



Volume 6, Issue 4

TEMPO PRESTISSIMO



Honorees Extolled at Awards Banquet on Wednesday Evening

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Today's Events

9:00 a.m.

Memorial Service

Rev. Janesia Fuller-Mosley (Plaza A)

9:45 a.m.

**Special Screening of Documentary
 I Can Tell the World (Plaza A)**

Dr. Arthur Jones, Host

11:15 a.m.

**Pre-Luncheon Concerts (Plaza B & C)
 Convention Chorus**

Damon Dandridge, Conductor

Jazz Band

Derrick Gardner, Conductor

12:00 Noon

President's Address (Plaza B & C)

Installation of Officers

Adjournment

1:00 p.m.

**Board of Directors
 (Tennessee River Room)**

The Awards Banquet of the 89th NANM Annual Meeting celebrated the accomplishments and contributions of four Chattanooga citizens and an organization, two national honorees, and one international honoree. Ms. Andrea Perry Lyons, Program Director of WMPZ Groove 93 Radio, was the evening's Mistress of Ceremony. The program was extremely well paced.

Local honorees were: Mrs. Irene Dave, gospel singer; Mr. Russell Goode, retired music educator and pianist-organist; Mr. William Price, bassist and Chattanooga African American

music historian; Mr. Booker Scruggs, saxophonist, clarinetist, and humanitarian; and the Chattanooga Gospel Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Danny Sample. As a tribute to all of the Chattanooga honorees, the orchestra played an arrangement of Richard Smallwood's "Total Praise," followed by a rousing, upbeat version of "This Little Light of Mine."

Dr. Ralph Simpson, organist, composer, and retired professor, was a national honoree. Ms. Diana Poe, soprano, his former student, sang "Paraphrase," a contrapuntal setting of "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder."

Past President Brazeal Denard, conductor, composer,

tenor, and retired music educator, was the second national honoree. Dr. Lori Hicks, soprano, performed Margaret Bonds' "You Can Tell the World" as his tribute.

The international honoree was octogenarian composer, Mr. Robert Owens, who traveled from Munich, Germany for this week's festivities. Donnie Ray Albert, baritone, sang two of Mr. Owens' songs: "Faithful One" and "Genius Child."

Executive Secretary Ona B. Campbell presented three awards to NANM members for outstanding service: Mr. Otis Lloyd of the Dallas Metroplex Musicians Association; Mrs. Barbara Cole of the Georgia Laster Branch, Los Angeles; and Mr. L. Baron Jemmott of the Paul Robeson Music Guild, of Newark, New Jersey.

***"Advocacy and Partnerships:
 Walk Together Children"***

Mission Statement

NANM promotes, preserves, and supports all genres of music created or performed by African Americans.

Travel safely and carefully!

Tempo Prestissimo

Editor: Marilyn Thompson

Norfolk State University Spartan Chorale Delivers Inspired Noon Performance

The Norfolk State University Spartan Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Carl Haywood, performed an elegantly executed program of sacred music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Wednesday. This was the final entry in the "Concerts at Noon" series.

The first half of the program featured settings of biblical or liturgical texts ranging from Sweelinck's, "Hodie Christus natus," (straddling the late Renaissance and early Ba-

roque periods), to Dr. Haywood's "The Sixty-Seventh Psalm," published this year.

The second half of the program offered works by African American composers—James Furman (1937-1989), Eugene Hancock (1929-1994), and R. Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943). Also represented were two living composers—Dr. Haywood (b. 1949) and Roland M. Carter (b. 1942).

Dr. Haywood dedicated the final programmed work, President Carter's "This Lit-

tle Light of Mine," to the composer, praising his efforts toward the advancement African American music, to NANM, and personally to Dr. Haywood.

From his singers, Dr. Haywood extracted precision and the exact level of nuance at exactly the right time in each piece. It was so refreshing to hear a university choral ensemble performing at a level recalled by the great choirs of yesteryear. The audience responded with thunderous applause, demanding an encore. The choir offered "Dwell in the House" by Dale Jones Murphy.

