New school of arts gets its own board of directors

By Clarence W. Hunter
AFRO Staff Writer

A board of directors has been established for the city public school's Baltimore Schools for the Arts, the AFRO has learned.

Reliable sources revealed that the board will consist of nine members plus one designee of the Board of School Commissioners and the superintendent or deputy superintendent of schools.

Reports reveal that persons selected to serve on the board include Antony M. Carey, a Baltimore attorney; Sylvester Campbell, a dancer for a local ballet company; Nathan Carter, director of the Morgan State Choir; Tom Freudenheim, head of the city's art museum; June Garrett, a member of Arena Players, John Murphy III, chairman of the board the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers; Mrs. Christine Sarbanes, Sen. Paul Sarbanes' wife; William Sykes, human resources department's second in command and Stanley Wojewodski, a top executive at Center Stage.

Dr. Narindar Kelly will be the School Board's representative.

Five of the nine board members are black. Mayor William Donald Schaefer is expected to publicly announce the formation of the board at a press conference within a week or 10 days.

According to a confidential memo obtained by the AFRO which was sent to all the board members on May 8 by Anthony Carey, the board's chairman, a "memorandum of understanding" between the school board and the board of arts school is expected to be worked out "clarifying the scope and nature of our (the board's) duties and power."

But while the memo stated the duties needed to be spelled out, sources said the board would be a "public relations, public fund raising body with some policy making authority."

Anthony Carey admitted the board will set policy for the school but the school board would have final say in all matters.

He explained that right now the board members "haven't drafted a charter" but that it would be called the "Board of Overseers" and would supervise the selection of a staff for the school as well as work closely with the staff in reviewing the course of study and serving as public relations representatives to the outlying communities.

The memo also said the board will be selecting the school's director and academic and artistic deans as one of its first duties. The deadline for applications for the positions has been extended for an indefinite period, the memo said.

The AFRO also learned that the idea of a board of directors was never recommended by the Task Force that helped establish the school.

It was learned, however, the task force did recommend an advisory committee much like the parent advisory committee in the other public schools resulting in speculation that this new board is political in nature.

The recommendations stated that the advisory council be established "to further the goals of the institution."

According to the minutes of the task force's December 1978 meeting, the task force stated it recognized "the uniqueness of the Baltimore School of Arts thus mandating the formation of a resourceful creative and involved council."

The task force recommendation "in consulation with the director of the school."

The minutes said the council should include two parents from each of the four artistic areas, one student, one faculty member, three parents, two deans, one person from the neighboring community and the director and regional superintendent acting as ex-officio members.

The advisory council will operate according to the rules set forth by the school board, the minutes said.

Dr. James Lewis, art professor at Morgan State and Anne Emery, principal at Walbrook Senior High who both served on the task force, told the AFRO they did not know that a board of directors is to be established but refused to comment further.

Margaret Campbell, a retired school official who conceived the idea of a school for the arts almost 10 years ago said she could not comment on the school's development but did admit that she was not asked to serve on the board.

The school is expected to open the first week in September although there have been reports that it may not open until February.

Between 200 and 300 students from across the city are expected to be auditioned for admissions although no official date has been set.

According to Richard Micherdzinski, project coordinator, the emphasis on admission will be artistic ability by the director and a evaluation panel.

High School seniors get 2nd chance to pass

Nearly 1,500 of the city's high school seniors will get one more try to pass the proficiency tests now required in order to graduate.

The one last chance happens tomorrow, Saturday, May 19, when special testing sessions will be given at three area high schools.

School officials reported this week that 35 percent of the seniors have not passed at least one proficiency test. More than half of those students have only one test out of four left to pass.

Speaking very optimistically, School Board President Mark Joseph stated, "From any point of view this is a major success.

"We are extremely pleased with what we've learned; 26 percent in my mind is a positive story."

Although the usual cut-off date for seniors to make the graduation list is May 24, seniors who may fail the test on Saturday, will still have yet another chance to pass the tests prior to school's June 25 closing but would not receive diplomas until the summer.

And if they are still lacking, they will have time in the fall to pass whatever proficiency test is needed and receive a diploma in November.

Under a policy approved in the spring of 1978, local tests in reading, writing and mathematics became a major requirement for graduation and promotion.

Seniors must also pass the Maryland Functional Reading Test developed by the state Department of Education.

Last year's test results became known after the policy was adopted. The school department then began a major remedial effort in special English classes and mathematics classes for students who had failed.

In March, the school system began special tutoring programs before and after school and on Saturdays in which some 2,640 students participated.

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Sayles, Giles run for mayor

David Sayles

Mrs. Zatella Giles, the woman who led the fight that kept a prison from being built in East Baltimore, has joined David Sayles as the only black candidates to file for the Democratic momination for mayor.

