Best Bets

Jeffery Watson and dancers under the direction of Sylvester Campbell from Baltimore School for the Arts along with All Angels Men and Boys Choir plus the Brass Menagerie in Artists to End Hunger Concert, Dec. 18 4 p.m. LeClerc Hall of Notre Dame College. Benefit UNICEF and AFRO's Mrs. Santa.

Hot bets.....

ROY AYERS with Anita Baker at Morgan State University Saturday, Dec. 17.

COMING UP- PATTIE LABELLE with special guests Pieces of A Dream, Friday, Dec. 30 for two shows at Constitution Hall in D.C.

PETER USTINOV in "Beethoven's Tenth" at Baltimore's Mechanic Theatre.

CARMEN MC RAE at Charlie's Georgetown Dec. 18; CHARLIE BYRD TRIO same place Dec. 20-24. "A Christmas Carol" at Ford's Theatre. Noel Pointer at Blues Alley thru Dec. 18; Ahmal Jamal thru Dec. 18.

Friday Plus

The weekly entertainment leisure guide for the greater Baltimore and Washington areas. Published by the AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS group.

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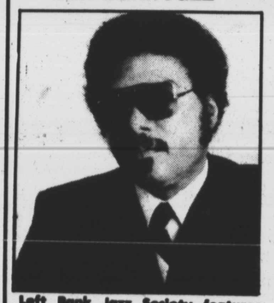
Concerts

From Washington, D.C.'s historic Shiloh Baptist church, Leontyne Price presents the Howard University Choir, young soloists and a contemporary gospel group in a program of gospel and spiritual music on **IN PERFORMANCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE**, airing nationally. The program will be simulcast on Friday on WBJC-FM radio stations, Dec. 16 and Dec. 20 in many cities.

VIENNA CHOIR

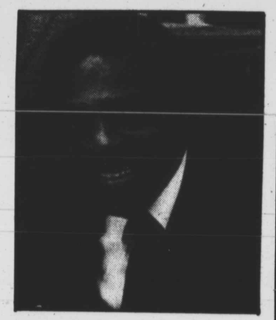
The Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall's "International Series" of concerts opens on Sunday, Dec. 18 with a performance by The Vienna Choir Boys—said to be the most popular choir ever to tour America. Together with the Vienna Male Choir and their own Orchestra of St. Luke's, they will perform works by Mozart, Bach, and Bruckner under their Director, Uwe Christian Harrer. The concert begins at 8:15 p.m.

Left Bank Jazz



Left Bank Jazz Society features Arnold Sterling this Sunday. They're collecting canned goods for AFRO's Mrs. Santa.

New Year's Eve

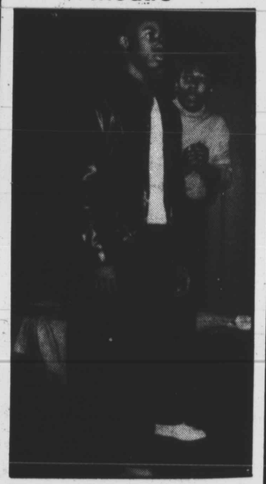


Brook Benton with Lady Rebecca in New Year's Eve Cabaret at Famous Ballroom, Dec. 31, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Free champagne, free food and noisemakers.

Opera

A traditionally tuneful opera evening is the Peabody Preparatory School's offering to the festive season. The Prep Opera Workshop will present Mozart's comic opera **"The Impresario"** and scenes from Humperdinck's **"Hansel and Gretel"** and Puccini's **"La Boheme"** on Friday, Dec. 16 and Saturday, Dec. 17, at 8:15 p.m. in Leakin Hall at 21 East Mount Vernon Place. Admission will be $4 for adults and $2 for children, senior citizens and students with I.D. For information call 659-8124.

Theatre



Scrooge (Juan Beverly) pleads with Marley's Ghost (Andre Wood) to leave him alone in this scene from "Scrooge," at The Arena Playhouse, 801 McCulloh St., Baltimore weekends.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SPACES

"Today, the space shuttle is used to carry communications satellites into space and someday astronauts will actually build satellites while in orbit. On earth, too, communications equipment is changing. Glass tubes filled with pulsating light — as thin as a strand of your hair — are replacing telephone wires in carrying phone calls into your home. Just imagine! People talking on pulsating light."
from SPACES: The Communications Show

Imagine. A television series which treats science and technology with the wonder of a child and the informed probing of an adult. A series which combines the practical and the theoretical — designed to amaze, excite, inform and inspire. These are heady words, but they accurately describe the innovative PBS series, **SPACES.**

SPACES, a six-part magazine series, will premiere on Dec. 12. (Check local TV listings.) It is the first national television series which seeks to encourage children, particularly minority children, between the ages of nine and 13 to consider science and technology as career options. To do that, the series presents profiles and facts in a fast-paced format of mini-documentaries, animation and music. It's a soft-sell approach, which avoids the peril of being pedantic. **SPACES** soars!

