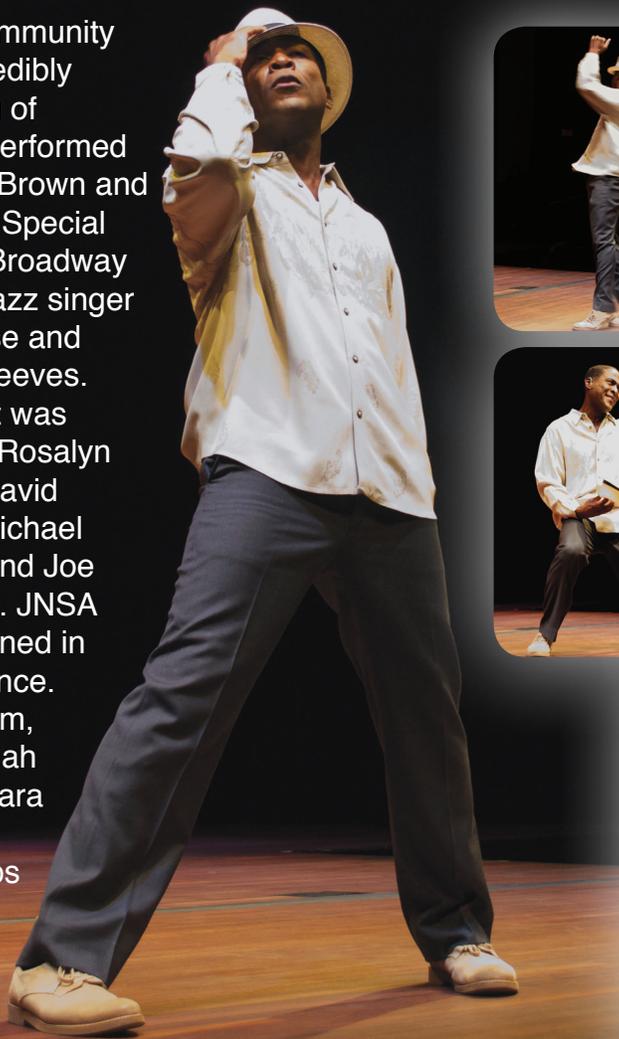


The Jessye Norman School Newsletter

Russell Joel Brown Brings Broadway to Augusta

The Augusta community enjoyed an incredibly exciting evening of Broadway hits performed by Russell Joel Brown and special guests. Special guests include Broadway performer and jazz singer LaShonda Reese and dancer Justin Reeves. Accompaniment was provided by Dr. Rosalyn Floyd (piano), David Heath (bass), Michael West (drums), and Joe Collier (trumpet). JNSA students also joined in on the performance. Sam Cunningham, Brian Long, Kaylah Thurmond, Tashara Thompkins, Samantha Phillips and Nadiya Seago-Tate provided vocal accompaniment.



Happy Birthday Ms. Norman!



Thank you for coming to visit us and speaking with us. It is always exciting and inspirational when you visit our school, but it was an extra special treat to have our friend Henry Stephens interview you from WRDW's Henry's Corner. We hear that September 15th is your birthday. We wish you a very happy birthday!



The First JNSA River Run

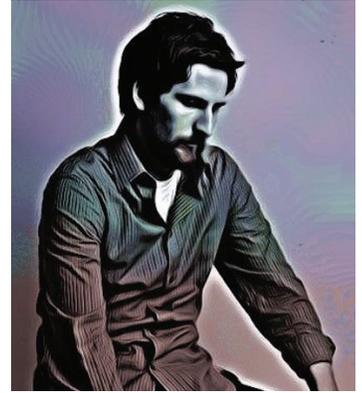
On **October 12th at 8am**, we are putting our running shoes on to run for the Arts! Mr. Dennis has organized the school's first 5K fund raising event with proceeds set to benefit the school. The race begins at 739 Green Street in front of the Jessye Norman School. JNSA students race for free and will wear their own JNSA T-shirts. Registration is \$15 for students (18 and under), \$25 in advance and \$30 the day of the race. Registration can be done online at: www.jessyenormanschool.org

Mr. Michael Ray

The Jessye Norman School of the Arts is alive and thriving! We are at capacity and bursting from the seams with talent. It is always our goal to harness the students' talents and to help them find success in the classroom and in the real world. Beyond the arts, we encourage students to be the best that they can possibly be--in everything they do and say.