Mrs. Giles, head of the Concerned Citizens for East Baltimore, told the AFRO Wednesday that after careful consideration she would file for Mayor sometime around the first of next week.

"I had almost changed my mind," she said, "but advisors and friends thought it was my duty to run. So I thought about it and decided to do it."

Mrs. Giles, after preventing the state government from 890 bed prison at the old Continental Can Site, made and unsuccessful bid for the House of Delegates in the 45th Legislative district in the last election.

She feels that Mayor William Donald Schaefer is not doing engough forthe black Baltimore residents and feels the city is in need for new representation.

Sayles, a volunteer worker involved with senior citizen and youth activities, threw his mayorial candidate hat into the ring on May 11.

A 13 year resident of Baltimore, the 31 year old candidate decided to run for mayor because "there has been no serious talk of a black candidate to run for mayor this year."

"It is appalling for a city the size of Baltimore with a 60 percent black population not to have a serious black candidate running for the office of mayor this time," He said.

"Mayor Schaefer's long term in office has cause him to be somewhat insensitive to the needs of black and poor community," Sayles said.

"We look at his administration and we see nothing but lily white, out of 26 department heads only 5 are black."

"As far as committees and commissions we are not represented according to the proportion of the black community such as police department, that is 85 percent white the fire department is 15 percent black, 85 percent white 15 percent black.

"The unemployment rate for blacks in our city is till above the antional figure," he said.

Sayles said he also concerned that too many other areas of the city have "been neglected because of the mayor's pet project, the Inner Harbor."

Kids summer jobs

Approximately 14,000 youth will be employed by the Mayor's Office of Manpower Resources this summer under the Baltimore Summer Corps program.

Youngsters involved in the program in a variety of odd jobs where they perform skills such as tutoring, special services for senior citizens and community improvement.

Also on May 17, Mayor Schaefer announced the city had received a $551,320 grant from the state Department of Natural Resources to set up a Youth Conservation Program that will employ 100 persons, ranging in age from 16-23.

Those chosen for the program, scheduled to begin May 21, would be responsible for maintaining and remodeling three city parks. Their jobs would include building picnic benches, barbecue pits and repairing park equipment.

The youth participants will be paid $2.90 an hour and will perform maintenance work at Fort Smallwood, Druid Hill Park and Madison Square Park.

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—Booker T. closing

(Continued from page 1)

Records at the Department of Education on 25th Street show that the present site of Old School 130 first became a Junior High School in 1929.

Prior to that, the building housed private educational institutions.

It is believed that School 130 became in 1929 the first junior high school for black students.

School records state that in 1929 the fourth floor was added. It now houses the Home Economics Department.

According to the records the first students to be graduated were the members of the Class of 1931.

The first principal was William Anderson. Mrs. Vivian Cooke was vice principal.

Members of the class of '31 were James Hite, Ruth Dorsey, John Mott, Margie Woodyard, Agnes C. Jones and Gentry McDonald. Now Rev. Genry McDonald, this member of the first class will be a participant on the 50th Anniversary program set for May 19 at the school.

Mrs. Essie Hughes was among the first teachers.

Booker T No. 130, as the school is remembered, lists among its most distinguished graduates Justice Thurgood Marshall, the first and only black member of the U.S. Supreme Court; Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, the first and only black Congressman from Maryland, State Senator Clarence M. Mitchell III; Judge George Russell, William H. Murphy, Harry A. Cole, John Hargrove and Robert B. Watts.

Other elected officials, magistrates, public officials, attorneys and city, state and federal office holders are also listed on the Booker T. No. 130 graduate rolls.

Many graduates are now serving in important positions in the nation, abroad and U.S. Armed forces.

The list of principals is impressive with many of them retired as top educators of their day.

Among them was Elmer Henderson who along with Cato Anderson as vice principal formed the second administrative team.

The third principal, John Cotton, had as vice principals, Miss Alma Kelly, "Mrs. Annett Johnson and Cato Anderson.

Mrs. Lillian Murphy, fourth principal was assisted by vice principals Mrs. Ethel Payne and Harold Seaborne.

Fifth principal, Henry R. Parker, had vice-principals Harold Seaborne and Mrs. Ethel Payne.

Sixth principal was Mrs. Edna Campbell with Mrs. Payne and Mr. Seaborne vice principals.

Harold Seaborne was seventh principal and Mrs. Clarice Nicholson, vice principal.

Eight principal was James Hite with vice principals, Robert Wells, Miss Ruth Green, Mrs. Clarice Nicholson, James Lamar, Richard Kennerd, Frank Casey, Clarence Henderson and James Addy.

Ninth principal Mrs. Elizabeth A. Edmonds had as vice-principals Bernard Smith, Roy Pope, Mrs. Lillie Myers, Lloyd Parham.

