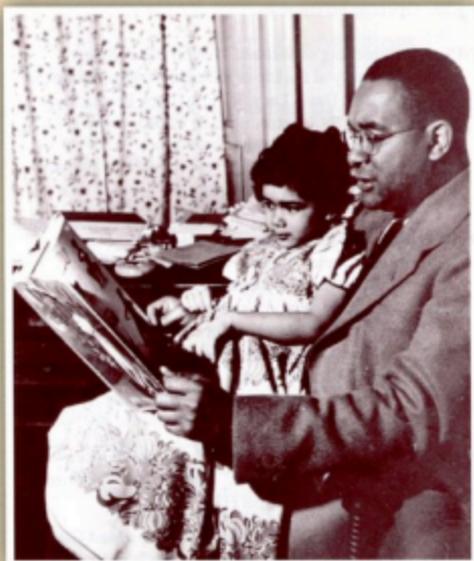


The 19th Annual
Natchez Literary and Cinema
Celebration

February 20 - 24, 2008

presents

***Richard Wright, the South,
and the World:
A Centennial Celebration***



Richard Wright and his daughter, Julia, 1944

Headquarters:

**Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street • Natchez, Mississippi**

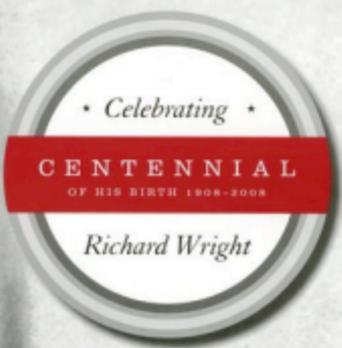
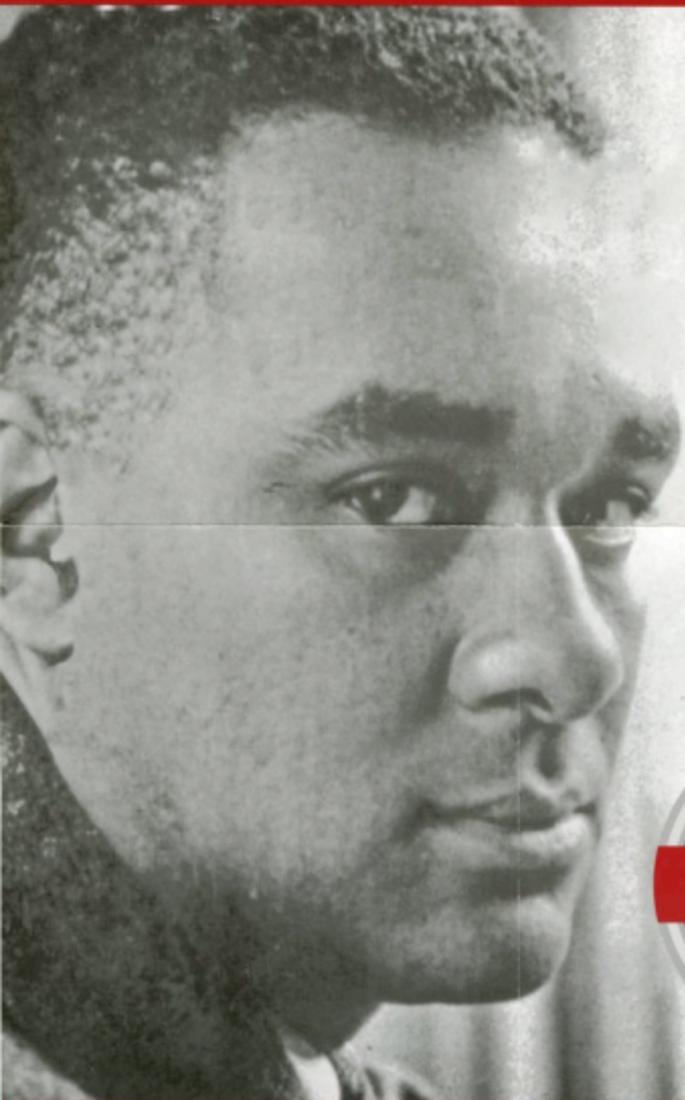
*Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.
Locations change for certain events.*

SPONSORS: COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
NATCHEZ NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK,
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY,
AND MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC BROADCASTING
with partial funding from the
MISSISSIPPI HUMANITIES COUNCIL

2008 part 1
page 1

Celebrating 100 Years of

RICHARD WRIGHT



WORKS BY RICHARD WRIGHT

*A Father's Law • Eight Men • Pagan Spain • The Outsider • Black Power
Black Boy • Native Son • Uncle Tom's Children • Rite of Passage*

2008 part 1
page 2

HARPER PERENNIAL

www.harperperennial.com

Photo: Corbis; Photos: Andrew Gump/Corbis

Welcome!
Richard Wright
Family Members &
Natchez Literary &
Cinema Celebration

Provided by Natchez Downtown Development Association

2009 part 1
page 3

*fill 2007 NLCC publicity***Smith, Carolyn Vance**

From: Garner, Howell
Sent: Friday, September 08, 2006 9:53 AM
To: Colin Everyone
Subject: Board of Trustees Actions

The Co-Lin Board of Trustees met in regular session at 1:00 PM on Thursday, September 7 at the Natchez Campus. A representation of Actions & Reports is given below.

ACTIONS:

- Authorized the administration to accept proposals in lieu of bids for publication of the college yearbook;
- Authorized the administration to accept bids for the publication of the college catalog;
- Approved the MACJC assessment for FY 2007 in the amount of \$8,367 to cover costs of affiliate groups and operations at the state level;
- Approved a contract with the MS State Board of Health for the Wesson Campus to be used for a "special needs" shelter in cases of catastrophic events, contingent upon approval of contract language by the College Attorney;
- Approved recommendations by the administration and a special Board committee for improvements in the operation of college auxiliary accounts;
- Approved &/or ratified purchase orders for over \$5,000;
- Approved the certification of sole source purchases;
- Approved a bid by Calhoun Fence Co. in the amount of \$18,000 to replace the fence around the football stadium;
- Approved an updated 5-year Capital Improvements plan;

REPORTS:

- A copy of the President's Goals & Objectives for FY 2007 was provided for the Board, with comments by the President;
- A preliminary report was made regarding enrollment for the fall term of 2006;
- A report was made on the status of court action on the Energy Management Project;
- A report was made on the delivery of the Mini-bus - to be delivered on Friday, September 8;
- A report was made on the receipt of \$35,500 from the Bush/Clinton Katrina Relief Fund - a second payment for additional expenses incurred;
- A report was made on the visits by the college administration to county Boards of Supervisors;
- A report was made on the first football game on August 31;
- A report was made on student activities;
- A report was made on technology software protection;
- A report was made on the 2006-2007 Community Arts Series;

9/10/2006

2008 part 1
page 4

AN EVENING OF JAZZ VIBRATIONS

A Benefit Concert to support the
establishment of the
Richard Wright Exhibit Hall
At the NAPAC Museum

Featuring

THE RUSSELL THOMAS QUINTET

Jackson, MS



Friday September 14, 2007
7:00 pm
Natchez Community Center
215 Franklin Street - Natchez

Advanced Tickets

NAPAC Members: \$15.00

(Present membership card for discount)

Non-Members: \$20.00 (includes NAPAC membership)

Tickets at Door \$25.00

For Ticket Information Call

(601) 445-0728

All Other Donations Graciously Accepted!

Program partners: The Natchez Richard Wright Centennial Celebration Committee
The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

TICKETS FOR SALE AT OFFICE OF
THE NATCHEZ Literary and Cinema Celebration
near the bookstore at Co-Lin

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: LaFrancis, Mark
Sent: Friday, January 18, 2008 2:48 PM
To: Natchez Everyone
Subject: Campus Calendar, Friday, Jan. 18, 2008

Hello:

Here is the Campus Calendar for Friday, Jan. 18, 2008.

We will be sending updated weekly calendars on Friday to your e-mails. Please send your information by Thursday noon.

Thank you.

JANUARY 2008

Every Friday: Current Issues Discussion Group, 11 a.m.,

Library Conference Room. Bring your lunch and enjoy conversing about a topic in the news.

Every Monday: N-Sights and Yearbook staff meeting, 11 a.m., Room 213 in the Reed Academic Center.

Monday, Jan. 21: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - campus closed.

Tuesday, Jan. 22: Relay for Life meeting, 11 a.m., Room 120 (Library Conference Room)

Wednesday, Jan. 23: Spanish Club meeting, 11 a.m., Room 303.

Wednesday, Jan. 23: A recruiter from Mississippi State University will be in the Bookstore lobby from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 23: Student Support Services Mentor/Mentee Lunch/Meeting, Academic Activity Room, for Mentors and Mentees.

Friday, Jan. 25: Health Care Initiative Session, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room. Open to all staff and students.

FEBRUARY 2008

Every Friday: Current Issues Discussion Group, 11 a.m.,

Library Conference Room. Bring your lunch and enjoy conversing about a topic in the news.

Every Monday: N-Sights and Yearbook staff meeting, 11 a.m., Room 213 in the Reed Academic Center.

Wednesday, Feb. 6: The Sojourners' performance, 11 a.m., W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room. Free concert. All are encouraged to attend.

Monday, Feb. 11: Dine with the Dean, 11 a.m., Room 410 (Academic Activity Room). Club advisors are requested to select a delegate. Contact Mark LaFrancis, Director of Public Information.

Tuesday, Feb. 12: TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education), 8:30 a.m. to noon, W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room.

Tuesday, Feb. 12: Campus Leadership Team meeting, 11 a.m., Room 120 (Library Conference Room)

Wednesday, Feb. 20: Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration and Student Support Services present a special program, 11 a.m. W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room.

Thursday, Feb. 21-Sunday, Feb. 24: Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. For all the details, log on to www.colin.edu/nlcc

Tuesday, Feb. 26: TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education), 8:30 a.m. to noon, W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room.

MARCH 2008

N-Sights

The campus newspaper of Copeiah-Lincoln Community College Natchez

December 2007
Vol. 35, No. 3

NLCC to pay tribute to Richard Wright

The life and works of Richard Wright, a famed native son of Natchez, Miss., will be celebrated on the centennial of his birth during the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Circus Celebration, Feb. 21-24, 2008.

The conference theme is "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration." The family, including Smith and Co-Lin, are co-chairing the event.

"We are pleased that the Natchez conference will kick off a worldwide, year-long focus on Richard Wright," she said.

Wright wrote such blood-boiling novels as *Native Son*, *Black Boy*, *Lovely Day*, *White Man Listen and Uncle Tom's Children*, which has been chosen as *Book of the Year* for the Mississippi Reads Project.

Wright, born in 1908 near Natchez, died in 1960 in Paris, France.

"He will come alive during the conference," Smith said. "His love of family, books, music, food, photography, film and acting will be discussed, along with scholarly criticism of his works."

"His daughter, Julia Wright, of



Richard Wright (from the film *Celebration of American Literature, African American Book and Manuscript Library*)

Paris, will be the keynote speaker, and dozens of family members from around the world are planning to attend.

Charles Wright of Natchez, a cousin who is the family historian, is organizing the first-ever "Richard Wright Ramble," a guided tour of sites associated with Richard Wright and members of the Wright family.

The tour, which will take place during the conference, includes home places, churches, schools, cemeteries and localities featured in Wright's novels.

"Scholars and authors from the United States and Europe will present programs about Richard Wright's works and those of his colleagues," Smith said. In addition to lectures are films, documentaries, a dramatic version of *Native Son* by the Natchez Little Theatre, meals featuring Wright's favorite foods, writing workshops and readings.

Most of the conference is free of charge.

Co-chairmen and sponsors with Smith and Co-Lin are Kathleen Jenkins and the Natchez National Historical Park, Jim Barnett and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Marie Antoin and the Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Partial funding is from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Information and tickets for meals, the play, the tour and writing workshops are available by calling 601-446-1289 or toll-free, 866-296-6522, emailing skh0679@co.lin.edu, or visiting www.co.lin.edu.



SHHH!

*One of the South's
Best Kept Secrets*

**HISTORIC NATCHEZ ON THE MISSISSIPPI
AND THE HISTORIC RIVER REGION ALONG HIGHWAY 61**

Here's What's Rollin' On The River

Mardi Gras Natchez Style

Krewe of Phoenix Parade, Saturday, January 21

Black History Month

February is a month of celebrations of the unique history of Blacks in Natchez. See our web site for times and more details.

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

February 21-24

2008 Natchez Spring Pilgrimage

March 8-April 12

HISTORIC
Natchez
ON THE MISSISSIPPI
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU



FOR MORE INFORMATION

1.800.647.6724

VISITNATCHEZ.COM

This project partially funded by the Mississippi Division of Tourism

January 2008 *Country Roads* Page 63

2008 part 1
page 3

Country

Adventures Close to Home E

January 2008

Roads

Events · Getaways · Cuisine



The 19th annual Natchez Literary and
Cinema Celebration presents

"Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration"

February 20-24, 2008

Natchez Convention Center

211 Main Street, Natchez, Mississippi

Lectures, Films & Discussions
about Natchez's famous native son

A Richard Wright-related tour

The play, *Native-Son*

Awards ceremony

Book signings

Special meals and parties

Most events are free!

**For agenda, ticketed events
& information:**

www.colin.edu/nlcc

Call toll-free 866-296-6522 or

601-446-1289

Email: kkaho6769@st.colin.edu



"Natchez native Richard Wright and his daughter,
Julia Wright, New York, 1944." Julia Wright will
be the keynote speaker at the 19th annual Natchez
Literary and Cinema Celebration on February 20-24, 2008.

2008 part 1
page 9

**Natchez,
Mississippi,
Welcomes the
World to Celebrate
the Life and Works
of Richard Wright
through a New
Program offered by
Elderhostel**

Natchez, Miss. - The life and works of Richard Wright, a famed native son of Natchez, Miss., will be celebrated on the centennial of his birth at the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration Feb. 20-24, 2008. Elderhostel, in association with Copeiah-Lincoln Community College, takes you on a five-day educational

adventure and provides you with a front-row seat to experience lectures, workshops, a live performance, food and friends dedicated to the memory of one of the most acclaimed black authors of all time.

Elderhostel is a not-for-profit organization with more than 30 years of experience providing exceptional learning opportunities through educational travel programs throughout the world for adults at remarkable values. Elderhostel's newest programming initiative is Road Scholar-designed for a new generation of independent educational travelers. "As Elderhostel and Road Scholar develop experiences that are culturally significant to the African American community, the Natchez program is excit-

ing for anyone interested in American history, while highlighting the works of an African American icon," said James Moses, president and CEO of Elderhostel.

"Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A

See **Elderhostel** on 8

Elderhostel

from page 3

Centennial Celebration" is the conference theme of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Wright wrote such blockbusters as *Native Son*, *Black Boy*, *Lawd Today*, *White Man Listen* and *Uncle Tom's Children*, which has been chosen as *Book of the Year* for the Mississippi Reads Project. He was born in 1908 near Natchez and died in 1960 in Paris, France. "He will come alive during the conference; his love of family, books, music, food, drama, photography, film and acting will be discussed, along with scholarly criticism of his works," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copeiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the event. His daughter, Julia Wright, of Paris, will be the keynote speaker, and dozens of family members from around the world are planning to attend.

The first "Richard Wright Ramble," a docent-led exploration of sites associated with Richard Wright and the Wright family, is being organized by Charles Wright of Natchez, a cousin who is family historian. The exploration includes Natchez-area home places, churches, schools, cemeteries and locations featured in

2008 part 1
page 10

New Orleans chef to present at NLCC

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — Leah Chase, long-time chef at Dooky Chase's Restaurant in New Orleans, will present a program, "Creole-izing Richard Wright," at the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Her program will take place after lunch at the Carriage House Restaurant on the grounds of Stanton Hall on Fri., Feb. 22.

The program follows the conference theme, "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration."

Natchez is kicking off a year-long salute to the famous author of such block busters as "Native Son" and "Black Boy." Wright was born near

Natchez in 1908 and died in Paris, France, in 1960.

Chase has been named to the Lafcadio Hearn Hall of Honor at Nicholls State University's John Foise Culinary Institute and has received the Candace Award, the Freedom Foundation Award, the NAACP Human Understanding and A.P. Tureaud Awards, the Times-Picayune Loving Cup and the Weiss Award from The National Conference of Christians and Jews.

She is the subject of the biography "Leah Chase: Listen, I Say Like This" by Carol Allen. Chase is the author of "The Dooky Chase Cookbook," "And Still I Cook," and "Down Home Healthy: Family Recipes of Black American Chefs."

Bonnie Woodward, manager

of the Carriage House Restaurant, will serve some of Richard Wright's favorite foods at the luncheon Feb. 23. These were suggested by Julia Wright of Paris, France, the daughter of Richard Wright.

"You remember, of course, the famous meal in Black Boy when his mother made soup and a big platter of fried chicken, and my father was so afraid the preacher would eat all the fried chicken!" Wright said.

The luncheon will feature soup and fried chicken.

Introducing Chase will be Duncan Morgan of Natchez, who, years ago, as a young

student at Xavier University in New Orleans, enjoyed meals at Dooky Chase Restaurant and became friends with Dooky Chase and his wife, Leah Chase.

Tickets for the luncheon and program are \$20, available by calling 601-446-1289 or toll-free 866-296-6322 or visiting www.colin.edu/nlcc/ tickets or emailing kka-ho6769@st.colin.edu.

The NLCC is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Partial funding comes from the Mississippi Humanities Council.



2008 part 1
page 11

**COPIAH-LINCOLN
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Natchez, Miss.**

A Feast of Southern Culture

Biscuits, Gumbo, Sweet Tea, and Bourbon Balls. A mouthwatering menu, to be sure, and also the title of last year's Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which centered on Southern food and drink in history, literature, and film. Since 1990, Copiah-Lincoln has served up food for thought on its campus in Natchez, where some 35 percent of the population lives below the poverty line. The programs have delved into such regionally significant themes as race and gender, the legacy of cotton, famous Southern families, and religion in the South.

Two thousand people attend the Natchez conference each year, and local residents volunteer in all aspects of the event. The result is a diverse audience, whose members are highly educated as well as undereducated, wealthy and poor, white and black. They come together to celebrate literature.

Carolyn Vance Smith, who oversees the event, believes it has stayed popular because the programming and themes are

A literary festival at Copiah-Lincoln Community College included a celebration at a Natchez, Miss., mansion.

"fresh each year and relevant." The event's dozen lectures and related films, talks, book signings, exhibits, plays, readings, and concerts explore the roots of Natchez. "I think people are eager to understand themselves," she says.

The event takes advantage of local resources. "It's not just sitting in a hotel ballroom and listening to speakers," says Ms. Smith. "This conference gets them out of the lecture and into the town." Events in years past have included concerts at an African-American church, tours and fundraising parties in stately homes, and dedications of historic mansions. Conference speakers—like the writers Endora Welby, Nikki Giovanni, and Maya Angelou, and the historians Robert V. Remini, David G. Searing, and Jay Gitlin—are encouraged to spend the weekend in town.

All of Natchez, it seems, gets into the spirit. Natchez High School has an event related to the conference, which next year will focus on Richard N. Wright, author of *Native Son*, who was born nearby. High-



WILL LUTHEMANN

school students will watch a documentary about Wright, produced by Copiah-Lincoln students, and a scholar will discuss one of his books. The college also holds a writing workshop related to the conference theme, and all students are encouraged to attend.

Even elementary-school students take part. In honor of Wright, students will compete in an essay contest in which they take a stand on an issue by starting with the phrase "This I believe." "We try to connect as tightly as we can to the community," says Ms. Smith. ■



NLCC gearing up for Richard Wright centennial

The life and works of Richard Wright, a famed native son of Natchez, will be celebrated on the centennial of his birth during the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 21-24, 2008.

The conference theme is "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the event.

"We are pleased that the Natchez conference will kick off a world-wide, year-long focus on Richard Wright," she said.

Wright wrote such blockbusters as *Native Son*, *Black*

Boy, Loved Today, *White Man Listen* and *Uncle Tom's Children*, which has been chosen as Book of the Year for the Mississippi Reads Project.

Wright, born in 1908 near Natchez, died in 1960 in Paris, France.

"He will come alive during the conference," Smith said. "His love of family, books, music, food, photography, film and acting will be discussed, along with scholarly criticism of his works.

"His daughter, Julia Wright, of Paris, will be the keynote speaker, and dozens of family members from around the world are planning to attend," Smith said.

the Colinian

Copiah-Lincoln Community College
ALUMNI MAGAZINE

NLCC to Honor Natchez Native

NATCHEZ I

| Natchez Literacy & Cinema Celebration |

By Carolyn Vance Smith

The life and works of Richard Wright, a famed native son of Natchez, will be celebrated on the centennial of his birth during the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 20-24, 2008.

The conference theme is "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the event.

"We are pleased that the Natchez conference will kick off a world-wide, year-long focus on Richard Wright," she said.

Wright wrote such blockbusters as "Native Son," "Black Boy," "Lawd Today," "White Man Listen" and "Uncle Tom's Children," which has been chosen as Book of the Year for the Mississippi Reads Project.

Wright, born in 1908 near Natchez, died in 1960 in

workshops, exhibits and a gala benefit reception and dinner at the historic mansion, The Towers.

A highlight each year is an awards ceremony which honors three outstanding writers with Southern roots. An Evening with the Stars, honoring outstanding writers with Southern roots, will take place at 5:30 p.m., Feb. 23.

Winning the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, named in honor of the famous author, are two writers who were both born in Mississippi. They are Emma Bonner and



Continued from page 15, NLCC to Honor: "Driving Miss Daisy" will be screened following the awards ceremony, with a discussion session led by Uhry and Dixon McDowell, professor of film at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Most of the conference is free of charge.

Co-chairmen and sponsors are Carolyn Vance Smith and Copiah-Lincoln Community College; Kathleen Jenkins and the Natchez National Historical Park; Jim Barnett and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History; and Marie Antoon and the Mississippi Public

Broadcasting. Partial funding is from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Information and tickets for meals, the play, the tour and writing workshops are available by calling 601-446-1289 or toll-free, 866-296-6522, emailing bbates6702@et.colin.edu, or visiting www.colin.edu/nlcc.

Continuing Education Units for teachers are available by calling 601-445-2848 or emailing STBAforry@natchez17.ms.us. Information about housing is available by visiting www.csuinatchez.com.

2008 part 1
page 15

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

Literary and cinema program upcoming

Teachers — here is some great news for you. You are eligible to earn up to 2.8 continuing education units (CEUs) in five days during February at a very low-cost, very prestigious event.

This special offer is made by the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. The conference, which will use the theme of "Richard Wright, the South and the World: A Centennial Celebration," will take place Feb. 20-24.

Among more than two-dozen program participants at this year's celebration are:

- ▶ The Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Alfred Uhry, famed for "Driving Miss Daisy"
- ▶ The American Book Award winner and editor emeritus of *Ebony* magazine, Lerone Bennett Jr., known for "Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America 1619-1966"
- ▶ The Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters award winner, the poet Brooks Haxton of Syracuse University, who is author of "Uproar: Antiphonies to Psalms"

▶ Richard Wright's daughter, Julia Wright of Paris, France, who will present the keynote address

▶ Former chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities William Ferris, now eminent professor of history at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

▶ The Richard Wright scholar Jerry W. Ward Jr., published poet and professor at Dillard University, New Orleans

▶ The "Queen of Creole Cuisine" Leah Chase of Dooky Chase Restaurant, New Orleans, author of numerous books and a television personality

▶ One of the world's foremost authorities on the blues, Paul Oliver of England, whose published output is standard reference material for blues enthusiasts

▶ William F. Winter, former Mississippi governor who has served as master of ceremonies for the Celebration since its beginning; David G. Sansing, chairman of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award committee; Howell Garner, president of Copiah-Lincoln Community College; John D. Wu, Guice of The University of Southern Mississippi; and other well-known authors, scholars and conference supporters

In addition to programs, other program components include:

▶ A play by Richard Wright and Paul Green, "Native Son," presented by the Natchez Little Theatre

▶ "The Richard Wright Ramble," a guided tour of sites around Natchez related to Wright, his family and his works, arranged by family historian Charles Wright of Natchez

▶ Two meals featuring Richard Wright's favorite foods, suggested by his daughter, Julia Wright, one hosted by the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture at the Convention Center and another at the Carriage House Restaurant at Stanton Hall

▶ Writing workshops, one on film composition by Madison Davis Lacy Jr., producer of "Richard Wright: Black Boy," and one on Richard Wright's haiku poetry by Jianqing Zheng of Mississippi Valley State University

▶ The premiere of "Richard Wright: A Force for Right," a documentary produced by Mark LaFrancis of Copiah-Lincoln Community College

▶ The showing of several other films, including "Richard Wright: Black Boy," "Long

Black Song" from "Uncle Tom's Children," and "Driving Miss Daisy"

▶ An open house and reception at the Angelle House, hosted by the regional chapter of the National Coalition of One Hundred Black Women and "The Southern Quarterly," a journal of the arts of the South, published by The University of Southern Mississippi

▶ A reception hosted by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at The University of Mississippi

▶ Special exhibits and so

much more.

This award-winning, mostly free conference will begin at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 20, at the Natchez Convention Center and continue through 1 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 24.

It is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. It is partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

TOP OF THE MORNING

Sturleen

Morris

A CEU registration fee of \$75 covers cost of CEU verification as well as cost of certain ticketed NLCC events. To get all 2.8 CEUs (28 hours), a person must attend the following:

▶ All free events, from 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 20, until 10:45 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 23

▶ Certain ticketed events, paid for by the \$75 fee. These are the play, "Native Son," on Feb. 22; the guided tour on Feb. 23; and writing workshops on Feb. 24.

Attendance is not required for a supper Feb. 21, a luncheon Feb. 22; a gala benefit party Feb. 23 and at several receptions.

Teachers who cannot attend all the required events and thus cannot get all 2.8 CEUs may obtain fewer CEUs by paying \$65. They will receive one-tenth of a CEU for each hour of attendance, up to 27 hours or 2.7 CEUs.

Those paying \$65 are eligible to attend any and all of the free sessions as well as the ticketed sessions, which are the play Feb. 22, the tour Feb. 23, and the writing workshops Feb. 24.

In order to obtain CEUs, a teacher should send name, address, phone number and check (made out to Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration for either \$75 or \$65) to me, Sturleen Morris, Natchez-Adams School System, P.O. Box 1188, Natchez, MS 39121. For more information, please call me at 601-445-2848.

At the conference, teachers must sign in and sign out. The record of attendance will determine the number of CEUs to be granted.

I am pleased to serve once again as the celebration's CEU committee chairperson. What a wonderful opportunity for area teachers.

It goes without saying that the celebration has to meet high standards to be able to offer CEUs again this year.

So, get out your checkbook today and sign up for what official evaluators call Mississippi's most significant annual conference devoted to literature, history, film and culture.

It's the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. See you there.

STURLEEN MORRIS is the media center coordinator for the Natchez-Adams School District.



The 19th annual Natchez Literary and
Cinema Celebration presents

"Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration"

February 20-24, 2008
Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street, Natchez, Mississippi

Lectures, Films & Discussions
about Natchez's famous native son

A Richard Wright-related tour

The play, *Native Son*

Awards ceremony

Book signings

Special meals and parties

Most events are free!

**For agenda, ticketed events
& information:**

www.colin.edu/nlcc

Call toll-free 866-296-6522 or
601-446-1289

Email: kkaho6769@st.colin.edu



"Natchez native Richard Wright and his daughter,
Julia Wright, New York, 1944." Julia Wright will
be the keynote speaker at the 2008 NLCC.

Sponsored by:

Copiah-Lincoln Community College • Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History • Mississippi Public Broadcasting
with partial funding from the Mississippi Humanities Council

Photo from the Yale Collection of American Literature,
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

NLCC honors Richard Wright

Four-page section features 19th annual celebration

One of Natchez's most famous native sons, the world-renowned author, Richard Wright, will be honored Feb. 20-24 throughout the 19th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The award-winning conference will use the theme, "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration." Headquarters in the Natchez Convention Center on Main Street.

