

happenings

November

9 "Educate Your Palate," 6 p.m., Quail Hollow Club. Culinary masterpieces by some of Charlotte's top chefs. For information, call (704) 377-1740 or log on to www.classroomcentral.org. Proceeds go to Classroom Central's program to get school tools to needy students. Tickets are \$100 per person; \$150 per couple.

10 Jazz Art & Wine Spectacular, 6 p.m. at Doubletree Guest Suites Southpark, 6300 Morrison Blvd. Admission \$30 to an evening of fine wine, cuisine, art and jazz. Sponsored by Charlotte VIP.

"Black Love American Style," The Vision, 160 West Franklin Blvd., Gastonia, 10 p.m. Spend an evening of theater with Jessica Holter, founder of The Punany Poets and guests. Comedy, poetry, dance and interactive conversation about love, romance and dating in the age of HIV. Must be 18 to enter and no alcohol will be served.

11 Sekou Tha Misfit with Angelo Ceter, 8 p.m., Plowden Auditorium, Winthrop University. Two-time champion of the National Poetry Slam competition. His work has been featured on "Good Morning America," and HBO's "Def Poetry." Tickets \$5 with Winthrop ID; \$7 for general public.

Janine Morris, author of "Diva Diaries," will sign copies of the novel at 10 a.m. RealEyes Bookstore.

14 "Tango Fire," 8 p.m., Belk Theatre. A history of Tango featuring quintet of musicians, dancers and singers. Tickets are \$23-\$39 and available at the box office, by phone at (704) 372-1000 or online at www.blumenthalcenter.org and www.carolinatix.org.

Preseason NIT basketball, 7 p.m., Charlotte Bobcats Arena. Eastern Region bracket games Sacred Heart vs. North Carolina, followed by Iona vs. Winthrop. Tickets are \$199, \$99 and \$65 and include admission for the championship and consolation games Nov. 15. Tickets available by calling (800) 495-2295, the arena box office or Blumenthal Performing Arts Center ticket office.

Trans-Siberian Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. Cricket Arena. Tickets \$43.50-\$33.50 and available at the box office or through Ticketmaster. For information, call (704) 622-6500 or online at www.ticketmaster.com.

15 Author **Timothy Tyson** to discuss "Blood Done Sign My Name," 7 p.m., Myers Center Auditorium, Gaston College, 201 Highway 321 South, Dallas, N.C. For information, call (704) 868-2164, dial 4 or log on to www.gri.lib.nc.us.

17 Charlotte Metro Aggie Club fall golf tournament at the Divide. Proceeds will go to scholarships at N.C. A&T State University. For information, call Joe Bloomfield at (704) 382-7352 or (704) 382-7352 or Debra Crockett at (704) 332-0387.

New Jack Reunion Tour, 8 p.m., Cricket Arena. Tickets \$42.50, \$49.50.

Marlena Smalls with The Hallelujah Singers, 7 p.m., Afro-American Cultural Center, 401 North Myers St. Potter Willie Leftwich is the featured visual artist. The center's galleries will open at 6 p.m. Concert admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for students.

19 "Ball in the House," 3 p.m., McGlohon Theatre at Spirit Square. A capella group using pop harmonies with vocal drums/beatbox and bass. Tickets are \$18-\$22 and available at the box office at Founders Hall, www.blumenthalcenter.org, www.carolinatix.org and (704) 372-1000.

24 "The Man He Used To Be," Ovens Auditorium, 2700 East Independence Blvd. Comedy, drama and inspirational musical stars Trent Roberts and R&B recording artists Christopher Williams, Dave Hollister and Sean Levert. Showtime is 8 p.m.; 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Nov. 25.

28 Monty Python's Spamalot, 8 p.m., Ovens Auditorium. Tickets \$27-\$72 and available at Ticketmaster and Cricket Arena box office. For information, call Ticketmaster at (704) 522-6500 or www.ticketmaster.com.

30 Atlanta Drumline with Owen Smith, 8 p.m., Plowden Auditorium, Winthrop University. Atlanta drumline is noted for its precision, arrangements and sound. Veteran comic Owen Smith will open the program. Tickets are \$5 with Winthrop ID; \$7 for general public.

December

7 "The Santaland Diaries," Actor's Theatre of Charlotte, 650 East Stonewall St. This Christmas tale takes place in Macy's department store with a disgruntled elf (Hank West) illuminating encounters with bitter holiday shoppers, obsessed parents and hostile co-workers. Shows through Dec. 23. Tickets are \$23 for Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday performances; \$25 for Friday shows and \$28 on Saturdays with Dec. 13 pay what you can night. Call the box office at (704) 342-2251 to pay by credit card or online at www.actors-theatrecharlotte.org.

January

25 "Charlotte Squawks: Fourth and Going For It," McGlohon Theatre, Spirit Square. Tickets are \$25-\$35 and on sale at the box office in Founders Hall, by phone at (704) 372-1000 and online at www.blumenthalcenter.org and www.carolinatix.org. Performances through Feb. 3.