I'd like to say a special thanks to our fantastic board members, our amazingly talented faculty and staff, and to Ms. Melanie Rivera for overseeing and designing this beautiful newsletter.

For more information on the Jessye Norman School of the Arts, please visit our website at: www.jessyenormanschool.org. If you'd like to schedule a tour/visit, please call (706) 877-0411.



Sincerely,

Michael Ray
JNSA Director

Dr. Ernest L. James

Greetings to all:



I am Ernest James President of the Rachel Longstreet Foundation Board of Directors, the sponsor of the Jessye Norman School of the Arts (JNSA).

This is the beginning of the 11th year of existence of JNSA. The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank all for your continuous financial support. Without your support the Jessye Norman School of the Arts would have been a dream and an idea, not a reality and many young boys and girls would not have been able to experience the wonderful world of the Arts. Thank you, the people of Augusta, Ga. and from around world, for helping our dream and idea become a reality.

It is our hope that you will continue your financial support of the JNSA.

We began our 11th year with hopes of completing the renovation of the JNSA building.

We are in need of a kitchen to provide better snacks and meals for late rehearsals, as well as teach more about healthy eating and food preparation. We are looking at the possibility of purchasing a small school bus for field trips and other student activities. . We are in the process of implementing more technology into the teaching process and curriculum. Through this process, students are learning how technology is incorporated into the Arts.

We have a beautiful building located downtown at 739 Greene St. in Augusta, GA. This building must be maintained and kept up to standard and we must continue to employ employee instructors and staff of the highest quality.

There are several ways to help and support:

Name a room in someone's honor. Call 706-394-1245

Donorship

Sponsorship

Giving

To paraphrase the JNSA creed; We the Board of Directors, strive to bring honor to all we represent, by providing a top quality Fine Arts Education for JNSA students.

Again, thank you and it is our hope you will continue supporting the Jessye Norman School of the Arts.

Thanks,

Dr. Ernest L. James

NEW FACES



Mr. Nathan Klose is an award-winning poet and fictioneer, degree'd from Georgia Southern University in creative writing. His work appears in a variety of print and online publications, newspapers, an anthology. Nathan writes professional-sounding copy for clients, argues with web code, and graphic designs at his day job, Kruhu (kruhucom). There, he is a deliverer of ideas. Nathan believes

his students are no different in their day jobs, either. Daily, from school to home, students will engage in unknowable multitudes -- they will intake from the circumference of their environment to form ideas, and those ideas will determine how decisions will be made. What Nathan wants most for his students is to explore those multitudes with writing, untangle the ideas they have formed from their external confines and internalize them into the new confines of the page. The power of ideas, to Nathan, is the power of the inevitable: that which is thought, might as well be. A student that knows how to work through ideas will know how the decisions made based on them came to be -- and the determinant will no longer be unknowable multitudes, but the student's internalization of what those multitudes have meant to them. They will deliver all those ideas, then, onto the page. And, in this way, their day job will be to learn the way to express that is the best way. Nathan owns a dog and a bicycle and an open, eager heart. He is originally from Oklahoma and Texas -- and all the land that exists between the two.



Ms. Irene Shastri has a bachelor's degree in math from Villanova University and, in a previous life, she ran a small private language school in India. Irene currently teaches developmental math at Aiken Technical College where she also directs a S.T.E.M. pilot program for 8th graders. Several days a week, she clowns around and entertains senior citizens. In her free time, Irene

sings in a women's barbershop chorus. She just wrapped up her first stage appearance and thinks she might be addicted! Irene is a self-professed nerd who loves books, music, bright colors, and baking. She grew up in India, loves international travel, and hopes someday to wander the world, camera in hand.