The Saturday 50th anniversary luncheon at 1:30 p.m. has as guest speaker Meldon Hollis of the department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Others on the program are Mrs. Betty Foy, teacher; Mrs. Dorothy Barrick, former teacher; Mrs. Jackie Hardy, former teacher; State Senator Clarence M. Mitchell III; Mrs. Beverly Jones, Mrs. Ruby Holley, Michael Roberts and Principal Daniels.

The students held Farewell Day Friday. During the 50th Anniversary Week celebration which began May 14, the students had Dress-Up Day, Junior Honor Society Day and the Music, Art and Dance Departments special events.

The AFRO will list many of the old Booker T. graduates along with photos and stories of the present classes in a subsequent edition.

Here is a list compiled by Mrs. Lottier from the AFRO files:

George Woodlan, Herman Briscoe, Otis Oliver, Edna DeCoursey Johnson, the Honorable Louise Gee Murphy, member of the State Central Committee and principal of Franklin Square Elementary School; Wndell Freeland, lawyer, Pittsburgh, Pa.; George Parrish, lawyer; George C. Lottier - treasurer, AFRO AMERICAN Company; Rev. Vernon Dobson, Dr. Claude Hill; William (Box) Harris, assitant to governor; Mss. Mary Hughes Hines, principal Fannie Coppin Elem. School; Charlotte Marshall Perry, senior teacher; Granville Marshall, dentist, Los Angeles, Calif; Yvonne Howard Payne, Social Security.

Also Samuel Daniels, director CEBO, Grand Master of Masons; Agnes Yates, retired, Social Security; Augustus Holsey Robinson, teacher; Eva Williams Cook, teacher; Eva Wiliams Cook, teacher; Phyllis Washington Thompson, teacher; Morris Brooks, director of Maryland Civil Defense; Rebecca Turner Campbell, Social Security; Gwendolyn Conaway, retired Social Security; Gwendolyn Conaway, retired Social Security; Thomas Edgar Williams; C and P employee; Gladys Wise Daniels, retired teacher; Arnetta Murphy Lottier - Board of Directors AAFRO - AMERICAN newspapers.

—Gunman

(Continued from page 1)

His brother, Richard Jones, 31, of the 2000 block of North Ave., was found lying 30 feet away and had been shot in both legs and the left side. He is in critical condition at University Hospital.

The Jones brothers' friend John Marshall Reed, 31, of the 700 block Allegany Pl., afterward told police they had arrived at a bar in the 2100 block of North Ave. to find it closed.

They continued to walk on North Ave. When as, Reid told police, "a man got out of a car and approached us and asked if we were from Baltimore."

Reed told police he answered the man and Ronald Jones told the suspect, "It didn't make any difference where we are from." As the trio continued walking on North Avenue, the unidentified gunman began shooting at the men. Reed told police he started running towards his home after he was shot in the chest and did not know what happened to the Jones brothers.

Police have no motive for the shooting and are still investigating the case. No arrest had been made at AFRO presstime.

MSU alumni dinner dance

Concluding Alumni Day activities this year at Morgan State University will be an Alumnus of the Year Award and class reunion fundraising dinner dance honoring selectees for special recognition.

The award goes to Dr. Herman Brown, Class of '47 who is professor of Psychology and Education, University of the District of Columbia.

Dr. Brown has been an active member of the Alumni Association, the Varsity M Club and president of the D.C. chapter Alumni Association since 1977.

On Saturday, May 19, from noon to 3 p.m. a workshop symposium will be held entitled "Challenge to Maintain a legacy of Excellence at Morgan State University." Leonard T. Jackson, president of Morgan's National Alumni Association will be the moderator.

Congressman Parren J. Mitchell will be the speaker at the Dinner-Dance on Saturday evening from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m.

—Rain drops keep falling

(Continued from Page 1)

As you walk around on her carpets you can hear the squishing sounds of water that seem as though it will take forever to dry.

And Ms. Smith, who has two small children, is without a phone and electricity since the power lines are completely soaked. "I can't let my kids stay here. It's just not safe for them. Plus their beds and all of their clothes are just soaked," she said, obviously disgusted.

In Ms. Waters' apartment, the hole in the ceiling of her bedroom is large enough to fit two people through with water still leaking in from the roof which had been leaking before and only recently was patched up.

However, leaky roofs and falling ceilings are not the only problems plaguing the residents at the Northeast apartment complex. Large holes still remain in the walls where poles were installed for heating and gas.

One resident, Stella Wooten, who is also on the third floor says when it rains, it leaks through a room next to her bathroom where the heater and hot water tank is located.

"The floor is so weak in there if you stand on it, you'll fall right into the next apartment," said Ms. Wooten pointing inside the room which doesn't have electricity either because of wet lines.

According to Ms. Wooten, members of the Fire Department were out last week and reported that the situation was hazardous and unsafe, yet no word has come on when it will be repaired.

