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Title: "A Cultural Celebration": Black Arts Festival 1985

Date: March 3-9, 1985

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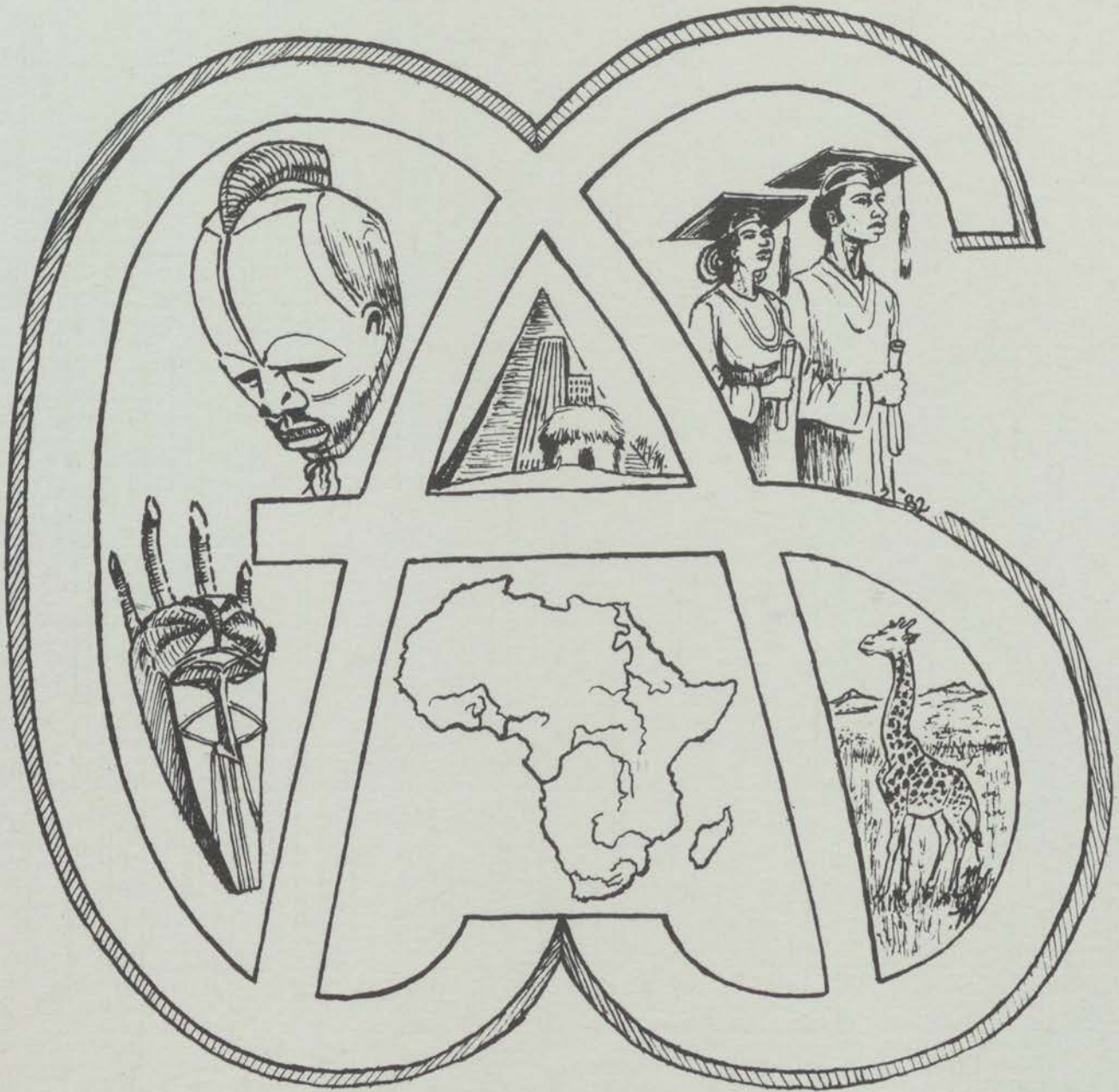
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BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL

Congress of African Students



A CULTURAL CELEBRATION

March 3 - 9, 1985

1985 BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL

CALENDAR

In 1969, The Congress of African Students began a tradition of sponsoring the Black Arts Festival at Dickinson College. Since its inception, much has changed throughout the college community and the congress, yet the purpose of promoting black awareness is still an inherent need. This year's theme, "A Cultural Celebration", is a tribute to the achievements of blacks in the arts. Our program, which includes literature as well as the dramatic arts, reflects the richness of such a diverse, yet unified, culture. I would like to extend an open invitation to all to take part in our celebration.

