

ShopTalk

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Editor, Mario I. Oña, x4-6803

Teenage Promiseland: *The Washington Post Music and Dance Scholarship Awards*

Sopranos, altos and tenors. Jazz, bhangra and rock. Ballet, tap and modern dance. For the fifth straight year, Washington Metropolitan area's true American Idols-in-the-making—145 area high school students—will get the opportunity to showcase their artis-

tic talent at The Washington Post Music and Dance Scholarship Awards night and compete for 12 \$1500 scholarships on Nov. 4 at the prestigious Warner Theatre in downtown D.C. But as many past participants can attest, the scholarships are merely the icing on the cake. It's all about the recognition and exposure.

"Just being a part of this night is enough for me," said Caitlin Nethery from Tuscora High School in Frederick, Md. last year. "Even if I didn't get a scholarship," echoed Jasmine Muhammed from

Benjamin Banneker Academic High School in the District, "I'm really grateful for the opportunity to perform in the Warner Theatre and being in a show hosted by Jasmine Guy." Incidentally, Muhammed is becoming a celebrity in her own right. She's due to sing at The Met in New York City in the near future.

Guy, who played the prissy, southern gal Whitley Gilbert on the popular Cosby Show spin-off, A Different World, and WRC-TV Channel 4 Washington



Bethany Whitley from Woodrow Wilson High School (D.C.) lets the program producer hear her best singing.

Anchor Jim Vance will be hosting the event again this year.

With the top brass from Radio-One, National Symphony Orchestra, Grammy Recording Academy of Washington, D.C., Telemundo and various other media representatives either attending or presenting the coveted awards, the event offers the artistic students a final opportunity to shine. For them, it's the equivalent of putting on the football helmet and pads for one last Friday night hoorah, except that every major scout and



No. Not American Idols contestants! Much better: Music and Dance Scholarships contestants (from Left to right): Nicholas Montopoli from School Without Walls Senior High School (D.C.), Rekha Ananthanpillai from Winston Churchill High School (Potomac, Md.), Sarah Parsons from Leonardtown High School (Leonardtown, Md.), Christiana Izzi from Calvert High School (Prince Frederick, Md.) and Gerard Grigsby from Wheaton High School (Wheaton, Md.).

Program Producer Rickey Payton, Sr., on the piano, leads and directs a room full of singers at the Strathmore Performing Arts Center (Md.).



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Transitions in News

PHOTOS - JULIA EWAN

DIANE POWELL-MILLARD, News (Metro), recently became the Prince George's County bureau office manager after 17 years in Adver-



Diane Powell-Millard

tising. Starting out as an administrative assistant, Diane eventually became the associate sales manager in the consumer to consumer group. When the 31-year Prince George's County resident and very young looking grandma isn't compiling agates for community events, volunteering opportunities, crime reports, important health-related dates and so on, she enjoys bowling, traveling, spending time with husband Jay, daughter Yvette and 12-year-old granddaughter Aliyah, whom Diane "adores."

LISA BOLTON, News (Metro), assumed the Montgomery County bureau office manager

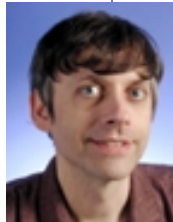


Lisa Bolton

position after eight years in Public Relations. After various public relations-related positions in Orlando at Universal Studios, WFTV Channel 9 and the Orlando Sentinel, she quickly worked her way up the ranks at The Post and became the Public Relations Manager. Among other duties, she backed up the ShopTalk editor and caught any errors like this won. When she's not skydiving, scuba diving, rocking out to Blues while enjoying a dirty

martini or seven, Lisa lives a fairly normal life with her motocross racing hubby, Mike, and their son, Baby Jack, who recently turned one.

PETER HAYES, News (Style), rejoined Style as an editorial aide in charge of music and dance after eight years at Metro compiling community and voter guides. Peter started at The Post as a Style news aide in 1995, before moving to Metro in 1998. With Peter being the songwriter for his band, The Spoils of NW, who just released their record, "Seeing Things," it's safe to say that he's returned to his roots. Apart from writing, gigging and playing with his band, he likes repairing antique electronics and watching zombie movies.



Peter Hayes

JILLIAN JARRETT, News (Metro), recently became a full-time editorial aide at the City Desk, but she's not a new face to the newsroom night crew, where she was night side Deputy copy aide supervisor for the past three years. In her former position, she supervised a staff of seven and edited the lotto graphic and weather page. At one point—years earlier—she worked at an accounting firm and "tried not to totally mess up people's taxes." Though born in "beautiful" Negril, Jamaica, Jillian grew up in Queens and fondly

remembers racing her cousins down the fire escapes and the "huge pet rats." "Ahhh, the memories," she sighed.

DINA ELBOGHDADY, News (Real Estate), is a Post reporter who covered business from the Howard County bureau and will now report for the Real Estate section. She grew up Washington, D.C. after moving from Egypt at the age of seven. After graduating from



Dina ElBoghdady

American University, she worked at the States News Service and then the Detroit News' D.C. bureau. She recalls living in D.C. when the Dulles corridor was in the middle of nowhere. In addition to covering real estate, Dina will continue covering the local Muslim and Arabic-speaking communities.

