

HAPPENINGS

December

1 Jazzy Holiday Luncheon. Westin Hotel.

Luncheon opens with an 11:30 a.m. reception and the program will run from 12-1:30 p.m. Afro-American Cultural Center fund raiser features music, visual arts and spoken word. Proceeds support programs, services, events and initiatives of the AACC. Tickets are \$55 each. For information, call (704) 374-1665, extension 32 or 23 or log on to www.aacc-charlotte.org

Disney on Ice's Princess Classics, Charlotte Bobcats Arena through Dec. 4. Tickets from \$12 to \$50 and available online at www.charlottebobcatsarena.com, calling (800) 495-2295 or at Blumenthal Performing Arts Center ticket outlet.

Carolina Actors Studio Theatre production of "Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge, 8 p.m. Pay what you can performance. Offbeat version of "A Christmas Carol" with favorite holiday characters and storylines for adults and children. Play runs through Dec. 24. Tickets for all other performances are \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors. Available at www.nccast.com or calling the box office at (704) 455-8542.

2 "A Christmas Story" McColl Family Theatre, ImaginOn, 300 E. 7th St., 7:30 p.m. Performances through Dec. 19. For tickets and showtimes, call the box office at (704) 973-2828 weekdays from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. or log on to www.ctcharlotte.org.

CLAA vs. SIAC Battle of the Bands, Grady Cole Center, 310 North Kings Drive. Free.

3 Pioneer Bowl VIII, Bowie State vs. Tuskegee, Memorial Stadium, 310 North Kings Drive. Tickets \$10.

Charlotte Youth Ballet "Nutcracker," 2:30 p.m., Owens Auditorium, 2700 E. Independence Blvd. Tickets \$11-\$21. For information, call (704) 522-6500 or log on to www.ticketmaster.com.

Pioneer Bowl post game party, V Lounge, 305 4th St., 10 p.m.-until Women free until 11 p.m.; men \$5 until 11. Discount admission with ticket stub from the Pioneer Bowl.

4 Central Piedmont Community College Theatre will hold auditions for "Jesus Christ Superstar" from 7-9 p.m. in the Recital Hall on the second floor of the Academic and Performing Arts Center on Central Campus. Audition hopefuls need a prepared song of 16 bars and should be dressed for a brief dance audition. An accompanist will be provided. Second round of auditions will be held Dec. 5. Rehearsals will start in early January with performances Feb. 17-26 in the new Halton Theater. For information, call Tom Hollis at (704) 330-6835.

"Remembering August in December," Actor's Theatre of Charlotte, 3 p.m. Featuring scenes from August Wilson's "Joe Turner's Come and Gone," and "Fences." Free.

5 Supper With Santa, 5:30 p.m., ImaginOn, 300 E. 7th St. Family event sponsored by Encore volunteers. Supper begins with magic show performed in the theatre for parents and children. Elves will escort children to dine with Santa at supper provided by Bistro 100 and Spratt's. Tickets are \$15 for children and \$5 for adults. Reservations are taken by mail only. Call (704) 973-2806 for reservation form.

6 Children's Theatre of Charlotte will hold auditions for "Charlotte's Web," 6-9:30 p.m., ImaginOn. Roles are for two adult male actors. Auditions will consist of a cold reading from the script. Second round will be held Dec. 7. Adult roles pay \$400 per week and rehearsals begin Dec. 26 and take place Sundays-Fridays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Performances Jan. 19-Feb. 5. For information, call (704) 973-2800.

9 "The Littlest Angel," Wachovia Playhouse, ImaginOn 300 E. 7th St., 7:30 p.m. Performances through Dec. 23. For tickets and showtimes, call the box office at (704) 973-2828 weekdays from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. or log on to www.ctcharlotte.org.

10 Singing Christmas Tree, Owens Auditorium Through Dec. 11. Tickets are \$7.50-\$25. For information, call (704) 522-6500 or log on to www.ticketmaster.com.

Queen City Clash professional wrestling, 7:30 p.m., Cricket Arena. Tickets \$12-\$25.

11 Manheim Steamroller, 7 p.m., Charlotte Bobcats Arena. Tickets range from \$45 to \$85 and available online at charlottebobcatsarena.com, calling (800) 495-2295 or at Blumenthal Performing Arts Center ticket outlet.

16 Radio City Christmas Spectacular.

WINTER WONDER LAND



PARAMOUNT'S CAROWINDS

The "Home for the Holidays" parade will wind its way through the streets of Winter-Fest each night during the holiday season, capping off a great evening of holiday magic at Paramount's Carowinds.

Owens Auditorium through Jan. 1. Tickets \$25-\$67. For information, call (704) 522-6500 or log on to www.ticketmaster.com.

21 Clay Aiken Joyful Noise Holiday Concert, Charlotte Bobcats Arena, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$39.50 and \$54.50 and available at www.charlottebobcatsarena.com, (800) 495-2295 or Blumenthal Performing Arts Center.

