

HAPPENINGS

January

20 Bookoo Arenacross. Cricket Arena. Tickets \$5-\$22. Continues through Jan. 22.

"Carmen," Dale F. Halton Theatre. Central Piedmont Community College. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$16 and \$14 and can be purchased by calling the box office at (704) 330-6534. Performances Jan. 21 at 8 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Jan. 22.

Chicago City Limits. McGlohon Theatre at Spirit Square, 8 p.m. High-octane comedy revue "Taking Liberties" takes its inspiration from today's headlines, pop culture and the world at large. Second performance Jan. 21 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$19-\$29 and on sale at the Performing Arts Center box office by calling (704) 372-1000 or online at www.blumenthalcenter.org.

Cop-A-Squat Coffee House will hold auditions for dinner theatre performance of selections from "Cats," 7 p.m., Cop-A-Squat Coffeehouse, 107 South Main St. Lancaster, S.C. Have music selection ready and be prepared for light movement. Second round of auditions Jan. 21.

21 Charlotte Symphony and combined Charliers and Mixed Ensemble. Clover School District Auditorium, Clover, S.C., 8 p.m. Alan Yamamoto will conduct "The Olympics: Heroes, Heroines and Nations" with movie themes from "Amistad," "We Were Soldiers" and "Star Wars." Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. The box office will be open at the district auditorium at 1625 Highway 55 East in Clover, S.C.

23 WWE's Monday Night Raw, 7:45 p.m., Charlotte Bobcats Arena. Tickets \$20-\$40. Main event is Jon Cena and Ric Flair teaming against Kurt Angle and Triple H.

25 Jazzin' With Jack and Jill, Charlotte Hilton and Towers, 6 p.m. Music provided by Pieces of a Dream. Tickets are \$75 and available by calling (704) 375-3935. Sponsored by Charlotte chapter of Jack and Jill and proceeds benefit Hurricane Katrina victims, Kindermourn and Jack and Jill Foundation.

26 "Laughter on the 23rd Floor," 7:30 p.m., Meroney Theater, 213 S. Main St., Salisbury. Based on playwright Neil Simon's re-creation of a team of comedy writers for a 1950s TV show. Tickets are \$15 (adults); \$12 (seniors and students) Performances through Jan. 29.

"LaTraviata," Belk Theater at North Carolina Performing Arts Center through Jan. 29 Showtime is 7:30 p.m. Jan. 26; 8 p.m. Jan. 27-28 and 2 p.m. Jan. 29. All performances have projected English titles, Opera Carolina Chorus, The Moving Poets Theatre of Dance and The Charlotte Symphony. Tickets are \$15-\$92 and available at www.operacarolina.org or (704) 372-1000.

28 Western Jazz Quartet, 7 p.m., First Baptist Church West. Free. Warmup performance by jazz pianist Tillian Simmons and Alison Siler.

"Casino," Ovens Auditorium. Tickets \$23.50 and \$26.50.

"Junie B. Jones," a musical based on the books by Barbara Park, McGlohon Theatre at Spirit Square through Jan. 29. Tickets are \$12-\$18 and available at the box office by calling (704) 372-1000 or online at www.blumenthalcenter.org.

"Annie," Ovens Auditorium, through Feb. Tickets are \$20-\$55 and available at www.ticketmaster.com or www.blumenthalcenter.org or by phone at (704) 522-6500 or (704) 372-1000.

February

3 "Little Women: The Broadway Musical," Belk Theatre through Jan. 8. Tickets are \$20-\$56 and on sale at the Performing Arts Center box office at (704) 372-1000 or www.blumenthalcenter.org. Discounts available for groups by calling (704) 379-1380.

8 Vienna Choir Boys, 7 p.m., Belk Theatre, Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. Tickets start at \$20 and can be purchased at the CSO ticket office at 201 S. College St., www.charlottesymphony.org or calling (704) 972-2000.

14 Chocolate Extravaganza, 6:30 p.m., Speedway Club at Lowe's Motor Speedway. Featuring a live band with dancing, wine bar, gourmet coffee bar and desserts. Cost is \$100 per ticket and proceeds benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters in Cabarrus County.

15 "Crowns," Actor's Theatre of Charlotte, 650 E. Stonewall St. through March 5. Performances Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Feb. 26 and March 5 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 on Wednesdays-Thursdays; \$25 on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. is pay what you can. Tickets available at the box office, (704) 342-2251 or online at www.actorstheatrecharlotte.org.

12 Charlotte Post Features Editor Cheris Hodges will sign copies of her new novel "Second Chance at Love," 5 p.m., Real Eyes Bookstore, 3306 N. Davidson St.

