AREA ENTERTAINMENT

BSO Reaches Out To Blacks

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra recently announced it was launching a broad-based initiative to address the interests and needs of the African-American Community.

The program calls for action in four areas: the development of links between the BSO and existing organizations in the Black community; the strengthening of BSO educational activities - focusing in particular on city schools; the cultivation of Black audiences for events at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall; and career and volunteer opportunities for Blacks in the BSO.

Also announced was a five concert sampler series, the BSO's first to be targeted to African Americans.

"We want to tell the Black community that we are here to serve them," stated BSO President Calman J. Zamoiski, Jr. "We asked community leaders to advise us, and the interest and creativity has been remarkable.

The new concert sampler series is entitled "A Taste of Something New." It will draw on a wide variety of the BSO's previously announced 75th Anniversary Season programming.

James DePriest

Included are: James DePriest as guest conductor to the BSO; singer-songwriter Ray Charles; the Harlem Boys Choir; a concert featuring two works by Adolphus Hailstork, including the world premiere of a musical "greeting card" written for the Orchestra's anniversary; and Mahler's "Symphony of a Thousand," with the Baltimore Symphony Chorus, the Morgan State University Choir, the University of Maryland Chorus, and a boys choir to be announced.

The series runs from December 13, 1990 to June 15, 1991 and tickets are priced at $75 and $99 for the five concerts.

MORGAN CHOIR — Six members of the celebrated Morgan State University Choir currently are touring five African nations under the patronage of Arts America, a division of the United States Information Agency. Accompanying the choir is Dr. Nathan Carter, its director. Members are left to right and standing - Stephen Jones, Shango Lewis, Ernest Saunders, Maysa Leak, Kishna Davis and Elizabeth Norman. Seated at piano is accompanist Eric Conway and left is Dr. Carter.

Research works.
WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE American Heart Association

Jazzman Jackson peaks interest

Tracy E. Hopkins
AFRO Staff Writer

If an album which conbines elements of modern jazz, rhythm and blues, and hip-hop peaks your interest, then you may want to check out the latest album by jazz instrumentalist Paul Jackson Jr.

The album entitled, "Out of the Shadows," could be the right vehicle to catapult Jackson into the spotlight shining on such contemporaries as Najee, George Howard, and Stanley Jordan.

The first single on the lp is an instrumental version of the sultry up tempo ballard "Make It Last Forever," which was penned and popularized by singer Keith Sweat and producer Teddy Riley. Background vocals by the soulful Luther Vandross add extra spice to the instrumental groove laid down by Jackson.

"Out of the Shadows" is a strong album because of its slow tracks, and "All For You" is a good example of a romance inspiring slow song. A soprano saxophone solo by George Howard helps sustain the song's soothing quality.

"Days Gone By," another slow song on side one, is like most of the songs on the album, characterized by heavy guitar and synthesizer riffs, and pounding drum and bass beats. This song's background vocals are nicely harmonized and add to the mellow mood it sets.

Jackson does get more up tempo on side two, and tries to mix hip-hop, new jack swing (a musical style found in the music of Guy and Al B Sure), and jazz.

At times his creative risk taking pays off on songs like," Encino Shuffle (Reese's Pieces Mix)," "Make It Last Forever (Shocking Mix)," and on his rendition of the gospel song "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me."

However, at other times his daringness sounds like a confused fusion of jazz and hip-hop. Evidence of such confusion is found on "My Thang" and "The New Jazz Swing," on which he samples music from Wrecks-n-Effect's song "New Jack Swing."

Vintage Video

"Two Girls And A Sailor" — This breezily entertaining MGM musical from the past, in its home video debut, concerns two singing sisters (June Allyson and Gloria De Haven) who fall in love with the same sailor (Van Johnson). The plot is minor but the cast is major. The three stars, at their most engaging, are more than ably backed by Jimmy Durante, Gracie Allen, Lena Horne, Harry James, Jose Iturbi, Xavier Cugat and deadpan Virginia O'Brien. 1944. 125 minutes. MGM/UA Home Video. $19.95.

For 50¢ You Could See The Pyramids Tonight.

That's all it takes to win big in the Maryland State Lottery's Pick 3 and Pick 4 games. Just pick any 3 or 4 digit number. Or let the Lottery's computer "Quick Pick" the numbers for you. For just 50¢, you can play your favorite number straight or boxed. Or play a $1 bet straight to win $500 in Pick 3. And $5,000 in Pick 4. So play the Maryland State Lottery's Daily Numbers Game today. And see the pyramids tonight.

MARYLAND LOTTERY
32,000 Daily Numbers Winners Every Week.

The Afro-American Section C

BUSINESS PULSE

■ Career Corner C3
■ Sports C5

Saturday, June 16, 1990

PACK YOUR BAGS
Conference Update

Tools of the Trade

A conference on international export financing will be held in Baltimore June 27 and 28. Its theme "Export Financing for the 1990s: Maryland's Tools of the Trade."

For more information on the two-day conference, contact Jane Howard or Curtis M. Kane at (301) 333-6917.

