011-2012 UNCF Empower Me Tour.

Targeting minority college, high school and middle school students and their parents, the tour inspires and motivates youth to empower themselves through career and college readiness seminars, personal development workshops and celebrity led panel discussions. The UNCF Empower Me Tour presented by Wells Fargo, focuses on six areas: financial education, college readiness, career readiness, entrepreneurship, health and wellness, and service and philanthropy. Students will learn how to best prepare to go to-and-through-college and how to chart a successful destiny using financial, leadership and self-efficacy tools.



White

White is an Ivy League graduate of Dartmouth College, a former NFL New England Patriots football player, a licensed stock broker, and an accomplished film and TV actor. White's movie credits include "Mr. 3000," "Stomp the Yard" and "I Can Do Bad All By Myself." White has released the book "Black Carpenter," which is also a multi-platform youth development program that urges young people to "build their future."

Monique Jackson and Kita Williams, of VH1's "The T.O. Show," have extensive experience in the entertainment industry. They are TV producers, reality TV stars and entrepreneurs. They are best friends, business partners and co-founders of the Define Your Pretty charitable platform.

For more information on the tour, visit www.EmpowerMeTour.org.

King Library featuring Civil War exhibit

The Civil War savaged lives yet secured the future of generations in North Carolina and the rest of the nation, and altered the course of American history.

The fight for liberation is just one of many moving features of the "Freedom, Sacrifice, Memory: Civil War Sesquicentennial Photography Exhibit" (www.nccivilwar150.com) which will visit the King Public Library, 101 Pilot View Drive in King, from July 2-29.

The exhibit will commemorate the bravery and resiliency of North Carolinians throughout the Civil War with stimulating images gathered from the State Archives, the N.C. Museum of History and State Historic Sites.

A total of 24 images will be displayed by the N.C. Department of Culture Resources in 50 libraries throughout the state from April 2011 through May 2013. A notebook will accompany the exhibit with further information and also seeking viewer comments. For information on the exhibit, call the King Public Library (336) 983-3868.

Museum has interim leader

The Greensboro Children's Museum Board of Directors has hired Marian King as the interim director following the retirement of former CEO Betsy Grant.

King will assist the Greensboro Children's Museum in achieving its strategic goals until a permanent director is hired. She is a long-standing member of the Greensboro community with 28 years of non-profit experience.

Her professional positions have included chief operating officer, development director, membership management and public relations. She has held significant leadership positions in the Tarheel Triad Girl Scout Council, the Junior League of Greensboro, United Way of Greater Greensboro, Family Services of the Piedmont, among others. King is well-recommended for her strong management, leadership and interpersonal skills with staff, volunteers, and the community at large.

Symphony raises millions

The North Carolina Symphony has met a substantial financial challenge and raised over \$8 million in community support for the second consecutive year, the orchestra announced today. By reaching this funding threshold set by the North Carolina General Assembly, the Symphony qualifies for the full \$1.5 million challenge grant appropriated in the legislature's 2010-11 budget.

In combination with significant expense reductions that shrank the organization's budget by more than 20 percent through musician and staff wage concessions and resource cuts, the Symphony has successfully reduced its total debt by nearly \$2.6 million compared to a year and a half ago.

Approximately 200,000 people attended the North Carolina Symphony's public concerts across the state during this concert season. The orchestra also performed 43 free concerts to elementary and middle school students representing over 25 North Carolina counties.



NC Symphony Photo

Johnny Mathis performs with the Symphony last year.



Phylicia Rashad and Common in a scene from the film "Just Wright."

Fox Searchlight Photo

Rashad performing at the NBTF

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

History-making Tony winner Phylicia Rashad will perform at next month's National Black Theatre Festival, officials announced last week.

Rashad will star alongside actors Kene Holliday and Hattie Winston in a staged reading of "A Charleston Olio," a love story based on the new novel "Some Sing, Some Cry" by Ntozake Shange and her sister, Ifa Bayeza.

The story centers around a troupe of modern-day storytellers that spin a tale that brings the famed port city of Charleston, S.C. to life as the nation is on the

brink of World War I and Black American music is about to take the world by storm.