"The conference will allow us to get acquainted with the lesser side of Richard Wright while we explore his life, his works and his continuing influence," said Carolyn Vance Smith, longtime educator at Copeiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez. Smith and Co-Lin founded the NLCC in 1990.

"Richard Wright was born on a plantation a few miles east of Natchez in 1908," she said. "Though he had only a sixth-grade education, and though he had to overcome desperate poverty, he achieved international fame for his writing." Wright died in Paris, France, in 1960. "The NLCC is kicking off a world-wide tribute to Richard Wright this year. We expect large crowds, including numerous Wright relatives from across the country."

Wright is renowned for such works as the novel, "Native Son," the fictionalized auto-

biograph, "Black Boy," and a collection of stories, "Uncle Tom's Children," which was chosen Book-of-the-Year in 2008 by a statewide project called "100 Greatest Reads."

In addition, Wright wrote such books as White Man Listen, One Hundred Black Voices, Pagan Spain, and A Father's Law. Wright's unfinished final novel, which was released just this year.

"Since 1940, when Native Son sold hundreds of thousands of copies in a matter of weeks, many of his books have been bestsellers and continue to sell," said Jerry W. Ward Jr., professor at Delta State University, New Orleans, and a nationally known Wright scholar.

"He is one of the most powerful writers of the 20th century," Ward said.



Richard Wright and his daughter Julia.

"These days, school children routinely read and study his works. He is in all the anthologies."

Ward conducted a year-long series of monthly discussions in Natchez during 2007, focusing each month on a different work by Richard Wright. Overall, hundreds of people attended the sessions.

"The sessions were a way to get people to read Richard Wright's works and discuss them," Ward said. "The large turnout pleased me very much."

The sessions were sponsored by the NLCC and the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American History and Culture and were hosted at various sites in the Miss-Los.

Ward also helped devise the programming for the 2008 NLCC.

The NLCC is sponsored by Copeiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Partial funding comes from the Mississippi Humanities Council and the Mississippi Arts Commission.

For a complete schedule, log on to the NLCC web site: www.colin.edu/nlcc

Students create original documentary; premier set for Feb. 20

An original documentary about Richard Wright will be shown for the first time during the 19th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The half-hour documentary, "Richard Wright: A Force for Right," was produced by Copeiah-Lincoln Community College's Natchez campus. Five students in the Introduction to Broadcasting class and instructor Mark LaFrancis did the filming and editing in what is the college's most ambitious documentary to date. The students are Landon Henry, Latashia Wansley-Clark, Michael Faqua, Mark M. LaFrancis and Michelle Wynn.

The documentary is designed to educate and inspire the viewer, particularly young people, about Richard Wright and his stature in the literary world.

The film will be shown on three separate occasions during the NLCC. The first will be Wednesday, Feb. 20, in a program at Co-Lin beginning at 11 a.m. in the W. L. Nelson Multipurpose Room. Co-Lin's Student Support Services will conduct a Black History Month program.

In addition to the film, Dr. Robert Butler of Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y., will talk about Wright's southern religious background.

A special program with the documentary will be given to area students at Natchez High School on Friday, Feb. 22. A general public showing will be Saturday, Feb. 23, at 1 p.m. at the Natchez Convention Center during a program that is free.

"Mark LaFrancis and the Co-Lin students have created and produced a compelling, first-rate documentary that will inspire and educate both longtime admirers as well as newcomers to Richard Wright's work," said Emmy-winning producer Jenni Ogden. "The film is well-paced, well-shot and edited, the filmmakers successfully blend technical skill with the creative use of visual images and voiceover to illuminate the importance of Richard Wright's early life on his work, and the extraordinary legacy he left behind. Congratulations on a film well done!"

Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chairman of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, said, "This film is extraordinarily well

done and very meaningful. It will enhance the conference immensely."

The documentary has been in the works for more than a year and a half. It grew out of a desire for Co-Lin Natchez to take part in an educational project for the 2008 NLCC, and feature Richard Wright. A plan done the road is for Co-Lin to seek funding to possibly distribute the documentary to secondary schools in Mississippi. Seventeen high school and college students were interviewed for the documentary, both at Co-Lin and at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Jackson.

The documentary includes special readings by Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr., of New Orleans, one of the foremost Richard Wright scholars, of Richard Wright's own words from his book "Black Boy." The film also features interviews with former Mississippi Gov. William F. Winter.

Copies of the documentary will be available for a donation; it is not for sale commercially. A portion of the proceeds will help with the Richard Wright Exhibit Hall in the Natchez Museum of African-American Culture in downtown Natchez.



Co-Lin students Landon Henry and Michelle Wynn, right, tape photographs of Frogmore Plantation, while Latashia Wansley-Clark looks for more items to film for the documentary "Richard Wright: A Force for Right."

Authors to pick up Wright literary awards

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — Three prominent authors with Southern roots will win major writing awards at the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which will take place Feb. 20-24.

The authors are, Lerone Bennett Jr., a native of Clarksdale, now of Chicago; Brooks Haxton, a native of Grovesville, now of Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y.; Alfred Uhry, a native of Atlanta,



Bennett Haxton Uhry

now of New York City.

All three will be present to receive the awards and make remarks during free public cere-

monies at 5:30 p.m., Feb. 23, at the Natchez Convention Center.

Bennett and Haxton will each win a Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, given annually as a way to honor Richard Wright, Natchez's own "native son."

Uhry, a nationally known screenwriter, will win the Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting. The award was named after Horton Foote, a Texas native, who has won the Pulitzer Prize and other major awards for

such works as the screenplay, "To Kill a Mockingbird."

"We are delighted to have these outstanding writers coming to Natchez," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the NLCC. "The conference is indebted to both hard-working awards committees who selected these winners last summer."

By **ANDREW J.**

2009 part 1
page 19



The Natchez Democrat

SUPER BOWL: Manning leads a Giant upset. 18

CRIME: Owner of oil c

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

AWARD: Theme for conference is 'Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration'

FROM PAGE 1A

The theme for this year's conference is "Richard Wright, the South, and The World: A Centennial Celebration." Wright was born near Natchez in 1908 and died in Paris, France, in 1960. He is most famed for two best-sellers, "Native Son" and "Black Boy."

Wright wrote more than a dozen other works, including "Uncle Tom's Children," a collection of stories that has been chosen Book of the Year for 2008 by the Mississippi Reads project.

Lerone Bennett Jr., historian and executive editor emeritus of "Ebony" magazine is the author of 10 books, including "Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America," which American Legacy magazine called "one of

the most popular single-volume histories of blacks ever written."

A graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta and a member of Phi Beta Kappa honorary scholastic fraternity, Bennett joined Johnson Publishing Company in Chicago in 1953. He became executive editor of "Ebony" in 1987 and retired in 2003.

Bennett's books, poems and short stories have been translated into six languages and have won national awards. He received the Patron Saints Award of the Society of Midland Authors for a biography of his Morehouse college mate, Martin Luther King Jr., and the American Book Award for "Forced Into Glory," his study of Abraham Lincoln.

He has been visiting professor of history at Northwestern University

and continues to serve on the Board of Trustees of Columbia College Chicago and the Chicago History Museum.

Bennett was appointed by President Bill Clinton to the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities and by President George W. Bush to the Presidential Commission on the proposed National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Among numerous awards for his work, he has received the "Salute to Greatness" award, the highest honor of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, inclusion in the Hall of Fame of the National Association of Black Journalists, and recently was inducted into the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame.

Haxton, son of the late composer

Kenneth Haxton of Greenville is also the son of the award-winning Haxton and Natchez native Josephine Haxton of Jackson, who uses the pen name, "Ellen Douglas." She won the Richard Wright Award at the 1996 NLCC.

Haxton's collections of original poems published by Alfred A. Knopf have been "Nakedness, Death, and the Number Zero," "The Sun at Night," "Traveling Company," "Dominion," and "Uproar: Antiphonies to Psalms." He has also published two book-length narrative poems, "The Lay of Eleonor" and "Irene and Dead Reckoning."

His book of translations of ancient Greek poetry, "Dances for Flute and Thunder," was one of three nominees for the 2006 PEN Poetry in Translation Award.

2008 part 1
page 20

OPINION

www.saltbrinejournal.com

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2008

OUR OPINION

Black History is America's future too

If you're like us, you woke up the other day wondering where the month of January went.

It almost seemed as if the month of February sneaked in a little early.

But regardless of its sudden arrival, we're glad February is here. On the most basic level, it signals warm weather is just around the corner. But, more important, February is Black History Month.

The special designation helps force all of us to remember the importance of black contributions to American history.

It's vital to do that because for years, black history wasn't considered part of American history. It wasn't in the history books or the scholarly journals.

But that's quickly changing.

Later this month, the words of world-renowned author Richard Wright, Natchez's own "native son," will be featured in the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Scholars from all over the world will come here to study Wright's literary greatness.

Today's Super Tuesday primary contains the first truly national black candidate as a contender for the Democratic Party's nomination for president of the United States.

Yes, February is truly a good month to focus on the accomplishments of not only the blacks who have marked our history, but who are also marking our future, too.

One day — and that day gets ever closer with each passing day — black history will be a valued part of American history.

2008 part 1
page 21

Black History Month Edition

Established
1978

T Bluff City T THE S T

"WHERE THERE IS PEOPLE PERISH"

VOLUME 29 No. 3

ESTABLISHED 1978

February 8 - 22, 2008

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

Natchez's famous "Native Son" to be honored at NLCC

One of Natchez's most famous native sons, the world-renowned author, Richard Wright, will be honored Feb. 20-24 throughout the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinemat Celebration.

The award-winning conference will use the theme, "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration." Headquarters is the Natchez Convention Center on Main Street.

"The conference will allow us to get acquainted with the human side of Richard Wright while we explore his life, his works and his continuing influence," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Smith and Co-Lin founded the NLCC in 1990.

"Richard Wright was born on a plantation a few miles east of Natchez in 1908," she said. "After achieving fame for his writing, he died in Paris, France, in 1960.

"The NLCC is kicking off a world-wide tribute this year. We expect large crowds, including numerous Wright relatives from across the country."

Wright is renowned for such works as the novel, *Native Son*; the fictionalized autobiography, *Black Boy*; and a collection of stories, *Uncle Tom's Children*, which was chosen *Book-of-the-Year* in 2008 by a statewide project called "Mississippi Reads."



In addition, Wright wrote such books as *White Man, Listen*, *One Hundred Black Voices*, *Pagan Spain*, *XXX, XXX, XXX* and *A Father's Law*, Wright's unfinished final novel, released just this year.

"Since 1940, when *Native Son* sold hundreds of thousands of copies in a matter of weeks, many of his books have been bestsellers and continue to sell," said Jerry W. Ward Jr., professor at Dillard University, New Orleans, and a nationally known Wright scholar.

"He is one of the most powerful writers of the 20th century," Ward said. "These days, school children routinely read and study his works. He is in all the anthologies."

Ward conducted a year-long series of monthly discussions in Natchez during 2007, focusing each month on a different work by Richard Wright. Overall, hundreds of people attended the

sessions.

"The sessions were a way to get people to read Richard Wright's works and discuss them," Ward said. "The large turnout pleased me very much."

The sessions were sponsored by the NLCC and the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American History and Culture and were hosted at various sites in the Miss-Lou.

Ward also helped devise the programming for the 2008 NLCC.

Speakers on the agenda are:

* Keynote speaker Julia Wright of Paris, daughter of Richard Wright and an internationally known author and scholar, whose talk at 11 a.m., Feb. 21, is "Children of Oppressed Giant: Living with the Legacy of Pain"

* Former National Endowment for the Humanities Director William Ferris, now of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, whose talk at 9 a.m., Feb. 21, is "Richard Wright, Willie Dixon, and Eudora Welty: Music and Literary Genius"

* Photography expert Mamen Stange of Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, New York, N.Y., whose talk at 9 a.m., Feb. 22, is "Richard Wright and Photography"

See Richard Wright on 3

February 8 - 22, 2008

Richard Wright

* Wright scholar Jerry W. Ward Jr. and Robert Butler, professor at Canisius College, Buffalo, N.Y., whose discussion at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 21, is "An Overview of Uncle Tom's Children," including a discussion of the story, "Long Black Song" and how it was transferred from page to screen

* Jerry W. Ward, whose talk, "Native Son: The Novel and the Plays," at 3:30 p.m., Feb. 23, will prepare the audience for a performance that evening of the play, *Native Son*, at the Natchez Little Theatre

* "King of Blues History" Paul Oliver of England, whose talk at 9 a.m., Feb. 23, is "A White Man Listened: Richard Wright and the Blues"

* "Queen of Creole Cooking" Leah Chase of New Orleans, whose talk following lunch at the Carriage House on Feb. 22 is "Creolizing Richard Wright"

* Robert Bray of Middle Tennessee State University, whose talk at 2 p.m., Feb. 21, is "Mississippi Goes to the Movies: A Look at How and Why the Works of Richard Wright, William Faulkner, and Tennessee Williams Were Adapted for the Cinema"

* Howard Ramsey II of Southern Illinois University, whose talk at 4:30 p.m., Feb. 21, is "Covering Black Boy: A Visual-Literary History of Richard Wright's *Autobiography*"

* David A. Taylor of Alexandria, Va., whose talk at 10:30 a.m., Feb. 22, is "Richard Wright and the Federal Writers' Project," with references to Taylor's new documentary, "Soul of a People: Voices from the Writers' Project"

* The scholar John W. Lowe of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, whose talk at 2:15 p.m., Feb. 22, is "Richard Wright and Transnational Culture in Pagan Spain"

* The scholar Maryemma Graham of the University of Kansas, whose talk at 10:30 a.m., Feb. 23, is "Richard Wright and Margaret Walker" Other elements of the Celebration are:

* The play, *Native Son*, by Richard Wright and Paul Wright

NLCC patrons on Feb. 22 and for the general public on Feb. 23 and Feb. 24

* The first-ever "Richard Wright Ramble," a guided afternoon tour on Feb. 23 of sites in Natchez and Southwest Mississippi related to Wright, his family and his works, developed by family historian Charles Wright of Natchez

* An awards ceremony Feb. 23 honoring three exceptional Southern writers: Leontie Bennett Jr., now of Chicago and a noted author and longtime editor of Ebony magazine; Brooks Haxton, now of Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y.; and an award-winning poet; and Alfred Uhry, now of New York, N.Y., most famed for his Pulitzer Prize-winning play and Academy Award-winning screenplay, *Driving Miss Daisy*

* Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops Feb. 24, one on film composition by Madison Davis Lucy Jr. of Weehawken, N.J., and one on haiku writing by Junjing Zhang of Mississippi Valley State University

* Films, including the premiere of a documentary, "Richard Wright: A Force for Right," by Mark LaFrancis and students at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez; "Richard Wright: A Black Boy," produced by Madison Davis Lucy Jr.; and "Driving Miss Daisy"

* Two low-cost meals with menus based on Richard Wright's favorite foods, as suggested by Julia Wright, one a supper Feb. 21 sponsored by Natchez Museum of African-American History and Culture and the other a luncheon Feb. 22 at the Carriage House restaurant

* A benefit reception and supper at the mansion, The Towers, home of Ginger Hyland, Feb. 23

* A free reception Feb. 22 at the Angeltley House, hosted by the regional chapter of the National Coalition of One Hundred Black Women and by The Southern Quarterly, a journal of the arts of the South, published by The University of Southern Mississippi

* A free reception Feb. 22 at the Angeltley House, hosted by the regional chapter of the National Coalition of One Hundred Black Women and by The Southern Quarterly, a journal of the arts of the South, published by The University of Southern Mississippi

* A free reception Feb. 22 at the Angeltley House, hosted by the regional chapter of the National Coalition of One Hundred Black Women and by The Southern Quarterly, a journal of the arts of the South, published by The University of Southern Mississippi

* A free reception Feb. 22 at the Angeltley House, hosted by the regional chapter of the National Coalition of One Hundred Black Women and by The Southern Quarterly, a journal of the arts of the South, published by The University of Southern Mississippi

2008 part 1
page 22

Bulk
U.S.
PA
Natchez,
Missis

50 CO

A CO

hosted
Study
The Un
chaired
concer
Jones o
* Cho
writing
student
sta, wi
winners
Library
by Mar
and Sus
of the li
* Evid
mimic
Missis
Jackson
Barnet
edgroph
Richard
Rambrey
Center
* Mor
because
sers and
Tickets
* NAPA
\$20
* Camr
Feb. 22
* The
22 @ \$
* The R
tour Feb
* Benef
at The
\$125,
deduct
* Ell
Worksh
The
Copiah
College
Historic
Depart
History
Public
funding
Mississ
Council
Arts Co
Info
1289 o
6522,
kka06
visitin

Carolyn
Founde
the Na
Cinema

NATCHEZ TO HONOR RICHARD WRIGHT: ONE OF ITS OWN

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will honor Natchez's own world famous writer, Richard Wright. The Literary Celebration is honoring Wright on his one-hundredth birthday. The City of Natchez is sprucing up and getting ready for this great celebration, for it is rare for a small southern town, especially one in Mississippi, to pay homage to an African American and invite the entire world to come and see the show.

This celebration is unique because Wright had to leave Natchez, then Mississippi and the entire South for his writings to be published and his ideas to be put on paper and be printed so the world would get a chance to see America through the eyes of a black man.

This celebration in Natchez, at this particular time, is important because across the United States in colleges and universities, in book clubs, in playhouses and drama clubs the books of Richard Wright have been adopted into plays and they are being performed by a public that has recognized Richard Wright as probably the most prolific black writer of his time.

This celebration in Natchez is important at this particular because across the world, especially in Europe, Richard Wright is being honored this year because of his literary works and because of his home in Paris and the place where he lived until he died.

Natchez, because of Richard Wright, will be bringing heavyweight African Americans into this town and they will get a chance to see real southern culture and southern hospitality up close. They will get a chance to see the City with more ante-bellum homes than any other city in the South and they will have a chance to see, in the midst of all this, a black Mayor.

They will also get a chance to see a town where black doctors work and live and they will get a chance to see how people get along in the deep, Deep South.

As Natchez gets ready to honor Richard Wright, it is also important that as many local African Americans as possible make plans to attend many of the Literary Celebration events because, at the end of the day, it is about those African Americans who are still living here, and how they will be honoring Richard Wright, one of their own.

Bluff City Post Page 3

February 8 - 22, 2008

2008 part 1
page 23

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
The family involved for the highway's name is still being discussed.

Richard Wright highway to be dedicated soon

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHES — Dedication ceremonies for a segment of U. S. Highway 94 in Adams County to be named the "Richard Wright Memorial Highway" have been set for 2:30 p.m. Saturday Feb. 23.

The ceremony will take place at the junction of U.S. 94 North and U.S. 94 West in the parking lot of the H Kwik Chevrolet.

Natchez's famous "native son," the internationally known author Richard Wright, was born 100 years ago this year near Natchez, the son of a sharecropper and a country schoolteacher.

Wright's first novel, "Native Son," was published in 1940 and was an immediate success. His "Black Boy," a fictionalized autobiography, was published in 1945 and sold 600,000 copies in three months. In all, he wrote more than a dozen influential

THE DETAILS

The **DEDICATION CEREMONY** will be at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 23 at the junction of U.S. 94 North and U.S. 94 West.

books of fiction, non fiction, and poetry. After leaving Natchez, he lived and worked in Jackson, Memphis, Chicago, and New York, and later moved to Paris, where he died in 1960.

This highway dedication ceremony by the Mississippi Department of Transportation is in conjunction with the 2008 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration titled "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration."

This celebration will kick off a year-long series of international conferences and programs honoring this famous

American writer.

"MDOT is proud to partner with this prestigious event in honoring one of Mississippi's own," said Southern Transportation Commissioner Wayne Brown.

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration was begun in 1990 by Copiah-Lincoln Community College. This internationally known celebration, now sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting, along with partial funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council and Mississippi Arts Commission, has been praised as Mississippi's most significant annual conference devoted to literature, history, film and culture.

Attending the dedication ceremonies

will be U. S. Senators Thad Cochran and Roger Wicker; former Governor William Winter, Mayor Phillip West, the local legislative delegation, members of the Wright family and local elected officials.

The public is invited to attend the dedication ceremonies free of charge. Ample parking will be provided at the ceremony site.

The highway dedication ceremony is part of the Richard Wright Rambles, a guided motor coach tour of sites related to the author and the Wright family.

Tickets for the tour, with transportation, guide and refreshments are \$20 per person and are available by calling 601-468-1889 or toll free 1-800-294-6022 or by visiting www.colin.edu/visit and clicking on tickets.

In the event of rain, the dedication ceremony will be inside the Natchez Convention Center at 211 Main St.

2008 part 1
page 24

First-ever Richard Wright tour to ramble through area Feb. 23

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ—For Charles Wright, 61, of Natchez, the first-ever "Richard Wright Ramble," a guided tour, is a natural progression of things.

"I am deeply interested in family history," Wright said. "And I am particularly proud of my cousin, the author, Richard Wright, who was born near Natchez in 1908."

Charles Wright's tour is a highlight of the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 20-24, which is entitled "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration."

More than two years in the making, the ramble is a culmination of Charles Wright's research into family genealogy and oral histories. The tour will visit sites in Natchez and Adams County associated with the author, his family and his works. The tour begins at 1 p.m. with a free, two-part introduction at the Natchez Convention Center, when Mark LaFrancis of Copiah-Lincoln Community College premieres a documentary film, "Richard Wright: A Force for Right," and Charles Wright presents remarks about the tour.

At about 1:45 p.m., those with tickets will board motor coaches for a tour that goes first to

THE DETAILS

THE TOUR is the highlight of the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Tickets are \$20.

Forks of the Road, an area near the divergence of Liberty Road and St. Catherine Street. In the mid-1800s, a portion of Forks of the Road contained the second-largest slave market in the South.

"Forks of the Road shows up a lot in my family history," Wright said. "My great-grandfather, Nathaniel Wright, was a slave on Rucker Plantation, near Cranfield. In 1883, he ran away and joined the U.S. Army at Forks of the Road."

After the Civil War, Wright returned to Rucker Plantation, married and raised seven children, including Richard Wright's father, Nathan Wright, and Charles Wright's grandfather, Uriah "Rias" Wright.

Following the stop at Forks of the Road, the tour will go to Washington to the intersection of U.S. Highway 84 and 61, for a special ceremony during which a highway marker, "The Richard Wright Memorial Highway," will be unveiled.

Following the ceremony, the tour will continue to the older U.S. 84, the Old Meadows Road, passing an original tenant house, "similar to what my relatives once lived in," Wright said.

The tour will return to U.S. 84 and cross to Hobo Fork Road, passing Robinson Cemetery, where Wright family members are buried. These include Nathaniel Wright and his sons, Nathan Wright (Richard Wright's father), Uriah "Rias" Wright (Charles Wright's grandfather), George Wright and Solomon Wright. Louie Wright, a first cousin and playmate of Richard Wright, is also buried there, Charles Wright said.

Next, the tour will pass Robinson Chapel Baptist Church, where Richard Wright was once interviewed on film, and then will pass Tate Magnolia Baptist Church, where Richard Wright's mother, Ellen Wright, taught school.

At the next stop, Historic Jefferson College at Washington, a new exhibit will be on view and refreshments served. "Richard Wright's Mississippi: Natchez and Jackson, 1900-1960" is a collection of historic photographs taken during Richard Wright's lifetime. The images were selected by Jim Barnett, Director of Historic

Properties, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and longtime co-chairman of the NLCC.

Back in Natchez, the tour will go by the Aco Theater on St. Catherine Street, where Richard Wright's first movie, "Native Son," was shown in the early 1960s. Richard Wright starred in the film, Charles Wright recalled. "When I went to see the film, I was very young. I stood up in the theater and said, 'That's my cousin.'"

The final segment of the tour is on the Natchez Bluff, where two historic markers commemorate Richard Wright and the Rhythm Night Club Fire.

Guides for the Richard Wright Ramble include Charles Wright and other members of the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American History and Culture.

Tickets for the tour are limited. They cost \$20 and include guided commentary, round-trip transportation from the Natchez Convention Center, refreshments and the exhibit at Historic Jefferson College.

Tickets and information are available by calling 601-446-1289 or toll free 866-296-6522, emailing kkab06769@st.coln.edu or visiting www.coln.edu/nlcc/tickets.

2008 part 1
page 25

Attention: Lauren Mosko

file
NBCC

Writer's Digest Books, 4700 E. Galbraith Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45236 (513) 531-2690, ext. 1743

publicity

NOVEL & SHORT STORY WRITER'S MARKET
VERIFICATION FORM

NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA
CELEBRATION
P.O. Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307

Deadline: February 15, 2007

Please return to michael.schweeer@fwpubs.com

Or Mail to:

Michael Schweer
4700 E. Galbraith Rd.
Cincinnati OH 45236

If you would like to be included in the 2008 edition of *Novel & Short Story Writer's Market*, please read the copy of your listing (below), make any necessary corrections, and return this verification form.

- > By E-mail to msweeer@fwpubs.com
- > By Mail in the enclosed return envelope or to the address printed above
- > By Fax to (513) 531-2686, attn: Lauren Mosko

Please make your changes legibly in ink. If your listing is correct as printed, simply respond to us with the words "All correct" and the name of your publication. If you wish to discontinue your listing, please let us know so that we may avoid sending you additional mail.

If you have any questions, please call (513) 531-2090, ext. 1225 or e-mail michael.schweeer@fwpubs.com. Thank you for your continued interest and cooperation. We look forward to receiving your response!

NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION

P.O. Box 1307, Natchez MS 39121-1307. (601)446-1208. Fax: (601)446-1214. E-mail: carolyn.smith@colin.edu. Web site: www.colin.edu/NBCC. Contact: Carolyn Vance Smith, co-chairman. Estab. 1990. Annual. Conference held February 22-26, 2006. Average attendance: 3,000. Conference focuses on "all literature, including film scripts." Site: 500-seat auditorium, various sizes of break-out rooms. Theme: ~~White-Silver-Gumbo-Sweet-Tea-and-Bouillon-Balls-Food-and-Drink-in-the-Deep-South~~ *Southern Accents! Language in the Deep South.*

Scholars will speak on food and drink in history, literature, film and real life.

Costs "About \$100, includes a meal, receptions, book signings, workshops. Lectures/panel discussions are free."

Accommodations "Groups can book for special assistance. Usually they can be accommodated." Call 866-256-6522.

Additional Information "Participants need to read selected materials prior to attending writing workshops. Thus, pre-enrollment is advised." Conference information is available in Fall ~~2006~~ For brochure send SASE, e-mail, visit Web site, call or fax. Accepts inquiries by SASE, e-mail, phone and fax. Agents and editors participate in conference.

Carolyn Vance Smith
Name

founder and
Co-chairman
Title

2-19-07
Date

NOVEL & SHORT STORY WRITER'S MARKET RESERVES THE RIGHT
TO EXCLUDE ANY LISTING THAT DOES NOT MEET ITS REQUIREMENTS.

2008 part 1
page 26

LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION

Co-Lin produces Wright film

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — An original documentary about Richard Wright will be shown for the first time during the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The half-hour documentary, "Richard Wright: A Force for Right," was produced by Co-piah-Lincoln Community College's Natchez campus. Five students in the Introduction to Broadcasting class and instructor Mark LaFrancis did the filming and editing in what is the college's most enterprising documentary to date. The students are Landon Henry, Latashia Wansley-Clark, Michael Fuqua, Mark M. LaFrancis and Michelle Wynn.

The documentary is designed to educate and inspire the viewer, particularly young people, about Richard Wright and his stature in the literary world.

The film will be shown on three separate occasions during the NLCC. The first will be Wednesday in a program at Co-Lin beginning at 11 a.m. in the W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room. Co-Lin's Student Support Services will conduct a Black History Month program. In addition to the film, Dr. Robert Butler of Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y., will talk about Wright's southern religious background as it is revealed in Wright's autobiography "Black Boy."

