Booker T. Washington High School alumni prepare for Centennial Celebration

Celebrating an era when the school on “the Hill,” was the center of cultural and historical African American community, the alumni of Booker T. Washington High School are preparing for a once-in-a-lifetime commemoration in its Centennial Year.

Year-long events are being organized by the Alumni of Booker T. Washington High School Foundation, an alumni group that exists because the school closed in 1974 to perpetuate the historical, significative, educational traditions and cultural heritages of the school.

Event sponsors include: Beta Mu Chapter, Benedict College; Beta Chi Chapter, South Carolina State University; Nu Omicron Lambda Sigma Chapter, Columbia; Nu Omicron Lambda Sigma Chapter, South Carolina Phi Beta Sigma; Southern Region Phi Beta Sigma Inc.

The Honorable James T. Hood, Sr. 72nd International President of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc, Brother Dr. Robert L. Scott, Life Member and Member of Beta Mu Chapter; Columbia; chapter members from Newberry Alpha Omega chapter; Columbia chapter members from Zeta Gamma Chapter, Warner College; members from Nu Omicron Lambda Sigma Chapter, Columbia; and brothers from Nu Omicron Lambda Sigma Chapter, Columbia were present for the presentation.

Richland County names Youth Oratorical Award winners

On Sunday, December 6, 2015, 300 people competed for the master orator award handed by Richland County Councilwoman John Adixon in partnership with the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. The ceremony took place at the Columbia County Coliseum in Blythewood, SC.

The five finalists were selected from among the program's participants who are students at more than 25 schools across Richland County. For the past six months, the contestants worked with professional orators to develop their public speaking skills. In addition to professional oratorical training, the students received tutoring from other community stakeholders in the following areas:

- Academic Professionalism
- Transformational Leadership
- Conflict Resolution
- Self-Defense
- Community Service

Each finalist eloquently delivered an original piece they wrote for more than 200 audience members.

The five finalists were:

1. Tatoria McDaniel
2. Kandine McDaniel
3. Julianne Pendleton
4. John Tate
5. Nacala Zene

The four youth oratorical award winners were:

- First Place: Julianne Pendleton
- Second Place: Kandine McDaniel
- Third Place: John Tate
- Fourth Place: Nacala Zene

The five finalists were:

- First Place: Julianne Pendleton
- Second Place: Kandine McDaniel
- Third Place: John Tate
- Fourth Place: Nacala Zene
- Fifth Place: Otiana Thompson

Carrige Gudger Norton, RN
CRHSSN Alumni of the Year

Visit www.carolinapanaorama.com for more information.