WITNESS

"The Santaland Diaries"



ACTORS THEATRE OF CHARLOTTE

Hank West stars in "The Santaland Diaries," Dec. 7-23 at Actor's Theatre of Charlotte, 650 E. Stonewall St. Holiday prices for all performances is \$20. Showtimes are 8 p.m. except Dec. 7, 14 and 21 (7:30 p.m.); Dec. 10 and 17 (2:30 p.m.). A second show is scheduled for 9:30 p.m. Dec. 23. Call (704) 342-2251 for tickets or log on to www.actors-theatrecharlotte.org.

WITNESS

"Dark Ride"



DAVIDSON COLLEGE

Davidson College students Colin Smith (front) and Josh Carson in the surreal thriller "Dark Ride." The play debuts Nov. 15 and continues through Nov. 19 at the Black Box Theatre of Cunningham Fine Arts Building. Showtime is 7:30 p.m., except Nov. 19 (2 p.m.) Tickets are \$6 and available at the door or calling (704) 894-2340.

LISTEN

Sergei Babayan



QUEENS UNIVERSITY

Pianist **Sergei Babayan** will perform at Queens University's Dana Auditorium Nov. 12 at 2 p.m. Babayan's recitals at Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall as well as with the Warsaw Philharmonic and New World Symphony have been critical successes. Tickets are \$15 and can be reserved by calling Queens music department at (704) 337-2213. Students of all ages are admitted free.

Notes etc.

No Limit Larry celebrity basketball game, Nov. 11, 6 p.m., Bette Rae Thomas Center, 2921 Tuckaseegee Road. Featuring WPEG personalities and Power 98 Street Ballers. Tickets are \$15 and proceeds will benefit COMP, a non-profit organization. For information, call (704) 334-COMP or (704) 334-2667.

"The Civil Rights Movement Then & Now," Nov. 14, Plowden Auditorium, Withers Building, Winthrop University, in Rock Hill, S.C. Rev. Charles Sherrod, former field secretary with the Student Non-violence Coordinating Committee and an 1960s sit-in participant, will be guest speaker. For information, call Virginia Williams at (803) 323-4680.



Sherrod

Economic literacy workshop, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m., New Emmanuel Congregational United Church of Christ, 3546 Beatties Ford Road. Topics include credit repair, budgeting, banking, savings and wealth building. For information, call the church at (704) 399-1249 or Joyce Wright at (704) 586-1609.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Charlotte Big Magic Breakfast, Nov. 16, Extravaganza Depot, 1616 North Tryon St., 7:30 a.m. Breakfast is free and open to anyone over 18 who wants to volunteer with BBBS. For information, call Carol Lee at (704) 377-3963, extension 26 or Jennifer Briggs at extension 61.

West Charlotte High School National Alumni Association founders day luncheon awards, Nov. 18, 12 p.m. at Zion's Renaissance, 3165 Zion's Renaissance Land. Minimum contribution \$35 and proceeds will benefit the Clinton L. Blake Scholarship.

Holiday bazaar, Southwest Middle School, 13624 Steele Creek Road. Spaces available for non-profits and crafters, businesses and food vendors ranging from \$25 to \$55. For information, call (980) 343-5006 and leave a message or e-mail Carrie Smith at swmspts@gms.k12.nc.us. Proceeds will fund educational resources for Southwest students.

Urban League Guild of Central Carolinas gospel extravaganza, Dec. 9, Reeder Memorial Baptist Church, 3725 Beatties Ford Road. Bazaar starts at 3 p.m.; concert at 5 p.m. Donations \$10. For tickets or information, call Sheila Etheridge-Boddie at (704) 542-3044 or Loretta Sims at (704) 564-2401.

Exhibits

Silent art auction and exhibit extravaganza, Nov. 11, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Beatties Ford Road Library, 412 Beatties Ford Road. Paintings, sculptures, ceramics, live music. For information, call (704) 336-2882.

Eyes Wide Open, Nov. 10-12, Spirit Square, 345 North College St. Free. Exhibition on the human cost of the Iraq war is a memorial honoring North Carolina military casualties with a pair of boots for each soldier, civilian shoes and wall of remembrance. For information, call (704) 372-1000 or www.performingartsctr.org.

Design Made in Africa, Nov. 17-Jan. 6, 2007, McColl Center for Visual Art, 721 North Tryon St. Exhibit explores vitality and diversity of contemporary design from across the African continent. Information: call Devlin McNeil at (704) 332-5535 or visit www.mccollcenter.org.

Art by landscape artist Ron Boehmer, Dec. 1, Joie Lassiter Gallery, 1440 South Tryon St. Boehmer's imagery includes broad country views, lush trees, and distant blue mountains.

Woven Worlds: American Indian Baskets as Works of Art, through Dec. 31, Mint Museum of Craft + Design, 220 N. Tryon St. Baskets from the Clark Field Collection honors tribal groups from the U.S., Canada and northern Mexico dating from the late 19th to mid-20th century. For information, call (704) 337-2000 or www.mintmuseum.org.



Gullah Sea Islands and Beyond is on exhibit now at the Afro-American Cultural Center. The exhibit, unique to plantation life, will feature Jonathan Green prints like "Blue Egret," which depict scenes from Gullah culture. Also included are Willie Leftwich's pottery, Tyrone Geter illustrations and indigo batik work by Arianne King-Comer. Free.