A special program with the documentary will be given to area students at Natchez High School on Friday. There will be a general public showing Saturday, Feb. 23, at 1 p.m. at the Natchez Convention Center



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Michelle Wynn and Mark M. LaFrancis, two of the Co-Lin student film-makers look at a mural of Richard Wright outside the Smith-Robertson Museum in Jackson. Wright attended the Smith-Robertson School and graduated as valedictorian.

during a program that is free.

"Mark LaFrancis and the Co-Lin students have created and produced a compelling, first-rate documentary that will inspire and educate both longtime admirers as well as newcomers to Richard Wright's work," said Emmy-winning producer Jennifer Ogden. "The film is well-paced, well-shot and edited; the filmmakers successfully blend technical skill with the creative use of visual images and voiceover to illuminate the importance of Richard Wright's early life on his work, and the extraordinary legacy he left behind. Congratulations on a film well done."

Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chairman of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, said she was glad the film was a part of this year's festival.

"This film is extraordinarily well done and very meaningful. It will enhance the conference immensely."

The documentary has been in the works for more than a year-and-a-half; it grew out of a desire for Co-Lin Natchez to take part in an educational project for the 2008 NLCC and feature Richard Wright. A plan down the road is for Co-Lin to seek funding to possibly distribute the documentary to secondary schools in Mississippi. Seventeen high school and college students were interviewed for the documentary, both at Co-Lin and at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Jackson.

The documentary includes special readings by Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr., of New Orleans, one of the foremost Richard Wright scholars, of Richard Wright's own words from his book "Black Boy."

The film also features interviews with former Mississippi Gov. William F. Winter; Charles Wright, cousin of Richard Wright and Eugenia Perry, whose mother went to school with Richard Wright.

Elderhostel program celebrating Wright this week

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ—The life and works of Richard Wright, a famed native son of Natchez, will be celebrated on the centennial of his birth at the 12th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration this week.

Elderhostel, in association with Copiah-Lincoln Community College, will take participants on a five-day educational adventure and provide a front-row seat to experience lectures, workshops, a live performance, food and friends dedicated to the memory of one of the most acclaimed black authors of all time.

Elderhostel is a not-for-profit organization with more than 30 years of experience providing exceptional learning opportunities through educational travel programs throughout the world for adults at remarkable values.

Elderhostel's newest programming initiative is Road Scholar — designed for a new generation of independent educational travelers.

"As Elderhostel and Road Scholar develop experiences that are culturally significant to the black community, the Natchez program is exciting for anyone interested in American history while highlighting the works of an African American icon," said James Moses, president and CEO of Elderhostel.

"Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration" is the conference theme of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Wright wrote such blockbusters as "Native Son," "Black Boy," "Lawd Today," "White Man Lister" and "Uncle Tom's Children," which has been cho-

sen as Book of the Year for the Mississippi Reads Project.

He was born in 1908 near Natchez and died in 1960 in Paris, France.

"He will come alive during the conference; his love of family, books, music, food, drama, photography, film and acting will be discussed, along with scholarly criticisms of his works," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the event.

His daughter, Julia Wright, of Paris will attend along with dozens of family members from around the world.

The first "Richard Wright Kambale," a docent-led exploration of sites associated with Richard Wright and the Wright family, is being organized by Charles Wright of Natchez, a cousin who is a family historian.

The exploration includes Natchez-area home places, churches, schools, cemeteries and locations featured in Wright's novels.

In addition to programs are films, documentaries, a dramatic version of Native Son by the Natchez Little Theatre, meals featuring Wright's favorite foods, writing workshops, exhibits and the option to participate in a gala benefit reception and dinner at the historic mansion, The Towers.

The conference is highlighted with the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, which is being presented to three outstanding writers with southern roots. The awards ceremony takes place at 5:30 p.m., Feb. 23, in the LeRoux Bennett, Jr., Chicago, Ill., office of Ebony and author of Before the Mayflower: A His-

tory of Black America 1619-1966, Great Moments in Black History and more than a dozen other books; Brooks Haxton, Syracuse University Syracuse, N.Y., an accomplished poet and author of Uproar: Antiphones to Psalms and many other volumes of poetry.

The Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting, named in

honor of the Pulitzer Prize-winning screenwriter, will be presented to another Pulitzer Prize-winner, Alfred Uhry, a Georgia native now of New York City. Uhry is a noted playwright, lyricist and screenwriter of Driving Miss Daisy, The Robber Bridegroom, Mystic Pizza, and Rich in Love.

Driving Miss Daisy will be screened following the awards

ceremony, with a discussion session led by Uhry and Dinan McDowell, professor of film at the University of Southern Mississippi.

2009 part 1
page 28



The Natchez Democrat

AS A TEAM: Trinity boys win tourney. 1B

WEEK'S EVENTS: E1

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2008

La.. SWING DENING MCLGRII

SEVEN COUNCIL ALPHI

Good to be big part of week

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — Richard Wright, the famous writer born near Natchez in 1908, endured extreme hardships and poverty and often went hungry as a child and young adult, said his daughter, Julia Wright of Paris, France.

"My father was fascinated by food," she said. "Scenes featuring food show up repeatedly in his books, including the autobiographical *Black Boy*."

"You remember, of course, the famous meal in *Black Boy* when his mother made soup and a big platter of fried chicken, and my father was so afraid the preacher would eat all the fried chicken."

"For someone who had known true hunger," she said, "food was an important part of my father's life."

Richard Wright went on to international fame as the author of such blockbusters as "Native Son," "White Man Listen" and "Uncle Tom's Children," a collection of stories that has been chosen as Book of the Year for 2008 by the statewide "Mississippi Roads" project. After leaving Natchez, he lived in Jackson, Memphis, Chicago and New York before moving to Paris, where he died in 1960.

Wright's favorite foods will be

SEE FOOD, 3A

FOOD: NLCC to include Wright's favorite dishes

FROM PAGE 1A

featured at a supper Thursday, sponsored by the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture at the Natchez Community Center. The dinner is a part of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

"We are delighted to know exactly what to serve at the annual NAPAC supper," said Mary White, NAPAC's committee chairman. "Chef Dale Wimberly has planned a menu based on Julia Wright's recollection of her father's favorite foods."

Julia Wright, who will be keynote speaker at the NLCC at 11 a.m. Thursday, was asked for suggestions for the party's menu.

"It was easy to build the party menu from Julia's suggestions," White said.

The party set for 5:30 p.m. Thursday will also feature some of Richard Wright's favorite jazz music, performed by vocalist and pianist JoAnne Smith of Port Gibson.

Tickets for the supper are \$20, available by calling 601-446-1289 or toll-free, 866-296-6222.

2008 part 1
page 29

NLCC honors Wright

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — One of Natchez's most famous native sons, Richard Wright, will be honored this week throughout the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The conference theme is "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration." Headquarters is the Natchez Convention Center on Main Street.

"The conference will allow us to get acquainted with the human side of Richard Wright while we explore his life, his works and his continuing influence," said Carolyn Vance Smith, longtime educator at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez.

Smith and Co-Lin founded the NLCC in 1960.

"Richard Wright was born on a plantation a few miles east of Natchez in 1908," she said. "Though he had only a ninth-grade education, and though he had to overcome desperate poverty, he achieved international fame for his writing."

Wright died in Paris, France, in 1960.

"The NLCC is kicking off a world-wide tribute to Richard Wright this year. We expect large crowds, including numerous Wright relatives from across the country."

SEE WRIGHT, 3A



Wright

WRIGHT: Annual NLCC to honor Natchez native, famous author this week

FROM PAGE 1A

Wright is renowned for such works as the novel, "Native Son;" the fictionalized autobiography, "Black Boy;" and a collection of stories, "Uncle Tom's Children," which was chosen Book-of-the-Year in 2008 by a statewide project called "Mississippi Reads."

"Since 1940, when "Native Son" sold hundreds of thousands of copies in a matter of weeks, many of his books have been bestsellers and continue to sell," said Jerry W. Ward Jr., professor at Dillard University, New Orleans, and a nationally known Wright scholar.

"He is one of the most powerful writers of the 20th century," Ward said. "These days, school children routinely read and study his works. He is in all the anthologies."

Ward conducted a year-long series of monthly discussions in Natchez during 2007, focusing each month on a different work by Richard Wright. In total, hundreds of people attended the sessions.

The sessions were sponsored by the NLCC and the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American History and Culture and were hosted at various sites in the Miss-Lou.

Ward also helped devise the programming for the 2008 NLCC. Speakers on the agenda are:

- ▶ Keynote speaker Julia Wright of Paris, daughter of Richard Wright and an internationally known author and scholar, 11 a.m., Thursday, "Children of Oppressed Giants: Living with the Legacy of Pain"

- ▶ Former National Endowment for the Humanities Director William Ferris, now of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 9 a.m., Thursday, "Richard Wright, Willie Dixon, and Eadora Welby: Music and Literary Genius"

mentary, "Soul of a People: Voices from the Writers' Project"

- ▶ The scholar John W. Lowe of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, 2:15 p.m., Friday, "Richard Wright and Transnational Culture in 'Pagan Spain'"

- ▶ The scholar Maryemba Graham of the University of Kansas, 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Richard Wright and Margaret Walker"

Other elements of the Celebration are:

- ▶ The unveiling of the Richard Wright Memorial Highway marker in formal, free, public ceremonies at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, in Washington, at the intersection of U.S. Highways 84 and 61, with remarks by U.S. Senator Thad Cochran and former Mississippi Governor William Winter; Members of the Wright family, legislators and local officials will attend.

- ▶ The play, "Native Son," by Richard Wright and Paul Green, to be presented by the Natchez Little Theatre for NLCC patrons on Friday and for the general public on Saturday and Sunday.

- ▶ The first-ever "Richard Wright Ramble," a guided afternoon tour on Saturday of sites in Natchez and Southwest Mississippi related to Wright, his family and his works, developed by family historian Charles Wright of Natchez.

- ▶ An awards ceremony Feb. 23 honoring three exceptional Southern writers: Leorne Bennett Jr., now of Chicago and a noted author and longtime editor of "Ebony" magazine; Brooks Haxton, now of Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y., and an award-winning poet; and Alfred Uhry, now of New York, N.Y., most famed for his Pulitzer Prize-winning play and Academy Award-winning screenplay, "Driving Miss Daisy"

- ▶ Ellen Douglas Writing

2008 part 1
page 30

OPINION

www.natchezdemocrat.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2008

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

Little Theatre presents 'Native Son'

Greetings Natchez and the Miss-Lou. Natchez Little Theatre is proud to present its sixth show of the Diamond Jubilee 60th Season in cooperation with the 19th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration and the Richard Wright Centennial Celebration. "Native Son" is Richard Wright's landmark novel about racism, class and economic inequality and was originally published in 1940 and became a best-seller with 215,000 copies in the first three weeks.

"Native Son" opened on Broadway at the St. James Theatre on March 24, 1941, and was directed by Orson Welles. Wright along with Paul Green adapted "Native Son" for the stage.

Richard Wright was born on a plantation near Natchez. His grandparents had been slaves and his father, Nathaniel, who was an illiterate sharecropper and mill worker, left home when Richard was 6. Wright grew up in poverty, staying often at homes of relatives. His mother, Ella Wilson, was a schoolteacher; she moved with her family to Memphis.

The protagonist of "Native Son" is a young black man in Chicago, Bigger Thomas, who lives in a one-room apartment in Chicago's South Side Black Belt, with his mother, his young sister, Vera, and younger brother, Buddy. He is hired by a wealthy family named Dalton as their chauffeur. Mr. Dalton gives money for social welfare, but at the same time owns the rat-infested building in which Bigger lives.

The rhythms of Bigger's life are "indifference and violence; periods of abstract brooding and periods of intense desire; moments of silence and moments of anger — like water ebbing and flowing from the tug of a far-away, invisible force." The family's free-thinking daughter, Mary, befriends him — with her he visits Communist headquarters, where she meets her boyfriend Jan Erlone.

Mary has had too much drink and she demands Bigger carry her home and then up to her room. When her blind mother enters Mary's room, Bigger panics, and tragedy ensues.

Natchez Little Theatre's production of "Native Son" is the first production of the play in the Deep South and by a community theatre. The play is as timely now as it was when Richard Wright penned the novel. It is my honor to direct the talented cast of local volunteers in this landmark production. Tommy Jackson, Tommy Magee, Wathen Dogget and Leon Hollins have imaginatively created the sets for this rapid-paced, 11-scene show.



TOP OF THE MORNING

Layne Taylor

Starring as Bigger Thomas is Darryl Grennell with Carolyn Myles as his mother, Kristen Hogans as his sister and Jonah Bushell as his little brother. In the roles of the Dalton family are Rob Conger and Elaine Harter as Mr. and Mrs. Dalton and Janey Dixey is powerful in her portrayal of their daughter, Mary.

Rounding out the talented cast are Mike Gemmell, Stacey Carden, Landon Henry, Adrienne Bushell, John Harter, Antonio Williams, Don Bates, Jessie Hayden III, Royal Hill Jr., Laurie Williams, Cain

Madden, Tammy White, Byron Bradley, Aaron White, Nicole Ballard, Casey Gilbert and Dwight Williams. It has been thrilling working with such dedicated newcomers and veteran actors.

"Native Son" will open with a 12-15 matinee on Thursday; to a sold-out auditorium of high school students from Jackson, Natchez, Vidalia and Ferriday. The evening performances begin at 8 p.m. Friday. The tickets for this performance are all \$15 and must be reserved by calling the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration at 601-446-1289 or toll free at 1-866-296-6522.

The Saturday evening, performance is at 7:30 p.m. and "Native Son" closes with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday. Tickets for these two performances are \$15 for adults and \$12 for senior citizens (60 and above) and youth (18 and under) and reservations should be made by calling NLT at 601-442-2233 or toll free at 1-877-440-2233 or by e-mail at natchez@bellsouth.net.

All performances are at the Natchez Little Theatre at 319 Linton Ave. at Maple Street in Natchez and the box office opens one hour prior to curtain. "Native Son" is partially funded by the Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The show is executive produced by the Adams County Board of Supervisors, Bluffs and Bayous and Comcast Spotlight and is produced by Dr. Ed Gaudet, KFNW River Radio, King of Hearts, McDonald's, Dr. David A. Timm and Wal-Mart.

I look forward to seeing you at this historic production of Richard Wright's "Native Son." Don't miss it.

LAYNE TAYLOR is the executive and artistic director of the Natchez Little Theatre and the director of "Native Son."

2008 part 1
page 31

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2008

REGION

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

'NATIVE SON'



Submitted photo

Appearing in Natchez Little Theatre's historic production of Natchez native, Richard Wright's drama, "Native Son" are Janey Dixey as Mary Dalton and Darryl V. Grennell as Bigger Thomas. Tickets are still available for today's 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, 2 p.m. performances of "Native Son" at Natchez Little Theatre at 319 Linton Ave. at Maple Street in Natchez. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for senior citizens (60 and above) and youth (18 and under). Due to advance ticket sales reservations should be made by calling Natchez Little Theatre at 601-442-2233 or toll free at 1-877-440-2233.

2008 part 1
page 32

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2008

TRACINGS

TODAY

Mustardseed Alton Group: Will meet at noon at Kuehnle Hall, Trinity Episcopal Church.

Adams County Christian School: Will have open house from 4:30 to 6 p.m. The public is invited.

Jackson State Alumni Association-Natchez Chapter: Will meet at 6 p.m. in the board room at the AJFC/Head Start building, 1038A N. Union St. Alumni in Natchez and surrounding area are urged to attend.

Natchez Children's Home Services Thrift Store: Will reopen today. To donate, call 601-442-5669 or 601-442-6858.

Ridgecrest Baptist Church: Will sponsor a women's conference through Saturday. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. The conference will begin at 9 a.m. No registration fee. Lunch and door prizes will be provided. Guest speaker will be Kay DeKalb Smith. Everyone is welcome.

Assumption Church: Will sponsor line dancing, good exercise and good country western music at 10 a.m. every Monday for those who want to have fun and feel young again. For information call 601-442-7250.

Adams County Courthouse and other county departments: Will be closed in observance of President's Day. Normal business hours will resume Tuesday.

TUESDAY, FEB. 19

Robert Lewis Middle School: Will host an "In House Science MCT II Parent Strategy Day" from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served in the Parent Center. Parents and stakeholders are urged to attend. For information call 601-445-2925.

Natchez Senior Citizen Multipurpose Center: Will sponsor in-service with Deaconess Home Care from 10 to 11 a.m. Everyone is

SUBMIT A TRACING

Know about a non-profit event or announcement for our Tracings? Let us hear from you. Here's how and where to submit calendar items for Tracings:

ADDRESS: 503 N. Canal St. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

FAX: 601-442-7315.

E-MAIL: tracings@natchezdemocrat.com.

Please include a contact name and telephone number on all correspondence in case we have a question.

welcome.

Kuehnle Regional Medical Center

Diabetic Support Group: Will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the first floor classroom. The topic will be "Mystery Activity."

Morgantown Elementary School:

Will have its PTA meeting at 5:45 p.m. Fifth- and sixth-grade students will perform. Parents are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served. Door prizes.

Grace United Methodist Church:

Will have Lenten services at 6 p.m. featuring the Rev. Dr. Marc Mihail. Dessert and coffee will follow in the church fellowship hall.

Town and Country Homemakers:

Will meet at 7 p.m. at the home of Natalie Fennix, 31 Pecanway Drive.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20

Natchez Children's Home Services

Thrift Store: Will be open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Friday. Every Friday is 10-percent discount day. To donate, call 601-442-5669 or 601-442-6858.

Natchez Senior Citizen Multipurpose Center: Will have Alcorn State University nurses at the center

from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

Free Income Tax Returns: Will be prepared during the tax season from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Armstrong Library for taxpayers with low- and middle-income, with special attention to those age 60 and older. Bring the necessary documents. Free e-filing for Mississippi and Louisiana returns.

Mustardseed Open AA, Women in Recovery: Will meet at noon at Kuehnle Hall, Trinity Episcopal Church.

Rotary Club of Natchez: Will meet at noon at the Carriage House Restaurant. Guest speaker will be Curtis Moroney, presenting "New Orleans, 2 1/2 years Later." Lunch is \$12.

Stanton Baptist Church: Will hold revival services at 7 p.m. Sunday services will be at 11 a.m. Special guest will be the Rev. Bill Sturm of Valdosta, Ga., and Steve Strebeck will lead the music. Nursery through age 3 will be provided for all the services.

The 19th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration: "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration," opens at 7 p.m. at the Natchez Convention Center with free screening of "Richard Wright: Black Boy," a documentary of the life of the Natchez-born author. Introducing the film will be the producer, Madison Davis Lacy Jr. of Weehawken, N.J. For information visit www.colin.edu/nlcc/agenda.

Robert Lewis Middle School: Will have early dismissal at 1:30 p.m. Parents are urged to plan accordingly. For information call 601-445-2925.

Natchez Community Hospital's Friends Five 0: Will meet at 10 a.m. at Vidalia Convention Center. Guest speaker will be Tim Houghton with AMR. All trip information for 2008 will be available.

2008 part 1
page 33

TODAY

Robert Lewis Middle School: Will host an "In House Science MCT II Parent Strategy Day" from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served in the parent center. Parents and stakeholders are urged to attend. For information call 601-445-2925.

Natchez Senior Citizen Multipurpose Center: Will sponsor in service with Deaconess Home Care from 10 to 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

Natchez Regional Medical Center Diabetic Support Group: Will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the first floor classroom. The topic will be "Mystery Activity."

Morgantown Elementary School: Will have its PTA meeting at 5:45 p.m. Fifth- and sixth-grade students will perform. Parents are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served. Door prizes.

Grace United Methodist Church: Will have Lenten services at 6 p.m. featuring the Rev. Dr. Marc Mihael. Dessert and coffee will follow in the church fellowship hall.

St. Mary Basilica: Will have a church renewal program at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be nightly from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. through Wednesday. Light dinner Thursday after closing Mass.

Town and Country Homemakers: Will meet at 7 p.m. at the home of Natalie Fennix, 31 Pecanway Drive.

Ferriday Chamber of Commerce: Will meet at noon in the Community Room of Concordia Bank. Terri Crawford will be the guest speaker. Lunch will be \$6. Everyone is invited.

Assumption Catholic Church: Will have a church renewal program at 11 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20

Natchez Children's Home Services Thrift Store: Will be open from 8 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. through Friday. Every Friday is 10-percent discount day. To donate, call 601-442-5669 or 601-442-6858.

The Women of First Presbyterian Church: Will hold a casserole and bake sale from 8 a.m. to noon in the fellowship hall at 400 State St. The public is welcome.

Natchez Senior Citizen Multipurpose Center: Will have Alcorn State University nurses for health screenings at the center from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

Free Income Tax Returns: Will be prepared during the tax

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2008

Know about a non-profit event or announcement for our Tracings? Let us hear from you. Here's how and where to submit calendar items for Tracings:

ADDRESS: 503 N. Canal St. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FAX: 601-442-7315.

E-MAIL: tracings@natchezdemocrat.com.

Please include a contact name and telephone number on all correspondence in case we have a question.

season from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Armstrong Library for taxpayers with low and middle income, with special attention to those age 60 and older. Bring the necessary documents. Free e-filing for Mississippi and Louisiana returns.

Mustardseed Open AA, Women in Recovery: Will meet at noon at Kuehnle Hall, Trinity Episcopal Church.

Rotary Club of Natchez: Will meet at noon at the Carriage House Restaurant. Guest speaker will be Curtis Moroney, presenting "New Orleans, 2 1/2 years Later." Lunch is \$12.

Stanton Baptist Church: Will have revival services today at 7 p.m., nightly. Sunday services will be at 11 a.m. Special guest will be the Rev. Bill Sturm of Valdosta, Ga. and Steve Strebeck will lead the music. Nursery through age 3 will be provided for all the services.

The 19th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration: "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration," opens at 7 p.m. at the Natchez Convention Center with free screening of "Richard Wright: Black Boy," a documentary of the life of the Natchez-born author. Introducing the film will be the producer, Madison Davis Lacy Jr. of Weehawken, N.J. For information visit www.colin.edu/nlcc/agenda.

Robert Lewis Middle School: Will have early dismissal at 1:30 p.m. Parents are urged to plan accordingly. For information call 601-445-2925.

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration: Will be today, with the theme, "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration." Headquarters is the Natchez Convention

Center. Most of the conference is free. Registration is not required. Tickets for a few events are still available at www.colin.edu/nlcc/ tickets, call 601-446-1289 or toll free at 866-296-6522 or by emailing kkaah0676@st.colin.edu.

Natchez Community Hospital's Friends Five-0: Will meet at 10 a.m. at Vidalia Convention Center. Guest speaker will be Tim Houghton with AMR. All trip information for 2008 will be available. For information call 601-445-1703.

Ridgecrest Baptist Church: Will sponsor a women's conference through Feb. 23. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. The conference will begin at 9 a.m. No registration fee and lunch and door prizes will be provided. Guest speaker will be Kay DeKalb Smith. Everyone is welcome.

Victory of Praise Ministry Church, Lorman on Red Lick Road: Will host the Rev. T.C. McBeth, of Chicago, at 7 p.m. nightly through Friday. Everyone is welcome.

Assumption Catholic Church: Will have a church renewal program at 11 a.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 21

The 19th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration: "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration," will be at 9 a.m. with free morning programs at the Natchez Convention Center by William Ferris and Julia Wright and free afternoon programs by Robert Bray, Robert Butler and Howard Ramsby II. For information visit www.colin.edu/nlcc/agenda.

Sisters in Sobriety: Will have a women's closed AA meeting at noon every Thursday at Trinity Episcopal Church in Kuehnle Hall downstairs.

Natchez Little Theatre: Will present a student matinee of Richard Wright's "Native Son" at 12:15 p.m. in the auditorium at 319 Linton Ave. at Maple Street for local area students only. For local schools who are interested in attending, call 601-442-2233, 1-877-440-2233 or e-mail at natchez@bellsouth.net. A limited number of seats remain at \$10 a ticket.

Rose Hill Baptist Church: Will have monthly food distribution from 1 to 2 p.m. For information call 601-442-5060.

Natchez Adams School District Board Meeting: Will meet at 4 p.m. in the Braden Building board room. The public is welcome.

*file NLCC
publicity*

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Brown, Gerri
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2007 9:53 AM
To: Natchez staff everyone
Subject: Black History Program

Please encourage your students to attend the Black History Program on tomorrow, February 21, at 11:00 a.m. in the Multi-purpose room. Ms. Diane Williams will be our guest speaker. Read the attached file for additional information on Ms. Williams and upcoming events for NLCC.

Thanks.

Gerri Brown, Ph. D.
Student Support Services, Director
11 Co-Lin Circle
Natchez, MS 39120
601-440-1114
gerri.brown@colin.edu

2/20/2007

2008 part 1
page 35

File
NLCC publicity

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Layne Taylor [natchez@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2007 9:21 PM
To: abruary1@supermarketoperations.com; adaplant@bellsouth.net; adhargrave@hotmail.com; adrian.sandel@amsouth.com; agmarion@netscape.net; Agnes Holloway; Riverton Security Co.; Diana Glaze; asacolret@aol.com; bcmoody79@hotmail.com; bethdudley@bellsouth.net; bigalmusic@aol.com; bluffsbayous@hotmail.com; BRITTANYLEIGH46@aol.com; bruce757@bellsouth.net; bstarrm@yahoo.com; bubblegumbabe08@yahoo.com; buffie56@yahoo.com; cajcbuce@aol.com; Smith, Carolyn Vance; carolynguido@yahoo.com; cassie.strickland@natchezdemocrat.com; Cathy Davis; cathytz258@aol.com; cborum@hotmail.com; ccoeland100@hotmail.com; Cdtwrms1@aol.com; Cenabena@hotmail.com; CHRISTY HIGHTOWER; chughes@new.lib.ms.us; ckcouch@aol.com; ckmccalip@peoplepc.com; Carey McCoy; coachharvison@excite.com; craigpatti@bellsouth.net; daylas@hotmail.com; David and Susie Carter; ddblack@3g.quik.com; ddcnatchez1@yahoo.com; Deanne Tanksley; debbiegee@yahoo.com; Ray, Dee; dindley@tkbank.com; donald.killelea@nmln.com; Douglas Scharmann McCallum; Tammi Mullins; drane37@yahoo.com; drcarrie37@aol.com; E4kyzar@aol.com; ee@wangcommunications.com; evcates@earthlink.net; Faye Williams@amsouth.com; fomebeer@cs.com; gbuckley@westaff.com; gcmurray@bellsouth.net; gis3@vt.net; grannycrook@peoplepc.com; McCalip, Gwen; hrmiller@bellsouth.net; homes@NatchezRealty.net; hopkins24@msn.com; cmorse; info@1886wenselhouse.com; ivering@natchezpilgrimage.com; JAMES85AGEE@aol.com; jamesjallan@aol.com; Byrne, Janice; jdvines@bellsouth.net

Subject: NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS

Importance: High

NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE

IN COOPERATION WITH THE
 NATCHEZ LITERARY & CINEMA CELEBRATION
 PROUDLY PRESENTS

TWAIN BY THE TALE

A HILARIOUS COMEDY REVUE OF MARK TWAIN STORIES

STARRING

JOHN BALLARD
 CASEY GILBERT
 RUSTY JENKINS
 DARLENE McCUNE
 GLORIA NEAMES
 RYAN DIXON RICHARDSON
 LAYNE TAYLOR
 LAURIE WILLIAMS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2007, AT 8 P.M.

AT NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER

TICKETS: \$15

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL THE NLCC: 601.446.1289

NLT GRAND BENEFACTORS & SPONSORS ADMITTED FREE!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2007, AT 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2007, AT 2 P.M.

