



Area artists to receive grants

SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

DURHAM - The Durham Arts Council will honor 15 local artists selected to receive Emerging Artists Grants at the 24th annual Emerging Artists Awards Ceremony Feb. 22. The event begins at 6 p.m. in the People's Security Insurance Theatre at the Durham Arts Council with reception to follow.

The grant program, administered by DAC, is designed to enable individual artists who have mastered the basic techniques of their art form to complete projects that will establish or enhance their professional careers. Grants may not exceed \$1,500. Seventy artists applied to the program.

The 2007-08 recipients:

- Kim Arrington, drama - to attend the Taller Portobelo Norte Artist colony in Portobelo, Panama, to revise a play;
- Stafford Berry, dance - to make a dance and score using live performance of vocals and African instruments;
- Christine Grider, dance - to choreograph, direct and stage a full-length ballet production to The Sleeping Beauty;
- Christine Hager-Braun, craft - to participate in the fiber art conference "Breaking New Grounds";
- Titus Heagins, photography - to travel to China and create portraits of people who have been, or will soon be, displaced by the Three Gorges Dam Project;
- Katja Hill, drama - to prepare her first original

solo show, Cornucopia of Me, for production at the 2008 New York Fringe Festival;

- Louis Joseph, prints - to join a group of seven international artists for a residency at the Frans Masereel Centrum in Belgium;

- Adia Ledbetter, music - to record a CD, "Take 2: Rendezvous with Yesterday," including her arrangement and original music;

- Shannon Morrow, installation - to create a public art installation that functions as a participatory musical composition;

- Usha Raj, craft - to build a puppet theater and customized boxes to carry puppets;

- Christa Carnell, film/video - to support production of a promotional trailer for the documentary "Liability U";

- Jim Haberman, photography - to fund the costs of finding a publisher for book "Middle East: Multiple Realities";

- Carolyn Twesten, craft - to finish a fully functioning pottery studio by the spring of 2008;

- Stacey Leanza, painting/drawing/illustration - to create promotional materials for her children's illustrations portfolio, send them out to publishers and to create a Web site where she can present all her work.

- Steve Gilbert, literature - to attend a writer's conference in order to network with fellow writers and other publishing professionals.



Cameron Richardson and his mother.

WAKE COUNTY

ABDebs Books & Gifts has announced that Cameron Richardson, a fourth-grade student at Partnership Elementary, is the winner of the fall 2007 reading program. Cameron is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Richardson.

The fall reading program is open to all students in grades three through six who attend public, private and parochial schools in Wake County. The purpose of the program is to encourage students to read for the joy and pleasure of reading, and to improve their reading skills. Students were required to read a minimum of 15 minutes per day for a total of 1,365 minutes between Sept. 1 and Nov. 30, 2007.

The one who read the most was eligible to receive a \$25 gift certificate for the purchase of books at ABDebs Books & Gifts, pizza for four at CiCi's Pizza in Knightdale and a framed Certificate of Excellence. Cameron read a total of 1,380 minutes.

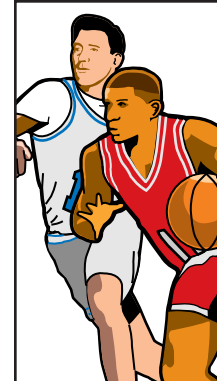
School closing in on fundraising goal

Emerson Waldorf High is seeking to raise \$7,500 in order to continue playing basketball. So far the school has raised about \$4,400, well over half of its goal. Despite that, Emerson still needs financial help from the community.

Earlier this month, the school participated in a fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen and raised \$300.

"The parents, Emerson varsity student-athletes, and Orange and Durham county communities have been extremely generous in the various donations we have been receiving, and we are quite grateful," Athletics Director Corey Reid said.

On Jan. 14 at 7 p.m., the school will participate in a benefit basketball game. The basketball team will take on law enforcement officers, DEA officials, investigators and highway patrolmen from across the Triangle area at Mount Zion Christian Academy.



Renaissance Barbershop offers free haircuts



Timothy McIntosh (right) cuts William Hannah's hair while his father, Patrick Hannah, distracts him with a DVD.

PHOTOS/RENE DAVENPORT

STAFF REPORTS

The Renaissance Barbershop offered free haircuts to school children last weekend with 3.0 or higher grade point averages.

"During this holiday season, we wanted to take this opportunity to honor our youth who have achieved academic excellence," Partner Timothy McIntosh Jr. said. "Historically, the barbershop has always been about community and giving. This event is an excellent example of those committed to a better tomorrow by coming together to uplift our community."

