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August 22, 23, 24 2003
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Design & Art by Terenia Autrey



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Asheville, NC 28801
www.ymicc.org

Proudly celebrating our 110th anniversary

Permanent Exhibits

In the Spirit of Africa - Students view traditional and contemporary African masks, figurative woodcarvings, beadwork, jewelry, and textiles. They will discover the purpose of mask and sculptures, which reflect African ancestral heritage, and learn to appreciate symbolism and abstraction in African art.

Forebears & Trailblazers: Asheville's African American Leaders, 1800s –1900s
The permanent exhibit offers a pictorial history of African-Americans from throughout WNC. Photographs of both influential and everyday people create a panorama of life among blacks in the mountain region. Here are the young and old, the prominent and the unknown, the men and women who helped create our city's life.

Mirrors of Hope and Dignity - A moving and powerful collection of drawings by the renowned African-American artist Charles W. White.

Outreach Traveling Exhibits

African American History Through Stamps

African Americans have played a vital role in shaping America's history. Now see that history unfold before your eyes with stamps representing influential African American leaders, inventors, educators, scientists, entrepreneurs, entertainers, and sports figures. The exhibit includes 39 framed enlargements of commemorative stamps from the Black Heritage series issued by the US Postal Service and is available to area schools. For more information call the YMICC at (828) 252-4614 or e-mail us at ymicc1@aol.com.

For reservations, call: (828) 257-4535 (in Buncombe County) or 1-800-935-0204.

Upcoming Special Events

The 6th Annual Fiesta Latina Festival - Oct. 4, 2003 - (*see p. 6*)

Chuck Davis and the African American Dance Ensemble Residency - Nov. 11-15, 2003 & March 23-27, 2004 (*see p. 12*)

Kwanzaa Celebration (Dec. 28) & **Outreach Presentations** - Dec. 2, 9, 16 & 30

YMICC MEMBERSHIP

July 1 – June 30 (*All memberships expire on June 30th of each year*)

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:

____ \$35
____ \$65
____ \$100

Individual
Family
Supporter

MAJOR DONOR LEVEL:

____ \$150
____ \$250
____ \$500
____ \$1,000 or more

Bronze
Silver
Gold
Platinum

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- √ Discounts on programs and special events
- √ Discounts on rentals of YMI Cultural Center
- √ Knowledge that membership contribution is being used responsibly to promote Cultural Arts in Asheville and WNC.

The YMI Cultural Center

A Proud and Sustaining History

The YMI Cultural Center is an enduring asset in the City of Asheville. Housed in a local landmark building which is on the National Register of Historic Places, the YMICC runs programs in cultural arts, community education and economic development. Commissioned by George Vanderbilt in 1892, this beautiful, multi-level 18,000 square foot, Tudor-style structure was built by and for the several hundred Negro craftsmen who helped construct the Biltmore House. It became known as the Young Men's Institute or YMI.

Very quickly, the YMI developed into the center of social, cultural, civic, commercial and religious life for local African-Americans. It offered a kindergarten, gymnasium, and even bathing facilities. Congregations without church buildings worshipped here, and Sunday afternoon song services became popular. Between 1926 and 1966, the YMI housed the public library used by the city's black population as well as a corner drugstore, a funeral parlor and the office of Dr. James W. Bryan, one of Asheville's first African-American doctors.



In 1980 the YMI took on its present role. Under the leadership of Dr. John White, a coalition of local black churches formed the Cultural Center organization and launched an eight-year, million-dollar, award-winning renovation program. Today, as the most enduring African-America socio-cultural institution in Western North Carolina and as a unifying voice for community concerns, the YMI Cultural Center offers renewed direction and leadership to all whom it services.

Those Who First Signed On

In June, 1906, 48 individuals from the African-American community signed the YMI note for \$10,010 transferring the property from George Vanderbilt to YMI, Inc. These citizens of Asheville included two ministers, two physicians, two contractors, a school principal, and undertaker, a barber, a tailor, and a realtor/insurance agent. These were:

Alex Blackwell	J.C. Davis	Scott. L. Johnson	Jno. W. Nipson
Washington Brooks	S.R. Dickson	Henry E. Jones	Kay Palmer
William P. Brooks	C.B. Dusenberry	W.S. Lee	H.P. Pearson
H.B. Brown	Fred D. Fowler	C.C. Lipscombe	J.N. Rhome
J.W. Brown	J.W.O. Garrett	E. L. Madison	W. A. Robinson
J.W. Bryan	P.A. Gavis	J.H. McGinnis	Isaac A. Shade
J.F. Butler	George Greenlee	Edward Miller	E.W. Swepson
F.S. Campbell	H.H. Hamilton	James V. Miller	W.J. Trent
David Carter	Jonas Haynes	Leotus Miller	A.D. Wallace
Joseph S. Chambers	W. J. Hemitage	C.J. Morrow	J.A. Wilson
Douglas Clark	H. H. Hohnesby	N. Morrough	E.F. Young
Otis Clemmons	B. J. Jackson	J.R. Nelson	