AT NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE

319 LINTON AVENUE AT MAPLE STREET

TICKETS: \$15 FOR ADULTS & \$12 FOR SENIOR CITIZENS & YOUTH (18 & UNDER)

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL NLT: 601.442.2233 OR 1.877.440.2233

www.natchezlittletheatre.org

2/26/2007

2008 part 1
 page 36

REGION

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2008

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

REGIONAL DIGEST

NLCC to celebrate work of Garner on Saturday

NATCHEZ — Howell Garner Day will be celebrated Saturday at the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration to honor the retiring president of Co-



Garner

piah Lincoln Community College. "Dr. Garner helped found the NLCC nearly 20 years ago and has been steadfast in his support since then," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Co-Lin, co-chairman of the NLCC. "The Steering Committee wants to thank him by hosting Howell Garner Day."

Garner will be introduced at 10 a.m. at the Natchez Convention Center by Co-Lin President-elect Ronald "Boenie" Nettles. Afterward a reception in Garner's honor will take place in the Convention Center lobby.

The event is free and open to the public.

2008 part 1
page 37



**Natchez Regional
Medical Center**



Contact Us Home Site Map

**About Natchez
Regional Medical
Center**

What's New

**About the
Natchez
Community**

**Physician
Directory**

**Departments and
Services**

Volunteers

Newborn Nursery

**Calendar of
Events**

Admissions

**Career
Opportunities**

**Map and
Directions**

Web Links

**Physician
Recruitment**

Kids Corner

**Notice of Privacy
Practices**

Physician Recruitment

Natchez Regional Medical Center and Natchez, Mississippi, offer interested physicians the best of both worlds. Enjoy the quality of life of home town America in a city named the most livable small city in America by the U.S. Conference of Mayors or travel a short distance to the metropolitan areas of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; New Orleans, Louisiana; or Jackson, Mississippi.

Born of the river, Natchez stands today a splendid testament to the diverse people who shaped its history. Explore historic sites, experience distinctive cultures and the complete Natchez experience. Nestled on high bluffs overlooking the mighty Mississippi River and situated at the end of the legendary Natchez Trace, Natchez has become a mecca for those who wish to travel back in time to the days of the antebellum South. To many, Natchez may be just a small town in the southwestern corner of Mississippi but to those who know and love it, Natchez is a way of life and one we are anxious to share with you.

Natchez is home to many of the south's finest antebellum homes, many of which are opened to the public each Spring and Fall during Pilgrimage. Natchez also hosts one of the South's largest Literary and Cinema Celebrations each February featuring writers, scholars, and other professionals from coast to coast. When you think Mardi Gras, you automatically think "New Orleans"; however, Natchez is home to three Krewes and enjoys Mardi Gras "Natchez style." Natchez also offers an outstanding opera season as well as excellent educational opportunities for children.

Currently, Natchez Regional Medical Center is seeking physicians specializing in Family Practice Medicine, Orthopedics, Vascular Surgery, Radiology, Urology, ENT and Dermatology.

If you are interested in learning more about the opportunities available at Natchez Regional Medical Center, please call at (601) 443-2600, or email us at mwelch@natchezregional.com.

[Home](#) - [Back](#) - [Top of Page](#) - [Contact Us](#) - [Site Map](#) - [Notice of Privacy Practices](#)

Copyright 2001-2006,

2009 part 1
page 38

THE NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION FEATURING
RICHARD WRIGHT, THE SOUTH, AND THE WORLD:

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

PROGRAM: # 10921 | FEBRUARY 20-24, 2008

As seen in
Ebony and *Jet*



Join scholars, authors, and aficionados for an in-depth look at the life and works of Richard Wright, a famed native son of Natchez, Miss., on the centennial of his birth at the 19th-annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Family members — including his daughter, Julia Wright — show you the private side of one of the most acclaimed black authors of all time.

Highlights

- Scholars, authors and Richard Wright's relatives from the United States and Europe discuss the life and works of Wright.
- Attend films, documentaries, and a dramatic version of *Native Son* by the Natchez Little Theatre.
- Share a private lunch with VIPs from the conference.
- On the "Richard Wright Ramble," a Wright scholar leads you through Natchez-area homes, churches and locations featured in Wright's novels.

 **Elderhostel**
Adventures in Lifelong Learning

Visit www.elderhostel.org or call toll free (877) 426-8056.

2009 part 1
page 39

THE NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION FEATURING RICHARD WRIGHT, THE SOUTH, AND THE WORLD: A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

February 20-24, 2008

Day 1: Arrival and Guided Tour of Natchez

After the welcome and orientation, take a guided tour of Natchez' most famous architectural sites and enjoy dinner at King's Tavern, an old inn on the Natchez Trace.

Days 2: Keynote by Richard Wright's Daughter

At the first day of the conference, Wright's daughter — Julia Wright — delivers the keynote speech: *Living with the Legacy of Pain*. Other speakers discuss the history of Wright's *Black Boy*, Southern music in Wright's works and his novels adapted to the screen. At a dinner hosted by the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture, partake of the foods Richard Wright loved and mentioned in his works.

Days 3: Wright on Film and Stage

Participate in several sessions at the conference, including Jerry W. Ward Jr.'s *Native Son: The Novel and the Plays*. Ward is the co-editor of the *Richard Wright Encyclopedia* and founding member of the Richard Wright Circle. Then see a live performance of *Native Son*.

Days 4: Richard Wright, Natchez' Own Native Son

The day begins with Paul Oliver's discussion of *A White Man Listened: Richard Wright in Paris in the 1950s*. View the premier of the documentary *Richard Wright: A Force for Right*. Charles Wright, Wright family genealogist, leads you on a guided exploration of sites in Natchez and southwest

Mississippi related to Richard Wright, his family, and his works. To cap off the evening, honor outstanding writers with Southern roots, as the conference announces *Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award* winners.

Days 5: Farewells and Departure

After breakfast and goodbyes, the program concludes.

Accommodations: Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Natchez Eola Hotel features elegant interiors, stately columns and Mississippi River-view balconies.

Meals Included: 13 (5 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 4 Dinners)

Per Person Price: \$608 double occupancy | single +\$140

FOR REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.elderhostel.org or call toll free at (877) 426-8056 to register or to learn more about this Elderhostel adventure, including terms and conditions. When registering, reference program #10921.

ABOUT ELDERHOSTEL

Elderhostel, Inc. is a non-for-profit organization dedicated to providing experiential learning opportunities to adults at a remarkable value. Since our founding in 1975, more than 4 million adults have participated in our programs. Call toll free at (877) 426-8056 to learn more and to sign up for a free catalog.

Copyright Elderhostel 2008. The Elderhostel service marks, logos, Web site address and other marks are owned by Elderhostel, Inc. Published November 2007.

Photos by Carl Rabun, Marcellus Martin/mickphoto.com and courtesy of the Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.



2008 part 1
page 40

celebrate

**"RICHARD WRIGHT, THE SOUTH,
AND THE WORLD: A CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION**



FEBRUARY 20

11:00 A.M. ~ Nelson Multi-Purpose Room

Please join us in honoring Natchez's own "native son,"
Dr. Robert Butler of Canisius College, Buffalo, N.Y. will
be our guest speaker. Mr. Mark LaFrancis will premiere
a semi-documentary film, "Richard Wright: A Force for
Right." Please do not miss out on this wonderful
opportunity!

SPONSORED BY

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AND
THE NACHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION



celebrate

“RICHARD WRIGHT, THE SOUTH, AND THE WORLD: A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



FEBRUARY 20

11:00 A.M. ~ Nelson Multi-Purpose Room

Please join us in honoring, Natchez's own "native son". Dr. Robert Butler of Canisius College, Buffalo, N.Y. will be our guest speaker. Mr. Mark LaFrancis will premiere a mini-documentary film, "Richard Wright: A Force for Right". Please don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity!

SPONSORED BY
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AND
THE NATCHEZ LITERARY CINEMA CELEBRATION



2008 NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE

The 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
presents

Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration

Thurs.-Sun., Feb. 21-24, 2008
Natchez Convention Center, Natchez, MS

Lectures, Films, Book Signings,
Writing Workshops,
Parties, Meals,
& "Native Son," in cooperation
with the Natchez Little Theatre

All free or low cost!

Toll-free: 866-296-6522
or 601-446-1289
or visit www.colin.edu/nlcc

Sponsors:

Copiah Lincoln Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Mississippi Public Broadcasting



Richard Wright

Partial Funding from Mississippi Humanities Council

SAVE THE DATE!
20th annual NLCC Feb 19-22, 2009
Famous Southern Women Writers
*Celebrating the Centennial of
Eudora Welty*



60th Season



Diamond Jubilee

proudly presents

in cooperation with the Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration

This production is partially funded by the Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency,
and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

NATIVE SON



Directed by
LAYNE TAYLOR

by Richard Wright and Paul Green

Friday, February 22, 2008, at 8:00 p.m. & Saturday, February 23, 2008, at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 24, 2008, at 2:00 p.m.

Executive Produced by Adams County Board of Supervisors
Bluffs and Bayous and Comcast Spotlight

Produced by Dr. Ed Gaudet; KFNV River Radio; King of Hearts; McDonald's;
Dr. David A. Timm Pediatric & Adolescent Clinic and Wal-Mart

Native Son

Time: 1939 - 1940

Place: The Black Belt of Chicago mainly

Scene 1: The Thomas apartment, early midwinter morning.

Scene 2: A street outside Ernie's Kitchen Shack, later the same day.

Scene 3: The Dalton breakfast room, a few hours later.

Scene 4: Mary Dalton's bedroom, late the same night

Scene 5: The Dalton breakfast room, the following morning.

Scene 6: Clara Mears apartment, evening of the same day.

Scene 7: The basement of the Dalton home, the next afternoon.

Scene 8: A room in a ruined apartment house, night, a day later.

Scene 9: A hearing room in the City Courthouse, some days later.

Scene 10: The Courtroom, a week later.

Scene 11: The death cell, some days later.

2009 print 1
page 44

The Democrat

Natchez

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008

Wright celebration starts today

BY LUKE HORTON
THE NACHEZ DEMOCRAT

NACHEZ — Natchez's celebration of its native son Richard Wright will begin tonight at 7 with opening ceremonies at the Natchez Convention Center.



Wright

The 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is dedicated to the life of Wright, his works and his influence on literature. The celebration coincides with Wright's centennial.

"We've had celebrations before that had components of Richard Wright, but this one is all about him and will tie in with his centennial," NLCC co-chair Carolyn Vance Smith said. "Wright has such a

SEE NLCC, 3A

NLCC: Most of events are being offered for free

FROM PAGE 1A

huge following. He's now in all of the anthologies in high schools and colleges. He was the John Grisham of his day."

Wright was born in 1908 in rural Adams County and died at the age of 32 in Paris, France. His works include "Native Son," "Uncle Tom's Children," "The Outsider," "Black Boy" and "A Father's Law." Wright is considered one of the country's greatest black writers and was among the first black writers to achieve literary fame.

A 7:15 p.m. screening of "Richard Wright: Black Boy," a documentary of the life of Wright, will follow the opening ceremonies. Tickets to both of today's events are free.

The celebration will offer close to 30 events and will continue through Sunday. Tickets to most of the events are free. For ticket information, contact the NLCC at 601-446-1289 or 606-296-6522.

2008 part 1
page 45

OUR OPINION

NLCC event not to be missed

For years now the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration has been a highlight of an otherwise dreary February.

The work of organizers and Copiah-Lincoln Community College has brought many a famous face to our small corner of the world.

*Wright,
who spent
parts of his
childhood
in Natchez,
will be
honored for
his 100th
birthday.*

The NLCC serves to expose us all to the literary works of which our country should be so proud. It offers a chance for Natchez to refocus on the arts that have heavily influenced our area over the years. And it even offers continuing education credits for local teachers, right in their backyard.

But this year is better.

The organizers of the celebration have tied America's great literary history right into the very history of Natchez. The theme of this year's NLCC isn't just about an American or Southern author, it's about our very own native son — Richard Wright.

Wright, who spent parts of his childhood in Natchez, will be honored for his 100th birthday.

The celebration starts today and continues through Sunday.

Nearly all of the events — at the Natchez Convention Center — are free to the public.

This is your chance for an educational, enlightening and fun weekend. Don't miss it.

The Natchez Democrat

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2008

Young writers get chance to voice beliefs

BY VERSHAL HOGAN
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — Being young doesn't mean you can't have beliefs.

That's the premise of the Chocolate Milk Café, an event associated with the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, geared to getting local children to participate in the world of writing.

Fifth and sixth grade students from three local schools — Adams

County Christian School, Morgantown Elementary School and Vidalia Upper Elementary School — submitted poems, essays or narratives on the theme of "Young Writers Say, 'This I Believe.'"

As for 11-year-old Ryan Lackey, one of the sixth graders at ACCS whose essay was selected, he believes war is wrong and there should be no more wars.

The decision to write his es-



say came after reflecting on past conflicts, Lackey said.

"I just thought that a lot of people have died in wars and we should honor that," he said.

The reasons the Chocolate Milk Café was started was to let the young people of the Miss-Lou have a way to become connected to the NLCC, said Mark LaFrancis, director of public information at Copiah-Lincoln Com-

munity College in Natchez.

"We had realized that even though the NLCC was a wonderful event encompassing all facets of fine literature and film, younger people needed to have a voice in it too," LaFrancis said.

A total of 18 entries were chosen, and the young wordsmiths who crafted them will be allowed to read them before a live audience at the Chocolate Milk Café

SEE WRITERS, 1A

WRITERS: Tickets are required to attend event at Armstrong

FROM PAGE 1A

at the Armstrong Library at 2 p.m. Saturday.

"It's very much like an old-style coffeehouse reading, except we serve the kids chocolate milk instead of coffee," LaFrancis said.

Lackey said he was surprised to find out his essay had been chosen, but he's not nervous about reading in front of the group Saturday.

"Monday I read in front of almost 100 people at school, so I think I can handle it," he said.

The event will be open only to those who have tickets. Tickets are available at the Armstrong Library.

THE AUTHORS

Young authors chosen to participate in the Chocolate Milk Café:

ADAMS COUNTY CHRISTIAN

SCHOOL:

Amber Pitts "This I Believe"

Ryan Lackey "This I Believe"

Brant Pugh "This I Believe"

MORGANTOWN SCHOOL:

Jakerna Brown "My Dream"

Aaliyah Buchanan "I Believe in Peace"

Terrica Fleming "This I Believe"

Karetha Green "This I Believe"

Preston Gordon "I Believe"

Debrauntra Green "I Believe"

Alayowon Tykemon Isaac "Completing

Goals"

Myrasha Miller "I Believe in God"

Montay Mullins "This I Believe"

S'Nasia Saucier "Achieving My Goals"

Charlise White "I Believe"

VIDALIA UPPER ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL:

Jeanette Taylor "This I Believe"

Adam Willis "This I Believe"

2008 part 1
page 147

REGION

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2008

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

WATCHING WRIGHT



MIKE COOPER / THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

University of Southern Mississippi Professor John D. W. Guice gives opening remarks before a screening of "Richard Wright: Black Boy," a documentary of the life of Richard Wright, Wednesday evening at the Natchez Convention Center. The 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will continue today at the Natchez Convention Center and scheduled events will continue through Sunday.

2008 part 1
page 48

File NLCC
Publicity

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT INFO: 601-446-1208

Tickets for certain events during the 18th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration are nearly sold out, said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the conference.

The NLCC, set for Feb. 22-25, is headquartered at the Natchez Convention Center. More than two dozen programs will use the theme, "Southern Accents: Language in the Deep South."

Most of the conference is free because of support from the four sponsoring institutions, which are Co-Lin, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

Other partial funding comes from the Mississippi Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities as well as from businesses, institutions and individuals.

Registration is not required for free events. However, certain special events require registration since they are ticketed. One meal is sold out and two others are nearing sell-out status.

"We are very pleased with the early return on ticket sales," Smith said. "One event has had a particularly huge response with 225 ticket-buyers."

"This is a two-part event Feb. 23, featuring a program by the humorist and author Robert St. John of Hattiesburg and a luncheon at the Carriage House at Stanton Hall. We have rearranged that event to accommodate more people."

St. John's program, called "How I Grew Up in the South and Lived to Draw About It," will now take place at the Convention Center at 11:30 a.m., followed by a book signing honoring the author.

Those holding a ticket to both the program and the luncheon will be admitted to the program and later admitted to the Carriage House, Smith said.

"Since the restaurant cannot seat more than 225 at one time, and because many additional people want to hear Robert St. John's program, a reduced-price ticket at \$10 will be sold for the program only," she said.

Other ticketed events that are near sell-out are a reception/supper Feb. 22 at the Natchez Museum of African American History on Main Street at \$15 and a benefit reception/supper at the mansion The Briars overlooking the Mississippi River at \$125.

"NAPAC Museum can accommodate only 200 people, and The Briars party has only 100 tickets for sale," Smith said. "Both events are near capacity."

Three additional ticketed events have plenty of space available, since they are to take place at either the Convention Center or Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Smith said.

They are a concert by Alcorn State University Choir at the Convention Center Feb. 22 at \$10; a performance of "Twain by the Tale" at the Convention Center Feb. 23 at \$15; and writing workshops at Co-Lin Feb. 25 @ \$15.

Tickets and information are available by calling 601-446-1289 or toll-free 866-296-6522 or clicking on www.colin.edu/nlcc.

Serving with Smith on the NLCC's Steering Committee are Jim Barnett of MDAH; Kathleen Jenkins of NNHP; and Marie Antoon of MPB.

#

2008 part 1
page 49

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: jerry ward [jerryward31@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2005 9:28 PM
To: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Subject: RE: 2007 and 2008

*file
NLCC 2008*

Dear Carolyn,

The exact wording for 2008 NLCC should be "**Richard Wright (1908-2008), the South, and the World.**"

The other co-sponsors we should have for our 2007 Outreach Project are the Natchez Museum of African American History and Culture, the MHC, and the Natchez-Adams County Public Schools. I would like for NLCC to get maximum mileage from this project and to offer it as a model for community celebration of the Wright Centennial. Here is the schedule of discussions:

January Uncle Tom's Children

February Lawd Today! (an extra event for 2007 NLCC)

March Native Son and Rite of Passage (special lecture on the novel, stage, and film versions of Native Son)

April Black Boy

May 12 Million Black Voices

June Eight Men

July This Other World: Haiku

August Black Power

September The Color Curtain

October Pagan Spain

November White Man, Listen!

December The Long Dream

*Alcorn?
Concordia
Schools?
Private +
Parochial
schools?*

By the way, Maryemma Graham and I have received the green light to co-edit the Cambridge History of African American Literature.

All best wishes,

Jerry

5/5/2005

*2008 part 1
page 50*

FEBRUARY 21-27, 2008 ■ 9E

LITERARY EVENT

**'Richard Wright,
the South and the
World: A Centenni-
al Celebration'**

Top line: The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration marks the centennial of the birth of author and Mississippi native Richard Wright with a focus on his writings, his impact and his Mississippi roots.

Topping the highlights is today's 11 a.m. keynote speech by Julia Wright of Paris, "Children of Oppressed Giants: Living with the Legacy of Pain."

A scholar, writer and editor, she's attracting much attention from her scattered and extended Wright family, who are gathering for a family reunion this weekend, says celebration coordinator Carolyn Vance Smith. Charles Wright, the family historian and the author's first cousin, once removed, is heading the reunion.

Another top feature is the first ever Richard Wright Ram-



Special to The Clarion-Ledger

Richard Wright and his daughter, Julia Wright, New York, 1944, from the Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

ble, a guided bus tour Saturday of sites in and around Natchez that relate to the author and his family and which might've even shown up in fictionalized form in his books. The tour begins at Forks of the Road, site of the second largest slave market in the South.

Saturday, more than 40 Wright family members will unveil the Richard Wright Memorial Highway marker at 2:30 p.m., with remarks by Sen.

DETAILS

- **What:** Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
- **When:** Through Sunday
- **Where:** Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St., Natchez
- **Admission:** Free, with some ticketed events
- **Contact:** (601) 446-1208 or www.colin.edu/mlcc

Thad Cochran and former Gov. William Winter. A 3½-mile stretch of U.S. 84 leading into Natchez from Cramfield (where Wright's extended family lived and where he was born) will be named for him.

Another draw is the Saturday premiere of the mini-documentary, *Richard Wright: A Force for Right*, by Mark LaPrancia, head of film production at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, and his students. The 24-minute film features comments and readings by Charles Wright, Winter and foremost Wright scholar Jerry W. Ward Jr.

— Sherry Lucas

2008 part 1
page 51

file NLRC
publicity

Natchez Campus Calendar

This calendar is prepared by the Office of Public Information. Please see Mark LaFrancis (mark.lafrancis@colin.edu) (601-446-1205) to have a listing on this calendar.

LAST UPDATE: January 26, 2007

MONTH-LONG EXHIBIT: Scott Crane, Co-Lin Natchez student, will exhibit his photography from around the world in the Willie Mae Dunn Library.

Every Friday: Current Issues Discussion Group, 11 a.m., Library Conference Room. Bring your lunch and enjoy conversing about a topic in the news.

Every Monday: N-Sights and Yearbook staff meeting, 11 a.m., Room 213 in the Reed Academic Center.

Friday, Feb. 2: Career/Technical Education Center faculty meeting, 11 a.m., Career/Technical Education Center dining room.

Tuesday, Feb. 6: Professional staff meeting, 10 a.m., Library Conference Room.

Tuesday, Feb. 6: Support staff meeting, 2 p.m., Library Conference Room.

Wednesday, Feb. 7: Baptist Student Union meeting, 11 a.m., Academic Activity Room.

Saturday, Feb. 10: National ACT.

Monday, Feb. 12: President's Council meeting, 11 a.m., Library Conference Room.

Tuesday, Feb. 13: Phi Beta Lambda drawing for Valentine Basket. Tickets available for \$1 donation.

Wednesday, Feb. 14: Valentine's Day

Wednesday, Feb. 21: Recruiter from Mississippi State University, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., outside Bookstore.

Wednesday, Feb. 21-Sunday, Feb. 25: Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Events at Co-Lin, the Natchez Convention Center, and sites around the community. For more information: www.colin.edu/nlcc



UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

March 9: Mid-term

March 11: Daylight Saving Time begins

March 12-16: Spring break

April 2: Last day to drop a course and receive a "W"

April 3: Pre-registration for the fall semester

April 5-6: Easter break

April 17: Awards Night

May 11: Graduation

Office of Public Information
2009 Natchez Avenue
Natchez, MS 39124
Phone: 601-446-1205
Fax: 601-446-1206
www.colin.edu

Office of Public Information
2009 Natchez Avenue
Natchez, MS 39124
Phone: 601-446-1205
Fax: 601-446-1206
www.colin.edu



The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

2009 part 1
page 52

Mississippi Historical Society

Post Office Box 571 • Jackson, MS 39205-0571

February 22, 2008

Mrs. Carolyn Vance Smith
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
270 Foster Mound Road
Natchez, Mississippi 39120-9065

Dear Carolyn:

I am writing on behalf of Dr. Thomas G. Velek, chairman, Awards Committee, Mississippi Historical Society, to formally confirm that the committee has voted to present the Society's Award of Merit to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration (NLCC) for its remarkable contributions to the study of literature, history, and culture since its establishment in 1990.

The recipients of the Awards of Merit will be formally announced at the forthcoming annual meeting of the Mississippi Historical Society that will be held this year at Mississippi State University. The Awards of Merit will be presented at the Awards Brunch on Saturday, March 8, 2008, at 11:30 a.m. at the Hunter Henry Center on the University campus. We hope that you and Marion will be able to join us at the brunch as the Society's guests. Please call me at 601-576-6850 or email me at hilliard@mdah.state.ms.us to advise me of your plans.

You and your NLCC colleagues are to be commended for your exemplary work, and we look forward to your being with us on March 8.

Sincerely,



Elbert R. Hilliard
Secretary-Treasurer

ERH:lh

Visit *Mississippi History Now* <http://mshistory.k12.ms.us>

2008 part 1
page 53

Mississippi History NEWSLETTER

Volume 50 No. 4

MDAH

Published by the Mississippi
Department of Archives and History
A. T. Holmes, director
Christy Wilson, editor
<http://www.mdah.state.ms.us>
Mailing address: MHN, P.O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205-0571

April 2008

MHS Awards Prizes, Elects Officers

The Mississippi Historical Society named the best volume on Mississippi history of 2007, honored the history teacher of the year, and presented other awards at its annual meeting held at MSU in Starkville March 6-8.

"Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, and the Civil War in Mississippi" was the meeting's theme, chosen by president **John F. Marszalek** as part of a national observance of the bicentennials of the two men's births, Davis's on June 3, 2008, and Lincoln's on February 12, 2009. Presentations examined, among other things, the restoration of Beauvoir, U.S. Colored Troops and Civil War campaigns in the state, and similarities between post-WWII Japan and the South following the Civil War. **George Buss**, nationally renowned Lincoln impressionist, presented "So You Think You're Coming South, Mr. Lincoln?" **Frank J. Williams**, chief justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, gave the banquet address,

"Abraham Lincoln's Importance to the Twenty-First Century South."



Governor and Mrs. William Winter enjoy performance by Lincoln impressionist George Buss.

In Search of Another Country: Mississippi and the Conservative Counterrevolution, by Emory University history professor **Joseph Crespieno**, was awarded the **McLemore Prize** for the best Mississippi history book of 2007. The book examines

how American politics has been influenced by white Mississippians' reaction against modern liberalism.

Thomas Parrish Watts, Madison Middle School, received the **John K. Betterworth Award**, presented annually to an outstanding history teacher. Watts, an eighth-grade American history

Cont'd page 2



"Hardback and Coffee," Jim Woodrick and Tim Waltman perform at Thursday's welcoming reception.

MDAH EVENTS

Jackson

Manship House Museum
420 East Fortification St.
601-961-4724

Saturday, April 5, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. *Saturday with Shakespeare.* All ages are invited to see the Mississippi College Tribal Players perform scenes from Shakespearean plays. Free of charge.

Wednesday-Friday, April 16-18, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. *Manships Unearthed.* Students can observe archaeology students from Millsaps College conducting an excavation on the grounds of the Manship House Museum to learn more about this unique family's history. Free of charge, reservations required.

William F. Winter Archives and History Building
200 North Street

Saturday, April 19, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. "Local History Matters" workshop and annual meeting, Federation of Mississippi Historical Societies. For details, see story page three.

Tuesday, April 22, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. "Prepare, Prevent, Preserve" Emergency Preparedness Workshop. For details, see story page four.

History Is Lunch
Brownbag Series
601-576-6857

Wednesday, April 2, noon-1 p.m. *Tim Avalon and fellow musicians* will play "old-time" tunes played by **Mississippi**

fiddlers and talk about the **fiddling tradition** in the state.

Wednesday, April 16, noon-1 p.m. *Rebecca L. Miller*, doctoral candidate at the University of South Carolina, will present "**Reporting Race and Resistance in Dixie: White Mississippi Press Coverage of Civil Rights.**"

Wednesday, April 30, noon-1 p.m. *Photographer Mary Rose Carter* and writer *Mary Carol Miller* will talk about and show images from their new book ***Must See Mississippi: 50 Favorite Places.***

History Is Lunch is partially funded by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Greenville

Winterville Mounds
2415 Highway 1 North
662-334-4684

Saturday, April 19, 1-7 p.m. *Bark in the Park.* Annual fund-raiser for the Greenville Humane Society. Admission fee to attend dog show.

Washington

Historic Jefferson College
601-442-2901

Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. *Annual Spring Flea Market and Plant Sale.*

Friday-Sunday, April 18-20. *Jefferson Military College Foundation Reunion.* Friends and alumni gather at the college.

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2008 10:59 AM
To: Natchez Faculty Only; Natchez staff everyone; Natchez Students
Subject: Invitation

You are invited to attend activities throughout HOWELL GARNER DAY at the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. This will be Saturday, February 23, 2008, at the Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street, in downtown Natchez.