The barbershop opened this fall and is conveniently located in the Renaissance Center at Southpoint across from Southpoint Mall next door to Old Navy.



Pearsontown student Trevor Miller (left) patiently waits while apprentice Corey Howard completes his 'do'.

Tour looks at love affair between blacks and Paris

By Jamey Keaten
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARIS - Any American with even a slight familiarity with Paris knows about Josephine Baker, the black swivel-hipped cabaret entertainer who shunned racism in America, vaulted to stardom here in 1925, and stayed on to become one of France's most adored 20th century icons.

But what about William Wells Brown, the 19th-century former slave turned abolitionist who once expressed awe that he could pray next to whites at La Madeleine church, or that some tipped their hat to him on Paris streets?

Both historical figures feature high in Black Paris Tours, offering a glimpse of the mutual love affair between black Americans and the City of Light.

Tour guide Ricki Stevenson let me tag along as she escorted four black tourists from Texas, who braved the weak U.S. dollar and a chilly and wet winter day as part of a birthday-celebration getaway. They chose the full-day option, \$129 per person for a trek zigzagging through off-beat areas like the Parc Monceau, where poet Langston Hughes once lived in maid's chambers, or a bustling, working-class area that Stevenson dubs "Little Africa."

Home Sweet Home

STAFF REPORTS

RALEIGH - Phillip Farland received the keys to his new home and is now a proud resident of the Cooke Street Phase II Project.

The project is an economic development initiative of the Saint Augustine's College Community Development Corporation.

Farland's home is on Seawell Avenue, a downtown Raleigh area that is currently undergoing vigorous revitalization.

"I'm excited to have a home of my own. The process was simplified by the assistance of the CDC, and now I am looking forward to having friends and family over to enjoy the home with me," Farland said.

The CDC is an initiative of St. Aug's.

Partnering with the city of Raleigh, the CDC is committed to building safe and affordable homes, and to spur economic development in downtown.

Beginning Jan. 19, 2008, the CDC will offer monthly homeowner workshops that are free and open to any individual interested in home ownership.

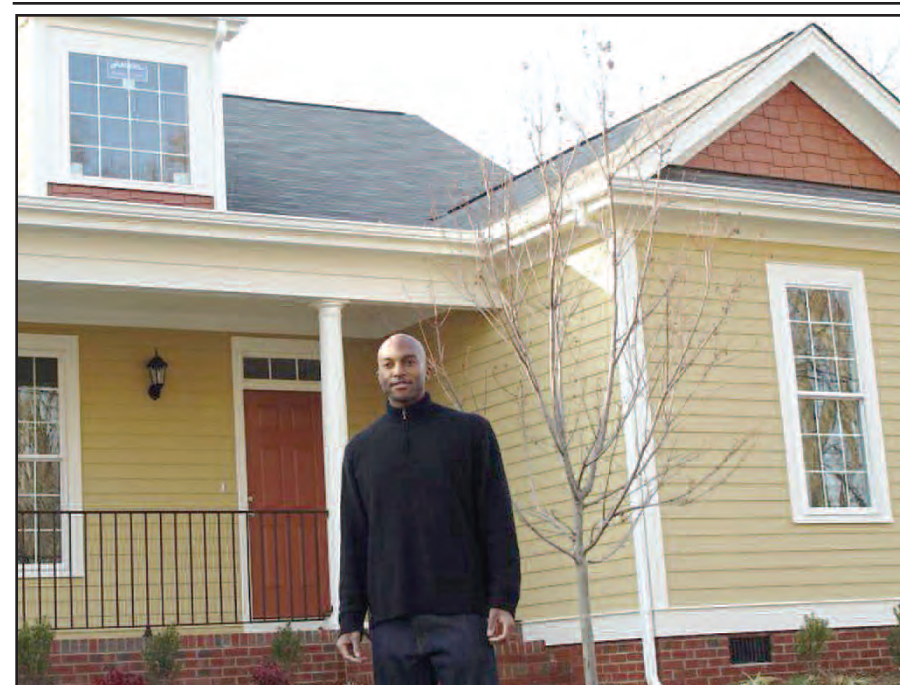
Actively engaged in Phase II, eight remaining homes are

under construction on Cooke, Seawell and Jones streets. Phase I was completed in early 2006 and resulted in 27 new homes.

The CDC plans to continue to build safe and affordable housing, and to play a key role in the revitalization of the downtown area. To contact them, call 951-9293.



The kitchen decor is brand spanking new.



Phillip Farland in front of his new home.