Lisa Fleming
Chairperson of 1985
Black Arts Festival

Special thanks to Barbara Gardner for her help with minority affairs and the festival.



CAAS students, left to right-Joe Watson '87, Bentley Clarke '86, Greg Wright '85, Sonya Church '87, James Cox, adviser, Lisa Fleming '87, Peter Edwards '88, and Willie Pollins '88.

Sunday, March 3

Bishop Felton E. May
11:00 a.m.
College Church

Monday, March 4

"Dreamtellers"
8:00 p.m.
Mathers Theatre

Tuesday, March 5

Jesse Murry
Beginning at 1:00 p.m.
Fine Arts Department

Wednesday, March 6

Ersky Freeman
5:15 p.m.
Dickinson College Dining Hall

Prof. Edward Ako
8:00 p.m.
Memorial Hall, Old West

Thursday, March 7

William S. Pollard
4:00 p.m.
Bernard Center

Friday, March 8

Ain't Misbehavin'
8:00 p.m.
ATS Auditorium

Saturday, March 9

Regency
9:00 p.m.
The Union Station, HUB

Sunday, March 3, 1985 – Memorial Hall, Old West, 11:00 a.m.

BISHOP FELTON E. MAY

College Church

Bishop Felton E. May serves the United Methodist Church in the Harrisburg Area. He studied at Judson College and at the Crozier Theological Seminary. Bishop May was ordained a Deacon in 1962 and an Elder in 1970.

Before taking his position in the Harrisburg Area, Bishop May served as the director of the Council on Ministries of the Peninsula Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Bishop May is especially interested in African Church development and has traveled to over 14 countries in the past ten years. He has also served as a delegate to Jurisdictional Conferences since 1972.



Monday, March 4, 1985 – Mathers Theatre, Holland Union Building, 8:00 p.m.

"DREAMTELLERS"

"Dreamtellers" is produced and performed by Harrisburg Area Community College students under the direction of Rebecca Ranson. The play is designed to familiarize its audience with the experiences and aspirations of minority cultures.

Based on Ms. Ranson's interviews with 50 volunteer minority students, "Dreamtellers" elucidates the challenges facing people who are outsiders in their society. The production portrays the life stories of students from varied cultural backgrounds, emphasizing both their history and their visions of the future.



REBECCA RANSON

Rebecca Ranson of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, is the author of over 30 plays. Currently she is a writer-in-residence at Harrisburg Area Community College where she also directs and teaches.

Ms. Ranson has a B.A. in radio/television/film from the University of Georgia and an M.F.A. in playwriting from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

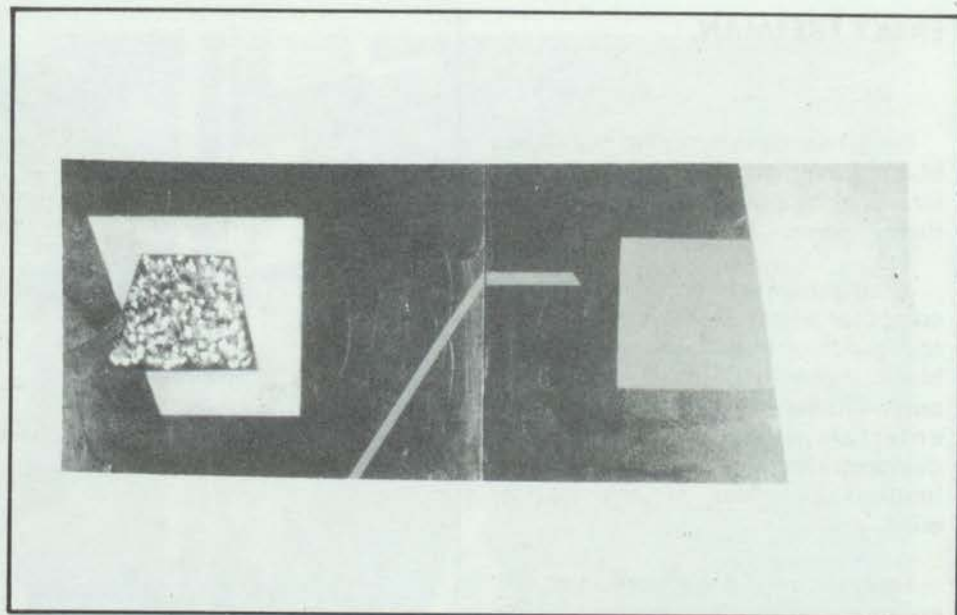
Ms. Ranson's shows have been produced across the country and her play, "The Incarceration of Annie", is currently touring to raise funds for the Program for Female Offenders.



