Kids Talk

Do you know this person?

She first attempted to run away from slavery when she was just seven years old, and finally succeeded when she was about 25. She became a legend during her lifetime, not only for her heroic delivery of hundreds of slaves to the North and freedom, but also because her courage gave hope to the thousands who remained enslaved.

Slaveholders offered $10,000 to anyone who could capture her dead or alive. But she was too clever for them. She had some close calls, but they never caught her. She lived to be more than 90 years old.

She is Harriet Tubman.

History in your area

Look around your neighborhood. Are there any buildings that have been around for many years? Perhaps a private home, church, commercial property or even a firehouse.

Is there a statue, a park or other landmark that gives you a sense of history? Did they tear down a building that was special to you? Does your neighborhood have a special history?

If any of the previous questions interest you — here is your chance to write it down and enter the United Planning Organization Heritage Essay Contest.

The contest is open to all junior and senior high school students (grades 7-12) who either live or attend school in Wards 7, 8, or 6 East in the District of Columbia.

All entries must be from 350 to 750 words in length, preferably typed although neat handwriting will also be accepted. All entries must be submitted by May 8, 1989. Include your name, address, telephone number and school on a cover sheet.

Send the entries to United Planning Organization / Heritage and Cultural Education Program / 810 Potomac Ave., SE / Washington, DC 20003.

Prizes for high school students are: First Place — $500; Second Place — $300; Third Place — $100; and Honorable Mentions — $50. Prizes for junior high school students are: First Place — $300; Second Place — $200; Third Place — $100; and Honorable Mentions — $25.

Winners will be announced May 21, 1989. The contest has been funded in part by a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. For information, call 546-7300, ext. 352.

Walk-through environment depicting ghetto street scene in Germany during late 30s, early 40s. Part of the Capital Children's Museum "Remember the Children" exhibit opening 4-13-88.

Remember the Holocaust

About 50 years ago on January 30, 1933, Adolf Hitler, leader of a workers organization in Germany, began to implement policies that would rid Germany of Jews, a group of people that he felt were "undesirables."

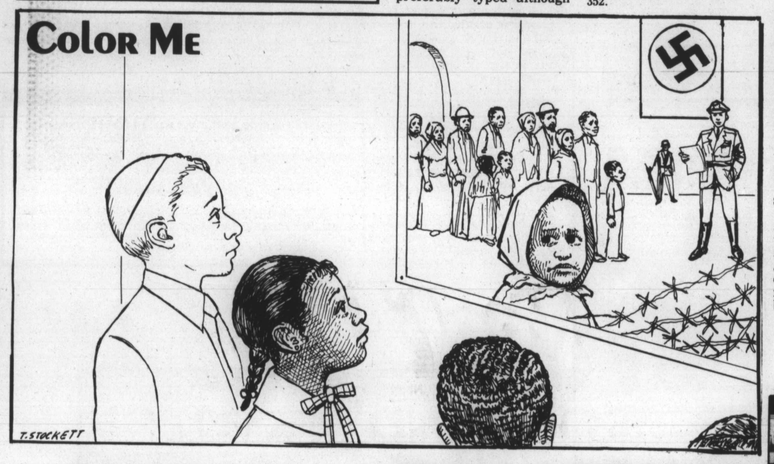
Civil rights for the Jews were eliminated, Jewish people who worked for the civil service were forced to leave their jobs, Jewish people could not marry Germans and young Jewish boys and girls were not allowed to attend the schools in the country.

Jewish businesses, homes and synagogues (churches) were destroyed. More than 50,000 Jews were captured and taken to concentration camps away from their families, homes they had bought and the friends they had made in their own neighborhoods.

Once in the concentration camps the Jews were forced to live in uncomfortable areas and do hard labor. Eventually, millions of them were massively killed. At least 1.5 million children were among the innocent victims. This tragedy is referred to as the Holocaust.

The Capital Children's Museum launched its Holocaust Remembrance Days activities Sunday, April 30, with a full-day program by and for children and their parents and grandparents and a program called "Remember the Children." April 30-May 7, 1989 have been designated as "Days of Remembrance" of the Holocaust victims.

Color Me



Hands-on Learning

Sam Hyder and Fletcher Johnson with area high school and college students at WHMM studios at Howard University.