This special day will honor Dr. Garner, president of Co-Lin, as he nears retirement in June 2008. He helped found the NLCC and has been a steadfast supporter ever since.

The day begins with a free program at 9 a.m. on "Richard Wright and the Blues."

Immediately after this program, Dr. Garner will be introduced by Dr. Ronnie Nettles, Co-Lin's President-elect.

A reception in honor of Dr. Garner will follow in the Convention Center lobby.

Additional free NLCC programs continue on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and at 1 p.m.

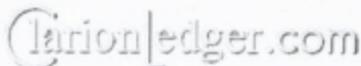
I hope to see you at the Convention Center Saturday morning, February 23!

Carolyn Vance Smith
Founder and Co-chairman, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
P.O. Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121
with offices at Copiah-Lincoln Community College
11 Co-Lin Circle, Natchez, MS 39120
Phone 601-446-1208
Fax 601-446-1214
NLCC web site: www.colin.edu/nlcc

2008 part 1
page 55

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Adams, Carrie [cadams@mdot.state.ms.us]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2008 9:06 AM
To: Sullivan, Janet; Smith, Carolyn Vance
Subject: For your information.

ClarionLedger.com

February 8, 2008

U.S. 84 segment to honor Richard Wright

The Clarion-Ledger

Mississippi will honor Natchez's famous "native son" Feb. 23 when a segment of U. S. 84 in Adams County is named the "Richard Wright Memorial Highway" after the internationally known author.

The ceremony will be at 2:30 p.m. at U. S. 61 North and U. S. 84 West in the parking lot of the B Kwik Chevron.

Wright was born 100 years ago this year near Natchez, in Adams County, the son of a sharecropper and a country schoolteacher. His first novel, *Native Son*, was published in 1940 and was an immediate success. *Black Boy*, a fictionalized autobiography, was published in 1945 and sold 400,000 copies in three months. He wrote more than a dozen books of fiction, nonfiction and poetry. After leaving Natchez, he lived and worked in Jackson, Memphis, Chicago and New York, later moving to Paris, where he died in 1960.

This highway dedication is being held in conjunction with the 2008 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration called "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration," the kickoff to a year-long series of international conferences and programs honoring the writer.

"MDOT is proud to partner with this prestigious event in honoring one of Mississippi's own," says Southern Transportation Commissioner Wayne Brown said in a news release.

The celebration is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. The National Endowment for the Humanities is providing partial funding through the Mississippi Humanities Council and Mississippi Arts Commission.

Scheduled to attend the dedication are U. S. Sens. Thad Cochran and Roger Wicker, former Gov. William Winter, Natchez Mayor Phillip West, the local legislative delegation, members of the Wright family, and local elected officials. The ceremonies are open to the public. Admission is free.

In the event of rain, the dedication ceremony will be held at 1:30 p.m. inside the Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE This e-mail and any files or attachments may contain confidential and privileged information. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender at the above e-mail address and delete it and

2008 part 1
page 57

A Father's Law" was sitting in the typewriter, unfinished and unpublished when Julia Wright found it. The incomplete novel was the last book famed author Richard Wright worked on before his death.

After discovering the book, Richard's daughter Julia read it and loved it. It would be almost 50 years before the rest of the world had a chance to do the same.

"I was hypnotized by the book," she said. "It scared me, but it was also full of hope."

After Richard's death, several of his unpublished works found their way into bookstores, but not this one. After the passing of Richard's wife, Julia became the executor of his estate and took it upon herself to get "A Father's Law" published.

"All those years, no one mentioned the book," she said. "But when mother passed and I realized that his centennial was here, I realized that will be his present, that will be his gift."

Julia took the book to her publisher, but was met with resistance. It seemed the literary world had doubts about the Natchez native's last work.

"No one saw it my way," Julia said. "They kept asking, 'Are you sure you want to publish this?' But I was persistent and wrote a strong letter about getting it published."

Julia's letter asked a simple question. Don't you want to know what goes through the mind of great authors when they lay dying? After reading the letter, the publisher said yes and asked Julia to turn her book into the book's introduction.

In January of this year, "A Father's Law" hit bookshelves worldwide and to Julia's surprise, found its way onto several best-seller lists. While browsing one of Paris' largest bookstores, something familiar in the best-sellers section caught Julia's eye.

"It was the book," she said. "It was No. 17 out of 20 on the best selling list. I came back last week and it was No. 13."

Julia's gift to her father has become one of the most popular books in the city that he called home. After discovering the novel in the Paris bookstore, she rushed out, bought a camera and took photographs of the book sitting on the shelf. Julia will bring those photos to Natchez this week as she and the rest of the literary world celebrate her father's centennial.

"I will, of course, bring the photos," she said. "I want to say, 'In France, this book is going up.'"

Julia will help Natchez celebrate the life of its "native son" when she serves as keynote speaker at this year's Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. The 19th annual event will focus on Wright, his works and his influence on literature.

"This is a very, very rich conference with five days of programming," NLCC co-chair Carolyn Vance Smith said. "Wright is so important to Natchez. There are plenty of people saying that he is to Natchez what Faulkner is to Oxford."

The conference will begin this evening with a screening of "Richard Wright: Black Boy," a documentary of the author's life. The celebration will offer close to 30 events that



DETAILS

JULIA WRIGHT gives the keynote address for the 19th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Wright's address will be at 11 A.M. THURSDAY at the Natchez Convention Center.

The conference begins this evening with the screening of **RICHARD WRIGHT: BLACK BOY** and continues through the weekend. For more information see the insert in today's section.

FATHER FIGURE



Richard Wright reads to his daughter Julia, in 1944. Photo courtesy of the Y Collection of American Literature, Science Rare Book and Manuscript Library

STORY BY LUKE HORTON

You can't talk about black history without talking about

Black History Month, Richard Wright lectures and a new restaurant. What do these things have in common? Naturally, my favorite subject — food.

But not just any food, deep South, no frills, honest from the heart food. Or, as the rest of the world thinks of it — soul food.

Soul food is thought of the world over as the no-frills, use the ingredients you've got on hand, cooking



CHRISTINA HALL
Columnist

fat, red, juicy lether is hanging next to it. But to those naysayers I would say you have never tasted my grandmother's green tomatoes, sliced thin, dipped in a milk and egg bath, lightly dusted with seasoned cornmeal. Then fried in boiling grease that

considered used and slightly cheap on her part. That is because they have never had my cornbread or biscuits that slide perfectly out of that seasoned pan with a flip of the wrist just like she taught me.

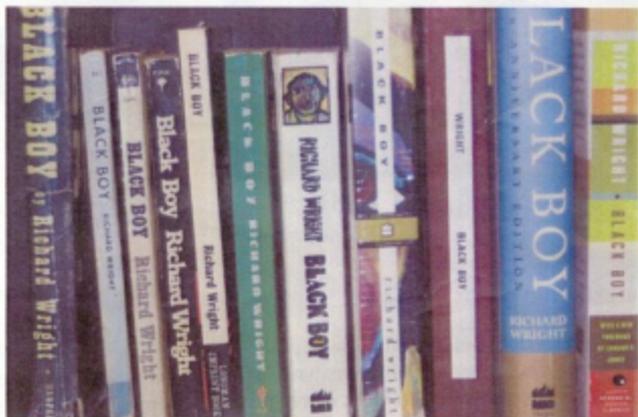
When slavery existed in the South, it was the black slaves who cooked in the fire mounds and also in their shacks along the fields. They used the ingredients that they had on hand and a few such as okra

would have you believe, not all soul food is unhealthy: When food is perfectly fried in boiling hot grease very little gets in the food. It is when food is fried in crowded pots with less than ideal temperatures that you get greasy food. A bowl of turnip, mustard or collard greens cooked with only a little piece of smoked pork, salt and a little pepper vinegar is not only a delicious feast, but also healthy.

available to them, from their own back yard greens they grow as well as home cooking powder biscuits. Up in the far reach of the University and given its hard recognition you might there at the Center of Southern Culture of the Southern

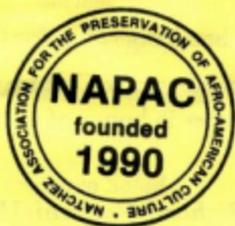
Natchez, Mississippi
February 21, 2008

Covering *Black Boy*:
A Visual-Literary History
Richard Wright's Autobiography



By Howard Ramsby II

2008 part 1
page 58



Richard Wright Dinner

19th Annual

Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration

February 21, 2008

2008 part 1
page 59

THE WRIGHT DAUGHTER



Mayor Philip West presents Julia Wright with a key to the city and a proclamation stating that Feb. 21 will be Richard Wright Day, as former Mississippi Gov. William Winter looks on. Winter was also presented with a key to the city.

Julia Wright speaks about father's works

BY MARY HOOD
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — Julia Wright, daughter of Natchez native author Richard Wright, spoke of the hope and despair found not just in her father's books but his life Thursday at the keynote address for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Wright's speech was about two elements, which she said were great themes in her father's literature. The first is the ability to move from pain to forgiveness.

She first quoted Mahatma Gandhi who said it takes great strength to be able to forgive.

She spoke of an incident, which will be appearing in her upcoming memoir, "Richard Wright, Daughter of a Native Son."

She said one of her earliest memories is of a time when her maternal grandmother was

washing her hair, but to Wright, it felt like her grandmother was trying to rip her hair out.

Wright said it upset her that her grandmother was hurting her so badly and she begged her to stop.

"Behind forgiveness, there flows an emotion called hope."

Julia Wright
keynote speaker

"I scream 'No, no, grandma, it hurts,' but she does not listen, she continues, it's so painful," Wright said.

Later in life, Wright learned that her grandmother was a Jew from Poland and had experienced extreme forms of hatred in the times of the Holocaust.

Wright said her grandmother was illiterate and emotionally illiterate and her way of channeling her own personal pain was to hurt her granddaughter.

With this understanding, Wright said she was able to forgive her grandmother and from this came a new emotion.

SEE WRIGHT, 3A

FOOTBALL FOUNDATION: Brunfield takes top honors '18



The Democrat

Natchez

SCHOOL BOARD: Schools

2008 part 1
page 60

WRIGHT: Author's daughter talks to Literary Celebration crowd about hope, despair and emotion

FROM PAGE 1A

"Behind forgiveness, there flows an emotion called hope," Wright said.

She said she wanted to examine in her speech why hope is so important and why it's so important in the work of her father.

She said it's so important because in the midst of despair and pain, people need to focus on their ability to hope.

"Hope unites us all," she said. "It's no question of color anymore. We are all capable of despair. We are all capable of hope."

In a world of war and racism, she said, people need to not be consumed by the bad but instead focus on hope.

She said her father's story is so full of despair, yet he was such a hopeful man.

"Richard Wright's story is not an American success story.

"It's full of pain, the worst kind of pain," Wright said. "Because Richard was willing to go down to the bottom of his blues, he was able to push the floor of despair and shove himself back to the surface of the ink waters and breathe and hope."

Wright compared her father and his writings to him opening Pandora's box.

"Richard reminds me of the Pandora legend," she said. "He asks forbidden ques-

tions, unravels secret codes of racism, brings the ghost out of the box; and it's difficult and threatening as the bottom of the box."

She reminded the audience of what was left in Pandora's box after the bad things escaped: hope.

"The works of my father are threaded with hope," she said.

After Wright's speech on despair and hope, Mayor Phillip West asked all descendants of

Richard Wright in the room to come up front. Between 20 and 30 people gathered before the podium.

"I as mayor of the city of Natchez, on behalf of the city of Natchez, I do proclaim Feb. 23, 2008, as Richard Wright's day in Natchez, Miss.," West said.

He also presented the Wright family a key to the city.

The NLCC continues through Sunday.

2608 part 1
page 61

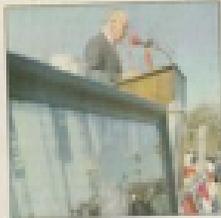


The Natchez Democrat

SUNDAY EDITION

TRINITY: Saints fall to Cougars in Class AA State Championship 19
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2005

PROFILE 2005: Find the faces and voices



Gov. Rowe presents the Richard Wright Award to Jennifer Oplow during a ceremony at the Natchez Library and Cinema Celebration last Friday night.

Highway dedicated to author

Portion of U.S. 84 named for Richard Wright

BY FRANK WALKER
STAFF WRITER

ANNON — As of Saturday thanks to Mississippi House Bill 601, a portion of U.S. 84 in Adams County is the Richard Wright Memorial Highway.

"It is an honor to be present with you here in Adams County to honor your own native son."

William D. Rowe
Gov. of Miss.

Gov. Rowe presented the highway to Wright's memory Saturday.

The project is to be a 1.8-mile stretch of U.S. 84 adjacent to the Natchez Convention Center.

"It is an honor to be present with you here in Adams County to honor your own native son," Gov. Rowe said.

Mayor Phillip Rice thanked the legislators for honoring the town by the name change.



Jennifer Oplow places a Richard Wright literary Excellence Award around the neck of playwright, screenwriter and lyricist Alfred Urey Saturday evening during a concert at the Natchez Library and Cinema Celebration at the Natchez Convention Center.

WRITERS: NILCC will continue today at the Natchez Convention Center

continued from page 1

"While Martin Luther King was leading a movement of the 1960s, Lawrence Sanders was leading a movement of another kind. There had never been anything like *Bluesy* magazine."

A local statement was made on the spot.

"I accept this award with the understanding that I am to go out and make myself worthy of it," Bennett said. "I pledge to all of you in the continuing struggle that Richard Wright did not struggle and die in vain."

Paul Brooks Hinton also received a Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award.

"Richard Wright is a writer I have adored since I was a teenager and to have my name associated with his work makes me very proud," Hinton said.

Hinton also read a poem of thanks, which will be featured in his next book.

Playwright and screenwriter Alfred Urey received the Horton Hood Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting.

Urey is the screenwriter of such works as "Driving Miss Daisy" and

"Myra Blue."

Natchez native Jennifer Oplow presented Urey's award.

"Driving Miss Daisy" set a new standard for what is considered a mainstream Hollywood movie," Oplow said.

Urey said he had used a very important lesson from Plato about screenwriting.

"You say as little as you can and say about as much as possible," Urey said. "You keep it simple, and so, with that, I thank you."

The Natchez Library and Cinema Celebration will continue today at the Natchez Convention Center.

Writers awarded for literary works

BY FRANK WALKER
STAFF WRITER

ANNON — Three writers received awards recognizing their literary achievements as part of the Natchez Library and Cinema Celebration last Friday night.

Author and long-time editor of the city magazine Lawrence Bennett Jr. received the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award.

Bennett is the author of — among other books — "Before the March: A History of Black Americans 1955-1960" and "What Matters of Man: A Biography of Martin Luther King Jr."

David Bennett presented the award, which Bennett could not accept in person because of a family emergency.

"Bennett's books are considered American classics," Bennett said.

BY FRANK WALKER

2005 cont 1
page 82

2008 part 1
page 63

2.22.08

Thank you for sharing
your conference room
yesterday. Because of
your generosity - and
patience - we have a
wonderful interview with
Julia Wright. Because of
your help, the people of
Mississippi can learn
more about their native
so. Thanks again.

Colie Green
Sonia Rodriguez

OUR OPINION

NLCC rounds out week's good news

What a week. It was a busy one in the Miss-Lou, with dozens in town for the annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Let's review some of the good news last week brought.

► The NLCC carried new significance this year, as organizers honored Natchez's own Richard Wright. Wright's daughter Julia delivered the keynote address, and three worthy writers were honored Saturday night at the awards banquet.

From all accounts NLCC 2008 was a success, and we are happy to have once again had such a wonderful event in our city.

► But just as quickly as the NLCC ends, the biggest event of the year in Natchez must get under way — Spring Pilgrimage. Children are already working hard to learn their parts in the Historic Natchez Pageant. As practice continues in the coming weeks, our town will put on its best face to invite the world in.

► Principals from Central Alternative, West Primary and Frazier Primary gave quarterly reports to the Natchez-Adams School Board last week, and things sound good. Teacher and administrators work throughout the year to prepare students for state tests. They do a battery of their own testing to track progress, and right now, students are improving, the principals said.

Other great headlines this week included the groundbreaking ceremony for Promise Hospital of the Miss-Lou and a report from city leaders about a positive visit with U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker. Officials are hopeful Wicker will help provide funding for several projects in town.

As February comes to a close, we know there is still time for more good news in the Miss-Lou.

2008 part 1
page 64

FEBRUARY

what's happening where?



ATLANTA

- Alvin Ailey Dance Theater. Fox Theatre, Feb. 27-March 2. Visit www.alvinaley.org for more information.
- A Song For Coretta. A new play by Peef Cloag. 7 Stages, Through Feb. 17, www.7stages.org

BALTIMORE

- Black Heritage Art Exp. Sponsored by the African American Visual Arts Association, Baltimore Convention Center, Feb. 15-17, www.blackheritageartshow.com

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.

- 7th Annual Mardi Gras Celebration, Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Visit www.bri.org for more information, Feb. 5

CHICAGO

- George Washington Carver. A new exhibit covers Carver's entire life and career, The Field Museum, Feb. 1-July 6, www.fieldmuseum.org

CLEVELAND

- 17th annual Black Heritage Concert, Cleveland Institute of Music, Feb. 22, www.cim.edu

COLUMBUS, Ohio

- First Thursday Arts: Unchained Memories: Readings From the Slave Narratives, The King Arts Complex, Feb. 7, www.thekingartscomplex.com

- CAPA: Harlem Gospel Choir, Southern Theatre, Feb. 22, www.capa.com

DETROIT

- Making Prints, Telling

Stories: The Artistry of Margaret Burroughs. Exhibit celebrates the renowned artist on her 90th birthday. Coleman A. Young Exhibition Room, The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Through May, 18, www.mash-detroit.org

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla.

- Setrunik Historical Parade and Festival-in-The Park, Visit www.setrunikfestival.org for more information, Feb. 23.

HOUSTON

- Gam of the Ocean, Play presented by the Ensemble Theatre, Through Feb. 24, www.ensembletheatre.com

LOS ANGELES

- 10th Annual Pan African Film & Arts Festival, Magic Johnson AMC Crenshaw Theaters and the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza, Feb. 7-18, www.paff.org
- A Tribute to Nat King Cole, Presented by the Los Angeles Philharmonic and George Benson, Walt Disney Concert Hall, Feb. 15.

MACON, Ga.

- Otis Redding: I've Got Dreams To Remember, Exhibit in his hometown commemorates 40th



anniversary of Redding's death, Georgia Music Hall of Fame through Sept. 10, www.georgiamusic.org

MEMPHIS, Tenn.

- Black History Month events, National Civil Rights Museum, Monthlong, www.civilrightsmuseum.org

MOBILE, Ala.

- Mardi Gras 2008, Mobile Bay is the home of the first-known Mardi Gras celebration in North America in 1703, Feb. 5, www.mobile.org/mardi-gras.php

NATCHEZ, Miss.

- Richard Wright, The South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration, The 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Ebony Executive Editor Emeritus Lerone Bennett Jr. is being awarded a Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, Feb. 23, Conference dates are Feb. 20-24, www.colin.edu/ncc



NEW ORLEANS

- Mardi Gras 2008 features parades and revelry, Feb. 5, www.neworleanscb.com

NEW YORK CITY

- Ellington Love Songs

(Valentine's festival), Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis, Rose Theater, Feb. 14-16, www.jlcc.org

NORTH BETHESDA, Md.

- Free to Sing: The Story of the First African-American Opera Company, World premiere original Stratmore concert production, Music Center at Stratford, Feb. 16, www.stratmore.org

PHILADELPHIA

- 10th Annual African American Children's Book Fair, Community College of Philadelphia, Feb. 2

ST. LOUIS

- Souard Mardi Gras in St. Louis, Events through Feb. 5, • Othello, Play presented by the St. Louis Black Repertory Company, Edison Theatre at Washington University, Through Feb. 3, www.theblackrep.org
- Black History Heritage Month, A monthlong program at the Old Courthouse and Gateway Arch, Feb. 1-29.

SAN FRANCISCO

- Sonny's Blues, Play based on a short story by James Baldwin, The Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, Feb. 5-March 2, www.lorrainehansberrytheatre.com

WASHINGTON, D.C.

- Alvin Ailey Dance Theater, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Feb. 19-24, www.kennedy-center.org
- Let Your Motto Be Resistance: African

American Portraits, Exhibit, The National Portrait Gallery, Through March 2, For more information: www.nmnh.si.edu

ISLAND DESTINATIONS

ARUBA

- Carnival 2008, Grand Parade in Oranjestad, Feb. 3, Events through Feb. 5, www.visitaruba.com/attractions/whatsincarnival.html



BERMUDA

- 2008 Bermuda Festival of the Performing Arts, Various venues, Through Feb. 23, Visit www.bermudafestival.org for more details.

ST. LOUIS

- Independence Day, Feb. 22.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

- Trinidad Carnival 2008, Celebrating 170 years of Carnival, Carnival season events through Feb. 5, www.visittrn.com

NOTE: Sponsors may change dates or locations after the magazine has been published. Travelers should verify event information with local sponsors.

—Joy T. Bennett

Black Hi
from the
in betwe
any part
a bite to
the loun
family a
the futu

We wel
heart fo
ride hal

Amtrak
Kids

For m
Call

2008 part 1
page 66

Dedication Ceremony

*Richard Wright
Memorial Highway*



Natchez, Mississippi

Saturday, February 23, 2008

2:30 p.m.

Wayne Brown

Southern District Transportation Commissioner



2008 part 1
page 67

JACKSON SCHOOLS DESIGNATED MISSISSIPPI LANDMARKS

At its meeting on November 8, 2007, the Permit Committee of the MDAH Board of Trustees designated the following properties as "Mississippi Landmarks" in compliance with the provisions of the Antiquities Law of Mississippi. Designation protects these properties from being altered, damaged, destroyed, salvaged, restored, renovated, or excavated without a permit from the Board.

Lamier High School (833 Maple Street)
Bradley Elementary School (2601 Ivanhoe Avenue)
George Elementary School (1020 Hunter Street)
Poindexter Elementary School (1017 Robinson Street)
Walton Elementary School (3200 Bailey Avenue, Ext.)
Watkins Elementary School (3915 Watkins Drive)



George Elementary School, just off Gallatin Street in Jackson, is a 1907 one-story, H-plan, Art Deco style building that retains its original design and has not been extensively altered. (Right, entrance on Winter Street features cast concrete surrounds and leaded glass transoms.)



Eudora Welty Visitor Center

The Eudora Welty House staff members have moved into offices in the new Education and Visitors Center, located next door (1109 Pinehurst) to the Welty House (1119 Pinehurst), Jackson. Welty House visitors can now view the orientation film in the Visitors Center rather than in the Welty House garage! Interpretive exhibits are in progress, to be installed after the Visitors Center renovation, which begins soon. During renovation, film showings will be shifted back into the garage temporarily.



To make reservations to tour the Eudora Welty House, call 601-353-7762. For a virtual tour of the Welty House, visit mdah.state.ms.us/welty/index.html.

Destroyed Properties Formally De-Listed

The following Gulf Coast properties destroyed by Hurricane Katrina have been formally delisted from the National Register of Historic Places, administered in Mississippi by MDAH's Historic Preservation Division.

Glen Oaks/Kimbrough House, 806 N. Beach Avenue, Bay St. Louis, Hancock County
Taylor House, 808 N. Beach Avenue, Bay St. Louis, Hancock County
Taylor School, 116 Leonard Street, Bay St. Louis, Hancock County
Brielmaier House, 710 Beach Boulevard, Biloxi, Harrison County
Care T. Clark House, 1709 Beach Blvd., Pascagoula, Jackson County
Cottage by the Sea Tavern, 1205 Beach Blvd., Pascagoula, Jackson County
R.A. Farnsworth Summer House, 901 Beach Blvd., Pascagoula, Jackson County

Fisherman's Cottage, 138 Lamouse, Biloxi, Harrison County
Gillis House, 590 Beach Boulevard, Biloxi, Harrison County
Halstead Place, East Beach Drive, Ocean Springs, Jackson County

Finley B. Hewes House, 604 East Beach Blvd., Gulfport, Harrison County
Edgar W. Hall House, 2903 Beach Blvd., Pascagoula, Jackson County
Georgia P. Kinne House, 1101 Beach Blvd., Pascagoula, Jackson County
Milner House (Grass Lawn), 720 East Beach Blvd., Gulfport, Harrison County
Onward Oaks, 972 South Beach Blvd., Bay St. Louis, Hancock County
Pleasant Reed House, 928 Elmer Street, Biloxi, Harrison County
House at 711 West Water Street, Biloxi, Harrison County
Toledano-Philbrick-Tullis House, 947 East Beach Blvd., Biloxi, Harrison County.

"Local History Matters" Workshop April 19

The annual Federation of Mississippi Historical Societies workshop and meeting will be held April 19 from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the William F. Winter Archives and History Building, 200 North Street, Jackson. "Local History Matters" features a roundtable discussion, an informational talk by MDAH director H. T. Holmes ("MDAH Resources"), annual business meeting, and lunch with speaker Mark McCrary, executive director of the Mississippi Center for Nonprofits. After lunch, participants can choose three twenty-minute sessions from the following topics: the Mississippi Antiquities Law, Local Government Records, Artifact

Care, Disaster Planning, and Auxiliary Groups. The "Local History Bookstore" will sell publications of local societies and other groups. There is no charge to participate in the Bookstore. To reserve a space, call 601-576-6901 by April 4.

Meeting registration is \$30 per person and includes lunch. Make checks payable to the Mississippi Historical Society earmarked "Federation Annual Meeting 2008" and mail to MHS, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571. For more information, call Cindy Gardner at 601-576-6901.

Annual memberships for the Federation are \$25 for any history-oriented, non-profit organization in the state.

"The Richard Wright Documentary: A Lesson in Film and Literature"

By Mark LaFrancis

Feb. 24, 2008

Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez Campus
Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops

Part 1

Dreamin' Up a Project

Documentary projects come from all around us ... people we meet, observe, live with, hear about. I teach that each project we do must have a purpose beyond being a project ... it must enrich lives ... inspire others and have what I call the Ooooh factor. However, good filming requires great planning.

Mission Statement

A brief description of the goal of the documentary. This is the foundation for your project and will help you keep on track. Here is the mission statement for "Richard Wright: A Force for Right"

The goal of "Richard Wright: A Force for Right" will be to enlighten and inspire viewers - particularly young people - about Wright's remarkable achievements both as a writer and an individual. The documentary will chronicle Wright's story as a young man from poor rural Mississippi who became an internationally acclaimed author.

Script

The script is the video equivalent to chapter outlines in a book. It is the road map from beginning to end where your project is headed. The script also can - and very likely will - be revised again and again.

Shot Plan

The shot plan is the blueprint for the documentary; without it, you have little direction. Just as all blueprints, the shot plan can be - and often is - revised many times. The shot plan is not a story board, but a list of the various clips that you want for the project. The shot plan also does not need to correspond to the actual layout of your documentary.

On-Location Scouting and Planning the Shots

Give yourself plenty of time to scout out where you want to shoot whether you're doing interviews or getting fill - or background - footage. Watch out for lighting, weird shadows, flashing lights, clocks, noise, sudden interruptions, off-limits sites, weird smells, lawnmowers, clock towers, and lots more.

Interviewing

Always prepare your interviewee well prior to the interview, giving questions, your mission statement, length of interview, as much information as possible to make the person comfortable. Advise the interviewee about what to wear and not to wear. Prepare questions well ahead of time. Remember, you may use only a fraction of the interview in the actual project. Get the interviewee to sign a permission form before being interviewed. Shut off cell phones and take phones off the hook. Do a sound check before starting the interview. Also check out background for distracting objects (clocks especially).