Teachers convene

The American Federation of Teachers Biennial Policy Convention will be held July 1-6, 1990 at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Mass.

The focus of the convention will be on public education issues ranging from public school choice, national education goals, bilingual education, technology, to testing AIDS, child care, Social Security and others.

The conference will also include a 75th Anniversary celebration for the AFL.

Arts Extravaganza

The National Black Arts Festival 1990 will be held on July 27-Aug. 5 in Atlanta, Ga. in celebration of its' second extravaganza.

The 10-day event will include visual art, dance, film, literature, theatre, folk art, music, and performance art. This year's co-chairpersons for the festival is actress, Cicely Tyson, and entertainer, Harry Belafonte.

Urban League gathers

The National Urban League will meet July 29-August 1 at the New York Hilton and Towers at Rockerfeller Center in New York City, to celebrate its 80th Anniversary Conference.

The conference theme is "Onward! To a Decade of Difference!," which marks the League's commitment to social, economic, and political justice for African Americans.

BIG holds conference

Blacks In Government will meet Aug. 22-26, 1990 at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center, in Kansas City, Mo. The event marks BIG's 12th Annual National Training Conference.

The theme of this year's conference is "A New Decade—A New Challenge." The conference will include workshops and plenary sessions discussing topics as computerization, career development, EEO and the Supreme Court, and drug testing in the workplace. Other topics will include teenage pregnancy, male/female relationships, and homelessness in the Black community.

Rap talent showcases

The Atlanta Regional Rap Showcase '90, sponsored by Nabawi & Associates will be held Aug. 10-11, 1990 at the Musiplex Sound Studio in Atlanta, Ga.

The event is a showcase of regional rap talent, from Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, and Tennessee, performing for professionals in the industry searching for new talent.

For more information contact Denise Parks at (404) 508-2169.

Black Caucus Weekend

The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. will meet Sept. 26-30, 1990 at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C. for the 20th Annual Legislative Weekend.

Washington Afrocentric bookstore chain provides insight into Black experience

By Cheryl Brown
Special to the AFRO

The House of Knowledge.

These words are painted on the front of the building, though faded, are enticing, attracting those who are eager to learn more about Black history and culture.

Two flights up is the entrance to Pyramid Bookstore, where on this morning seven people wait patiently on the stairs for the store to open.

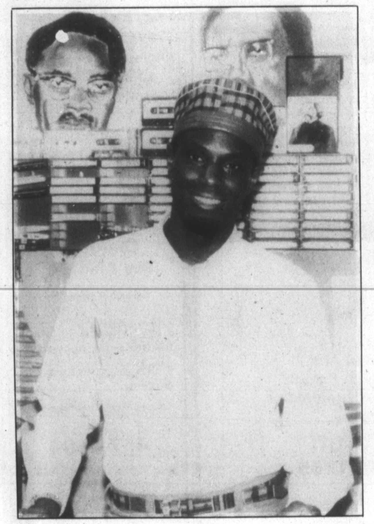
One woman is looking for the first book ever written by a Black man or women, and asks others if they know what it is. There's some guessing, but no definite answers.

The doors soon open up and a young man appears and promptly helps the woman find what she is looking for. The others browse through the store, staring at the Black faces that peer back from book covers, magazines and posters. The store is small, but it is easy to become engrossed in so much information for hours at a time.

Located in northwest DC., near Howard University, Pyramid Bookstore was established by former HU graduate Hodari Ali, because "I found that there was a need for a Black orientated bookstore, a need to raise the consciousness of the community."

A 1976 Communications graduate, Mr. Ali worked at the Washington Afro-American Newspaper, before attending graduate school and finally establishing the store.

The venture has flourished with several new stores having opened in the last couple of years, one in southeast Washington, another in Hyattsville, Md. And a fourth, in northeast Washington, opened last month, selling clothing, cultural items and food in addition to literature.



HODARI ALI, owner of Pyramid Bookstore and several other Afrocentric bookstores.

It is this variety of goods that bring, Howard Communication's junior Darnell Dinkins to the store. He sometimes spends up to three hours a day browsing there.

"I had always heard about it, but I first came here the spring semester of my freshman year. I checked it out and fell in love with it."

His first purchases were a few books and some Malcolm X tapes and since then he has started his own mini-library of Black literature.

"So far I've bought the autobiography of Angela Davis, the autobiography of Kwame Nkrumah, 'Blues People' by Amiri Baraka, 'Disappearing of Kwame Acts by Terry McMillian, 'Stolen Legacy' by George James, 'Black Robes, White Justice' by Bruce Wright, and the 'Wretched of the Earth' by Frantz Fanon."

The broadcast production major is extremely impressed with the store and the wealth of knowledge he has found there.

"I've seen people in here from three-piece suited businessmen to cops and sanitation workers. And I've also noticed there is a feeling of genuine sisterly and brotherly love," Mr. Dinkins said.

That sentiment pleases owner Mr. Ali very much; "that is what I hoped to do, when I opened the store," he said.

For information about Pyramid and the other stores call (202) 559-5200 or 270-6700.