Young people interested in the behind-the-scenes excitement of television production got a chance to learn about that field from those who have decided to make a career in it.

They were allowed to ask questions and to get a feel for technical operations with some hands-on practice.

WHMM-TV 32's Sam Hyder and ABC News' Fletcher Johnson gave advice on how to operate equipment for electronic field productions during Channel 32's annual Communications Workshop.

The workshop, held at WHMM's studios on the main campus of Howard University, offered high school and college students from the District, Maryland, and Virginia, a chance to interact with media professionals from a variety of communications area.

Kids Calender

Drama Classes

The Programs for Children and Youth Spring Drama Classes will hold informal presentations on Saturday, May 6, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Kennedy Center Theater Lab. The presentations are free and no tickets are required. For information call (202) 254-7168.

Acting Auditions

The Summer Drama Workshop, sponsored by the Kennedy Center Education Department through the Programs for Children and Youth, will be held June 10 through 30, Monday—Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for talented young actors ages nine through 18. Auditions will be held Sunday, May 7.

Ages 9-12 will be auditioned from 10 a.m. to noon. Ages 13-18 from 2 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. Applicants should report to the Opera House Stage Door with a resume and a school snapshot and should dress in comfortable clothes. Call (202) 254-7168 for information.

Afternoon Fun

The "Up as Pups" afternoon program for kids includes rollerskating, trips, arts and crafts in the Prince George's Plaza Community Center, 6600 Adelphi Rd., Hyattsville, Md., May 8 and 11 from 4 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. Admission is free with a valid center identification card and 50 cents for guests. Call 864-1611 for information.

Recreation Day

You and your family can join in the fun at Peppermill Community Center, 60 Hill Road, Landover, Md., as they celebrate the Peppermill Family Recreation Day. Admission is free. For details, call (30) 350-8410.

Fantastic Fridays

The Upper Marlboro Community Center, 5400 Marlboro Race Track Rd., Upper Marlboro, Md., is sponsoring Fantastic Fridays throughout the month of May.

For just $1 young people of all ages can enjoy rollerskating fun from 4:30 until 7:30 p.m. Children ages 6-12 can learn arts and crafts between 6:30 and 8 p.m. free of charge with a valid center identification card. Pre-registration is necessary. Call (301) 627-2828 for information.

Puzzling???

Remember the Holocaust

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H L L G G P c D B Z U W B
W L B J J a I J J H f L T
S G T Z m J E Y M r i p R
X e N p P G c G i z r F K
C r s W B r C g a e t J O
K m D M u l h N j s L T H
C a X e l t X u u N D N n
Y n l i e B d a U F D e L
c y k n M i c A H B r I W
i I e M c o T i W d w S L
g d Y e l R t D l e G J S
a P L o U l P i J M V D I
r L H M e S h A H R Y C E
t X P r H c L B R L R C J
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FIND THESE HIDDEN WORDS

IN THE ABOVE PUZZLE:

Germany	Hitler
Nazi	camps
frightened	kill
Holocaust	Jew
children	cruel
prejudice	tragic

HERE IS THE ANSWER KEY:

Write to 'Kids Talk'

This page was edited for
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The Baltimore AFRO and
The Richmond AFRO
by Sherri Milner

2002 11th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

628 N. Eutaw Street
Baltimore, Md. 21201

301 E. Clay Street
Richmond, Va. 23219

SCHOOL OF THE WEEK

Baltimore School For The Arts

By Delfield S. Yoes, III
AFRO Staff Writer

Baltimore's School For The Arts evokes inevitable comparisons to the popular movie and hit television series, "Fame."

Images of students continuously leaping through corridors and breaking out in song in stairwells may be a bit hyperbolic.

However, the Baltimore School For The Arts like the New York School For The Performing Arts, which the Fame drama was modeled after, is a bastion for creating and nurturing artistic energy.

Since the Baltimore School For The Arts is the only one of its kind in the area, competition to attend the school is great and standards for acceptance to the school are high.

"We want every kid we can possibly get, nobody turns down talent," says David Simon, principal of the School For The Arts.

Simon knows first hand what it takes to make it in the arts. He is a musician in his own right, (trombone) and he has written music for screen and stage.

The audition process for admittance to the school is arduous.

