

Angelou to be honored at WSSU ceremony

By Jenny Blackford
Editor in Chief

Maya Angelou has many times been referred to as the personification of the "Phenomenal Woman." Her books, poetry and speeches have touched the lives of millions.

In order to commemorate her 70th birthday, Winston-Salem State University will host a birthday celebration for the poet laureate.

The celebration is not just about Angelou's life; it is also a fundraiser for the new Maya Angelou Institute for the Improvement of Child and Family. The Institute, which will be located on the WSSU campus, will conduct research, educate parents and give hands-on training for education majors, especially those concentrating on pre-kindergarten children.

Angelou has been honored by a number of institutions worldwide with several schools and institutes being named for her, but she has been especially involved with WSSU. Angelou has been a member of

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Maya Angelou

Author, Reynolds professor of American studies

the board of visitors for more than 10 years.

"Education on so many levels (made me what I am today)," she said.

Though she has been busy teaching the Philosophy of Liberation in Literature and writing, during the summer Angelou directed her first full-length motion picture, *Down in the Delta*. Her excitement about the movie pervades her speech. "I've directed television

before, I like the story and wanted to do it," she said. "I directed *Down in the Delta* up in Toronto."

The movie, to be in wide release Dec. 25, stars Loretta Devine, Mary Alice and Wesley Snipes.

Angelou is glad that the university decided to devote this year to globalization and diversity.

"Education is the only way we'll overcome racism, sexism, ageism and all those other smutty words," she said.

She is also hopeful for the position of minorities at the university. "The student body isn't as diverse as I'd like to see it, but it does delight my heart that we have a very strong, diverse African-American faculty," she said.

Angelou is also happy with the outcome of the Million Youth March that was held in New York City and Atlanta Sep. 5-7.

"When the African-American community and the American community once removed speak positively about their community it has an inevitable positive influence the day after and the year after," she said.

Previously, she had written a poem for the Million Man March.

Quincy Jones, a long-time friend of Angelou, will host the celebration, and Ashford and Simpson will be the musical guests.

Ashford and Simpson recorded their latest album with Angelou, combining Angelou's musical training and background with the well-known R&B music of the duo.

The album, *Been Found*, was released in 1996 and was begun around Angelou's piano after Thanksgiving dinner.

Been Found features Angelou's spoken-word vocals combined with the music and other vocals. Music "continues to explain the world to me and me to myself," Angelou said.

The event will be held at the Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium at WSSU. Tickets are currently available through all TicketMaster locations. Tickets are \$60, \$75 with the proceeds going to the new Maya Angelou Institute.



Kirsten Nantz/ Old Gold and Black

A work in progress

Freshman Whitney Brooks concentrates intently during an class on her project for her Art 101 class with Alix Hitchcock, which fulfills the Division V requirement.

WORLD WIDE

Cause still unknown in death of Florence Griffith Joyner

LOS ANGELES — Questions remain unanswered about the death of former Olympic medalist Florence Griffith Joyner Sept. 21. Griffith Joyner had not been ill and had shown no signs of health problems.

Doctors at the University of California-Los Angeles announced Sept. 23 that the reports of a heart problem being the cause of death were premature. It was first speculated that Griffith Joyner suffered a heart seizure or a heart attack, but doctors now say that the cause of death is still a mystery.

Rumors circulated during her gold-medal run at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul about possible steroid and drug use early in her career. Medical officials from the Olympic committee have denied these rumors. Intense drug testing was done during the Olympics and showed no traces of illegal substances.

Griffith Joyner is the sister-in-law of track star Jackie Joyner-Kersey, who also spoke out against the possibility of steroid use.

Joyner-Kersey urged the public not to pass judgement until an autopsy can be performed. Coroner's examinations began Sept. 23 and will continue today.

Her wake is scheduled for today in Los Angeles, and the funeral will take place in her hometown of Lake Forest, Calif.

Hurricane Georges strikes Caribbean, Florida Keys next

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — After destroying much of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, Hurricane Georges made its way into the Dominican Republic Sept. 23 bringing severe floods and high winds to the unprepared nation.

Forecasters were late predicting the storms path leaving little time for residents to make preparations. The storm's 110 mph winds were responsible for 12 deaths in Dominica, bringing the regional total to 21.

Neighboring nations of Haiti, St. Kitts and Antigua were also hit hard by Georges.

Forecasters predict the storm will continue on a course towards southern Florida and the Florida

Keys where officials have mandated evacuations in anticipated of the landfall Sept. 23.

Following closely on the heels of Georges are more problems, Hurricane Ivan and Tropical Storm Jeanne, which will threaten the areas affected by Georges within the next week.

Nelson Mandela receives Congressional Gold Medal

WASHINGTON, DC — South African President Nelson Mandela was honored Sept. 23 with the Congressional Gold Medal.

The ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda was attended by many of the nation's leaders, including President Clinton.

Mandela is the 100th recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal and is the first African awarded the honor.

In the ceremony, Mandela called for America and South Africa to form stronger ties in an effort to help "calm ill feelings in Africa which stem from its tragic history with the rest of the world."

House Speaker Newt Gingrich spoke to the crowd with tears in his eyes urging Americans to follow the example set by Mandela through sacrifice, kindness and strength in the face of enmity.