Rashad is best known for her portrayal of mother and attorney Claire Huxtable on the '80s hit "The Cosby Show." She stayed with the sitcom for its eight-year run from 1984 to 1992. Rashad has performed in numerous Broadway and Off-Broadway shows, including "Jelly's Last Jam" and "Dreamgirls." In 2003, she won a Tony Award for her portrayal of Lena Younger in "A Raisin in the Sun," becoming the first black woman to win the coveted honor for a dramatic lead role. In 2008,



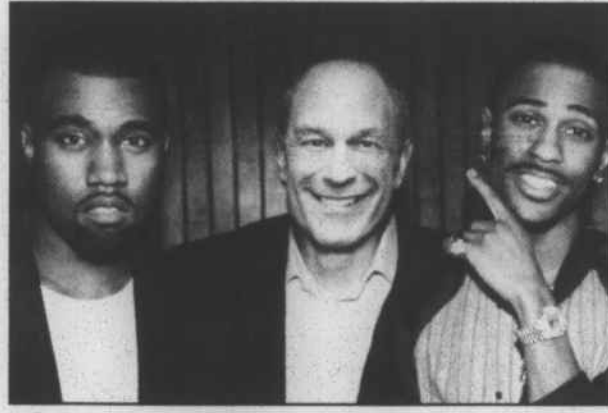
Holliday

See Rashad on A9

The Next Superstar?

PRNewsFoto/Island Def Jam Music Group

Rapper Big Sean (far right) poses with Island Def Jam Music Group CEO and Chairman Barry Weiss and rap superstar Kanye West (far left) at a recent launch event for Big Sean's "Finally Made It" CD. West says the world should expect big things from Big Sean. "I feel like he could be like what Beyoncé is to R&B, that he could be that to rap music," West said.



Library to teach filmmaking to teens

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Forsyth County Public Library's Teen Central department will host a documentary film camp later this month, in conjunction with the Documentary Film Program at Wake Forest University.

From July 25-29, local teens will learn the basics of documentary filmmaking, including interview techniques, camera operation, lighting and editing. The camp will be held at the Central Library, 660 West 5th St.

During the week, participants will work in teams of two to produce a three to five-minute film. Participants will use Library resources in researching content for their films, which can be on any topic.

The completed films will be screened in the Central Library's auditorium on Monday, Aug. 1 at 1 p.m.

The camp is free; registration is on a first-come first-serve basis. Space is limited to 10 teens.

For more information, email Don Dwiggins at [dwigid@forsyth.cc](mailto:dwiggid@forsyth.cc).



Singer urges blacks to join bone marrow registry

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins rose to fame as an actress, singer and member of the popular 90s musical group TLC – all while quietly battling sickle cell disease.

Now, she is lending her famous voice to encourage people, especially those in the African American community, to join the "Be The Match Registry" as potential bone marrow donors and help others – like 11-year-old Imani Cornelius – fight similar life-threatening diseases.

Watkins has partnered with Be The Match for two public service announcements. The PSAs will hit the airwaves and the Internet this month, which is African American Bone Marrow Awareness Month. Donor registry drives will also take place nationwide throughout the month.

"As a person with sickle cell disease and an advocate for everyone fighting this disease, I was naturally drawn to Be The Match," Watkins said. "Unfortunately, myths about bone marrow donation keep many people from joining the Be The Match Registry and potentially saving a life. That is why I am passionate about encouraging everyone to learn the facts about bone marrow donation through these PSAs. We need more African Americans to

step up." A bone marrow transplant can be a cure for someone with sickle cell disease or other illnesses like leukemia and lymphoma. Most patients who need transplants do not have a match in their family and depend on the Be The Match Registry to find a match.

But many African Americans and other minorities can't find marrow donors - like Imani Cornelius, of Minneapolis. Imani was recently diagnosed with myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) and her only hope for a cure is a bone marrow transplant. Her



Imani Cornelius

See Registry on A9



Earnestine Rainey Huff

Scholarship fundraiser to honor late local artist

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The first-ever Earnestine Rainey Huff Memorial Scholarship Fund Arts Festival and Family Affair will be held on Sunday, July 10 from 2-6 p.m. at Huff Art Studio, 2846 Patterson Avenue.

The late Earnestine Rainey Huff and her husband, James Huff, gained international acclaim through their artwork. Their work has appeared in more than 25 publications and periodicals, including in the pages of Ebony, Encore, Art Voices, Essence, Black Family Magazine and the history book "Paths Towards Freedom."

A number of speakers will be on hand for Sunday's event, including State Rep. Larry Womble and Earline Parmon, Angella Dunston, director of Citizen and Faith Outreach for the Office of The Governor, Educator Dr. Felecia M. Long and Entrepreneur Dana Merck. The Robertson Trio of Atlanta will be among the entertainers. The group features Earnestine Huff's sister, Rosemary Rainey. Rasta Still Bill and drummer Hashim Saleh and his dancers will also perform.

Poetry will be performed by Joshua Mack, Jasmine Huff (the daughter of James and Earnestine Huff) and other outstanding area poets.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under. This includes a full course meal prepared by Dorothy Turman, whose menu includes pork ribs, beef ribs, chicken as well as vegetarian dishes.



Dr. Long



NBC Photo
Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins became a star as part of the trio TLC.