



RHYTHMS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELEMENTS & PRINCIPLES



The Visual Arts Faculty exhibit- **Elements & Principles**- opened on Friday, March 4th in the Ellington Main Gallery. The exhibit will remain through April 1st and the art is available for purchase. Make sure you stop by and give yourself an opportunity to own some great pieces by our talented teaching artists, which you will cherish for a lifetime.

We thank **Utrecht Art Supplies** for being our corporate sponsor for this event.

"SALUTING THE DREAM MAKERS"

Mark your calendars for the Annual Dance Department Gala on May 20, 2011. In addition to the extraordinary Duke Ellington dancers, this special evening will also feature Anchorwoman Dr. JC Hayward as Mistress of Ceremonies and Honorary Gala Chair, and will feature "The Philadanco Dance Company". A pre-performance reception at 6:30 PM is also included in the evening's activities. For tickets and information, contact Charles Augins (department chair), or Treanna Alexander at 202.337.7958.

CHARLES AUGINS: TEACHER OF THE YEAR

We congratulate Charles Augins, Chair of the Dance Department, on receiving the Arts Schools Network's (ASN) **2011 Teacher of the Year Award**. ASN President, Ralph Opacic, presented Charles his award at the 28th Annual Arts School Network Conference in January, attended by hundreds of arts educators and administrators.

The Arts Schools Network (ASN) is the professional association for arts schools and complimentary arts and education organizations across the country. Founded in 1981, ASN offers a forum for members to share their ideas and best practice models of arts education. This award recognizing Charles Augins by his peers is one of the highest honors for an arts educator in the country.



A SALUTE TO OUR SUPPORTERS

We would like to thank our major sponsors that took the lead for our recent benefit shows: DREAMGIRLS and EARTH, WIND & FIRE. These people are our true angels who through their support allow Duke Ellington to continue to offer its unique program to the Washington DC community.

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LITERARY MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS KIDS KEEP ON WINNING

LMC students recently swept the **DC Poet Laureate Awards** after being honored by DC Poet Laureate, Delores Kendrick, in a previous Youth Poetry Competition. Our young poets received awards from \$100 to \$500. Congratulations to our winning students:

- First Place, KATHERINE PATRONG, *9th grade*
- Second Place, BRIDGIT DEASE, *10th grade*
- Fourth Place, REGGIE CONWAY, *12th grade*
- Fourth Place, QUADAJA HERRIOTT, *9th grade*
- Fifth Place, BARRETT SMITH, *9th grade*

More wins for LMC senior, Carolann Collins, who won first place in the **Arena Stage Ten-Minute Playwriting Competition** and LMC Senior Terra Campbell who received Honorable Mention. This marks the third consecutive year where LMC students have won or placed in this contest!

SHOW CHOIR: FREE SHOW SPONSORED BY DAI



On Friday, March 18, 2011, the Ellington Show Choir will be performing in the Ellington Theatre. The evening is **sponsored by DAI**, as part of its new community engagement program. Mrs. Alma J. Powell, who is a big advocate for young people and a Chair of America's Promise Alliance, will be the honorary guest.

This event is near capacity and by invitation only.

There are many ways to give.
Please consider a donation to
The Duke Ellington School
of the Arts
through the Ellington Fund!

TO MAKE A DONATION....

[CLICK HERE](#)

And a thank you to all the other corporations and individuals that supported us throughout the year. We really appreciate all that you do for us and every donation, big or small, is critical to the continued success of Ellington. THANK YOU!

EARTH, WIND & FIRE: CELEBRATING THEIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY WITH ELLINGTON



What an incredible run for Ellington these past few months! First our students performed fourteen-shows of Dreamgirls, which sold out just about every performance. The show was so popular that we had to turn away hundreds of would-be ticket purchasers. The show netted almost \$200,000 and helped sustain several staffing positions this school year.

On the heels of this success, before even catching our breath, Earth, Wind & Fire, graced the Kennedy Center Concert hall stage with a February Benefit Concert for Ellington. If you were one of the lucky ones who attended the concert, then you already know what a great evening it was. Philip Bailey, Ralph Johnson and Verdine White brought the audience to their feet over and over again with their timeless hits

such as "September", "Shining Star", "Boogie Wonderland" and "Reasons". They performed to a full house and were also presented with a "Key to the District" by Mayor Vincent Gray. Ellington students received a standing ovation for their rendition of EWF's tunes "In the Stone" and "Africana". Earth, Wind & Fire were also gracious enough to conduct a master class for Ellington students the day before the concert and attend a VIP party following the show with the show sponsors. As part of Ellington's newly branded series The Performance Series of Legends, this concert follows concerts by Denyce Graves, Dave Chappelle and Stevie Wonder. Keep your eyes open for the next "legend" coming our way!

Picture: Earth, Wind & Fire, with Head of School, Rory Pullens, after conducting the Master Class at Ellington.

TDP STUDENTS MEET DESIGNER BYRON LARS

In February, the Technical Design and Production Department's students in the Costume Design class, were invited to New York to see *Byron Lars' Beauty Mark Fall 2011 Collection Fashion Show*. This incredible opportunity to attend Fashion Week in the Big Apple was made possible by former Ellington Fund Board member, Louis Everard, owner of Everard's Clothing in Georgetown. The students spent a day in NY, visiting the Fashion Institute of Technology before heading to the fashion show.



The fashion show was staged with the models perched on a display designed with foliage, leaves and trees in the backdrop. The theme of the presentation was "Native Americana" and the atmosphere was energetic, with photographers, editors, buyers, stylists, models, musicians, producers and designers in attendance. It was standing room only, so our students got the opportunity to mingle with the crowd and speak with Byron Lars in a private meeting. Which one of our kids will be the next Byron Lars? Stay tuned...

Picture: TDP students at the Fashion Show, with instructor Beverly Johnson (far right)

ELLINGTON COLLABORATES WITH THE U.S. DREAM ACADEMY

In collaboration with the U.S. Dream Academy, Duke Ellington is producing a one man show with Charles S. Dutton. *FROM JAIL TO YALE: Serving Time on Stage*. The show is scheduled for March 28th & 29th at the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theatre, and will feature Ellington and Howard University students. Dutton was at Ellington conducting a Master Class and rehearsing for the show on Monday, March 14. His success is an inspiration to all and the show promises to be a great evening. To purchase your tickets, for DC please visit the Kennedy Center website at www.kennedy-center.org.

The tour will continue to other cities. For more information on the tour and ticket purchases, visit the www.usdreamacademy.org or call 1-800-US DREAM (1-800-973-7326).

U.S. DREAM ACADEMY
In partnership with
Duke Ellington
School of the Arts

PRESENTS
FROM JAIL TO YALE
Serving Time on Stage
starring **Charles S. Dutton**

march 28 & 29, 2011

The John F. Kennedy Center
for the Performing Arts
Terrace Theater
2700 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20566

Performances:
Monday, March 28 — 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 29 — 7:30 p.m.

tickets: \$50 - \$150
Purchase tickets online at www.kennedy-center.org/tickets
or in person at the Kennedy Center Box Office

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