

# Salem Academy students do well at Model UN event

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Students from Salem Academy earned honors at the recent statewide Model United Nations General Assembly Session at Appalachian State University in Boone.

The students represented Spain during the event and broke up into six teams of two to participate in several mock sessions designed to mirror the kind of topics tackled daily at the UN.

Mary Beth Browne and Catherine Ward won first place in the Best Delegation category for their European Union Crisis presentation. Emma Wilbur and Grace Wilson won first place in Best Delegation for their World Trade Organization presentation. Parish Finn and Julia Dorn won an Honorable Mention award for their Economics and Social Council presentation.

"I was able to visit and observe each Salem delegation (team) while they were in session, and I was very



Mary Beth Browne and Catherine Ward



Emma Wilbur and Grace Wilson



Parish Finn and Julia Dorn

impressed and proud of all of them," says Chris Royster, Academy history teacher and Model UN faculty adviser. "I thought their performance was excellent, especially given that it was the

first Model UN conference most of them had participated in. I also received several very nice compliments and congratulations from other teachers attending the Model UN Conference, which speaks well for the effort and perform-

ance of our students." Other participating students included Ivy Webb, Maeve Cosgrove, Mathama Bility, Hannah Webb, Sally Cai and Nicole Wang.

## Muhammad releases novel

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In her new book, "Cowards and Angels," Aileen Muhammad pens the mystical, spiritual journey of a young woman whose genetic inheritance is in contrast to descriptions and interpretations of the world she lives in.

The book, published by Trafford Publishing, tells the story of a young woman, Mia, and her family, who have roots on the island Sokotra, and the circumstances that cause Mia to be admitted into a mental hospital. The story is woven with her mystical connections and the precarious position the family finds themselves in apart from their cultural roots. Throughout her fight, Mia searches for meaning as an omniscient voice brings messages through visions and poetry.

In her search, she comes to Islam for protection, beauty and strength, but has also researched other religious texts.

She finds that the crimes committed against her people are the same crimes her own people commit against her. In her search to understand and make peace, she beckons for assistance from angels.



"I was inspired to write this book by experiencing the enlightening instances in life," Muhammad shares, "by witnessing the dilemma of the interpretation of the experience of multi-ethnic people in America, and by having serious visions of a more peaceful world."

Muhammad attended Salem College, receiving a BA degree in creative writing in 2009 and earning the president's prize in creative writing. She is currently an M.Ed. candidate. Her poetry has been published in numerous journals and magazines, and her short stories have received honorable mention in several North Carolina state writing contests.



Michele Powell (center) with agency volunteers.

## Transformed Lives hosting benefit

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Transformed Lives Community Resource Center is hosting its 2nd Annual Christmas Benefit and Silent Auction at Winston-Salem State University's Thompson Center on Saturday, Nov. 10 at 5:30 p.m.

The theme is "An Evening with the Stars." Transformed Lives' successful program participants and community partners will be the "stars" for the evening. City Council Member Derwin Montgomery will be the keynote speaker. The event will also include a silent auction and a gospel concert with guest artists, The Gospel Stylistics and the Vessels In Praise.

"The evening promises to be uplifting and inspiring as we tell our story of not only how we have served the community, but also how the community has served

alongside us," said Michele Powell, executive director of Transformed Lives. "We love that we are a place where the citizens can give back by offering their talents and resources to their own community."

Transformed Lives, a nonprofit organization, has been in operation since 2007 and has supported underserved communities and families since its inception. Founded by husband and wife Stephen and Michele Powell, the

agency is operated by a committed Board of Directors and team of volunteer staffers

The agency's programs include the Healthy Homework Lab, Client Choice Food Pantry, Mobile Unit, support groups, the Community Knowledge Center and transitional housing for formerly incarcerated men.

Tickets to the benefit are \$25 per individual or \$200 per table of eight. Call 336-293-7959 for tickets.

## Kids Hear from Positive Role Model



Submitted Photo

Craig Edwards (third from right), a graduate of Winston-Salem State University, proud member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and employee of the Winston-Salem State Upward Bound Program, visits the Carl H. Russell Sr. Community Learning Center to talk to youngsters about the importance of voting. He also presented the kids with WSSU Upward Bound book-bags. Here, Edwards hands one of the bags to Russell Center Director Ben Piggott (second from left) as several kids stand by.

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DOWNTOWN PLAN

PUBLIC MEETING

The Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership and the City/County Planning Staff invite YOU to a Public Meeting about the DOWNTOWN PLAN

Tuesday, November 13th, 2pm and 6pm at the Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts Mountcastle Forum

A map of the DOWNTOWN PLAN can be read at [www.dwp.org](http://www.dwp.org)