A Festival of Black Arts

By Angela Terrell

The sixth Black Arts Festival in Reston, to be held Saturday through Monday, has added four new events to its usual arts and crafts exhibits and musical presentations—all indicative of new trends in black lifestyles. They are: a tennis tournament, showings of black films, a house tour and an all-day conference on the concepts and realities of new towns as applied to minorities.

Reston Black Focus, an organization formed in 1969 by black residents, is the sponsor.

The “New Town Agenda” conference on Saturday begins with registration at 8 a.m. at the Sheraton Inn, Reston, followed by: morning workshops on new towns as seen by planners and developers; community facilities and community government; a luncheon address by Floyd McKissick, first black developer of a new town, Soul City, in North Carolina; afternoon workshops on new town living.

The annual festival dance will be held Saturday from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. at the Sheraton Inn. This year’s theme is “Uptown Saturday Night” and the beneficiaries are the D.C. Black Repertory Theater and the Ralph Bunche Awards Program.

The rest of the schedule includes:

Sunday:
• 10 a.m. Tennis tournament, featuring black amateurs and semi-professionals from the metropolitan areas.
• Noon—7 p.m. Free activities at Dago Hammarskjold Plaza in Reston’s new International Conference Center include gospel music and jazz, short plays, arts and crafts exhibits, rides and games for children.
• 1:30-3 p.m. Fashion show by Toast and Strawberries at the Sheraton Inn poolside, with champagne. Tickets, $5.
• 2-5 p.m. House tour. Tours of at least five black homes including contemporary and townhouses. Tickets $2.
• 2-6 p.m. Black films. Showings of “The Learning Tree” and “The Harder They Come.” Adults, $2; children, $1.
• 8 to midnight. Free dance on Plaza.

Monday:
• 10 a.m. Tennis tournament.
• Noon-6 p.m. Continuation of exhibits, musical entertainment, movies and children’s events.

For ticket information call 860-4049 in Reston.