All of the residents who told their problems to the AFRO seemed quite disturbed and frustrated that their complaints to the management company, Rolin Realty, have gone unanswered.

The management company sent a crew out on Wednesday to repair the roof, four days after it happened.

Macey Plaine, head of the company told the AFRO, "It was just an act of God. The rain came over and you couldn't do anything about it."

He explained that the sheeting on the roof deteriorated due to natural attrition. However, tenants report that they had complained on several occasions of water leakage from the roof while Plaine stated that this was "the first complaint".

He also stated that he was not aware of Ms. Smith's problem of not being able to open any of her windows. But she says she has had the problem for several months and her attempts to get the situation remedied have been futile.

In need of fresh paint Ms. Smith recently requested that her apartment be painted. Instead of an overall job, she got large patches around her living room in a color that doesn't even match the original shade.

Plaine said he was completely unaware of this and when questioned as to why the painting was handled so poorly, he said, "If I lived somewhere and had these kinds of problems I'd move."

He also reported that HUD may soon be refurbishing the apartment building which is about 15 years old. "It's ridiculous to throw good money after bad," he said.

For the first time in history, some 2.7 million service disabled veterans are receiving personal identification cards from the Veterans Administration to emphasize their priority in obtaining treatment at VA medical centers and outpatient clinics.

58 achievers

Fifty-eight high school student achievers in Montgomery County will receive scholarships and awards during a special program June 3 at Northwood High School, 919 University Blvd. West in Silver Spring.

During the program starting at 7 p.m., eight students will receive scholarships totaling $4,000 and 50 others will receive awards in arts, academics, athletics, citizenship and versatility.

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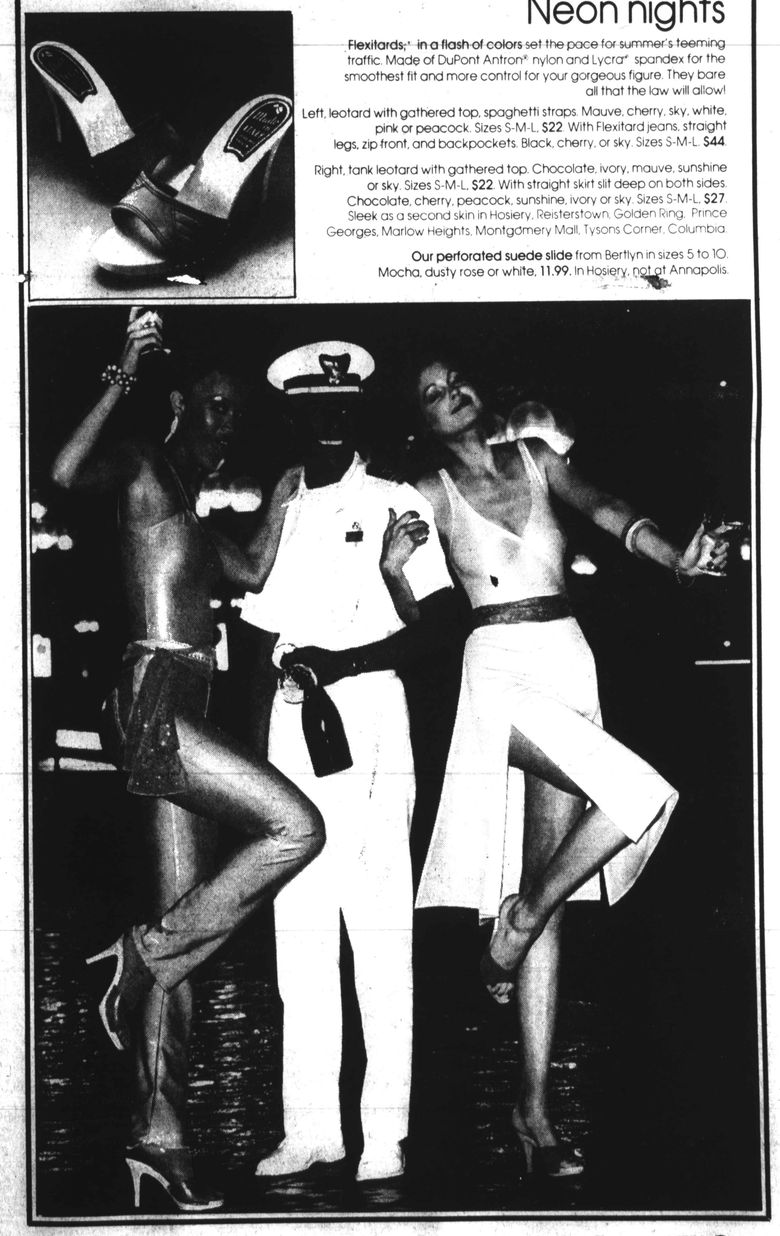

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