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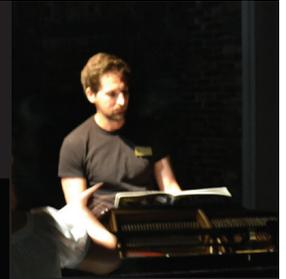
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www.jessyennormanschool.org

THE FACULTY REPORT

For the first Friday performance of the year, the faculty performed for the students. Mrs. Allen, who has moved to New York, stopped by before she left to sing for the students. She will be missed.

Here is what's going on in the classroom.



Mr. Dennis:

Students were focusing on exercises to improve concentration and staying in character. The students are also working on their playwriting and set design skills. In addition, several of the technology class students are studying stage lighting and design with Mr. Dennis.



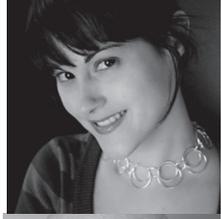
Brother B:

Students are working on their architecture drawing skills. "My goal is the encourage students to become responsible artists. Young artists need to know their social role as artists, as they continue to create opportunities for themselves, to aspire, to earn income, and help beautify the community."



Mrs. Mayfield:

Students have been keeping fit and moving in Mrs. Mayfield's class. The beginning students are working on their ballet moves. Some students are working on African style dances, while others are working on their modern technique.



Ms. Melanie:

The technology program is the newest program offered at JSNA. Students meet 5 days a week in the StudioLab classroom which is equipped with the latest technology gear including DSLR cameras, iMac computers and a full scale photography studio. The students receive lessons like photo history and participate in structured activities like venturing outside to take pictures. Students have also been learning by gaining practical experience. "Each student participates in a group project or independently studies design software. The class has participated in creating this newsletter and organized headshots for the whole school."



Ms. Laura:

Students are learning music theory and music history. The beginning students will get a taste of international music by singing an Israeli folk song. The returning students are working on a mash-up of a contemporary song.



Mr. Klose:

Students have started a journal with weekly writing topics. Lauren asked "To teach the power of story through the power of idea, through the power of feeling. What this looks like is having the freedom to express what you know, then shape what is known into an idea and then turn those ideas into a story."



KICKSTART

SUMMER CAMP 2013

We still have some fond memories of this past summer. In both June and July, JNSA KickstArt campers performed Into the Woods, participated in a flash mob at the Augusta Richmond County Library or faced daily photography challenges in Photo Camp. In June, Mr. Ray was our director, but in July Mr. Dennis directed the play. Even with a packed rehearsal schedule, students found time to cool off at the Family Y downtown. It was a great summer and we learned a lot.





All the enjoyable activities
Carlos



The teachers pay attention
Jada

All the fun things to do and all the fun teachers
Treyvion



The fun classes
Tyshon



Be yourself
Quylanda



Be a star cause you shine!
Lauren

Don't be afraid
Jasmine



Listen to your teachers and you will learn a lot.
Maya



We asked some of our begining students:

What is your favorite thing about going to JNSA?

We asked some of our returning students:

Do you have any advice for our new friends?

THANK YOU!

A special thanks goes out to our supporters

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JNSA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2013

Volunteer Tutors Make Us Jump for Joy!

The Jessye Norman School of the Arts works to instill and encourage a love of the arts in students, but also places a high priority on students' day school work. Thanks to the 21st Century Community Center Learning Grant, we are able to offer our students access to the Learning Support Center and homework help. However, we need volunteers who will be willing to come and provide one-on-one tutoring assistance to individual JNSA students. If you think you might be interested, contact our Tutoring Program Supervisor at:
ireneshastri@jessyennormanschool.org

Stay in touch

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Register online now!

This program is supported in part by the **Georgia Council for the Arts** through the appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly. GCA is a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

This program is also supported in part by the **Greater Augusta Arts Council** through appropriations from the City of Augusta.