



# THE BOOKSHELF

By Quandra Prettyman Stadler

**ESTEBANICO:** by Helen Rand Parish. Viking, \$5.98, 128 pages.

Simply describes, Estebanico is a fictionalized, first-person account of the adventures of the Black man who accompanied, and sometimes led, the Spanish expedition to the east coast of the Gulf of Mexico in 1528. But Helen Rand Parish's remarkable book is more than a simplistic retelling of familiar secondary materials; it is a painstaking re-creation of distant times, places, and attitudes out of the raw materials of historical research. This is a truly original work containing no "additives" or "preservatives." It is an extraordinary gift of scholarship to present to young people.

Estebanico, is not an "easy" book to read, but young people will learn more about Africa, Spain, the 16th century, early explorations, Spanish customs, Indian society, etc. than they would form an "easy" book. Wonders, horrors, social attitudes and life styles are experienced, not simply read

about. Although Ms. Parish's attention to the story telling will make any reader follow Estebanico to the very end, wanting to know "What happens next?"

As the parent of a young child and as a student of Black history, I am overjoyed with this book for young people.



## AFRICAN STORY DAY

Six hundred children from the ages of 3-11 were treated to a unique African Story Day at the West Las Vegas Library.

Presented by the Young People's Department of the community library, the African story program gave to the several hundred pre-school, kindergarten and elementary school students an experience of their African heritage, through dance, music, movies, costumes and folktales.

Mrs. Binnie Tate, the very talented and nationally known expert of African story-telling, was the guest of the library for the special Black History event. Participating with Mrs. Tate were David Feathers, Young People's Librarian and host for the West Las Vegas Library and Rose Smith, Children's Librarian for the North Las Vegas Library.

Through the cooperation of Mrs. Evelyn O. Gwin, coordinator of Clark County School kindergarten, and individual pre-school day care centers, the children were brought to the library throughout the morning hours. In the afternoon several teachers and librarians from the County attended a workshop on story telling techniques conducted by Mrs. Tate.

Because of the overwhelming success of the program, plans are already underway to make it an annual event for the West Las Vegas Library, according to David Feathers and Branch Administrator Bill Ludwig.

## ART SCHOLARSHIPS

Fellowship awards totaling \$50,000 are now available to artists in ten states, including Nevada, Western States Arts Foundation president Richard D. Collins has announced.

One artist from each of the ten states will be selected by jury to receive an award of up to \$5,000 each, for individual work in such fields as painting, sculpture, photography, choreography, musical composition, aesthetic crafts and graphic design.

The deadline for application is March 17, 1975. To qualify for an award, a candidate must be an artist of regional reputation and have an annual income of less than \$15,000.

Applications can be obtained by writing directly to the Western States Arts Foundation, 1430 Larimer Square, Suite 200, Denver, Colorado 80202.

## Libraries increase film selections

As a compliment to the Nevada Library Media Association 16mm film collections, the Clark County Library offers 8mm and Super 8mm films for loan beginning Monday, February 17th.

Presently, 59 8mm and Super 8 films are available with new acquisitions being made at regular intervals. Popular favorites include films starring Charlie Chaplin, W. C. Fields, Laurel & Hardy and Fat-

ty Arbuckle.

Films are available for free 24 hour loan to individuals over 18 or to organizations. Catalogs of annotated titles and film borrowing rules are available for use at each of the Clark County

Library Branches. The 8mm and Super 8 films are housed at the Flamingo Library, 1401 E. Flamingo, but may be booked through any of the Clark County Library branches.

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