It delights in the accomplishments of its student and professional profile subjects. Like the fiber optics in the Communications Show, SPACES pulsates with light — and the desire to communicate.

Each half-hour program revolves around a specific theme: Space, The Body, Computers, Ecology, Energy and Communications. The magazine format allows related but diverse topics to be presented within each program. Segments were produced on location in various parts of the country, including Boulder, Col.; Albuquerque, N.M.; Washington, D.C.; Houston; Oklahoma City; and New York City.

The pilot program was completed last year and successfully tested in several markets with fourth through eighth grade teachers and students.

In addition to professional and student profiles, SPACES incorporates a number of other features to demonstrate that science is a significant part of our lives. "Conexiones" shows how science is tied to everyday activities, including sports, games and the arts. On the Computer Show, for example, "Conexiones" demonstrates the use of computer technology to enhance the art of dance. "Namedropper presents historical contributions such as Asian bacteriologist Hideyo Noguchi, who discovered the parasite that causes yellow fever. The "Mindblowers" segment tracks future trends in science, such as robotics, and the usefulness of robots in various areas of work.

Recognizing that minority children are often not encouraged to pursue careers in science and technology, one of the goals of SPACES is to present minorities as role models to whom young people can relate. The subjects of these profiles are not superhuman beings without struggles or doubts. These are everyday people who persisted and became confident and successful in their chosen fields. Even their struggles are treated only as part of their total backgrounds.

There is poignance, but not a trace of self-pity, when Nancy Wallace, an industrial engineer at Digital Equipment Corporation in Phoenix, Ariz., relates her belief that minorities have a special burden to succeed. Her story is one of refusing to let any prejudice against her Native American and Hispanic heritages prevent her from achieving her goals. In her present position, Ms. Wallace is responsible for materials handling at Digital, and supervises computer-controlled conveyor, design and manufacturing systems.

Another engineer featured in the series, Raquel White, with Lourdes Industries in New York, is a Cuban-American who had to overcome the barrier of lack of proficiency in the English language when she came to the United States at the age of 12. Ms. White, now fluent in her adopted language, describes her job as a communication engineer and enthusiastically talks about her designs and experiments.

Dr. George Campbell, a physicist with Bell Labs in N.J., tells how his mother, a domestic worker, encouraged him to succeed. "We weren't made to feel that there was something wrong because of our poverty." As for his children, they clearly have some advantages that Dr. Campbell did not have growing up. His older son has a personal computer which he uses to perform sophisticated theoretical and practical problems. He also programs it as a teaching tool for his younger brother.

Westinghouse Talent Search. A graduating senior from New York's Stuyvesant High School for gifted children interested in science, Jeannie is entering Harvard this fall. Her winning experiment for the Westinghouse competition involved characterizing a protein and using the protein and its antibody in genetic study. Her profile is part of the Body Show.

Also on the Body Show, we meet Dr. Lydia Villa-Kamaroff, a molecular biologist, whose work concerns the structure and t tion of the games. Dr. Villa-Kamaroff, a Mexican-American, is a professor at the University of Massachusetts, Worcester. She has some strong views about education. "I think that the time encourage students go into science isn't when they come to college — then it's too late. If you know how to do simple arithmetic, if you know how to do a little bit of algebra and calculus, there isn't anything that you can't do later. You haven't shut any doors. But any student who decides as a ninth grader not to take geometry or not to take algebra has closed doors. That student has essentially said, 'I will never have one-third of the available jobs in this country.' And that's foolish."

Cohosts of the series are Erik King and Lorraine Morin.

Lorraine Morin and Erik King . . . shown here at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. . . . . host the lively new children's televison series SPACES.

FUTURE SCIENTISTS? Public television's new science program for young people visits a high school chemistry lab.

ERIK KING

Erik King, a graduate of the Duke Ellington School of Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. and Towson State University, Baltimore, Maryland, plays the role of Eddie on the weekly Emmy-award winning WDVM series "In Our Lives." He has appeared on the ABC Soap Opera "One Life to Live" and has had a variety of other television and film experience from industrial films to WJZ-TV's (Baltimore) "Evening Magazine."

Mr. King has acted with the national touring company of "Baltimore Voices," and has appeared in commercials for the McDonald's Corporation and others.

LORRAINE MORIN

Lorraine Morin has performed in numerous theater roles ranging from the part of Consuelo in "West Side Story" and Gilmer in "Godspell" to a dancer in "Hansel and Gretel." In addition, she has been the lead singer and flutist in the Zygote Rock Band. She has appeared in film and on television, including a part in the hit TV series "Dallas."

Ms. Morin is a graduate of the High School for the Performing Arts in Houston and the Boston University School for the Arts.

SPACES is a production of WETA, the major public television station in Washington, D.C., in association with Inter-American Research Associates, an Hispanic-owned educational management consulting firm in Rosslyn, Va. An 11-member advisory board comprised of scientists, science educators and media experts has provided assistance to the SPACES project team.

Executive Producer Charles Hobson is the creator of the award-winning "FROM JUMPSTREET: A STORY OF BLACK MUSIC."