"The Richard Wright Documentary: A Lesson in Film and Literature"

By Mark LaFrancis

Feb. 24, 2008

Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez Campus
Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops

Part III Makin' It Good

Tape Logging/Capturing

Tape logging is a good activity for the anal retentive, detail obsessed individual or the film maker who wants to create a great program. You will have to view all - or nearly all - the tape you shot, second for second. A well-managed tape log will help you immensely when you begin to capture into your project. My view is log what you *think* you might want. It's easier to log it than hunt for it later. Of course, you need to make sure you carefully mark your tape boxes, as mentioned before. I recommend two people participate in the logging process: one to read off the time codes and the other to write down what the reader says. Revisit your mission statement to determine if you are on the right track.

Editing

An entire book could be written on this topic. But here goes the nutshell version: Capture only what you believe you need; if you accurately log tape, you can go back and capture stuff you originally didn't capture. The reason: saves time, and keeps the file size of your project down.

I do three levels of editing: loose (get clips in the order I want - loosely - and not edit too tightly), medium (some trimming, titles, voice over, narration, b-roll); tight (trim, clean up, add transitions, adjust audio, etc.) There are other terms: rough-cut, director's edit, final cut, etc., but you get the gist. Revisit your mission statement to determine if you are on the right track.

B-Roll

B-Roll - or background roll - is essential to a great project. It is the image to which you fade or cut from the primary - or A - roll. A general rule of thumb is not to have one image on camera more than five or six seconds, thus the need for something to replace that talking head or long shot of the river, etc. That can be changed, of course, for a long a compelling piece of video or quote. B-roll is comprised of images, action, archive photos, etc. Be careful to show B-roll that really relates to the A-roll. For example, for a portrait of a guy who likes to ride motorcycles, you wouldn't want to cut to B-roll of him playing with his dogs.

Images

Images come in all shapes, colors and sizes, particularly old family photos. I try to get the largest file size image I can acquire, scan it into Adobe Photoshop, fix it, and print it out



The 19th annual Natchez Literary and
Cinema Celebration presents

"Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration"

February 20-24, 2008
Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street, Natchez, Mississippi

Lectures, Films & Discussions
about Natchez's famous native son

A Richard Wright-related tour

The play, *Native Son*

Awards ceremony

Book signings

Special meals and parties

Most events are free!

For agenda, ticketed events & information:

www.colin.edu/nlcc

Call toll-free 866-296-6522 or
601-446-1289

Email: kkaho6769@st.colin.edu



"Natchez native Richard Wright and his daughter,
Julia Wright, New York, 1944." Julia Wright will
be the keynote speaker at the 2008 NLCC.

Sponsored by:

Copiah-Lincoln Community College • Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History • Mississippi Public Broadcasting
With partial funding from the Mississippi Humanities Council

Photo from the Yale Collection of American Literature,
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

www.countryroadsmag.com

2008 part 1
page 71

February 20 through 24
2008 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Natchez, Mississippi

Natchez's famous "native son," the internationally known author, Richard Wright, was born 100 years ago this year near Natchez in Adams County, Mississippi, the son of a sharecropper and a country schoolteacher. Wright's first novel, *Native Son*, published in 1940, was an immediate success. His *Black Boy*, a fictionalized autobiography, was published in 1945 and sold 400,000 copies in three months. In all, he wrote more than a dozen influential books of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. After leaving Natchez, Wright lived and worked in Jackson, Memphis, Chicago, and New York, later moving to Paris where he died in 1960.

The 2008 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration (NLCC) is in the midst of a year-long series of international conferences and programs

continued on page 56

Bluffs & Bayous ♪ February 2008 ♪ Page 55

continued from page 55

honoring this famous American writer. Celebration sponsors and organizers invite you to get acquainted with the human side of Richard Wright while exploring his life, his works, and his influence at the nineteenth annual NLCC. Enjoy a rich assortment of lectures, films, exhibits, discussions, a play, book signings, a tour to sites related to the Wright family, music, special meals and other social events, writing workshops, and a writing awards ceremony.

Because of financial support from a National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant, from the Mississippi Humanities Council, and from many others, most of the NLCC is free or low cost.

Contact information: 866/296-NLCC(6522); 601/446-1289;
www.colin.edu/nlcc.

2009 part 1
page 72

February 21

"Book Talk"
Vidalia Library
6:00 p.m.
Vidalia, Louisiana
318/757-2707

February 21 - 24

Steel Magnolias
Brighthouse Park Little Theatre
7:30 p.m.
\$12 adults, \$10 seniors, \$5 students
Alexandria, Louisiana
318/442-1800

February 21 - 24

Natchez Literary and Cinema
Celebration
Natchez Convention Center
Natchez, Mississippi
601-442-9111
www.colin.edu/nlcc

February 22

Native Son
Presented by Natchez Little Theatre
Natchez Convention Center
Natchez, Mississippi
601-442-2233
www.natchezlittletheatre.org

February 22 - March 9

A Streetcar Named Desire
Strauss Theatre
7:30 p.m., evenings
2:00 p.m., Sundays
Monroe, Louisiana
318/323-6681
www.strausstheatre.com

February 23

Raffia Basket Workshop
Poverty Point
10:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
\$2 adults, seniors free
Children 13 & under free
Epps, Louisiana
888/926-5492 or 318/926-5492

February 23

Black Heritage Parade
DeSiard Street
10:00 a.m.
Monroe, Louisiana
318/387-5691

February 23

The Lagniappe Concert
Monroe Symphony Chamber
Orchestra
7:00 p.m.
Biedenharn Recital Hall, ULM
Monroe, Louisiana
318/812-6761
www.bayou.com/symphony

February 23

Celebration of Readers & Writers
Luncheon
The Osborn Restaurant
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
St. Francisville, Louisiana
225/635-3364

February 23 & 24

"Nexus Kin" Retreat
Sligo Plantation
Sat., 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.,
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.,
& 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Sun., 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
\$95 per weekend
Natchez, Mississippi
601-442-5355
www.beyondtango.net

February 26

Faculty Artist Concert
ULM Biedenharn Recital Hall
7:30 p.m.
Monroe, Louisiana
318/342-1375
www.ulm.edu/vapu

February 27

Go Red for Women Luncheon
West Monroe Convention Center
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
\$50 per person
West Monroe, Louisiana
318/387-9274

February 28 - March 1

Steel Magnolias
Brighthouse Park Little Theatre
7:30 p.m.
\$12 adults, \$10 seniors, \$5 students
Alexandria, Louisiana
318/442-1800

March 1

River Riders 4-H Club Point Show
10:00 a.m.
Silver Creek Equestrian Club
Vicksburg, Mississippi
601/638-8988
www.silvercreekarena.com

March 7 - 9

Ron McLoughlin Horse Handling
Clinic
Silver Creek Equestrian
\$350 members, \$425 non-members
Vicksburg, Mississippi
601/638-8898

March 7 - April 12

Spring Pilgrimage
Natchez Pilgrimage Tours
Natchez, Mississippi
601-446-6631
www.natchezpilgrimage.com

***March 14 - 16**

37 Annual Audubon Pilgrimage
Fri. & Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sun., 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
St. Francisville, Louisiana
225/635-6330

March 22

Book Signing
High Cotton
by Gerald Hefferich
Lorelei Books
2:00 p.m.
Vicksburg, Mississippi
601/634-8624

Be sure to confirm details of the events should changes have occurred since events were submitted.

* Also in our Cultural Currents listing



Sunburst Beauty Pageant Winners

The Sunburst Beauty Pageant was held at the Natchez Mall in Natchez, Mississippi. From left to right is Asia Batteaste - 2008 Pee Wee Sunburst Queen, Anna Marie Jackson - 2008 Overall Sunburst Queen and Promise Batteaste - 2008 Little Miss Sunburst Queen. These three young ladies won their \$250 Beauty fee paid and will now represent Natchez in the Mississippi Sunburst State Finals in May 2008 and a chance to qualify for the International Sunburst Finals in Atlanta, Georgia.

2008 part 1
page 73

MONMOUTH PLANTATION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2008

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

The annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration featured the theme around the life and works of famous Southern writer, Richard Wright born in Natchez in 1808. Sam and Josie Rosfin traveled from Seattle, Washington to stay at Monmouth Plantation while they were attending the four day writers' conference.

Southern writers and dignitaries participated in the lectures and discussions of Southern writers – past and present. Richard Wright's daughter, Julia Wright of Paris, France was the keynote speaker. Wright authored the blockbuster writings, "Black Boy" and "Native Son". The final day of the celebration included a luncheon at Monmouth Plantation for the relatives of Richard Wright. Over sixty family members were present to celebrate Mr. Wright's life and writings.

-Peggy Voss

Labels: monmouth plantation, natchez, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration,

NLCC

POSTED BY JOSEPH BULLEN AT 6:28 AM

0 COMMENTS:

POST A COMMENT

<< Home

CONTRIBUTORS

- JOSEPH BULLEN
- LARI & RON

PREVIOUS POSTS

The Statewide "Mississippi Reads" Project in 2008 Selects Richard Wright's *Uncle Tom's Children*

By Jerry W. Ward Jr., Dillard University, New Orleans, La.

Whether an adult Mississippian asks "Who was Richard Wright?" is a function of cultural literacy. "Mississippi Reads" has selected *Uncle Tom's Children* (1938) for its 2008 program, a choice that may reduce the number of people who feel obliged to ask the question and enlarge the readership for Wright's fiction.

It is strategic that Wright's first collection of short stories be given attention in Mississippi during his centennial year, because the stories are quintessentially Southern and provocative. They cast light on the necessity of reexamining literary renditions of rural life in Mississippi and the segregation-bound South of the early 20th century, for they tell us much about the nexus of art and history. They reveal much about Wright's creative imagination and his penchant for exploring the social and psychological cost of daily life.

Wright was born on September 4, 1908, on a plantation near Natchez. Given that his father's family had a long history of being farm workers, Wright was exposed during his childhood and youth to the relentless, dream-shattering demands that working the soil made before mechanization reduced the intensity of labor.

For the first 19 years of his life, his curiosity and powerful imagination led him to discover, both in rural and urban environments, the terror implicit in the system of Jim Crow as well as the nobility of the human being who resists oppression. In his early stories, Wright displaced the fantasy of the black man as "the cringing type who knew his place before white folk" (epigraph for *Uncle Tom's Children*) with the reality of the defiant type who took the initiative of defining his own place.

In 1937, Wright's story, "Fire and Cloud," won first prize in the *Story Magazine* contest, and it, "Big Boy Leaves Home," "Down by the Riverside," and "Long Black Song" were published by Harper and Brothers as *Uncle Tom's Children: Four Novellas* (1938).

In 1940, the same year his masterpiece *Native Son* appeared, the enlarged edition, *Uncle Tom's Children: Five Long Stories*, was published. This edition included "Bright and Morning Star" and the autobiographical sketch, "The Ethics of Living Jim Crow" as an introduction.

As Mississippians read *Uncle Tom's Children*, they should be prepared to engage stories, as James T. Farrell remarked, which contain bitter truths and bitter tragedies. Nevertheless, they will also discover moments that illuminate the human will to endure.

To be sure, our perspectives on the book are sharpened by Zora Neale Hurston's comment that Wright "serves notice by his title that he speaks of people in revolt, and his stories are so grim that the Dismal Swamp of race hatred must be where they live" (*Saturday Review of Literature*, April 2, 1938).

Hurston justly noted that the young Wright did not have a good ear for dialect, although his book did contain "some beautiful writing." Attention to the beautiful writing can produce shocks of recognition.

The stories were published near the end of the Great Depression and only a few years prior to America's entering World War II. It is to be expected that they raise important questions about everyday life in the South, a South that was more like Faulkner's *The Hamlet* than Margaret Mitchell's *Gone with the Wind*. Romance was not on Wright's agenda. Cutting to the chase was.

As an anti-pastoral novella, "Big Boy Leaves Home" invites us to explore loss of innocence, gender and taboos, and harsh reasons for migration from the South to the North. "Down by the Riverside" is a poignant tale of Darwinian imperatives in the context of the Mississippi River flood of 1927. "Long Black Song," one of Wright's most accomplished short stories, forces us to contemplate economics (the Protestant work ethic) and violation of what is sacred in marriage when searing emotion overthrows cold reason. "Fire and Cloud" depicts the trials and moral challenges that were faced by an atypical black preacher in the Christ-haunted South. "Bright and Morning Star" is a compelling elaboration of a folk tale about a Christian mother's ultimate sacrifice for the cause of social justice. Read under the influence of Wright's remembering in the introductory "The Ethics of Living Jim Crow," one begins to understand why Wright is so concerned in his fiction with people's salvaging "a slender shred of personal pride."

The meaning of Wright's themes is grounded in the specific dynamics of Southern life black and white, but the significance of those themes prevails outside what is topical and limited. When Mississippians have read *Uncle Tom's Children*, many of them may confess that the substance and aesthetics of the stories still confront Mississippi, the South and the world in the 21st century.

NOTE: "*Uncle Tom's Children: A Guide for Readers and Teachers*" is available at www.colin.edu/nlcc.

NLCC Focus: Historic Windows Workshop

Richard Wright

"Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration" is the theme of the 2008 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration to be held February 20-24. In addition to sessions there will be receptions, meals, the performance of a play version of Wright's *Native Son*, screenings of films, awards presentations, and more. Most events are free. The winners of this year's Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards are Lerone Bennett, Jr., longtime editor of *Ebony* magazine and author of several historical volumes; and Brooks Haxton, author of seven books of poetry plus two volumes of poems translated from the ancient Greek. For details regarding the meeting, visit www.colin.edu/nlcc/ or call 601-446-1289 or .

Windows are significant character-defining features of historic buildings. Yet too often historic windows are lost because of a lack of understanding about their repair and maintenance.

MDAH will offer a one-day workshop on restoring and maintaining historic windows on Wednesday, February 27, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., at the College of Architecture, Art & Design, Giles Hall, Mississippi State University.

Professionals and experts on the restoration of both wood and metal windows will lead interactive sessions to help building



owners, architects, contractors, preservation professionals, and volunteers make informed decisions about the proper treatment of their windows.

AIA Continuing Education Units (six hours for the entire day) will be offered to architects at a rate of \$10 per unit (\$60 for day). Registration for non-CEU attendees will be \$20. Registration will include a resource notebook and CD-ROM.

To register, call Michelle Jones at 662-325-2520 or visit mdah.state.ms.us/windows.pdf to download a registration application.

The MDAH video *Black Mississippians Who Shaped Our History* is scheduled to air on Thursday, February 28, at 8:30 p.m. on Mississippi Public Broadcasting. MPB also will "stream" the program on its Web site in February. The video was written and produced by the Department's Museum Division as a substitute for the tours of the Old Capitol exhibits and Hall of Fame during Black History Month, when special attention was given to African American subjects.

New Natchez Books

The Natchez Indians: A History to 1735, by James F. Barnett, Jr., director of MDAH's Historic Properties Division, is an "eminently readable" but detailed history of the tribe as revealed through accounts of Spanish, English, and French explorers and colonists (\$40, University Press of Mississippi). *An American Planter: Stephen Duncan of Antebellum Natchez and New York*, by Martha Jane Brazzy, tells how Duncan, a Pennsylvania-born entrepreneur, shaped the political economy of antebellum Mississippi (\$45, LSU Press). In *William Dunbar: Scientific Pioneer of the Old Southwest*, by Arthur H. DeRosier, Jr., Dunbar—surveyor, botanist, zoologist, astronomer, planter, architect, inventor—finally gets the recognition he deserves (\$55, University Press of Kentucky).

Film To Document Rebuilding

MDAH is working with Human Interest Films on a National Park Service-sponsored film, *Building Blocks*, documenting the reclamation of historic properties and the role of culture in rebuilding on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. A sixty-minute film, *Building Blocks* will explore several of the Coast's diverse cultural institutions as they face an uncertain future.

The physical history lost in the storm, the importance of cultural preservation in the wake of disaster, the strong sense of place tying Coast

residents to their land—all are themes to be explored by *Building Blocks*. Ultimately, the film will examine the character of those individuals who are committed to rebuilding their devastated communities, and celebrate the unique cultural heritage that guides the region's efforts towards renewal.

The film will be aired on Mississippi Public Broadcasting and possibly other PBS stations. For more information, please call Ed Ellington, producer, at 310-770-4437.

Celebrate 200th Birthday of Jefferson Davis

The bicentennial observance of the birth of Jefferson Davis will be initiated at 1 p.m. on Friday, February 15 at the Alabama Capitol Building in Montgomery, where Jefferson Davis was inaugurated. Bertram Hayes-Davis, the great-great-grandson of Jefferson Davis, will be representing the Davis Family Association. Highlights will include a 1914 silent film of a re-enactment of President Davis's inauguration, remarks by Bertram Hayes-Davis, a preview of the new eight-hour documentary on Jefferson Davis, and the unveiling of two new important acquisitions of the First White House of the Confederacy.

Mississippi River Symposium Feb. 9

The Historic New Orleans Collection will present a day-long symposium, "The Mississippi River: Artery of Commerce and Culture" on Saturday, February 9, at the HNOC, 533 Royal Street. Registration is \$60 and includes special rate of \$56 for a jazz/dinner cruise after daytime sessions. For a schedule, call 504-569-1480 or visit www.hnoc.org.

2008 part 1
page 76

NLCC honors Richard Wright

Four-page section features 19th annual celebration

One of Natchez's most famous native sons, the world-renowned author, Richard Wright, will be honored Feb. 20-24 throughout the 19th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The award-winning conference will use the theme, "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration." Headquarters is the Natchez Convention Center on Main Street.

"The conference will allow us to get acquainted with the human side of Richard Wright while we explore his life, his works and his continuing influence," said Carolyn Vance Smith, longtime educator at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez. Smith and Co-Lin founded the NLCC in 1990.

"Richard Wright was born on a plantation a few miles east of Natchez in 1908," she said. "Though he had only a ninth-grade education, and though he had to overcome desperate poverty, he achieved international fame for his writing." Wright died in Paris, France, in 1960.

"The NLCC is kicking off a world-wide tribute to Richard Wright this year. We expect large crowds, including numerous Wright relatives from across the country."

Wright is renowned for such works as the novel, "Native Son," the fictionalized auto-

biography, "Black Boy," and a collection of stories, "Uncle Tom's Children," which was chosen Book-of-the-Year in 2008 by a statewide project called "Mississippi Reads."

In addition, Wright wrote such books as *White Man Listen*, *One Hundred Black Voices*, *Pagan Spain*, and *A Father's Book*, Wright's unfinished final novel, which was released just this year.

"Since 1940, when Native Son sold hundreds of thousands of copies in a matter of weeks, many of his books have been bestsellers and continue to sell," said Jerry W. Ward Jr., professor at Dillard University, New Orleans, and a nationally known Wright scholar.

"He is one of the most powerful writers of the 20th century," Ward said.



Richard Wright and his daughter Julia.

"These days, school children routinely read and study his works. He is in all the anthologies."

Ward conducted a year-long series of monthly discussions in Natchez during 2007, focusing each month on a different work by Richard Wright. Overall, hundreds of people attended the sessions.

"The sessions were a way to get people to read Richard Wright's works and discuss them," Ward said. "The large turnout pleased me very much."

The sessions were sponsored by the NLCC and the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American History and Culture and were hosted at various sites in the Miss-Los.

Ward also helped devise the programming for the 2008 NLCC.

The NLCC is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Partial funding comes from the Mississippi Humanities Council and the Mississippi Arts Commission.

For a complete schedule, log on to the NLCC web site: www.colin.edu/nlcc

Students create original documentary; premier set for Feb. 20

An original documentary about Richard Wright will be shown for the first time during the 19th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The half-hour documentary, "Richard Wright: A Force for Right," was produced by Copiah-Lincoln Community College's Natchez campus. Five students in the Introduction to Broadcasting class and instructor Mark LaFrancis did the filming and editing in what is the college's most enterprising documentary to date.

The students are Landon Heury, Latashia Wansley-Clark, Michael Fagan, Mark M. LaFrancis and Michelle Wynn.

The documentary is designed to educate and inspire the viewer, particularly young people, about Richard Wright and his stature in the literary world.

The film will be shown on three separate occasions during the NLCC. The first will be Wednesday, Feb. 20, in a program at Co-Lin beginning at 11 a.m. in the W. L. Nelson Multipurpose Room. Co-Lin's Student Support Services will conduct a Black History Month program.

In addition to the film, Dr. Robert Butler of Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y., will talk about Wright's southern religious background.

A special program with the documentary will be given to area students at Natchez High School on Friday, Feb. 22. A general public showing will be Saturday, Feb. 23, at 1 p.m. at the Natchez Convention Center during a program that is free.

"Mark LaFrancis and the Co-Lin students have created and produced a compelling, first-rate documentary that will inspire and educate both longtime admirers as well as newcomers to Richard Wright's work," said Emmy-winning producer Jennifer Ogden. "The film is well-paced, well-shot and edited; the filmmakers successfully blend technical skill with the creative use of visual images and voiceover to illuminate the importance of Richard Wright's early life on his work, and the extraordinary legacy he left behind. Congratulations on a film well done!"

Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chairman of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, said, "This film is extraordinarily well-

done and very meaningful. It will enhance the conference immensely."

The documentary has been in the works for more than a year-and-a-half. It grew out of a desire for Co-Lin Natchez to take part in an educational project for the 2008 NLCC, and features Richard Wright. A plan down the road is for Co-Lin to seek funding to possibly distribute the documentary to secondary schools in Mississippi. Seventeen high school and college students were interviewed for the documentary, both at Co-Lin and at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Jackson.

The documentary includes special readings by Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr., of New Orleans, one of the foremost Richard Wright scholars, of Richard Wright's own words from his book "Black Boy." The film also features interviews with former Mississippi Gov. William F. Winter.

Copies of the documentary will be available for a donation; it is not for sale commercially. A portion of the proceeds will help with the Richard Wright Exhibit Hall in the Natchez Museum of African-American Culture in downtown Natchez.



Co-Lin students Landon Heury and Michelle Wynn, right, tape photographs of Frogmore Plantation, while Latashia Wansley-Clark looks for more items to film for the documentary "Richard Wright: A Force for Right."

2008 part 1
page 77

March 14 - 28, 2008

Honoring Richard Wright

Mayor Phillip West, Darrell White - Director of NAPAC Museum, Pastor LeRoy White, family of the late Richard Wright, and others surround a painting of Wright presented to the family by local artist, Catina Bernard.



Section of Highway 84 gets new name

At the height of 19th Annual Literary and Cinema Celebration, almost everyone left the convention center and journeyed out to Washington, MS at the intersection of Highway 84. There were people from all over this nation and other parts of the world gathered for a renaming ceremony. A portion of Highway 84 was renamed in honor of literary giant, Richard Wright, a native of Natchez and Adams County. The sign of the renamed highway is being held by (l-r) Highway Commissioner Wayne Brown and Adams County Board of Supervisors President Henry Watts. On the other side of the



sign, descendants and family members of the late Richard Wright pose for the camera. The entire Literary and Cinema celebration was dedicated to Richard Wright.

2008 part 1
page 78

Activities Honoring Richard Wright



Gathering to rename a section of Highway 84.



Richard Wright dinner held by NAPAC at the Natchez Community Center

19th NLCC 'finest of the finest' year

Wright staff

The 19th Annual National Library and Cinema Celebration began with a dinner of praise, being called a model for the nation.

The celebration Feb. 28-29 (76 indeed a very special year because this year we honor Richard Wright), said Nicholas Meyer Phil by West in his address during the opening ceremonies Feb. 28. The NLCC's finest dinner was "Richard Wright: the South, and the World's Centennial Celebration," commemorating the 100th anniversary of Wright's birth on the first of March.

"Richard Wright was there with his noble heritage to become one of the modern era's most celebrated authors, both nationally and internationally," West said. "We are extremely pleased that the NLCC decided to honor in the 100th anniversary of his birth by devoting this very important event to his memory."

"When you talk about Richard Wright and his family, it's all connected to Madison," said Bill Frank, former chairman of

the National Endowment for the Humanities and founding director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture. He currently is a professor of history at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

"This year is clearly the finest of the finest," Frank said, praising "NLCC's founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith, a special Co-Lia. Member, treasurer and director of public information." She has taken a couple of times and made it an example of our nation to follow."

West said, "The Annual National Library and Cinema Celebration has been a number of awards and has been an honor to our community since it began in 1989. I also thank Wright's Decatur Community College for all it has done to support this worthy event over the years, and take a moment to recognize the staff of the National campus Mr. Tom Heston."



Heston

West was joined Smith "who has tirelessly chaired this event every year." West said, "I'd like to extend a special welcome to members of the Wright family who have traveled a great distance to be with us here this week to honor Richard Wright's memory and personal body of work."

With the view of photographs and grandeur of events, Wright praised the pattern of writing through time education and living in regard to conditions. He wrote more than a dozen books, achieved a master's certificate of poetry in the 1930s, and became a well-traveled photographer.

Several special programs were created for the celebration: performance of the play "Richard Wright" at the National Little Theatre based on a Wright book of the same title, a five-hour tape called "Richard Wright: America's Journey to Atlanta-City Significance to Wright's Life, and the process of the documentary "Richard Wright: A Lifetime in Flight" produced by Co-Lia. Member



Carolyn Vance Smith, NLCC founder and co-chairman, receives special recognition by Nicholas Meyer Philby West during the opening ceremonies of the National Cinema Center.

Julia Wright shines at celebration



Julia Wright delivers her keynote address at a luncheon displaying the cover of her father's widely acclaimed novel, "Black Boy," being in the background of the National Convention Center.

Julia Wright, daughter of Richard Wright, received a warm welcome during the 19th National Library and Cinema Celebration, which was dedicated to her father's memory.

"There could be no more appropriate keynote speaker than the daughter of Richard Wright," said William F. Winter, former governor of Missouri, upon the director of proceedings for the NLCC.

"I'd like to extend a special welcome to members of the Wright family who have traveled a great distance to be with us here this week to honor Richard Wright's memory and personal body of work," said Nicholas Meyer Philby West.

Wright said the United States is "reborn and reborn to Paris, France. Already a nationally acclaimed author, Wright found he was under suspicion by the government and that his best style of writing about oppression and segregation was making him controversial."

Julia Wright thanked by Nicholas West Philby to attend the NLCC and deliver the opening speech.

"This is an historic occasion for me and my family — the family of my

father," Wright said. "We have traveled from all places in the nation to be here to honor our ancestor."

Wright said that her father was a strong proponent of hope, and that many of his books were hope in the characters and the story.

"I want to thank you here here of this moment in this moment," Wright said.

During the celebration, Wright attended nearly all programs, signing autographs, talking with people, attending ceremonies — such as the dedication of a statue of U.S. 44 in the vicinity of Richard Wright's birth to her father. She also visited with members who have studied her father and her father's works.

"Richard Wright's story is not about despair, not is about that momentary hope that grows in our problems," Julia Wright said. "Richard Wright's story is not an American success story — it is the most kind of story."

She said, "We hope to see you in time by — to surround the social order of racism, by being the greatest one of the best, at the bottom of the best, there to help."



Julia Wright speaks her keynote at the National Convention Center at Nicholas Meyer Philby West luncheon.



President praised

Wright staff

Words of thanks and praise flowed for Dr. Harold C. Garner, Co-Lia. president, during Dr. Harold C. Garner Day at the National Library and Cinema Celebration Feb. 23 at the National Convention Center.

Garner was credited with helping to launch the NLCC 17 years ago when he was dean of the Madison campus. Nearly every year since then, Garner has welcomed the year-long gathering to the celebration, as he did this year.

Three years, though, Garner just might be in the collection as a recipient. He is retiring as president of Co-Lia at the end of this school year. Garner served Co-Lia for 14 years.

1000
50
page

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Elbert Hilliard [hilliard@mdah.state.ms.us]
Sent: Monday, April 07, 2008 10:27 AM
To: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Subject: Re: Hello

Dear Carolyn,

Thanks for passing along the good message from Cora Norman, who is certainly right on the mark in regard to her comments concerning the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. I hope Marion has had a good recovery.