The YMI Cultural Center is for Everyone

A national historic landmark that links past and present, the YMI has come to symbolize the dreams and needs of the community. Economically, the YMICC was instrumental in the creation of the South Pack Square Redevelopment Plan and has become a partner of the Pack Place Education, Art and Science Center. Through a special agreement with the City of Asheville and the YMI Cultural Center, the Asheville, Parks and Recreation Department utilizes the YMICC to enhance its cultural arts programming and facilitate program development between cultural arts organizations.

Photo: Interior of YMI Drugstore, 1910, courtesy of *Heritage of Black Highlanders Collection, D.H. Ramsey Library, Special Collections, University of North Carolina at Asheville 28804.*

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Elizabeth Catlett, *Head of a Woman*, 1967. Courtesy of Bank of America.

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City of Asheville Parks & Recreation Department

Goombay poster design by Terenia Autrey, Asheville Parks & Recreation Department.

Commemorative program booklet design by Andrew Reed.

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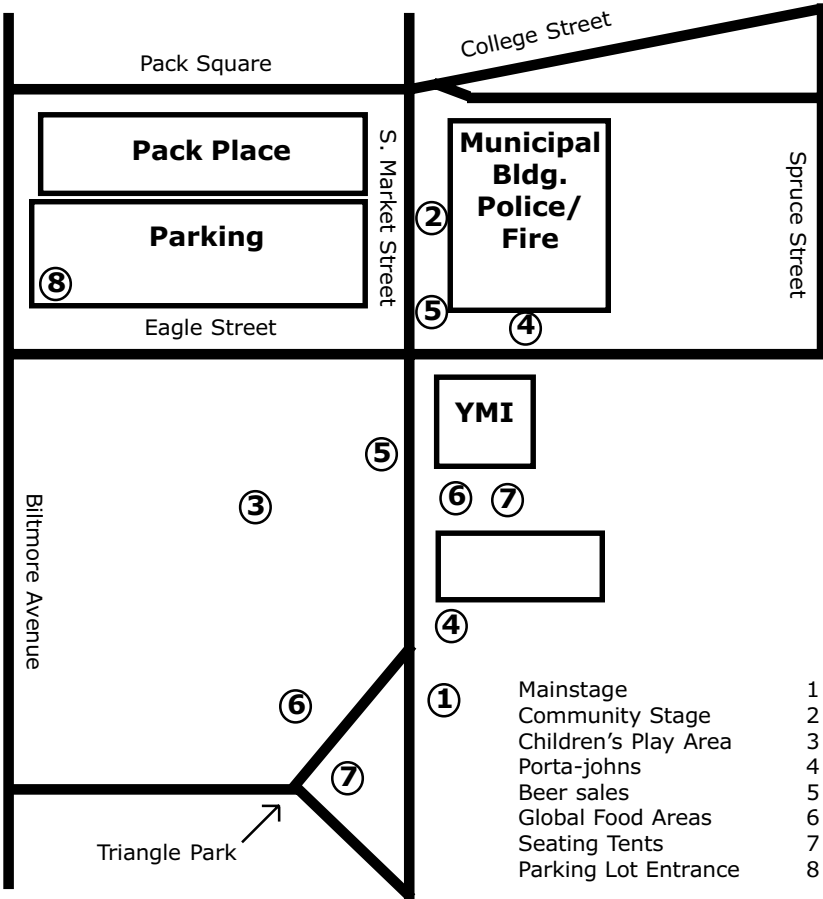
The Asheville-Buncombe
Education Coalition
congratulates the YMI on
serving our community
for 110 years!



Located in the YMI building,
the Education Coalition is a
community-wide collaboration
to provide mentoring and
tutoring to help all Asheville
City and Buncombe County
public school students graduate.
To volunteer as a mentor or
tutor, please call 828-252-5936.

GOOMBAY!

LAKESIDE • ULTRASOUND • WESTSOUND • STANLEY BAIRD



The Story of Goombay in Asheville

The Goombay Festival was discovered by Gloria Howard Free while she, Florence Green, and Jacqueline King attended AKA' National boule in Florida. For eight years Mrs. Free dreamed of having a Goombay Festival in Asheville. Finally, she presented the idea to a newly organized group of women of color: the Friends of the YMI Cultural Center, established to support the YMCC.