High school dropout excels with Md. beauty salon

By Gabrielle Julien
AFRO Staff Writer

He was thrown out of high school in the twelfth grade, but eventually received his diploma after his mother made an appeal to the board of education. Today, he is the owner and sole proprietor of a successful full service beauty salon in Silver Spring called Obsessions, proving that success can be achieved whatever the odds.

"The turning point in my whole life came when I got thrown out of high school in the twelfth grade," said Keith Tate. "I thought I was not going to make it but I took life very seriously after that."

Mr. Tate's road to entrepreneurship began with a career as a model, working for many of the large department stores in the area including Woodies and Garfinkles. Eventually he began his own modeling company, using the tricks he had seen in his former trade to aid him in his own business.

"I had never applied make-up in my life before," Mr. Tate said, adding that after practicing on his sister, one day he applied for a job as a make-up artist and landed the post.

In 1980, Mr. Tate opened a business called Studio where he did make-up for portfolios. He and his associate, Ken Jones, a photographer created portfolios for many top models

"I had done all of these things and I still wanted to do something else," Mr. Tate said.

So what did he turn to next? Hair styling seemed the natural thing to do and 10 years ago after receiving the proper credentials he plunged himself into the craft.

These days he is a hair stylist as well as a make up artist and Mr. Tate, who is married with three children, believes his success lies in the fact that he always had a vision. "I can always see what I want before I go for it," he said.

KEITH TATE

And what of his vision for the future? Well, Mr. Tate, 33, hopes to open a chain of stores nationwide. He is writing a book which he hopes will serve as a journal for people in the beauty business. Part of the work is devoted to motivational material; this is because "I'm concerned about motivation, being self-motivated myself," he said.

Environmental friendly product

Basics Food Centers has introduced an environmentally - friendly product line called AWARE in its 29 stores throughout Maryland and Virginia.

AWARE products and packaging are manufactured with materials and processes that minimize pollution and solid waste, preserve natural resources and reduce energy consumption. The AWARE product line anticipates a willingness among Americans to use the everyday process of consumption to demonstrate support for the environment.

AWARE products now available at Basic include AWARE three-pack jumbo paper towels, AWARE six-roll bath tissue, AWARE 175 count facial tissues and AWARE 250 count luncheon napkins. AWARE 300 count pure cotton swabs and AWARE 100 count coffee filters should be available within the week.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

DON'T THROW IT OUT

MAGIK, Movement and Acquisition of Gifts in Kind, is looking for businesses to donate furnishing, equipment and building supplies so that they can employ the homeless to move and distribute these items to non-profit organizations. These non-profit organizations serve the homeless, children in need and AIDS victims.

MAGIK says it has served over 100 groups in the Washington Metro area saving and redistributing over $740,000 worth of needed and usable furnishing and materials. Businesses benefit from their donations by receiving tax write-offs. For information call Kathrina Nease or Laura Adkins at (202) 342-0235

1-800-347-HATE

The Community Relations Service of the U.S. Department of Justice has established a toll free 800 number for reporting racial harassment or hate violence, in line with President's Bush aim to get statistics on hate crimes.

After a person makes a call to 1-800-347-HATE, the department will turn the information over to a regional officer, who will make a decision as to whether to move further on the complaint depending on the caseload, the spokesman told the AFRO.

WHITES URGED TO REPRODUCE

In the next 30 years, the European population in France will decrease 5.2 million, while non-Europeans will increase, according to the Spring edition of Urban Profiles.

The French, the magazine said, have billboards all over the nation urging the White population to reproduce to offset the increase of Africans and Arabs. Urban Profiles, an issue-oriented magazine for African Americans has announced it will begin publishing bi-monthly instead of quarterly in 1991.

USDA GETS CIVIL RIGHTS PLAN

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, which ranks 52nd out of 56 Federal agencies in the employment of women and minorities, has developed a plan to build a diverse work force mirroring the nation's labor force by the year 2000.

The plan was released by Clayton Yautter, secretary of agriculture.

BILL OF RIGHTS FOR MOTORISTS

The National Motorists Association at its recent convention adopted a Motorist Bill of Rights at its Detroit convention.

Included on the Bill of Rights is the right to have protection from arbitrary and exploitative insurance industry practices and the right to a fair and impartial trial for traffic offenses including a trial by a jury, if requested.

For information contact James Baxter, 608-849-6000.

HEARING ON MD HIGHWAY

The Maryland State Highway Administration will conduct a location/design public hearing on a proposed interchange at I-95 (Capital Beltway)/Ritchie-Marlboro Road grade separation in Prince George's County on Thursday, June 21 at 7:30 p.m. at Arrowhead Elementary School, 2300 Sansbury Rd, Upper Marlboro.

For information contact Neil Pedersen, 301-333-1110.

HOW TO BUY AN AIR CONDITIONER

Don't buy that new air conditioner or furnace until you check out some of the literature in your public library or which you can send for. Best bet is a freebie from the U.S. Department of Energy, No. FS 206, 1st Ed. Washington, DC:GPO,1986.