January

3 "Oh Freedom: Music of the Civil Rights

'A CHRISTMAS STORY' AT IMAGINON



Ralphie Parker (Will Davis), Mother (Laurie Riffe) and The Old Man (Steven Ivey) react to the Old Man's "major award" in Children's Theatre of Charlotte's stage production of the holiday movie favorite "A Christmas Story," Dec. 2-18 at ImaginOn's McColl Family Theatre.

PHOTO/DONNA BISE

BAND BATTLE



PHOTO/CURTIS WILSON



PHOTO/WADE NASH



PHOTO/WADE NASH

Marching bands (from top to bottom) Johnson C. Smith University, Tuskegee University and Bowie State University will participate in the battle of the bands Friday at Grady Cole Center as part of the Pioneer Bowl football game between Bowie State and Tuskegee.

Notes

Charlotte Writer's Club meeting, Dec. 3, Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave. Meeting from 12-3 p.m. Open house and club book fair. Guest speaker Mark deCastrique, author of several mystery novels, will read and discuss his books, including the teen thriller "A Conspiracy of Genes."

"Santa's Bag," through Dec. 3, ImaginOn. Shopping experience for children 3-12. Gifts handcrafted by Encore volunteers are priced from 50 cents to \$5. Admission is free. Charlotte radio legend Chattie Hatty Leeper will discuss and sign copies of her autobiography, "Chattie Hatty - The First Black Female DJ, the legend, Radio WGIV, Charlotte, N.C., Dec. 7 from 7-8 p.m. at West Boulevard Library, 2157 West Blvd. For information, call Sandy Seawright at (704) 336-6803.

Campus Connections BCT will participate in a financial aid workshop hosted by College Foundations of the Carolinas Dec. 10. Isabella Jenkins from Clark Atlanta University will do a career and majors workshop after the financial aid workshop. For information, call Gerald or Kathie Baucom at (704) 527-6168.

Dell Curry Bojangles High School Hoops Tournament Dec. 29-31 at Belk Activities Center, Charlotte Latin School. Twenty-four teams will compete in three divisions: national boys, national girls and local boys. For information, call Jeffrey Hood at (704) 332-KIDS.

Lowe's Shootout presented by Bojangles' Dec. 29 at Charlotte Bobcats Arena. High school basketball games start at 3:30 p.m. with Charlotte Christian vs. West Charlotte. Also, South Mecklenburg vs. Providence Day (girls); Norcross (Ga.) High vs. Laurinburg Institute; The Episcopal Academy (Pa.) vs. Statesville Christian. General admission tickets are \$15 and available online at www.charlottebobcatsarena.com or calling (800) 495-2295.



PHOTO/CHILDREN'S THEATRE

Santa's Bag: Now in its 33rd season, Santa's Bag is a unique shopping experience for children ages 3-12. Ends Saturday at ImaginOn.

Exhibits

"Ancient Egyptian Art for the Afterlife," Mint Museum through Dec. 4. Exhibit is a selection of 90 ancient artifacts from a local private collection. Exhibit covers the Pre-Dynastic Period (4000-3000 BC) Old Kingdom (3000-2100 BC), New Kingdom (1850-1000 BC) and Ptolemaic Period (200-30 BC). Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and students, \$3 for children 6-17.

Vintage Vernon, Local Accents Gallery, Museum of York County through Jan. 1. Featuring 15 illustrations and memorabilia of Vernon Grant. The museum is located at 4621 Mt. Gallant Road, Rock Hill. For information, call (803) 329-2121.

"Renaissance to Rococo: Masterpieces from the collection of the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art," Mint Museum of Art, 2730 Randolph Road. Exhibit through Jan. 15. Hours are Tuesday 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Wednesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 12-5 p.m. Admission is free Tuesdays from 5-10 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and students; \$3 for students age 6-17.

Don Reitz: Clay, Fire, Salt and Wood" through Dec. 31 at the Mint Museum of Craft + Design, 220 N. Tryon St. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 12-5 p.m.; free Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

"Ancient Egyptian Art for the Afterlife" through Dec. 4 at the Mint Museum of Art, 2730 Randolph Road. Hours are Tuesday 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Wednesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 12-5 p.m. Admission is free Tuesdays from 5-10 p.m.

"Joe Walters: Selected Works" Dec. 2-Jan. 5, Joie Lassiter Gallery, 1440 South Tryon St., Suite 104. Exhibit includes a combination of sculptures and works on paper. For information, call Kate Baillon-Case at (704) 373-1463.

Award-winning poet and non-fiction writer Maureen Ryan Griffin, Charlotte Art League guest speaker Jan. 17, 7 p.m. Griffin will share seven approaches to tapping into your own creative genius. The art league is at 1517 Camden Road



Griffin

Concerts, art exhibits and community-oriented events can be submitted to The Charlotte Post P.O. Box 30144 Charlotte, NC 28230. You can fax (704) 342-2160, log on at www.thecharlottepost.com or e-mail editorial@thecharlottepost.com.