In August 1982, the Friends decided to sponsor the first Goombay Festival to raise funds and motivate minority citizens to support the YMCC. Some of those involved were Mrs. King, Mrs. Willie L. Vincent, Mrs. Free, Mrs. Julia Ray, Mrs. Jeanne Bowman, Mrs. Barbara Jones, Mrs. Georgia Allen Taft, and Ms. Sophia Dixon. With support from several men, including the Block people, the area was cleaned up and transformed into a Festival ground, with music from a Jam Box, dancing in the street, and food donated by community groups and cooked by Mrs. Louise McMorris and others.

August 22, 23, 24 2003

21 years on the block · Asheville · NC

Schedule of Events*

On the Block – Eagle & S. Market Streets

Friday, August 22, 2003

5:00 (MS) Greetings & Welcome
 5:30 Rockell
 6:00 Ultrasound/R&B & JAZZ
 8:00 Song of Life Ensemble
 9:00 Sandy 'B' and The All Stars/R&B

Mainstage = MS Community Stage = CS
--

Saturday, August 23, 2003

12:00 noon Parade: Goombay! Drummers, Hillcrest Majorette Drum Corps, Free Spirit, Drummers & Dancers, Hill Street Steppers for Christ, Oakley Elementary Belles & Beaus, Family Affair, & much much more
 2:30 pm YMI Community Jazz Band/Gary Bradley, director (MS)
 3:00 Family Affair/Drummers & Dancers (CS)
 4:00 Thomas Chapel Gospel Choir, Sandy Propst, Trinity Baptist Musical Choir (MS)
 5:30 Most Wanted/R&B (CS)
 6:30 The Camp (CS)
 7:00 Stanley Baird Group/Jazz (MS)
 8:15 Westsound/R&B (MS)
 9:15 Goombay! Update
 9:30 Lakeside/R&B (MS)

Sunday, August 24, 2003

11:00 am Worship service (MS)
 12:00 noon Minister Isaac Mullins Jr. & Divine Promise
 1:00 pm Gospel Fest: Bethel Seventh Day Adventist Church, Sandy Propst, St James Youth Choir, MENMUZIC (MS)
 3:00 Drummers & Stilt Dancer
 4:00 Sweet Dreams/R&B (MS)
 5:30 Grand Finale: Drummers & Dancers

*Schedule subject to change

The Friends of the YMI

Georgia Allen
 Jeanne Bowman
 Wanda Coleman
 Sophia Dixon
 Gloria Howard Free
 Margaret Fuller
 Josie Gilliland

Julia Hall
 Barbara Hunter
 Barbara Jones
 Geraldine Kennedy
 Jacqueline King
 Julia Ray
 Jacqueline Scott

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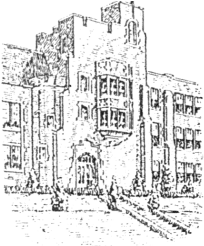
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Joan Norris, Recording Secretary

James Duncan, Treasurer

Florence L. Green, Historian

Sarah Dorsey, Vice President

LaFredia B. Morris, Corresponding Secretary

Mary F. Talford, Financial Secretary

Frederick Horne, Sergeant-at-arms

The Alumni meets every second Saturday of the month at 3:00 p.m. Stephens-Lee Center. Associate members and anyone who attended Stephens-Lee or Catholic Hill are invited to attend.

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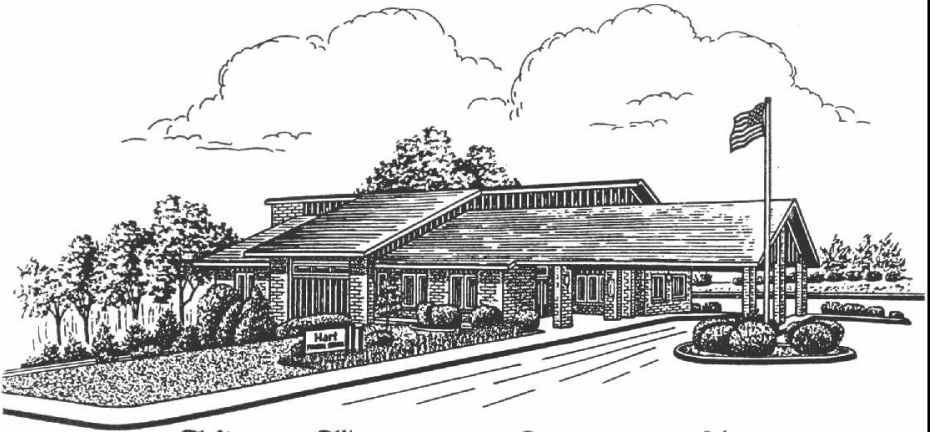
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