16 Keith Urban with special guest Pat Green, 7:30 p.m., Charlotte Bobcats Arena. Tickets \$42 and \$29.50. Continues through Jan. 22.

17 "Off the Wall & Onto the Stage: Dancing the Art of Jonathan Green," 8 p.m., Blumenthal Performing Arts Center Belk Theatre. Ballet presented by the Afro-American Cultural Center as part of its annual Heritage Signature event. Tickets are \$25 to \$55 and available by calling (704) 372-1000 or at www.aacc-charlotte.org.

22 Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus brings the 135th edition of the Greatest Show on Earth to Charlotte Bobcats Arena

through Feb. 26. Ticket prices range from \$13 to \$45 (front row) and \$100 (circus celebrity) and available online at www.ringling.com, www.charlottebobcatsarena.com, by phone at (800) 495-2295 and the arena box office. Show time is 7:30 p.m. Feb. 22.

27 CIAA basketball tournament, Charlotte Bobcats Arena. Defending national champion Virginia Union Panthers will be challenged by Johnson C. Smith and Bowie State for league supremacy. Shaw University is the odds-on favorite to

repeat as women's champion. Tickets available at CIAA member schools or log on to www.charlottebobcatsarena.com.

28 Three Daughters From Charlotte concert, 7:30 p.m., ImaginOn Hugh McColl Family Theater. Featuring Jacqueline Butler Hairston, Rickie Byars-Beckwith and Yvette Walker Leach. Sponsored by Daisy Spears and Gerson L. Stroud Foundation and proceeds will benefit Johnson C. Smith University students. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by calling (704) 604-7762.

FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE



Bertha Allen of Health Equity hosted a delegation of Russian visitors to Charlotte as part of the the Open World for Leadership program and National Peace Foundation.

PHOTO/JIM BLACK

REMEMBERING THE DREAM



Saturday's Martin Luther King parade drew thousands of procession-watchers to uptown Charlotte. The parade kicked off Charlotte's MLK celebrations.

PHOTO/DAVE NASH

HORSING AROUND



Equestrian Andre McClain brings his talents to Charlotte with Ringling Bros Barnum & Bailey Circus Feb. 22 at Charlotte Bobcats Arena.



Dawn Grier of Sigma Gamma Rho sorority paints 10-year-old Alexis Smith's face during a holiday celebration at the Greenville Community Center.

PHOTO/CALVIN FERGUSON

Notes

East Mecklenburg High School coffee and tour, 8 a.m., Jan. 19. For all rising ninth-graders and parents. Information session followed by student-led tours.

Zeta Phi Beta sorority sponsors second annual **Bowling for Babies** Feb. 4 at AMF Coliseum Lanes, 2801 E. Independence Blvd. from 3-6 p.m. Cost is \$10 per bowler and includes three games, bowling shoes and prizes. Proceeds benefit March of Dimes and other local charities. Open to all ages.

Sigma Gamma Rho sorority is offering scholarships for high school seniors planning to pursue post-secondary education to a four-year college or university. For an application and essay requirements, e-mail Veronica McKinney at bos@charlottesgrho.org. Application and essay must be postmarked by Jan. 25.

Emerging Artists Vocal Arts Competition, 4 p.m. Feb. 12, Memorial Presbyterian Church, 2600 Beatties Ford Road Presented by Charlotte Club of National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club. Admission is free. Contestants include Taylor Johnson, a soprano from Converse College, Marcus Graham, a tenor from Johnson C. Smith University; soprano Felicia Wright from JCSU; Loren Webb, mezzo soprano, JCSU. The winner will compete in the district competition March 17 at the Omni Charlotte Hotel, 132 E. Trade St. For information, call (704) 399-4548.



Gretha Boston plays jazz/blues Alberta Hunter in "Cookin' At The Cookery" Jan. 18-29 at Blumenthal Performing Arts Center.

Exhibits

"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.

"Eye to Eye: New Perspectives on People and Place," Jan. 21 at the Museum of York County, 4621 Mt. Gallant Road, Rock Hill. Exhibit runs through Oct. 15 and features 13 Carolinas photographers, including The Post's Curtis Wilson.

Joie Lassiter Gallery presents Robert Lazzarini's "New Works," Feb. 3 at 6 p.m., 1440 South Tryon St., suite 104. Lazzarini's sculpture and paper works have been seen in London, Amsterdam, Copenhagen and Seoul. Two sculptures are in Charlotte collections. He will give a talk at the museum Feb. 26.

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.