Two killed by co-worker in shooting at NC furniture plant

BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC — Two people were killed and three others were injured when a man opened fire on his coworkers Sept. 23 just before the 4 p.m. shift change.

A 20-year-old employee at Drexel Heritage furniture plant is accused of approaching the guard house and shooting the guard with a shotgun and an assault rifle. He then went inside the plant, where one employee was killed and three others injured, police said.

The suspect, Shane Anderson of Fairview, was arrested and charged with two counts of first-degree murder and three counts of attempted murder.

There was no motive given in the attack at the plant near the Blue Ridge Parkway, about 10 miles east of Asheville.

Compiled from news services.

POLICE BEAT

Two computers stolen from locked Tribble Hall offices

Two university-owned IBM ThinkPad computers were stolen from locked offices in Tribble Hall.

The first incident occurred between 9 a.m. Sept. 9 and 2:30 p.m. Sept. 14. The computer was worth \$3,000.

The second incident, which involved a \$1,500 ThinkPad, occurred between 9 a.m. Sept. 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sept. 11.

Theft

A diving knife belonging to a university employee was taken from an office in the Worrell Professional Center between 10 a.m. Sept. 1 and 9 a.m. Sept. 15. The knife was worth \$30.

A \$35 power supply cord belonging to a student was taken from a classroom in Carswell Hall at 4:10 p.m. Sept. 15.

A cigar lighter and two rolls of quarters were taken from an office in the Information Systems Building between 4 p.m. Sept. 15 and 3:48 p.m. Sept. 16. The items' total value was \$110.

Several items belonging to a student were taken from a study room in Winston Hall between 4 p.m. Sept. 7 and 12 p.m. Sept. 16.

The items — a compact disc player, headphones and a carrying case — totaled \$200.

Someone removed checks and money from a desk in a locked office in Tribble Hall between 5 p.m. Sept. 11 and 5:30 p.m. Sept. 14.

The total amount of cash and checks was between \$140 and \$180. The checks were written to the university.

A student's university identification card was taken from a bookbag between 10 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. on Sept. 17.

The incident occurred at Kentner Stadium.

A student's bicycle was taken from a bicycle rack at North Residence Hall between 6 p.m. Sept. 13 and 2 p.m. Sept. 15. The bicycle was worth \$50.

A bicycle was taken from a foyer area at Faculty Apartments between 8:30 p.m. and 9:20 p.m. Sept. 19. The bicycle, which belonged to the child of a university employee, was found later that day.

A license plate was removed from a student's vehicle between 9:30 p.m. Sept. 19 and 1:30 p.m. Sept. 20.

The vehicle was parked in Lot A behind Efrid Residence Hall.

Miscellaneous

Someone visiting a university employee's family member, who lives at Faculty Apart-

ments, was charged with assault on Sept. 14. The incident occurred when the two individuals were involved in a dispute at Faculty Apartments.

Someone activated a fire alarm in Taylor House at 4:48 a.m. Sept. 17.

A student was taken from an off-campus location to the Reynolda Road gate house by a taxi at 1:13 a.m. Sept. 17. The student apparently had passed out from consuming too much alcohol.

This incident was referred to Harold Holmes, an associate vice president and the dean of student services.

A student living in Davis House received harassing phone calls around 3:40 p.m. Sept. 12.

Two students living in Taylor received harassing phone calls between 12 p.m. Sept. 4 and 4:30 p.m. Sept. 18.

Damage

A student's vehicle was damaged by another vehicle between 11:30 p.m. Sept. 19 and 12 p.m. Sept. 20.

The vehicle was parked in Lot R, next to Polo Residence Hall, when the incident occurred.

University Police handled 60 calls from Sept. 14 to Sept. 20, including 18 incidents and investigations and 42 service requests.

Cultural scholar to speak on democracy

Old Gold and Black Staff Report

Distinguished scholar and political theorist Benjamin Barber will lecture on "Can Democracy Survive Globalization?" at 7 p.m. Sept. 28 in Scales 102.

Barber has received acclaim for "Jihad Versus McWorld," an *Atlantic Monthly* article about the negative effects of tribalism and markets on democracy.

His presentation, which is free and open to the public, is part of a series of events planned for the Year of Globalization and Diversity.

Barber, who holds the Walt Whitman Chair of Political Science at Rutgers University, founded the Walt Whitman Center for the Culture and Politics of Democracy at Rutgers in 1989. The center is dedicated to sustaining democratic theory and extending democratic practice. The center oversees numerous programs, including those on technology and democracy, the measurement of citizenship, global markets and global civil society.

Barber has written 14 books, including *Strong Democracy*, *Marriage Voices* and *The Conquest of Politics*. His latest book *Jihad Versus McWorld* is based on the *Atlantic Monthly* article of the same name.

Barber's television work includes "The Struggle for Democracy," a program he



Photo courtesy of www.wfu.edu/yogd

Benjamin Barber of News Services will give a presentation Sept. 28.

co-writes for public television.

As an experienced educator and political consultant, Barber has advised for organizations on civic issues, democracy, community service and education. He also has been an informal adviser to President Clinton. For more information about the Year of Globalization and Diversity, visit the Web site at www.wfu.edu/yogd or call Ext. 5788.