



# RHYTHMS



DREAMGIRLS is coming to Ellington! Since August, all through the weeks leading up to the opening night on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, our cast of young actors, dancers, musicians, vocalists, costumers, artists and technical crew have been working tirelessly and rehearsing on a daily basis. Tech students have been busily building an extraordinary set, Museum Studies students are mounting an exhibit on the *Making of Dreamgirls*, and our Literary Arts and Communications students are making a film documentary and a special edition of *Daisy James* on a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to produce Dreamgirls .. and all of Ellington is abuzz with the excitement of this Broadway-level fourteen-show production. Parents, students and faculty are selling hundreds of tickets and Ellington Fund trustees have been busy collecting sponsorships and selling Gala Night tickets. Gala Night on December 9th promises to be a sold-out evening with a special appearance by first "dreamgirl" Jennifer Holliday. Special thanks goes to the James G. Davis Construction Company for providing thousands of dollars of construction materials to build the Dreamgirls set. Additional thanks goes to Cochran and Mann; Lee's Flower and Card Shop; Mindy's Catering, Tedd Davis Events -- they've all pitched in to assure that Dreamgirls is a smashing success.

Dreamgirls runs from December 2<sup>nd</sup> to December 18th, including several matinees. General ticket purchases can be made online at [www.ellingtonschool.org](http://www.ellingtonschool.org). For GALA NIGHT tickets which include an appearance by Jennifer Holliday and an After Party in the "Dream Lounge," please contact The Ellington Fund at 202.333.2555 or [info@ellingtonarts.org](mailto:info@ellingtonarts.org). We've already sold more than half the seats for this night so be sure to call immediately if you're interested in coming!

For more information about general tickets, visit [www.ellingtonschool.org](http://www.ellingtonschool.org) or if you are ready to buy tickets now, [CLICK HERE](#) to access our online ticketing system. We look forward to seeing you during the run of the show and thank you in advance for your support.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)

Are you a federal employee? Aware of the CFC which gives government employees an opportunity to support their local charities? If you participate in the CFC, and would like to support Ellington, or know others who would, don't forget to sign-up before the campaign closes in January.

**The Duke Ellington School of the Arts' CFC number is 38270!**

### Angel Wins First Place

Visual Arts senior, Angel Perez, was the 2010 winner of the National Latino Art Beat Competition. The competition is run in conjunction with Hispanic Heritage Month. This year's theme was "What Hispanic Heritage and Culture Means to Me". The award ceremony, took place on October 15<sup>th</sup> and select pieces from the winning art will remain on display at the Historical Society of Washington, DC at 801 K Street, NW through December 5, 2010.



*The Dreams in Rehearsal, Photographed by Brian Nielsen*

Duke Ellington School of the Arts  
presents

## MESSIAH

by George Fredric Handel

with the Symphonic Choir and Orchestra  
under the direction of  
Samuel L. E. Bonds  
and  
Isaac Daniel



Friday, November 19, 2010  
at 7:00 pm

**Soloists:** Angeli Ferrette, Renee Barnes,  
Sylvia Twine, Monique Holmes, Wayne Jennings,  
Stanley Webber, Kenneth Kellogg

**Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church**  
420 University Boulevard East  
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Become a Patron for this concert 202-222-8660 mja4457@aol.com

**There are so 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](#)**

## Ellington Welcomes a New Partner



Madame Tussauds Wax Museum and the Duke Ellington School of the Arts have joined forces! From now through February, Madame Tussauds will be offering Ellington's DREAMGIRLS patrons a **Buy One Get One Free** deal on admissions. The partnership is a perfect fit, as Madame Tussauds DC is home to the Duke's iconic wax figure and his famous piano!

Come by the museum and get your picture taken with the First Lady of Song, Ella Fitzgerald. Blow a tune with the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin, find out "What's going on?" with Marvin Gaye and moonwalk with the King of Pop, Michael Jackson! There are hundreds of figures to see, and many "celebs" with whom to get photographed. You won't believe your eyes!

After a DREAMGIRLS matinee or before an evening show, visit Madame Tussauds DC for some great fun! Make sure to bring your DREAMGIRLS ticket stub, playbill or say "DREAMGIRLS" at the admissions counter to redeem the offer.

Madam Tussauds Wax Museum is located at 10<sup>th</sup> and F Streets NW and can be reached using the Red Line train to Metro Center, which is located ½ a block away.

*Picture: The wax figure of Duke Ellington, housed at Madame Tussauds.*

## Ellington Students are White House Favorites



The White House can't get enough of our students! We told you about the First Ladies of the U.S. and Russia coming to Ellington to see our kids perform, but again, our students were invited to perform at The White House as part of the PBS special "A Broadway Celebration: In Performance at the White House". The show premiered on Wednesday, October 20 at 9pm ET and we hope you were able to tune in.

Also, take a look at the [October issue of Harpers Bazaar](#), in which is contained an in depth article on the First Lady Michelle Obama and her promotion of arts education. Of course, our students appeared in 2 out of the 3 featured photos! Recently Mrs. Obama was quoted as saying in reference to the Ellington students, "we have our own Glee right here in Washington!" If you haven't seen our kids perform, don't waste any time in getting your tickets to Dreamgirls (see above). Maybe you'll see the Obamas in the audience!

## The Business of Arts and Entertainment Lecture Series

Ellington has launched a new series as part of its curriculum entitled "The Business of Arts and Entertainment". Sponsored by Santa Fe University and Laureate Education Inc- Online Higher Education, this series allows students to hear from prominent members of the arts and entertainment industry who know what it takes to make it in the business!

Produced by Haqq Islam, formerly from the music recording business himself, these lectures are offered to Ellington students on Wednesdays, 12:30-2:00pm, September 15th through November 10th and are webcast to arts schools nationally and internationally. Dignitaries such as Kenny Gamble of Gamble and Huff, Alicia Keys' "Glam Team," the visual artist Edward Pratt and sculptor John Dreyfus, and many others have

welcomed the opportunity to speak with the students. [Click here](#) for the schedule.



**Picture:** Edward Pratt, artist, and Tia Harris, Dean of Arts, with Bleu #15 which was recently donated to the school by owner, Dr. Moses.

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