JOE DAVIDSON, News (Metro), recently became an assignment editor at the City Desk after being the editor for District Extra. Joe will oversee coverage of the District school system, social services and religion. Before The Post, he worked at the Wall Street Journal, the Detroit News and the Philadelphia Inquirer, among others. He's also a founding member of the National Association of Black Journalists. On the serious



Joe Davidson

side, he was a foreign correspondent for the Wall Street Journal in Johannesburg during the "turbulent" early '90s, but on the lighter side, he covered Philadelphia Mayor Frank Rizzo, "one of America's more colorful mayors" and "fist fights among council members," while at the Philadelphia Bulletin.

LISA FRAZIER PAGE, News (Metro), has stepped in for Joe Davidson to become the editor for District Extra, but will continue to help recruiting for

News Personnel. She will also continue assisting the Young Journalists Development Program and oversee the Spanish language program. Before joining The Post and covering education in Prince George's County and writing a weekly column for the county's Extra section, she was a reporter for the Times-Picayune in New Orleans for seven years. Among other things, she reported on the historic election of Nelson Mandela as South Africa's first black president. She lives in Prince George's County with her husband, Kevin and their three children, Danielle, Kevin Jr. and Kyle. ■



Lisa Frazier Page

representatives from the mayor's office and the White House will be there.

"Every movement counts," cautioned the program's producer and former music teacher Rickey Payton, Sr. as he addressed a dance room full of academically and artistically endowed students during one of four recent auditions and rehearsal sessions for the event's opening number. "More and more prominent producers and talent scouts attend this each year and you gotta give everything you've got, every second. Sometimes it's not even about the performance, but how you carry yourself," said Payton who was selected to the Grammy board of judges in 2005.

Payton has talented help in

preparing and identifying the various strengths of the participants who needed to maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher and submit an essay on the impact of art on society along with a two and half-minute CD, DVD, cassette or VHS of their talent to be considered. Choreographer and CEO of Dance Makers, Robin Pitts, producer/dancer mother-daughter duo Sherion and Shawn Cosby of Showbiz D.C. and choreographer Michael J. Bobbit will dedicate several Friday nights to ensure another spectacular showcase is pulled off.

The program started five years ago. "There was a clear need," explains Public Relations Director **Eric Grant**. "We didn't have a major showcase for the artistic talent of the youth in this region."

Payton, who was tapped from the very beginning to produce the program, vividly recalls the first year. "Man, it was rough! We were all ready to do this. We all thought it was a great idea and something necessary... And then came the sniper! Obviously, people were terrified and I think the day before the show the school in Bowie was hit. But we pressed on and here we are five years later."

Tickets for the Nov. 4 awards ceremony at 7:00 p.m. featuring over 30 individual performances in addition to the opening production are available through Ticketmaster or through www.warn-ertheatre.com. For ad info, contact Public Relations' **David Jones**, the program's associate producer at x4-4917 or jonesdj@washpost.com. ■

Springfield Continues Safety Streak

On Oct. 17, Springfield broke its own record of 88 days, when it went 100 days with no lost time injuries. In January 2006, Production launched the "Accident Free" program that recognizes work centers without any Occupational Safety and Health Administration reportable injuries in a calendar quarter. To celebrate,



Springfield Plant Manager **Jenny Rymarczuk** serves press operator **Tony Baylon** cake as Health Center supervisor **Ann Griffin** and Springfield Chef **Ken Kievet** look on.

Plant Manager **Jenny Rymarczuk** and Health Center Supervisor **Ann Griffin** served cake to all the employees in the cafeteria.

Springfield Assistant Plant Manager **Roddy MacPherson** explained that there has been a focus on reducing injuries in the last four to five years, but added, "This year we made a real push and a lot of credit is also due to the hard work of the health center staff, especially **Ann Griffin**."

MacPherson concluded, "This is an entire Production (department) initiative. Both plants are focusing on improving safety and reducing injury." Of note, College Park went 87 days without a major injury this year. ■

PHOTO - RODDY MACPHERSON

Auditions for The Washington Post Music and Dance Scholarship Awards



Program Producer **Rickey Payton, Sr.** gets the high schoolers on key, as they rehearse songs for the opening program.

Tiffany Jones, Falls Church High School (Va.) not only delivers visceral notes, but also an accompanying contagious smile.



Jenny Cook, Washington-Lee High School in Arlington (Va.) demonstrates her vocal strength.



Choreographer **Robin Pitts** goes over a few complicated steps.



After a few attempts, the students deliver a rendition of "I Want to Live in America" that producer **Sherion Cosby** can groove to.

Get Heard!

The Post has always valued its readers' opinions. It helps us be a better newspaper. Well, we feel the same about you and ShopTalk, so we want to hear from you. Three ShopTalk suggestion boxes will be deployed in the next few weeks: one at the Northwest Building cafeteria and one at each of the plants. The boxes will allow Post employees to submit questions, suggestions and ShopTalk story ideas — anonymously if you prefer. The ShopTalk editor will review your submissions, research those items that might be of interest or use to Post employees and publish them in future ShopTalks.