Elbert

Smith, Carolyn Vance wrote:

> Hello, friends,

>

>

>

> Please see below for Dr. Cora Norman's incredible compliment about the NLCC. She is writing a book about the history of the Mississippi Humanities Council, of which she was director for more than 20 years.

>

>

> I am so pleased that Dr. Norman continues to support the NLCC. I remember so clearly the day Dr. Thames and I met with her with the notion of the NLC (which it was called at first). She immediately agreed that our conference was a project that the MHC could support. And so it has, for the past 19 years.

>

>

> Thank you for all your support! Here's to 2009!

>

> Carolyn

>

>

> *From:* CoraNorman@aol.com [mailto:CoraNorman@aol.com]

> *Sent:* Friday, April 04, 2008 9:35 PM

> *To:* Smith, Carolyn Vance

> *Subject:* Hello

>

>

> Carolyn, I'm so sorry that I missed the Literary Conference this year. I loved reading the newsletter about the program. I've just written to President Howell Garner that I'm indebted for his support through the years of the Literary Conference. I'm still working on my book

> and I've declared that your conference is the most important regrant
> program that the MHC ever supported. Please send me a picture of YOU
> for my book. Sincerely, Cora Norman

>
>
>

> My address: 85 Wilshire Heights, Fairfield Glade, TN 38558

>
>
>

> --

>

> Planning your summer road trip? Check out AOL Travel Guides

> <<http://travel.aol.com/travel-guide/united-states?ncid=aoltrv00030000000016>>.

>

NLCC and Natchez have created a remarkable celebration

At its recent annual meeting in Starksville, the Mississippi Historical Society presented its Award of Merit to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration "for its remarkable contributions to the study of literature, history and culture since its establishment in 1990." The founder and co-chair of the Celebration, Carolyn Vance Smith, was scheduled to receive the award, but a rare March snowstorm that blanketed northern Mississippi prevented her from driving to Starksville. Because it has been my pleasure and honor to participate in all nineteen of the Celebrations, I felt compelled—in her absence—to explain to fellow members of the Society why the NLCC was highly deserving of this signal recognition. Of course, I spoke extemporaneously and no transcript of my comments exists, but I ask a moment of personal privilege so that I might share some of my praise for the Celebration, its founder, and its co-directors Kathleen Jenkins, Jim Bussett, and

Marie Antoin.

Inclusion of the word "remarkable" in the award citation was entirely appropriate. While some otherwise good, legitimate words, "awesome," for example, have lost their meaning through overuse, "remarkable" has not. Indeed, the NLCC is truly remarkable: worthy of notice, unusual, and extraordinary. While so many of its characteristics deserve this description,

I begin with the three most obvious. It is truly remarkable in that for sixteen years (nearly a fifth of a century) the quality of the speakers and programs, the size of the audiences, and the amount of financial support from the Natchez community have remained consistently high. Over an academic career of some four decades,

I have observed and participated in dozens and dozens of conferences in all parts of the forty-eight contiguous states, and I never cease to be amazed at the quality of the



Dr. John
D. W.
Guice

presenters attracted to Natchez. And these speakers rarely fail to register surprise at the size and diversity of the audiences and at the level and types of community support.

Also remarkable are the wise and productive decisions made by Carolyn Vance Smith and her co-chairs, beginning with the very first Celebration with the selection of Governor William Winter as the perennial Director of Proceedings. It's worth a trip to Natchez just to witness his oratorical skills. Then in 1994 came the imaginative of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award—a feature that has brought so

many nationally famous authors to Natchez. Another popular decision was the addition of cinema in 2001 to the mix; the Literary and Cinema Celebration. The next year the first Houston Foote Award for distinction in screen writing was added.

There seems to be no end to the generosity of the Natchez community. In 2006 it was announced that a \$100,000 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Challenge grant had been matched by gifts from Natchezans and other Missisippians. From its inception, the Mississippi Humanities Council, the state-based NEH affiliate, has supported the Celebration with significant grants, and more recently, so has the Mississippi Arts Commission.

While Copiah-Lincoln Community College initially was the sole sponsor of the Celebration, soon Natchez National Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History

and Mississippi Public Broadcasting became co-sponsors. An advisory board, presently composed of a truly diverse group of fifty men and women from many walks of life and regions of the state and nation, assists the co-chairs. Student attendees benefit from William Winter Scholarships as well as from William and Harriet Vance Memorial Fellowships.

As I travel around the country I find it difficult to describe the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration without exclaiming my supply of superlatives and appearing to engage in a bit of hyperbole. George Gershwin could have written his song about it; to borrow his phrase, "It's wonderful, it's marvelous." Yes, as the Mississippi Historical Society declared, it is indeed remarkable.

Dr. John D. W. Guice is professor of history emeritus at the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg.

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: jerry ward [jerryward31@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2005 9:28 PM
To: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Subject: RE: 2007 and 2008

file
 NLCC 2008

Dear Carolyn,

The exact wording for 2008 NLCC should be "**Richard Wright (1908-2008), the South, and the World.**"

The other co-sponsors we should have for our 2007 Outreach Project are the Natchez Museum of African American History and Culture, the MHC, and the Natchez-Adams County Public Schools. I would like for NLCC to get maximum mileage from this project and to offer it as a model for community celebration of the Wright Centennial. Here is the schedule of discussions:

January	Uncle Tom's Children
February	Lawd Today! (an extra event for 2007 NLCC)
March Native Son)	Native Son and Rite of Passage (special lecture on the novel, stage, and film versions of Native Son)
April	Black Boy
May	12 Million Black Voices
June	Eight Men
July	This Other World: Haiku
August	Black Power
September	The Color Curtain
October	Pagan Spain
November	White Man, Listen!
December	The Long Dream

By the way, Maryemma Graham and I have received the green light to co-edit the Cambridge History of African American Literature.

All best wishes,

Jerry

7/13/2005

2008 part 1
 page 84



The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Sponsored by
Capital-Lincoln Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Post Office Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone 601-446-1208; Fax 601-446-1214
Toll-Free 866-296-6522
E-mail Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Website www.colin.edu/nlcc

May 6, 2008

To: Members of the NLCC Advisory Board
From: Carolyn Vance Smith
Re: Mississippi Historical Society Award of Merit

I thought you would like to know that the Mississippi Historical Society presented the NLCC its Award of Merit at a recent meeting.

Longtime NLCC Advisory Board member Dr. John D. W. Guice was at the meeting, and as you can read in the enclosed newspaper column, was very complimentary of the NLCC.

Thanks go to Dr. Guice for writing the "Top o' the Morning" column for *The Natchez Democrat*, and - thanks go to you for your continuing support of the conference.

Have a happy summer. See you at the 20th NLCC, February 19-22, 2009!

2008 part 1
page 85

OPINION

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

Literary Celebration is remarkable

At its recent annual meeting in Starkville, the Mississippi Historical Society presented its Award of Merit to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration "for its remarkable contributions to the study of literature, history and culture since its establishment in 1990."

The founder and co-chair of the celebration, Carolyn Vance Smith, was scheduled to receive the award, but a rare March snowstorm that blanketed northern Mississippi prevented her from driving to Starkville. Because it has been my pleasure and honor to participate in all 19 of the celebrations, I felt compelled — in her absence — to explain to fellow members of the society why the NLCC was highly deserving of this signal recognition. Of course, I spoke extemporaneously and no transcript of my comments exists, but I ask a moment of personal privilege so that I might share some of my praise for the celebration, its founder, and its co-directors Kathleen Jenkins, Jim Barnett and Marie Antoon.

Inclusion of the word "remarkable" in the award citation was entirely appropriate. While some otherwise good, legitimate words, "awesome," for example, have lost their meaning through overuse, "remarkable" has not. Indeed, the NLCC is truly remarkable: worthy of notice, unusual, and extraordinary.

While so many of its characteristics deserve this description, I begin with the three most obvious. It is truly remarkable in that for 19 years the quality of the speakers and programs, the size of the audiences and the amount of financial support from the Natchez community have remained consistently high. Over an academic career of some four decades, I have observed and participated in dozens and dozens of conferences in all parts of the 48 contiguous states, and I never cease to be amazed at the quality of the presenters attracted to Natchez. And these speakers rarely fail to register surprise at the size and diversity of the audiences and at the level and types of community support.

Also remarkable are the wise and productive decisions made by Carolyn Vance Smith and her co-chairs, beginning with the very first celebration with the selection of Gov.



TOP OF THE MORNING

John
Gorce

William Winter as the perennial director of proceedings. It's worth a trip to Natchez just to witness his oratorical skills. Then in 1994 came the inauguration of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award — a feature that has brought so many nationally famous authors to Natchez. Another popular decision was the addition of cinema in 2001 the mix; the Literary Celebration became the Literary and Cinema Celebration. The next year the first Horton Poote Award for distinction in screen writing was added.

There seems to be no end to the generosity of the Natchez community. In 2006 it was announced that a \$100,000 National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge grant had been matched by gifts from Natchezians and other Mississippians. From its inception, the Mississippi Humanities Council, the state-based NEH affiliate, has supported the celebration with significant grants, and more recently so has the Mississippi Arts Commission. While Copiah-Lincoln Community College initially was the sole sponsor of the celebration, soon Natchez National Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting became co-sponsors. An advisory board, presently composed of a truly diverse group of 50 men and women from many walks of life and regions of the state and nation, assists the co-chairs. Student attendees benefit from William Winter Scholarships as well as from William and Harriet Vance Memorial Fellowships.

As I travel around the country I find it difficult to describe the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration without exhausting my supply of superlatives and appearing to engage in a bit of hyperbole. George Gershwin could have written his song about it; to borrow his phrase, "its wonderful, its marvelous." Yes, as the Mississippi Historical Society declared, it is indeed remarkable.

JOHN D. W. GORCE is a professor of History Emeritus at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Historic Natchez

Visitor's Guide

Noted African-American author of *Native Son* and *Black Boy* was born in 1908 near Natchez, where he spent his early childhood. His lifelong quest for freedom led him to Paris, France, where he died in 1960.

RICHARD WRIGHT

Childhood home of noted American author Richard Wright, who lived with grandparents Richard and Margaret Wilson in the Woodlawn neighborhood. Author of *Native Son* and *Black Boy*, Wright was born outside Natchez in Pearl River County in 1908. His lifelong quest for freedom led him to Paris, France, where he died in 1960.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY, 1994

FREE Visitor's Guide: February 2008

Endorsed by the Natchez Convention & Visitors Bureau, Natchez Pilgrimage Tours and The Natchez Chamber of Commerce
For your free Visitors Guide call 1-800-647-6224

2008 part 1
page 57

The 19th Annual
Natchez Literary and
Cinema Celebration
presents

*Richard Wright,
the South,
And the World:
A Centennial
Celebration*

At
*The Carriage House
Restaurant*

On the Grounds of
Stanton Hall
Natchez, Mississippi
(601) 445-5151

Friday, February 22, 2008

2008 part 1
page 88

About The Celebration...

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, winner of an Olympic Award, the Governor's Award, and the Mississippi Tourism Award, has been called by official evaluators "Mississippi's most significant annual conference devoted to literature, history, film, and culture."

Begun in 1990 by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and sponsored now by Copiah-Lincoln, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting, the Celebration annually presents a theme-based lecture series enhanced by films, field trips, and more. The National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council has partially funded the conference each year since the beginning.

About the 2008 NLCC...

Natchez's famous "native son", the internationally known author, Richard Wright, was born 100 years ago this year near Natchez, in Adams County, Mississippi, the son of a sharecropper and a country school teacher.

Wright's first novel, *Native Son*, was published in 1940 and was an immediate success. His *Black Boy*, a fictionalized autobiography, was published in 1945 and sold 400,000 copies in three months. In all, he wrote more than a dozen influential books of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry.

After leaving Natchez, he lived and worked in Jackson, Memphis, Chicago, and New York, later moving to Paris, where he died in 1960.

The 2008 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will kick off a year-long series of international conferences and programs honoring this famous American writer.

Get acquainted with the human side of Richard Wright while exploring his life, his works, and his influence at the 19th annual NLCC. Enjoy a rich assortment of lectures, films, exhibits, discussions, a play, book signings, a tour to sites related to the Wright family, music, special meals and other social events, writing workshops, and a writing awards ceremony.

Welcome to Natchez, Richard Wright's home town!

Sponsors:

Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Mississippi Public Broadcasting
With partial funding from the
Mississippi Humanities Council

COLO

gift shops, restaurants, and town parks. 225/635-6502 or 800/488-6502. www.vfrancville.com.

Near Natchez Centreville, Ms.

ROSE HALL, (circa 1900) has four spacious bedrooms to accommodate guests. A large country style breakfast will be provided to satisfy any guest's appetite. You'll find our nightly rates to be very reasonable. MasterCard and Visa accepted. We also host weddings, parties, family gatherings, and business meetings. 601/645-0272 or email - coxainjac3@yahoo.com. www.rosehalls.com.

Homochitto Forest

THE FOREST, Secluded getaway for guests seeking tranquility. No phone, TV or interruptions, with cedar porches, bird songs and rain drops on a tin roof. Elegant cabins, pond, creek and 99,000 acres of forest. Dogs welcome! No children. 601/673-4591. www.forestretreat.com.

Natchez, Ms.

CEDAR GROVE PLANTATION OF NATCHEZ, (c.1830). 617 Kingston Rd. "An Antebellum Country Estate for escape to a bygone era of Genuine Southern Hospitality". A perfect setting for romantic honeymoons, luncheons, parties as well as corporate meetings. Every season and holiday abounds with unique qualities and special events. Amenities include luxurious accommodations, swimming pool, Jacuzzi spa, fishing ponds, walking trails, horseshoes, croquet, kennels, complimentary wine and a full Southern plantation breakfast. Reservations: 601-445-9304, sluper@bellsouth.com, www.cedargroveplantation.com.

CHOCTAW OF NATCHEZ, (c.1816). 310 North Wall St. Grand urban mansion now a B&B. Outstanding period antiques and decor, Jacuzzi in suite, television in common room, rocking chairs on four galleries. Refreshment and tour upon arrival, full, formal Southern breakfast. Resident writer greets guests. Children 10+, no pets, please. Reservations: 601/446-7905 or 800/647-6742.

DARRY'S GUEST HOUSE, 208 Canal St. Nestled in the heart of downtown historic Natchez a block from the Mississippi River and conveniently located near wonderful restaurants, tour headquarters, carriage rides. 601/446-9737.

DEYREDALE SHEDS HOUSE B&B, c.1893 - 709 N. Union St. - Victorian Bed &

Breakfast - Escape to comfort and history in a Queen Ann Victorian located in the beautiful Natchez Historic District, just a few blocks from town center or stunning views of the Mississippi. Check our website for the Natchez Valentine Get-away package. www.direhousa.com or 888-304-5378.

DUNLEITH PLANTATION, c.1856 - National Historic Landmark located on 40 acres at the edge of the historic district. Features twenty-one bed & breakfast rooms along with a full-service restaurant, The Castle & Pub, swimming pool and gift shop. Large galleries feature comfortable rocking chairs and beautiful views. Five luxurious River-view rooms are located at 300 Main Street. Room amenities include gas-burning fireplace, hairdryers, Jacuzzis tubs. No children under fourteen. Full Southern breakfast served in The Castle Restaurant www.dunleithplantation.com or 800/433-2445.

MONSIEUR, 526 Melrose Ave. A morning begins with a complimentary full Southern breakfast. An evening unfolds with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the Quittan Study. Nights sparkle under candlelight and crystal during five-course gourmet dinners. Enjoy Southern hospitality that is unparalleled. Discover the luxury, service, and tranquility only found at Monsieur Plantation. 601/442-5852.

NATCHEZ PILGRIMAGE TOURS Relive history in the oldest settlement on the Mississippi River. Reservation service for more than twenty plantations, antebellum mansions, townhouses and inns. Natchez Pilgrimage seasons (March/April, October). 800/647-6742. www.natchezpilgrimage.com.

Woodville, Ms.

NASA'S GUEST HOUSE, 428 U.S. Hwy 61. Recently restored rambling bungalow. All units have a private bath, exterior entrance, cable TV/VCR, zoned central A/C/heating. Great library, expanded continental breakfast. On/off site catering. 601/888-4808. ♦



Monmouth plantation



Every evening, Monmouth hosts a Free Candlelight Dinner in the Mansion's Formal Dining room, cost \$49.95, guests 18 and over. Reservations required.

www.monmouthplantation.com



SPRING PILGRIMAGE

Come stay with us at our beautifully appointed, luxurious, historic mansion located in downtown Natchez, Mississippi during our annual Pilgrimage.

March 10 - April 12

601-442-5852



SHHH!
One of the South's
Best Kept Secrets

HISTORIC NATCHEZ ON THE MISSISSIPPI
AND THE HISTORIC RIVER REGION ALONG HIGHWAY 61

Here's What's Rollin' On The River

Mardi Gras Natchez Style
Krewes of Phoenix Parade, Saturday, February 1

Black History Month
February is a month of celebrations, of the unique history of Blacks in Natchez. See our web site for times and more details.

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
February 20-24

2008 Natchez Spring Pilgrimage
March 8-April 12

HISTORIC
Natchez
ON THE MISSISSIPPI
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

FOR MORE INFORMATION
1.800.647.6724
VISITNATCHEZ.COM

This project partially funded by the Mississippi National Historical Park.

**RICHARD WRIGHT, THE SOUTH, AND THE WORLD:
A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**



ORDER OF EVENTS

Welcome

Dean Teresa Harrison

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Dr. Robert Butler, Canisius College, Buffalo, N.Y.

Ashley Butler

**Book Discussion: "Uncle Tom's Children: A Revolutionary New Direction in
American and African-American Literature"**

Introduction of Film Maker

Mark LaFrancis, Co-Lin College, Natchez

Jamal Banks

Presentation of mini-documentary: "Richard Wright: A Force for Right"

Plaque Presentation- George Jackson

Mark LaFrancis

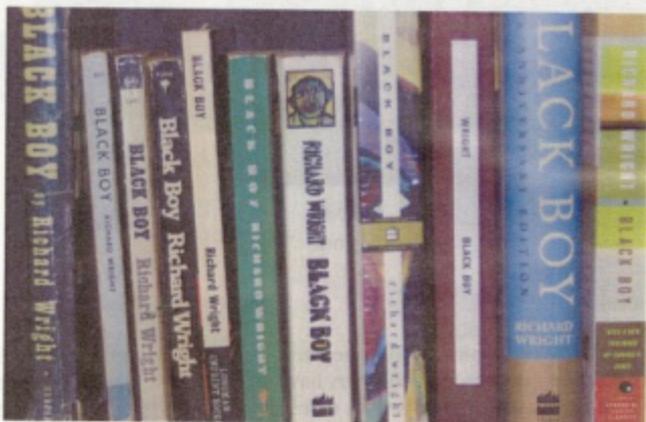
Closing Remarks

Dajauna Butler



Natchez, Mississippi
February 21, 2008

Covering *Black Boy*:
A Visual-Literary History
Richard Wright's Autobiography



By Howard Ramsby II

2008 part 1
page 92

Sensibility to Nature in Richard Wright's Haiku

An empty sickbed:
An indented white pillow
In weak winter sun.

I am nobody:
A red sinking autumn sun
Took my name away.

As the sun goes down
A green melon splits open
And juice trickles out.

From a tenement,
The blue jazz of a trumpet
Weaving autumn mists.

Over yellow corn,
As muted as the sunset,
The low of a cow.

From across the lake,
Past the black winter trees,
Faint sounds of a flute.

From the skyscraper,
All the bustling streets converge
Towards a spring sea.

The cathedral bell
Is now rocking the spring moon
Upon the river.

From a green hilltop,
One tolling cathedral bell
Tints the spring sky blue.

Sitting in the park,
Hearing the sound of an axe
Rippling the lake.

A spring moon so round
That my fingers are itching
To touch its sharp edge.

In a misty rain
A butterfly is riding
The tail of a cow.

The harbor at dawn:
The faint scent of oranges
On gusts of March wind.

Lifting the lantern,
The scent of plums on the tree
Became more fragrant.

Just before sunrise,
And after the milkman has gone,
A jonquil blooms.

In the afterglow
A snow-covered mountain peak
Sings of loneliness.

With the forest trees cut,
The lake lies naked and lost
In the bare hills.

Sparrow's excrement
Becomes quickly powdery
On sizzling pavements.

On the pond's green scum
A yellow butterfly lights;
And then there are two.

This is certainly a blues haiku that reminds a reader of the sad, old days on the plantations in the Deep South. To Wright, memory of the south means sadness and homesickness, as described in the following two haiku:

A bloody knife blade
Is being licked by a cat
At hog-killing time. (30)

Don't they make you sad,
Those wild geese winging southward,
O lonely scarecrow? (581)

Haiku 30 and 581, which express Wright's memory of the south, may be the echoes of nostalgia in *12 Million Black Voices* in which he says, "In autumn the land is afire with color. . . hogs are slaughtered and cured in lingering smoke; corn is husked and ground into meal. At twilight the sky is full of wild geese winging ever southward . . ." (32). In a word, the south in Wright's haiku is a place full of dreams, memories, hardships, and loneliness.

Works Cited

- Harrington, Oliver W. *Why I Left America and Other Essays*. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1993.
- Shirane, Haruo. *Traces of Dreams*. Stanford: Stanford UP, 1998.
- Wright, Richard. *Black Boy*. New York: Perennial, 1998.
- . *Haiku: This Other World*. New York: Arcade, 1998.
- . *12 Million Black Voices*. New York: Viking, 1941.

the 2nd Mississippi Infantry, commanded by Captain John Marshall Stone, departed Iuka in May 1862 to gain glory on many battlefields in Virginia. After the war, Captain Stone became Mayor of Iuka and later was one of Mississippi's most beloved governors. His home stands directly across the street from the old historic courthouse.

A vibrant group of volunteers tirelessly work on developing programs for school children, local clubs and churches, and adults. Every day, Tishomingo Countians volunteer, using their time and talents to make a difference in the conservation and preservation of Tishomingo County history. These volunteers are helping to foster a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility for generations to come.

TCHGS has been successful in publishing many family and county history books during the years in an effort to preserve the rich history of a county which was once referred to as quite possibly the soon to be largest city in the state. In 1870, Tishomingo County was comprised of what are now three counties. Over \$1,500 was spent in ordering original county records on microfilm to replace the original books which burnt during an earlier courthouse fire. These microfilm records save researchers the challenge of searching nearby courthouse basements and attics during short trips to our County. Using our microfilm reader and printer, they can take a copy of the original document home with them with little effort or expense.

Mrs. Cindy Whirley Nelson, Executive Director, a volunteer, is in charge of the archives and history museum. Her duties include overseeing and managing the day-to-day activities of the facility, including seeking resources which will supplement the limited amount of local funds available to strengthen services, construct exhibits, and pay occupancy costs. Cindy is supported by a staff of three individuals, on-site volunteers, and an Executive Board comprised of persons who carry out supporting responsibilities that make the overall process function.

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Adams, Carrie [cadams@mdot.state.ms.us]
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2008 3:23 PM
To: Administration; Outreach Division
Cc: Sullivan, Janet; Smith, Carolyn Vance; Boykin, Mary Ann; Brown, Wayne Commissioner; Jordan, Todd; Smith, Sharpie; Stringfellow, Red; Essary, Layla G.; Twedt, Steven; Walters, Paula; Townsend, Linda
Subject: The Clarion Ledger

February 8, 2008

U.S. 84 segment to honor Richard Wright

The Clarion-Ledger

Mississippi will honor Natchez's famous "native son" Feb. 23 when a segment of U. S. 84 in Adams County is named the "Richard Wright Memorial Highway" after the internationally known author.

The ceremony will be at 2:30 p.m. at U. S. 61 North and U. S. 84 West in the parking lot of the B Kwik Chevron.

Wright was born 100 years ago this year near Natchez, in Adams County, the son of a sharecropper and a country schoolteacher. His first novel, *Native Son*, was published in 1940 and was an immediate success. *Black Boy*, a fictionalized autobiography, was published in 1945 and sold 400,000 copies in three months. He wrote more than a dozen books of fiction, nonfiction and poetry. After leaving Natchez, he lived and worked in Jackson, Memphis, Chicago and New York, later moving to Paris, where he died in 1960.

This highway dedication is being held in conjunction with the 2008 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration called "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration," the kickoff to a year-long series of international conferences and programs honoring the writer.

"MDOT is proud to partner with this prestigious event in honoring one of Mississippi's own," says Southern Transportation Commissioner Wayne Brown said in a news release.

The celebration is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. The National Endowment for the Humanities is providing partial funding through the Mississippi Humanities Council and Mississippi Arts Commission.

Scheduled to attend the dedication are U. S. Sens. Thad Cochran and Roger Wicker, former Gov. William Winter, Natchez Mayor Phillip West, the local legislative delegation, members of the Wright family, and local elected officials. The ceremonies are open to the public. Admission is free.

2008 part 1
page 96

Community Calendar of Events 2008

JANUARY

NOV 17, 2007 - JAN 6, 2008
MILDRED NUNGSTER WOLFE
PRINT EXHIBIT
Historic Jefferson College

JAN 14
MARTIN LUTHER KING PARADE

JAN 24 - 28
NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE
Ten Little Indians

JAN 25
KREWE OF ALPHEUS PARADE

JAN 26
11th MOON STORYTELLING FESTIVAL
Grand Village of the Natchez Indians

FEBRUARY

FEB 1
KREWE OF PHOENIX
MARCH GRAS PARADE

FEB 16
BLACK HISTORY MONTH PARADE

FEB 20 - 24
NATCHEZ LITERARY &
CINEMA CELEBRATION

FEB 22 - 24
NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE
Native Son

MARCH

MARCH 1 - APRIL 13
INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION:
Exceptional Mississippi Women Exhibit
Historic Jefferson College

MARCH 7 - APRIL 5
HISTORIC NATCHEZ PAGEANT
Natchez City Auditorium

MARCH 8 - APRIL 12
SPRING PILGRIMAGE

MARCH 8 - APRIL 12
SOUTHERN ROAD TO FREEDOM
Holy Family Catholic Church

MARCH 8 - APRIL 13
NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE
Southern Exposure

MARCH 29 & 30
NATCHEZ POW WOW
Grand Village of the Natchez Indians

APRIL

MARCH 1 - APRIL 13
INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION:
Exceptional Mississippi Women Exhibit
Historic Jefferson College

MARCH 8 - APRIL 12
NATCHEZ SPRING PILGRIMAGE

MARCH 8 - APRIL 7
HISTORIC NATCHEZ PAGEANT

MARCH 8 - APRIL 12
SOUTHERN ROAD TO FREEDOM
Natchez City Auditorium

MARCH 8 - APRIL 13
NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE
Southern Exposure

APRIL 7, 8, 10, 11 & 12
SONGS OF THE SOUTH
New Covenant Presbyterian Church

APRIL 12
SPRING FLEA MARKET
Historic Jefferson College

APRIL 18-19
VITTLES & FIDDLES
Wdalia Riverfront

APRIL 18-20
JEFFERSON MILITARY COLLEGE REUNION
Historic Jefferson College

APRIL 18 - 20
NATCHEZ BLUFF BLUES FESTIVAL

MAY

MAY 1 - 31
NATCHEZ FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

MAY 2 & 3
SYMPHONY OF GARDENS TOUR

JUNE

MAY 29 - JUNE 1
NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE
Sound of Music

JUNE 9 - 13
PIONEER WEEK: The Way it Was
Historic Jefferson College

JUNE 16-20
DISCOVERY WEEK
Grand Village of the Natchez Indians

JUNE 26 - 29
NATCHEZ ANTIQUE SHOW AND SALE
Natchez Convention Center

JULY

JULY 4
FIREWORKS 5-9 PM
Wdalia Riverfront

JULY 5
BLESSING OF THE FLOTILLA
Lake St. John

JULY 9 - 11
3rd CIVIL WAR ADVENTURE CAMP
Historic Jefferson College

JULY 24 - 26
SCRAP-ON THE RIVER
Natchez Convention Center

JULY 31 - AUG 2
NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE
Once on This Island

JULY 13
NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE
Annual Stan Dean Ovation Awards

AUGUST

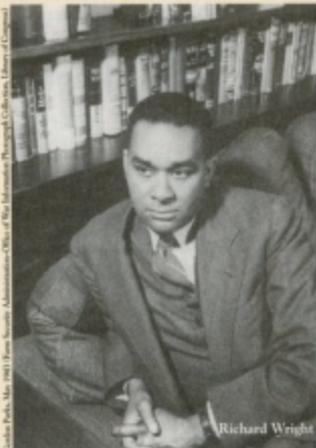
JULY 31 - AUG 2
NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE
Once on This Island

2008 page 1
page 97

Richard Wright Centennial

The Richard Wright Centennial in 2008 will be the occasion for many activities—nationwide reading circles devoted to his works, symposia and conferences designed to explore how his life and legacy resonate in the 21st century, the publication of articles and books that reexamine the power of his thoughts, and literacy initiatives based on his classic autobiography, *Black Boy*, and other works. It is sobering to recall that the International Symposium on Richard Wright (University of Mississippi, November 21–23, 1985) was, as Professor Maryemma Graham noted in her introduction for the Richard Wright special issue of *Callaloo* (Summer 1986), “the first international conference on a major black writer in the United States” and “the first time Wright’s native Mississippi saluted him as a writer.” This symposium inspired the founding of the Richard Wright Circle and the *Richard Wright Newsletter*. Indeed, it might be considered one point of origin for the forthcoming centennial acknowledgments of Wright’s achievements.