Tuesday, March 5, 1985 – Fine Arts Department, Weiss Center, 1:00 p.m.

JESSE MURRY

Jesse Murry, an artist from Geneva, New York attended the American School in Florence, Italy and Sarah Lawrence College, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree. Murry was a visiting professor at Hobart-William Smith Colleges for two years. He also has had several articles published in **Arts Magazine** and has lectured at Yale University. In 1983, Murry received a Mellon Individual Project Grant in recognition of his work.



Painting in Two Parts, 16 x 26". Acrylic on canvas.

- 2:15 p.m. Jesse Murry will lecture in Mary Stewart's Fundamentals of Painting and 2-Dimensional Design class.
- 7:00 p.m. Jesse Murry will lecture in Room 221 (Weiss Center) and will discuss his works with a slide presentation followed by a reception.

Wednesday, March 6, 1985 -- Dickinson College Dining Hall, 5:15 p.m.

ERSKY FREEMAN

Ersky Freeman's program highlights black inventions and offers interesting insights into the lives of their creators.

In his presentation, Freeman uses a computer whose memory banks contain proof of over 4,000 products of black ingenuity. This special computer challenges its audience in an entertaining and educational demonstration which emphasizes the limitless potential of the human mind.

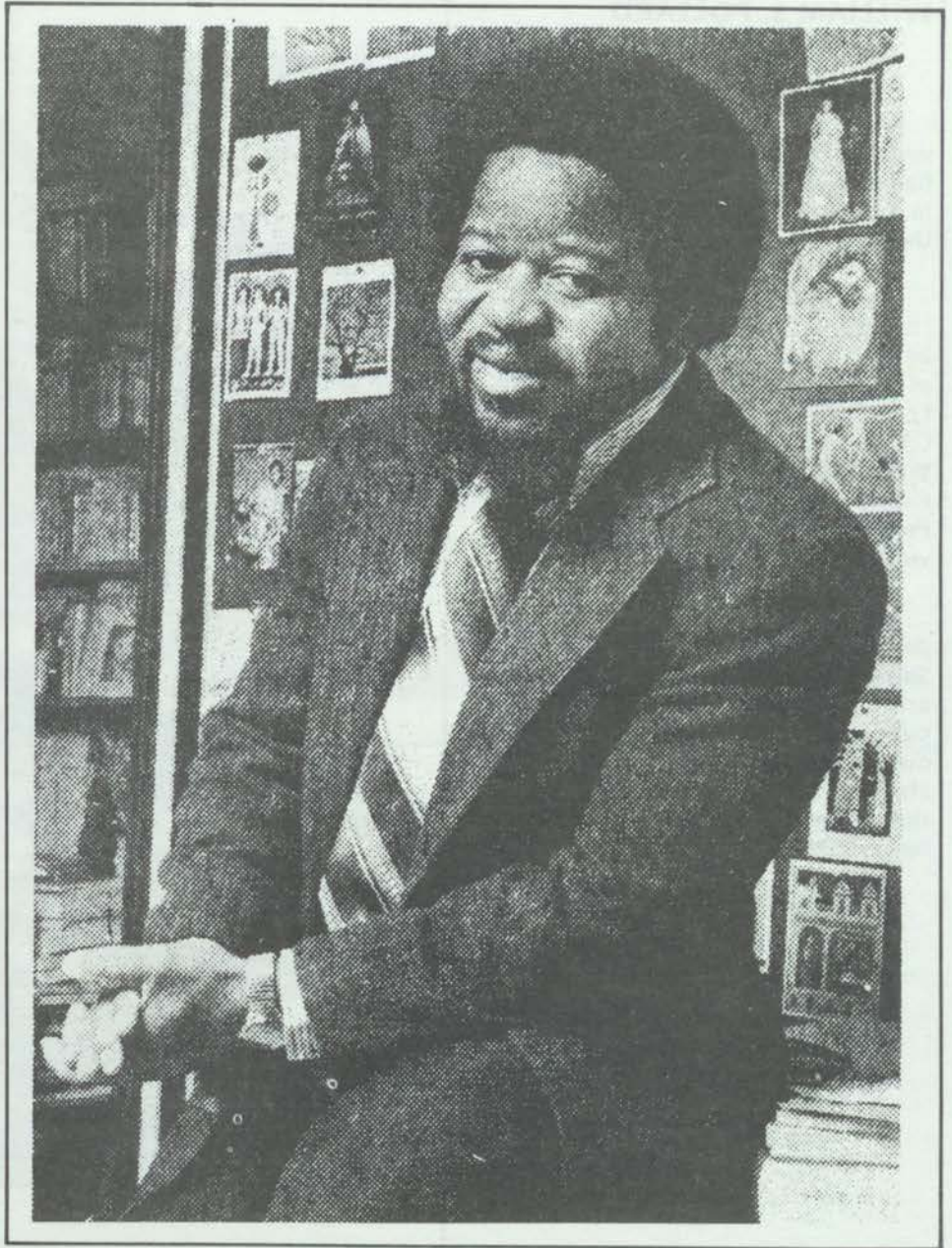
Freeman, who has visited over 400 colleges across the country, is the writer, researcher, and founder of the touring educational theatre company, "Pin Points".