We will try to respond to as many items as we can, but not every submission will be answered. Keep in mind that ShopTalk is a company newsletter, not a representative of management, and a submission does not constitute notice to Post management of a complaint or problem in the workplace.

The ShopTalk Box IS the forum to...

- make suggestions on improving ShopTalk or any aspect of the newspaper
- pitch story ideas
- ask general questions (preferably questions you would feel comfortable asking in a town hall meeting setting)

We look forward to hearing from you! If you have any questions contact x4-6803 or onom@washpost.com or shoptalk@washpost.com.



The Capital BookFest

The second Capital BookFest presented by The Post was held at the "BLVD! at the Capital Centre" in Largo, Md. on Oct. 7. The annual event takes place over two to three days and offers readers and authors an opportunity to meet and greet, but also hold various panel discussions and exchange ideas. This year a panel discussion on The Post's Black Men's Series was featured.

Post writers **Marie Arana, Lonnae O'Neal Parker, Tom Ricks** and **Michelle Singletary** were present to answer questions and discuss their latest books. Post journalists **Darryl Fears, Wil Haygood, Dion Haynes, Steve Holmes, Tamara Jones, Robert Pierre** and **Krissah Williams** participated in the Black Men's panel discussion.

Marketplace

HOUSE FOR RENT/CAR FOR SALE:

Logan Circle Victorian, 4-story, 3BR/2BA, 2200-sq. ft. townhouse for rent (near 12 and N Streets, 5-min. walk from NW Building). Large master suite, 11-ft. ceilings, near 3 metro stops (Convention Center, McPherson Sq., U St.), central location, hardwood floors, central AC/heating, washer/dryer, basement den or office, small backyard. \$3500/month (1-yr. lease required). Available Dec. 1

Black 2001 VW Jetta for sale. Moonroof, leather seats, powerlocks/windows, new tires, very reliable, great condition, only 77K miles. \$8000 (o.b.o.). Contact Sudarsan for house or car: 202-302-2656, 202-716-4112.

Editor's Note: Sudarsan Raghavan is moving to become The Post's Iraq bureau chief.

FOR SALE: 1996 Mercury Sable GS, white/gray interior, anti-lock brakes, dual front airbags, alarm system, good condition, 145k miles, needs little work. \$1000 (o.b.o.). Need to sell ASAP—moving to Texas. Contact Margaret Peche at x44713 or 210-393-6673.

FOR HIRE: IT Project Manager. IT Department seeking experienced project manager to lead technology projects involving requirements analysis, system design and development, testing and implementation. Experience should include software deployment and business process management. BA or equivalent and experience in "full system lifecycle" implementation required. Project Management Institute certification strongly preferred. Contact Jeanne Koch, Manager IT HR Development at kochj@washpost.com or x4-6217, or see the posting notice available on Intranet for more information. NOTE: Position eligible for enhanced employee referral bonus of \$5000 if an eligible Post employee refers a candidate who is hired for the position. For more details on referral program, contact Nellie Goddard at x4-7941 or goddardn@washpost.com. Email resumes for consideration to sereumes@washpost.com (Subject: Employee Referral – Project Manager). Deadline: 5:00 pm on Nov. 17.

MOVING SALE: Everything must go! 36" Sony HDTV (KV36XBR450) w/ stand-\$879; Denon Tuner/CD/Cassette stereo with Mission speakers-\$469; Tumi duffle-\$269; Coach duffle, Briggs & Riley wheeled garment-\$249 ea.; Mahogany entertainment center-\$479; Wood bookcases (2)-\$249 ea.; Wood man's chest-\$389; La-Z-Boy recliners (2)-\$249 ea.; Wood futon w/ top of the line mattress-\$449; Table lamps (2)-\$89; Sony digital camera-\$69; Lifetime conference tables (4)-\$39/\$29; File cabinets (2)-\$89 & \$69; Accessories-\$5-\$20. Contact Terry at 301-602-0066 or johnsontl@washpost.com.

WEEKEND GETAWAY: Want to get-away? Cozy, renovated, 3BR townhouse for rent in Outer Banks. Within sight and sound of surf, and 2-minute walk from beach. Check out fall surf-fishing season or relax by seaside. Wireless Internet, TV, DVD. Weekends available. Contact Mike at x4-7346.

HOUSE FOR RENT: 5BR, 4BA brick house in Brookland. 2 blocks from Metro. Hardwood floors, granite kitchen top, garage and pets are welcome. \$3000 per month for house and basement unit. \$2500 for house only. Contact Mitra at 202-607-6836.

ISO FURNITURE: Intern moving into new apartment needs furniture, including mattress, bed frame, desk, table, chairs, even silverware! Contact Steve at x4-6086.

NEW MARKETPLACE DEADLINE: **Noon THURSDAYS.** Please include your name, extension and phone number. Ads are for Post employees only. Send ads to ShopTalk, seventh floor, or call x4-6803. To send ads via fax dial x4-4963 or to email send to shoptalk@washpost.com or onom@washpost.com. Ads run for two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee. ShopTalk reserves the right to publish and edit all ads.