Neither the Richard Wright Estate in Paris, for which Wright’s eldest daughter, Julia, serves as executrix, nor scholars who hold Wright in high esteem hesitated to broadcast the importance of 2008. While Julia Wright vigorously promoted global pre-Centennial activities and negotiated to reissue editions of her father’s works and to publish his unfinished novel, *A Father’s Law* (HarperCollins 2008), American scholars and artists began their activities in 2006. The late Dr. Julius E. Thompson (University of Missouri–Columbia), himself a native Mississippian, held a conference on Wright and Zora Neale Hurston on November 2, 2006. That same week, the Intiman Theatre in Seattle, Washington, presented Kent Cash’s dramatization of *Native Son*. On December 15, 2006, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History selected Wright for inclusion in the Mississippi Hall of Fame.



Richard Wright

2007

Mississippi can proudly say it outranked the rest of America in sponsoring pre-Centennial events. In January, a year-long discussion series started in Natchez under the title “Celebrating Richard Wright on the Eve of His 100th Birthday.” These discussions, led each month by Professor Jerry W. Ward Jr. (Dillard University), were a successful effort to involve an entire city in recognizing the global importance of a native son. Universities in Mississippi also held pre-Centennial events: Jackson State University presented the Richard Wright Forum on April 12, and Mississippi Valley State University was the site for a three-day National Endowment for the Humanities workshop, “Richard Wright: A Mississippi Writer,” June 5–7. The Mississippi Reads project selected *Uncle Tom’s Children* as the book to be read by all Mississippians in 2008. The South Hills branch of the Jackson Public Library was renamed for Richard Wright on April 20.

2008

International dialogues will provide evidence of Wright’s importance as an

African American intellectual and artist in the 20th century. The 2008 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, February 21–24, will be devoted to “Richard Wright, the South, and the World.” On February 25, Princeton University will sponsor a special panel on Wright’s *Black Power* trilogy (*Black Power*, *White Man Listen!*, and *The Color Curtain*). In March, the Organization of American Historians will have a discussion of Wright’s historical importance at the Schomburg Research Center of the New York Public Library. The University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill will host a Paul Green/Richard Wright conference in April. In June, Europe and Asia will join these American conversations. The

American University of Paris will present the International Richard Wright Centennial conference, June 19–20, at AUP and the Muse des Amnes Trenz in Boulogne-Billancourt. The 54th Annual Conference of Japan Black Studies Association features a Richard Wright symposium in Hiroshima on June 28–29.

The Richard Wright Centennial provides a noteworthy opportunity for something that transcends the expected academic acknowledgment of literary achievement. Ordinary Mississippians and other citizens of the world can read Wright’s works, reflect on how these works might speak to their everyday lives, and consider Wright’s prophetic insights about mankind’s future. It can be argued that Richard Wright was the only Mississippi writer of the 20th century who insisted that his readers discover links between local and international affairs. The Richard Wright Centennial is an excellent time for literature to absent itself for a time from the museum and the dusty archive and to become an instrument for a people’s living and active use of memory.

JERRY W. WARD JR.



2008 part 1
page 99



2008 part 1
page 100





2009 part 1
page 101



2008 part 1
page 102



2008 part 1
page 103



2009 part 1
page 104



2008 part 1
page 105



2008 part 1
page 106



2003 part 1
page 107



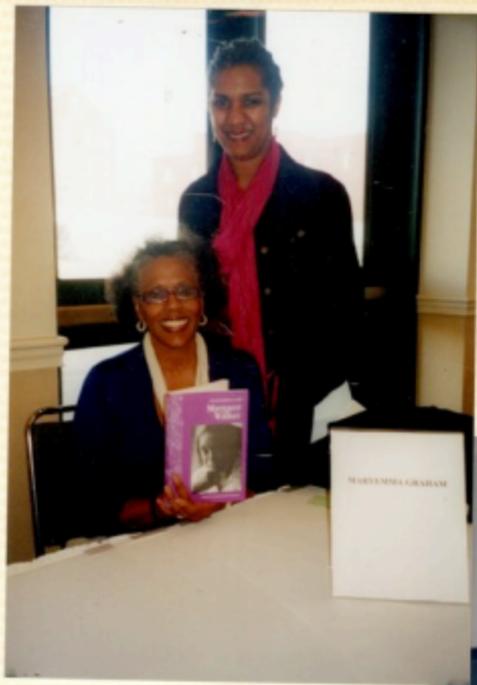


2008 part 1
page 108



2009 part 1
page 109





2008 part 1
page 110





2009 part 1
page 111



2003 part 1
page 112



2009 part 1
page 113



2008 part 1
page 114



2008 part 1
page 115



2008 part 1
page 116



2008 part 1
page 117



2008 part 1
page 118

Celebrating Richard Wright

A year-long celebration of the life and literary work of internationally acclaimed author Richard Wright leading to the 100th anniversary of his birth in 2008.



Discussion sessions facilitated by Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr., Professor of English and African World Studies, Dillard University, New Orleans.



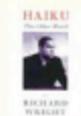
SCHEDULE OF DISCUSSION SESSIONS



Jan. 18, 6-8 p.m.
"Uncle Tom's Children"
Alcorn State University
Natchez Campus
School of Business
Auditorium



April 21, 1-3 p.m.
"Black Boy"
Natchez Little Theatre
319 Linton Ave.
Natchez



July 9, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
"This Other World: Haiku"
Concordia Parish Library
Meeting Room
640 Carter St.
Vidalia, LA



Oct. 18, 6-8 p.m.
"Pagan Spain"
Trinity Episcopal Day
School
321 Highway 61 South
Natchez



Feb. 25, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
"Lawd Today"
Copiah-Lincoln Community
College Natchez Campus
W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose
Room



May 5, 2-5 p.m.
"12 Million Black Voices"
Natchez High School
Auditorium, 319 Scargent S.
Prentiss Drive
Natchez



Aug. 4, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
"Black Power"
Natchez Visitoes Center
640 S. Canal St.
Natchez



Nov. 24, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
"White Man Listen"
River Explorer Theatre
Natchez Under-The-Hill
Silver Street
Natchez



March 3, 1-5 p.m.
"Native Son" and "Rite of
Passage" (film and lecture)
NAPAC Museum
301 Main St.
Natchez



June 9, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
"Eight Men"
Historic Natchez Foundation
108 S. Commerce St.
Natchez



Sept. 8, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
"The Color Curtain"
Judge George W. Armstrong
Library
220 S. Commerce St.
Natchez



Dec. 2, 2-4 p.m.
"The Long Dream"
Cathedral School
701 Martin Luther King St.
Natchez

All discussion sessions are free and open to the public. Participants are strongly encouraged to read the book of the month prior to attending the discussion session.

Books and discussion questions are available at the Judge George W. Armstrong Library, 220 S. Commerce St.

For more information, contact:

Susan Cassagne, Library Director, 601-445-8862, scassagne@naw.lib.ms.us

Sessions co-sponsored by The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, www.colin.edu/nlcc
Copiah-Lincoln Community College and The Natchez Richard Wright Centennial Celebration Committee
This project is partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

2008 month 1
page 119



2008 part 1
page 120



2009 part 1
page 121

2008 part 1
page 122

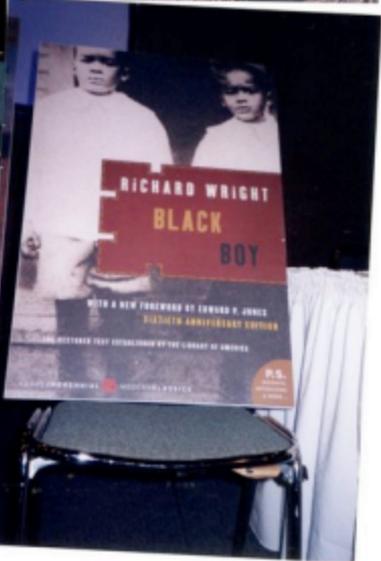




2008 part 1
page 123



2008 part 1
page 124



2003 part 1
page 125



The 19th annual Natchez Literary and
Cinema Celebration presents

"Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration"

February 20-24, 2008
Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street, Natchez, Mississippi

Lectures, Films & Discussions
about Natchez's famous native son

A Richard Wright-related tour
The play, *Native Son*
Awards ceremony
Book signings
Special meals and parties
Most events are free!

For agenda, ticketed events
& information:

www.calin.edu/nlcc
Call toll-free 866-296-6522 or
601-446-1289
Email: kkahe6769@st.colin.edu

Sponsored by:

Copiah-Lincoln Community College • Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History • Mississippi Public Broadcasting
With partial funding from the Mississippi Humanities Council

Photo from the Yale Collection of American Literature,
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.



"Natchez native Richard Wright and his daughter
Julia Wright, New York, 1948." Julia Wright will
be the keynote speaker at the 2008 NLCC.

GREEN ACRES CAMPGROUND AND RV PARK

Complimentary
Coffee
and
Continental
Breakfast
on weekends

Greg & Debbie
Accardo



RV Repair
available
on-site.

Across from Audubon State Historic Site

11907 Louisiana Highway 985 • St. Francisville, Louisiana 70775

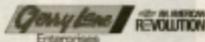
Reservations: 225-635-4903 • www.greenacrescampground.net



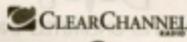
Women In Media proudly congratulates all
Awards of Excellence winners!

Amy Anagnostis, Cox Media Television Sales	Brianne Holliman, Cox Communications Public Relations
Debbie Craven, Citadel Broadcasting Radio Sales	Andie Nigro, Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank, Marketing Events Coordinator
Barbara Clark, Baton Rouge Business Report Print Sales	Sherry Britt, 11/27/08-TV Channel 9 Broadcast On-Air Personality
Amelia Sapp, Enr's Magazine Print Editorial	Sharon Wynyard, Crescent Care Health Management, Development
Amy Starnes, Cancer Researching Outdoor/Web Sales	Geoffrey Mack, Our Daily Program, Non-Profit Organization
Wendy Francis, The City Group Advertising Agency Professional	Maylan Ortiz, Baton Rouge Business Report Industry Newsletter
Jennifer Nelson, La Vie Magazine Creative/Production	Amy Blandford, Louisiana Railroads Web Journal of the Year
Debi Thompson, Cox Media Sales Manager	Jodi Conroy, Clear Channel Radio Web Access Award

A special thank you to all of our sponsors who made this event possible...



COX COX
Media



100.7



In-Kind Sponsors:

225 Magazine • Baton Rouge Business Report
The Baton Rouge Journal • Baton Rouge Parents Magazine
City Social Magazine • Country Roads Magazine
iMedia • Moran Printing • Town Favorites Magazine

Cypress Head Board

GORDON GRAHAM
furniture maker wood worker

225-635-0408 fax 635-0403
5645 south commerce / box 2250 / st. francisville, la 70775

www.countryroadmag.com

2009 part 1
page 126

OUR OPINION

NLCC rounds out week's good news

What a week. It was a busy one in the Miss-Lou, with dozens in town for the annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Let's review some of the good news last week brought.

- The NLCC carried new significance this year, as organizers honored Natchez's own Richard Wright. Wright's daughter Julia delivered the keynote address, and three worthy writers were honored Saturday night at the awards banquet.

From all accounts NLCC 2008 was a success, and we are happy to have once again had such a wonderful event in our city.

- But just as quickly as the NLCC ends, the biggest event of the year in Natchez must get under way — Spring Pilgrimage. Children are already working hard to learn their parts in the Historic Natchez Pageant. As practice continues in the coming weeks, our town will put on its best face to invite the world in.

- Principals from Central Alternative, West Primary and Frazier Primary gave quarterly reports to the Natchez-Adams School Board last week, and things sound good. Teacher and administrators work throughout the year to prepare students for state tests. They do a battery of their own testing to track progress, and right now, students are improving, the principals said.

Other great headlines this week included the groundbreaking ceremony for Promise Hospital of the Miss-Lou and a report from city leaders about a positive visit with U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker. Officials are hopeful Wicker will help provide funding for several projects in town.

As February comes to a close, we know there is still time for more good news in the Miss-Lou.

2008 part 1
page 127

OUR OPINION

NLCC rounds out week's good news

What a week. It was a busy one in the Miss-Lou, with dozens in town for the annual Natchez Lit-erary and Cinema Celebration.

Let's review some of the good news last week brought.

► The NLCC carried new significance this year, as organizers honored Natchez's own Richard Wright. Wright's daughter Julia delivered the keynote address, and three worthy writers were honored Saturday night at the awards banquet.

From all accounts NLCC 2008 was a success, and we are happy to have once again had such a wonderful event in our city.

► But just as quickly as the NLCC ends, the biggest event of the year in Natchez must get under way — Spring Pilgrimage. Children are already working hard to learn their parts in the Historic Natchez Pageant. As practice continues in the coming weeks, our town will put on its best face to invite the world in.

► Principals from Central Alternative, West Primary and Frazier Primary gave quarterly reports to the Natchez-Adams School Board last week, and things sound good. Teacher and administrators work throughout the year to prepare students for state tests. They do a battery of their own testing to track progress, and right now, students are improving, the principals said.

Other great headlines this week included the groundbreaking ceremony for Promise Hospital of the Miss-Lou and a report from city leaders about a positive visit with U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker. Officials are hopeful Wicker will help provide funding for several projects in town.

As February comes to a close, we know there is still time for more good news in the Miss-Lou.

State Senate sees tough legisla

The Mississippi Senate this week passed tough legislation that dealt with a variety of issues including stemming the flow of illegal immigrants into the state to protecting jobs and conserving state resources that are being improperly obtained.

The body passed Senate Bill 2984 that seeks to stop illegal immigrants from receiving workers compensation benefits in the event they are hurt on the job. The bill makes their employer responsible for any medical bills incurred by illegal workers.

They also passed Senate Bill 2823, which makes it a felony to transport illegal aliens. Senate Bill 2564 would deny benefits such as welfare and public assistance to illegal aliens and force state agencies to more thoroughly investigate whether the persons are in the U.S. legally.

Those actions came as the federal government this week steps up its efforts to erect a virtual electronic monitoring fence in area known to be travel corridors for illegal aliens.

The Senate also passed the controversial Senate Bill 2468 that would require voter identification for those casting ballots at the polls. The bill would require one form of ID to be produced if a poll worker had reason to question a person's identity. The hotly debated bill drew passionate debate from supporters who cited how it would help to prevent voter fraud and from opponents who likened the bill to a poll tax of the past that was meant to keep minority voters from casting ballots.

In correcting a loophole, Senate Bill 2566 was passed with the intent of placing Bureau of Narcotics agents under the same rules governing state troopers and other sworn officers of the Department of Public Safety. The bill would stop bureau agents from engaging in political campaigns either as candidates or by supporting candidates who seek office.

The loophole was made clear last year when Bureau of Narcotics agent Jimmy Saxton took leave from his job to run for sheriff of Madison County against incumbent Toby Trowbridge.

Senate Bill 2405 seeks creation of a task force that would monitor and assist underperforming schools and school districts.

Under public welfare the Senate passed the following bills:

► S.B. 2822, which increased the penalty for home invasion or burglary of an occupied dwelling.

► S.B. 2619 seeks creation of a task force to study the proper preservation of DNA evidence



TOP OF THE MORNING
Kevin Butler

gathered at the scene
► S.B. 2229 would penalties for crime against persons 65-older. It is expected will be amended to venerable adults such have disabilities.

► S.B. 2921 would penalties for person of multiple killings gse episode of viole

All of these m next be debated by Representatives wh ther vote them up c matters that pass the House will t to Gov. Haley Barbour for his app tion.

Among those matters awaiting I al is Senate Bill 2680, which seeks size of government and would allment directors to streamline the

Another comprehensive item th praised by the news media as the benesive fix for state ethics matter: Bill 2583. The measure was touted most significant items passed this ing more thorough than any of th by the House.

And earlier in the week, the Sen another of Mississippi's native s Senate Bill 2909, which renamed ; U.S. Highway 84 in Adams County Wright Memorial Highway."

Wright was a world-renowned a was born on a plantation and was son of a slave, but went on to earn from the literary world for his fir tive Son," which he published in, was an African American author, touched the imagination of the v. times provoking praise and some erating controversy. Wright's wor "Uncle Tom's Children," publish which fictionalized the lynchings 1900s that were common througho south. The controversial author d the age of 52.

District 37 Sen. Bob Dearing au in collaboration with Rep. Robert III of Natchez co-sponsored the m House side.

KEVIN BUTLER is Mississippi senator representative County.

OPINION

www.natchezdemocrat.com

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2008

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

Senate sees tough legislation

enate this week passed a that dealt with a variety ing stemming from the flow of nto the state to protecting -state resources that are be- ined. enate Bill 2984 that seeks grants from receiving work- nefs in the event they are ill makes their employer medical bills incurred by il-

enate Bill 2823, which transport illegal aliens. Id deny benefits such as ssistance to illegal aliens ties to more thoroughly in- e persons are in the U.S.

e as the federal govern- up its efforts to erect a vir- voring fence in area known s for illegal aliens. ssed the controversial Sen- uld require voter identi- ng ballots at the polls. re one form of ID to be pro- er had reason to question he hotly debated bill drew m supporters who cited prevent voter fraud and likened the bill to a poll /as meant to keep minority allots. whole, Senate Bill 2566 was it of placing Bureau of ler the same rules govern- d other sworn officers of ublic Safety. The bill would om engaging in political candidates or by support- seek office. ade clear last year when agent Jimmy Saxton took run for sheriff of Madison nment Toby Trowbridge. ks creation of a task force and assist underperform- d districts. re the Senate passed the



TOP OF THE MORNING

Kevin Butler

gathered at the scene of a crime. ▶ S.B. 2223 would enhance the penalties for crimes committed against persons 65-years-old or older. It is expected that the bill will be amended to include vulnerable adults such as those who have disabilities.

▶ S.B. 2921 would seek stiffer penalties for persons convicted of multiple killings during a single episode of violence.

All of these the matters must next be debated by the House of Representatives who could either vote them up or down. The matters that pass the House will be forwarded to Gov. Haley Barbour for his approval or rejection.

Among those matters awaiting House approval is Senate Bill 2690, which seeks to reduce the size of government and would allow department directors to streamline their agencies.

Another comprehensive item that has been praised by the news media as the most comprehensive fix for state ethics matters is Senate Bill 2963. The measure was touted as one of the most significant items passed this session, being more thorough than any of the five offered by the House.

And earlier in the week, the Senate honored another of Mississippi's native son, by passing Senate Bill 2909, which renamed a stretch of U.S. Highway 84 in Adams County as "Richard Wright Memorial Highway."

Wright was a world-renowned author who was born on a plantation and was the grandson of a slave, but went on to earned praise from the literary world for his first novel, "Native Son," which he published in 1940. Wright was an African American author, whose works touched the imagination of the world, sometimes provoking praise and sometimes generating controversy. Wright's works included "Uncle Tom's Children," published in 1938, which fictionalized the lynchings of the early 1900s that were common throughout the deep-south. The controversial author died in 1960, at the age of 52.

District 37 Sen. Bob Dearing authored the bill in collaboration with Rep. Robert L. Johnson

Passion for expanding symbols cooling

In 1956, Mississippi's Official and Statistical Register, affectionately called the "Blue Book," listed four state symbols — not counting the state flag.

Fast forward 50 years, the "Blue Book" lists 22 state symbols.

The Legislature's passion for symbolism has cooled since 2005, when the American alligator was named Mississippi's state reptile.

But lawmakers have not abandoned attaching names to things. A handful of bills before the 2008 Legislature propose designating whole highways or sections of roads to some person or group; others want to add organizations to the already fat list of specialty car tags.



JACK ELLIOT JR.

Under the Capitol Dome

In terms of symbols, however, lawmakers appear to have exhausted what they can label from Mother Nature's vast bounty of flora and fauna.

Three bills filed in 2008 never made it out of committee this past week. Two dealt with a proposed new state song; the third, a state poem.

For the record, in 1956, the symbols listed in the Blue Book were:

▶ State flower: Magnolia, adopted in 1952.

▶ State tree: Magnolia, adopted 1938.

▶ State bird: Mockingbird, adopted in 1944.

▶ State song: "Way Down South in Mississippi," circa 1948.

The ballad by Verne Barnes and Jodie Cantler was replaced in 1959

The 19th Annual
Natchez Literary and Cinema
Celebration

February 20 - 24, 2008

presents

***Richard Wright, the South,
and the World:
A Centennial Celebration***



Richard Wright and his daughter, Julia, 1944

Headquarters:

**Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street • Natchez, Mississippi**

*Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.
Locations change for certain events.*

SPONSORS: COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
NATCHEZ NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK,
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY,
AND MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC BROADCASTING
with partial funding from the
MISSISSIPPI HUMANITIES COUNCIL

2008 part 1
page 130

N-Sights

The campus newspaper of Copenh-Lincoln Community College Natchez

Spring Fling - Page 15

April 2008
Vol. 35, No. 5

The talent of Co-Lin ...



Student, staff art exhibit brings out myriad of styles.

Story on Page 12,
Photos on Page 16

Photo by Payton Trim

INSIDE

A
special
concert
Page 11



ALSO INSIDE

Viewpoint
Pages 4-7
NLCC
Pages 8-10
Clubs
Pages 13-15

'World
View'
A new
column
Page 7



Student
of the
Month
Page 2



Rochelle Sullivan

N-Sights

The campus newspaper of Copiah-Lincoln Community College Natchez

May 2008
Vol. 35, No. 6

Our 2008 Hall of Fame



The newest inductees into the Co-Lin Natchez Hall of Fame: Cain Madden, Ashlea Rand, Lisa Adams, with Co-Lin President Dr. Howell C. Garner on Awards Night.

Story, More Awards Night photos on Pages 10-15.

INSIDE



Cutting for a cause
Page 22



Congratulations
Class of
2008

ALSO
INSIDE
Viewpoint
Pages 5-9
Clubs
Pages 18-20

Making a splash at Spring Fling
Pages 20, 28



Students of the month
Page 2

AN EVENING OF JAZZ VIBRATIONS

A Benefit Concert to support the
establishment of the
Richard Wright Exhibit Hall
At the NAPAC Museum

Featuring

THE RUSSELL THOMAS QUINTET

Jackson, MS



Friday September 14, 2007

7:00 pm

Natchez Community Center

215 Franklin Street - Natchez

Advanced Tickets

NAPAC Members: \$15.00

(Present membership card for discount)

Non-Members: \$20.00

Tickets at Door \$25.00

For Ticket Information Call

(601) 445-0728

All Other Donations Graciously Accepted!

Program partners: The Natchez Richard Wright Centennial Celebration Committee
The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

2008 part 1
page 133



Natchez Campus

CO-LIN FEATURED ON NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO

National Public Radio aired a news feature about author Richard Wright on Monday, Aug. 18. A section of the show was dedicated to the Co-Lin-produced documentary "Richard Wright: A Force for Right," which had its premier in February during the Natchez Literary and Circus Celebration. Co-Lin graduate Latashia Wansley-Clark is quoted several times during an interview with NPR reporter Juan Williams. To hear the show, copy and paste the following link in your internet address line:

<http://www.npr.com/templates/story/story.php?storyId=87984371>

LITTLE THEATRE PARTNERS WITH CO-LIN

The Natchez Little Theatre has partnered with Co-Lin Natchez in providing funds and supplies for the Natchez-Adams County Humane Society. Layne Taylor, theatre director and adjunct instructor at the Natchez campus, presented a check for \$305 and a truckload of supplies to Teresa Harrison, vice president of the Natchez campus, and a member of the Humane Society Board of Directors. One of Harrison's chief projects has been to help the Humane Society.

CO-LIN TO HOST FOURTH IRON TEAMS COOKOFF

The Fourth Annual Iron Teams Competition has been scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 22, at 11 a.m., in the W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room. The popular event pits two celebrity chefs from the community in a live cooking competition. Each chef is assisted by two students from the Hospitality/Tourism Management Technology Program. The public is invited.



WAL-MART DONATES \$1,000

Wal-Mart SuperCenter in Natchez recently donated \$1,000 to the Co-Lin Foundation in support of the Natchez Classic Golf Tournament held in April. The tournament raised more than \$12,000, bringing the funds raised from the tournament to more than \$70,000. Proceeds are used for Natchez campus student scholarships and faculty development. Pictured are, from left, Teresa Harrison, vice president of the Natchez campus; Lionel Sipter, SuperCenter manager; and Terry Estes, a member of the Co-Lin Foundation Board of Trustees.



NURSING STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

Ten Practical Nursing students have been selected to receive scholarships of \$1,500 each from a private, non-profit group called The Boyne Foundation, named after the late Dr. Philip J. Boyne, renowned oral surgeon and professor. Pictured are: front row, from left Amanda Criswell, LPN instructor; Michael Thompson of Natchez, who was a personal friend of Boyne's and who encouraged Boyne to help nursing students at Co-Lin; and Teresa Harrison, vice president of the Natchez Campus. They are surrounded by the scholarship recipients: second row, from left: Aarona Davidson, Kayla Daniels, Charmaine Collier, Dora Claiborne, Jennifer Delaughter, Siroone Fleming; back row, from left: Denise Franklin, Arthurine Walker, Ebony Chatman, Glenda Grayson. Last year, five nursing students received scholarships. Boyne died on June 9, and the Foundation is being directed by his heirs. One of Boyne's goals was to help nursing students in rural America. Nursing students at Alcorn State University also received scholarships.

CAMPUS CLUB FAIR SCHEDULED

Co-Lin Natchez will host its annual Club Fair on Wednesday, Aug. 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the quadangle. The event gives clubs and organizations to sign up new members and inform the campus about what the organization does. There will be food, music and fun.

Please contact Mark LaFare in the Office of Public Information at the Natchez Campus if you have any information that you would like to place in the Natchez News section of Wolf Tracks. He can be reached at extension 295 or by email at mark.lafare@colin.edu

BOOK IT!

Plan now to attend the 10th annual

NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION

JUNE 5-5, 1998
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI



"MUSIC IN THE SOUTH: LYRICS, LITERATURE, AND LAGNIAPPE"

- Lectures by authors and scholars
- Live performances, including "An evening on the town"
- Musical tours of historic: Cherokee, Cottage Gardens, Lawrence House, Rossiter, and Tacony
- Exhibits, book-signings, auctions, high tea, business-barbecues supper, AND LOTS OF FUN!

ALL AT LOW COST!

For information and tickets, call 601-446-8345 or 1-800-617-8724.

2009 part 1
page 134