Wednesday, March 6, 1985 -- Memorial Hall, Old West, 8:00 p.m.

PROF. EDWARD AKO

Edward O. Ako who is currently a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the Pennsylvania State University, did his undergraduate work in Yaounde University (Cameroon) and the Universite de Dijon (France). He did graduate studies at Atlanta University (Georgia) and the University of Illinois, Urbana - Champaign where he earned his Ph.D in comparative literature. He is the author of the forthcoming book, **THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE AND THE NEGRITUDE MOVEMENT**. Most of his work has been in the area of the literary relations between African, Caribbean, and Afro-American literature.



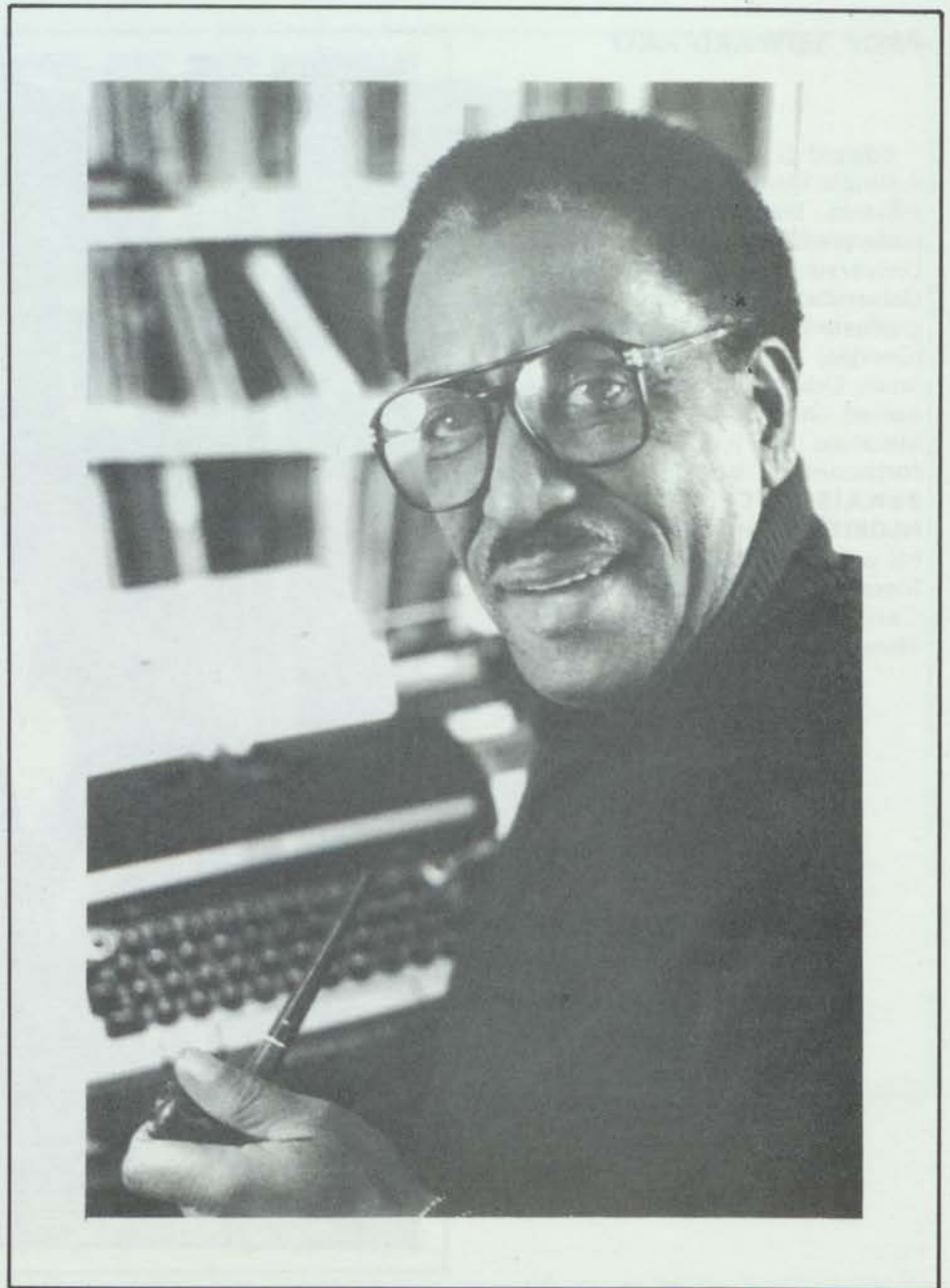
Thursday, March 7, 1985 – Bernard Center, 4:00 p.m.

