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September 29, 2010

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2010 Medal of Arts Ceremony

Join us for a wonderful evening celebrating artistic achievement and support of the arts in Raleigh! The Medal of Arts ceremony will be held on **Wednesday, October 6th at 7 p.m. in Fletcher Opera Theater at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts.** This year's recipients are Ruth Green, community arts advocate and owner of Little Art Gallery; William Ivey Long, five-time Tony Award-winning Broadway costume designer; Nancy Olson, literary arts promoter and owner of Quail Ridge Books & Music; Dwane Powell, nationally recognized editorial cartoonist; J. Mark Scearce, renowned classical composer; and Banks C. Talley, Jr., long-time Raleigh cultural arts leader.

The Raleigh Medal of Arts is awarded for lifetime extraordinary achievement in the practice of, or in support of, local arts. **Betty Ray McCain**, former Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, will serve as mistress of ceremonies. The ceremony, in addition to the distinguished award recipients, will feature special guests including **Dr. Larry Wheeler**, Director of the North Carolina Museum of Art; **Charles Frazier**, noted author; and North Carolina Symphony's Music Director **Grant Llewellyn**, along with music and theatre performances.

The event is free and open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. For more info, visit www.raleighnc.gov/arts (click on Awards).

Block Gallery rew/ffwd (rewind/fast forward)

Opening next at Block Gallery is rew/ffwd (rewind/fast forward), showcasing the mixed media work of Georges Le Chevallier (pictured at right), the stencils of Garrett Scales, and fashion

and textile displays created by NC State University College of Textiles students (and curated by Traci Lamar, PhD and Cynthia Istook, PhD).

Rew/ffwd (rewind/fast forward) will open **September 30 at Block Gallery (222 W. Hargett St.), 5-7 pm**, with music by Yes! sputnik. **Block2 Street Video Series** will feature *Random Acts of Kidness* by A/V Geeks, airing **dusk to 2 am in the window of Urban Design Center (133 Fayetteville St.).**

For more info, visit www.raleighnc.gov/arts (click on Block Gallery).

Piedmont Laureate Words of the Month

"My back teeth tapped together to absorb the shock anxiety. My heart beat in my chest with the fear that I would surely pull out onto the road, and only enjoy a few yards of my first driving experience before ending up like Mama when she was a Mississippi teenager, in a ditch, with a metal plate in her head. I imagined that the metal plate was the fun-house mirror that distorted all of Mama's truths; the beginning of what made her reality one of unintended lies, lies that she believed because every time she went back to check the real memory, there was the reliability of contorted truths on her metal plate. This could happen to me, I thought."

To read additional excerpts from Part One of *Fifth Born II: The Hundredth Turtle* by **2010 Piedmont Laureate Zelda Lockhart**, visit www.piedmontlaureate.com.

International Festival of Raleigh

Marking its quarter-century milestone, the International Festival of Raleigh takes place at the **Raleigh Convention Center, October 1 - 3.** This celebration of dance, food, music and traditions from around the globe will feature 52 cultures represented in the Triangle. For more info, visit www.internationalfestival.org.

Great Arts in the Parks: Digital Photography Contest

Calling area shutterbugs and photography enthusiasts! The first annual **Raleigh Parks and Recreation**

Digital Photography Contest and Workshops will be held October 16 at 9 a.m. at the Barwell Road Community Center (3935 Barwell Road). Co-sponsored by Peace Camera, the event costs $5 and includes sessions on wildlife and nature photography, lighting, tabletop photography and macro photography. All workshops will be facilitated by professional photographers Patrick Day, Greg Myers and Timothy Shelley.

Photographs for the contest are due to Barwell Road Community Center by October 8. There are two categories for entrants: youth (14-18) and adults. The winner of each category wins prizes from Peace Camera. Also, enter your best photograph of a Raleigh Park! For more info, contact Nick Sadler at (919) 329-5994 or nick.sadler@raleighnc.gov.

Public Art Webinar Series

The Public Art Network of Americans for the Arts will present a free, 3-part webinar series entitled "Public Art Academy for Artists" at 2 p.m. on September 29, October 13, and November 3 in Room 109 at Durham Technical College (525 College Park Road, Hillsborough). Co-sponsored by the Public Arts Office of the Town of Chapel Hill and the Orange County Arts Commission, this free series will give artists all the information and tools needed to compete for public art commissions locally and nationally. Artists and administrators will share their knowledge and experience with attendees. For more information and to sign up, call (919) 968-2011 or email arts@co.orange.nc.us.

Images below: Immigrant Gate II Dedication Ceremony, Millbrook Exchange Park. Photos courtesy of Scott Mais.

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