

Seminar Highlights Arts Festival

RESTON TIMES
8/8/74

Reston Black Focus will introduce three innovations to its annual Black Arts Festival this coming Labor Day weekend: a tennis tournament, black feature films at the Reston Twin Cinemas, and an all day conference entitled New Town Agenda: Realities. Concepts.

The conference, to be held at the Reston Sheraton Saturday, August 31, features the president of Soul City, N.C., Floyd B. McKissick, as luncheon speaker. McKissick, the first black developer of a new town, will speak on "Soul City -- the Interdynamics of a New Town."

The McKissick luncheon topic sets the tone for the entire conference, in which morning workshops will be devoted to the concepts of new towns and the afternoon workshops will deal with the realities of new town living.

According to the conference organizer, Burton Lamkin, the Reston seminar is the first of a kind:

initiated and organized by residents to bring together the viewpoints of developers, professional planners, governing authorities and consumers. The various conference panels are laden with representatives of various disciplines and professions associated with new towns, including representatives of the Rouse Company, developers of Reston's sister new town, Columbia, Md., HUD officials, a number of university scholars, and educators.

The conference will begin at 9:00 a.m. with remarks from Restonian Elias Blake, president of the Institute for Services to Education. A Keynote Panel, directing comments toward New Town Perspectives, will include Sarah Short Austin, Vice-President of field operations, National Urban Coalition; Robert Traynham Coles, Deputy Vice-President for Minority Affairs, American Institute of Architects;

Albert L. Horley, Director of the Office of Telecommunications Policy, Office of the Secretary, Department of HEW; Howard T. Robinson, General Chairman of the '74 Black Arts Festival Committee; Alene Smith, Instructor, Adult Education, Employment Training Center and Public Relations Consultant; and James W. Todd, President of Gulf Reston, Inc.

The keynote panel concludes at 10:30, at which time Edward G. Sharp, a long-time Reston resident introduces comments on "What Is a New Town?" Sharp's remarks precede three morning workshops, one on Planners and Developers, another on Community Facilities and Services, the third on Governance -- Federal, State, County and the Reston Homeowners' Association.

Following McKissick's luncheon address, three afternoon workshops will be introduced following comments by Cecil B. Thompson, of

the Federal Energy Commission, who will speak briefly on "Have New Towns Achieved Their Promises?"

The afternoon workshops will deal with Educational Opportunities, Social and Political Planning and People Interaction. Most of the workshop panels are heavily saturated with prominent Restonians.

A 4:30 p.m. Plenary -- A Critical Conference Appraisal will conclude the conference and the Appraisal will include Michael J. Healey, president of Better Impressions, Inc. and a Reston resident of long-standing; John Hope III, Assistant Staff Director, U.S. Civil Rights Commission; Head, Office of Program and Policy Review; and Dorothy S. Williams, Director, Policy Research and Planning, HUD.

Lamkin acknowledges that the conferees may raise more questions about new towns than are answered,

Black Arts Seminar Planned

(Continued from Page A-1)
but felt that given the budgetary support, the Reston conference could lead to a continuing resident-initiated dialogue about New Towns. New Towns.

The conference is the first major event of the annual Black Arts Festival, with traditional dances to be held that evening. Other Festival highlights, to be detailed later, include a fashion show featuring the works of black designers, a black film-makers festival, a tour of black Reston homes, commercial arts and

crafts exhibits, a tennis tournament, and free live entertainment.

Registration forms for the Conference are available at the Hunters Woods Regional Library and at the RHOA Recreation Office in Lake Anne Hall. Cost to students is \$15; to singles, \$25, to couples, \$35, lunch included. Luncheon only is \$12.

Those who would like to acquire more information about the conference or make telephone reservations should call Nannie Jordan, 860-2321.