WILLIAM S. POLLARD

William Samuel Pollard has been a writer for more than 50 years and has had over 2000 of his poems published in newspapers, magazines, and anthologies.

Throughout his career, Pollard has received recognition for his achievements. He was the recipient of the 1968 Clara Laster Lamp of Learning Award at the University of Oklahoma for his poetry manuscript, **Where the Wind Lives**. In 1977, Pollard was honored with the NAACP President's Award for community service.

Pollard's recent projects include developing **Basic Skills...Writing Speaking and Listening**, a language arts program for elementary students, published by Random House and distributed by Tutor/Tape. Pollard also has a column on poetry writing that appears weekly in a Harrisburg newspaper.



Friday, March 8, 1985 – ATS Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.

AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'

Winner of the 1978 Tony Award for Best Musical, **Ain't Misbehavin'** is a tribute to Thomas "Fats" Waller, a renowned jazzman of the 1930s and 40s. A talented composer, comedian, singer, and musician, "Fats" Waller was one of the first black superstars in America.

The show is set in a Harlem nightclub. The five main characters sing and dance to Waller's popular tunes, recapturing his vitality and sense of humor.

Ain't Misbehavin' is an upbeat, spirited musical hailed by the **New York Times** as a "funny, startling, heart-stopping hit."



The cast of the hit Broadway musical: back row, left to right - LeLand Gnatt, Kimberly Harris, Kevin Neal Cheatham. Front row, left to right - Gammy Gnatt, Ronald Metcalf, Musical director Charanne Cox.

Bentley Clarke, Union Station, 10:00 p.m. - An Evening of Music

Saturday, March 9, 1985 – The Union Station, HUB, 9:00 p.m.

"REGENCY"

"Regency" is an a cappella vocal group whose members began singing together in high school. The five-member ensemble from East Baltimore started making public appearances in 1982 and has performed on radio, for television commercials, and in concert. "Regency's" musical style is reminiscent of the Mills Brothers, and its repertoire includes songs from the 30s to the music of the 80s.

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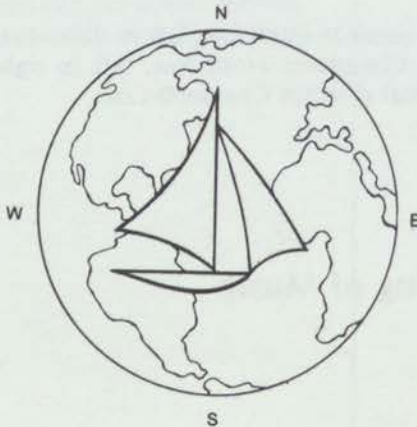


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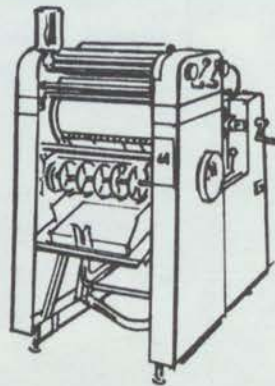
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