On an average, 90-100 students are admitted to the prestigious school each year.

Auditions take place four days in February each year. This year they occurred February 21-24. Prospective students try out for one of the four artistic disciplines; music, theater, visual arts and dance.

Visual artists must produce a portfolio of their work for scrutiny.

Aspiring thespians go through a series of acting workshops, improvisations and they recite a monologue.

Musicians and vocalists perform a number of musical pieces, usually of a classical nature or a show tune from a play.

Dancers work within a dance class situation and they have to perform a dance solo as well.

Artistic skill is obviously a major criterion, but potential and raw ability are heavily considered as well.

The young people's talent is evaluated by a group of judges including principal Simon and musical director of the world renowned Morgan State University Choir, Dr. Nathan Carter.

Dr. Carter works closely with the School For The Arts lending his vast musical knowledge and talent. Carter's wife, Jean Carter, is an instructor at the school as well.

Instead of concentrating on only the talent that they came to the school to develop, the students cross-over into the other disciplines as well.

The school is not void of academics, on the contrary, the students schedules are divided with four academic disciplines as well as four artistic disciplines.

The academic aspect is very important at The School For The Arts, because of course not all of the young men and women will realize a dream of stardom.

Yet, many graduates of the school, which opened it's doors in 1980 have gone on to great achievements in the artistic circles.

"We try to prepare kids for a career," states Simon.

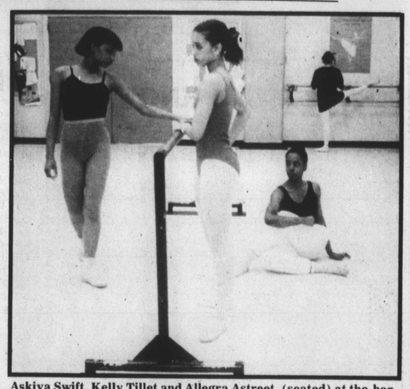
Simon, who was the Dean of the Manhattan School of Music for 12 years before he was recruited for his current job, is doing much more than preparing young people for careers.

Simon and his staff are helping to develop confident, well rounded and intelligent men and women who will be able to deal with society as a whole, outside of the artistic community.

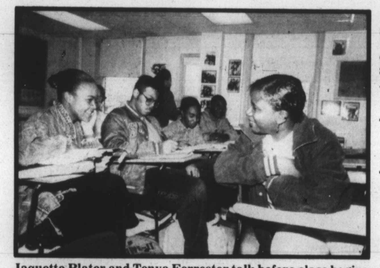
Watching Simon interact with students you observe a great deal of reciprocal respect and admiration.

It may sound like a cliche, but you can feel a definite sense of family as you walk through the corridors and observe the classrooms and studios of the School For The Arts.

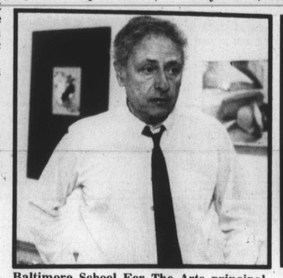
AFRO Photos by Paul Greene



Askiya Swift, Kelly Tillet and Allegra Astreet, (seated) at the bar.

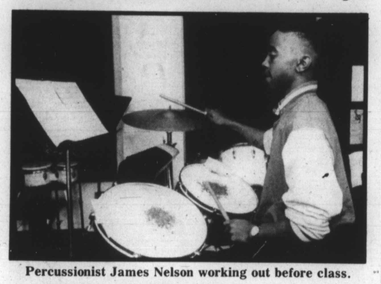


Jaquetta Plater and Tonya Forrester talk before class begins.

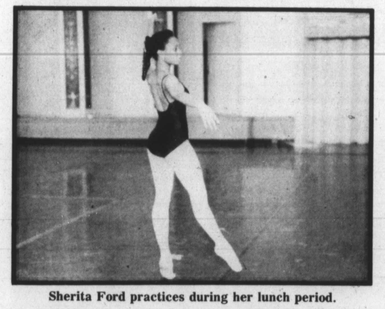


Baltimore School For The Arts principal, David Simon.

Wendy Wilson tunes her saxophone.



Percussionist James Nelson working out before class.



Sherita Ford practices during her lunch period.

David Simon and student Michele Wike share a laugh at lunchtime.

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