Americolor Opera Alliance Reveals Compositional Skills of Dr. Sharon Willis

Composer Dr. Sharon Willis founded the Americolor Opera Alliance in Atlanta as a vehicle to meet the performing needs of racially diverse citizens of that city. Yesterday, the company presented scenes from seven of her operas: *Madame C.J.*, *Pink Lady*, *The Herndons: The Opera*, *The Seduction of King Solomon*, *3 kings and a PRINCE*, *The Great Divide*, and *The Candles of Callan*.

Each scene demonstrated the composer's affinity for the vocal line, harmonic imagination, and strong dramatic sense. Dr. Willis provides tremendous opportunities for singers to showcase their vocal talents, and performers' levels of vocal training seemed to reflect a wide range of study, from the minimally trained to semi-professional.

Scenes were staged, simply but effec-

tively, and costumes well served each story line.

Of special note was Hilda Jenkins Allen's performance of "Prayer to Ashtoreth" from *The Seduction of King Solomon*. NANM regulars, who have known Mrs. Allen through the years, gained the opportunity to learn more concerning this mezzo soprano's vocal ability. She delivered a strong interpretation of her aria.

Hopefully, Dr. Willis will, in time, be able to share her works with wider audiences across the country. Her operas could be successful college productions, serving exciting tools for young singers to develop skills and to learn contemporary works.

The National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc.

Officers

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Second Vice President: Glenn Jones

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Congratulations to

**President Elect
David Morrow**

and

**Vice President Elect
Byron Smith**

Funeral Information

for

Joseph L. Greene

(husband of Betty Vandegrift-Greene)

Wake—Friday, August 1, 2008
4:00—7:00 p.m.

Funeral
7:00 p.m.

Janes United Methodist Church
600 Monroe Street @
Malcolm X Blvd.
Brooklyn, NY 11221

Messages may be sent to:

Mrs. Betty Vandegrift-Greene
30 Glenmore Avenue, #1A
Brooklyn, NY 11212
718-495-9151

wagneriansoprano@hotmail.com

Youth and Juniors Offer Moving Wednesday Concert

NANM Youth and Juniors presented an extremely well planned and executed concert on Wednesday afternoon. The program began with the D. Jerlene Harding Memorial NANM Youth Orchestra's readings of Baroque and contemporary music. Junior Division Director David Robinson, III arranged the last three pieces and served as keyboard accompanist. Guest conductor was Mrs. Karan Morrow, wife of President Elect David Morrow. The Maestra is a conducting intern at nearby Shorter College in Rome, Georgia. The NANM Dancers, directed by Mrs. Alicia Robinson, provided a beautiful complement to "Black Butterfly."

The Brazeal Dennard Youth Chorale and the NANM Youth Chorale, conducted by NANM alumnus, Mr.

Damon Debose and Youth Division Director Ms. Nina Scott, admirably performed varied works, mostly by African American composers. Other talented performers on the program included the violin duet with Brianna Robinson and Darnell Watts, and the male quartet, featuring "Low Down the Chariot," the arrangement of Julius Miller.

Tehillah International Ministries

Tehillah International Ministries is a 501 (c)(3) ministry that offers the following services to the local church: Choral Music, Service Music to aid the worship service, Church Music Workshops and Worship Seminars.

Rev. Glenn L. Jones, NANM's Second Vice President, is Founder and CEO. For further information, please contact him at RevGLJ49@aol.com or call 323-697-4697.

90th NANM Annual Meeting

July 25-30, 2009

Chicago, Illinois

Details forthcoming in the next issues of *Reverberations!*

The National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc.

Post Office Box 43053
11551 South Laflin Street
Chicago, IL 60643

Phone: 773-568-3818
Fax: 773-785-5388

www.nanm.org

From the editor

If you have information that you would like to include in the next issue of *Reverberations*, NANM's quarterly newsletter, please submit it to Marilyn Thompson, editor, via nanmnews@aol.com.