

Operation Independence Presents A Spring Fantasy

Operation Independence Pre-School ended its 17th Spring semester with pageantry, graduation exercises and demonstrations of scholastic achievements.

On Friday evening, May 21st, a record number of parents and friends turned out for A Spring Fantasy, in which each department presented songs, skits and other entertaining numbers that brought

the crowd to its feet several times during the evening.

Beginners, 2 and 3 year olds, opened the show with a spring theme song and recitations by Derrick Kelly and LaKasia Williams. They really thrilled the audience with their rendition of a skit in which they clapped, stamped, twirled and stepped to music almost to perfection, led by Rochelle King, granddaughter of

the famous guitarist, B.B. King.

The Intermediate class of 3 year olds created a patriotic mood as they rendered the song, This Land Was Made For You and Me, singing with true patriotic fervor and with flags flying. Shandra Breland and Summer Devine presented patriotic recitations.

Scarlet Ribbons, a song known as one of

Harry Belafonte's favorites, was beautifully dramatized with the boys leading off with the first verse and the girls, wearing huge bows of scarlet ribbons, entering to meet them later and join in the singing.

A special treat was provided by two guest artists, graduates of 1981, who appeared as Pearl Bailey and Louis Armstrong in a scene from the famous Broad-

way show "Hello Dolly." They were greeted by a group from the Junior class dressed in show girl costumes singing "Hello Dolly."

An original Negro spiritual, Wade In the Water, was sung by the graduating class and brought emotional responses from everyone as the children very sweetly and softly interpreted this beautiful music. This group climaxed the program with

an authentic Folk Dance that had the audience cheering from beginning to end.

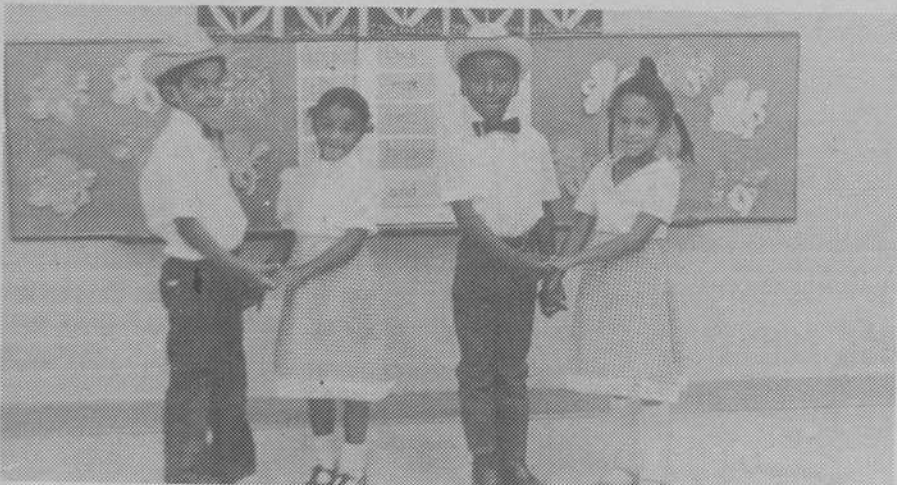
Teachers for the children were Veronica Fleming, Junior Class; Gwendolyn C. Dixon, Intermediate Group; Grace Ray, Beginners; and Betty Puckett and Melodie Cruise, Graduating Class. Emily Mead was the Musician and Lubertha M. Johnson was the Director for the presentation.



Pictured left to right are LaTonya Wright, Timothy Lawson, Darren Thomas, Maya Jackson, Wesley Williams, Takusha Williams and Daniel Swartzbaugh, who participated in the Operation Independence Pre-School production, A SPRING FANTASY.



Pictured left to right are Tara Tyler, Kristy Gray and Amber Rideout, who participated in the "Hello Dolly" segment of the SPRING FANTASY production presented by the children at the Operation Independence Pre-School.



Some of the featured participants in A SPRING FANTASY were Derek Allen Duncan, Nivia Hooper, Travis Morrisette and Lenita Johnson.



Quincy Brown (left) and Darrio Hall presented the poem "The Merry Month Of May" in the Operation Independence Pre-School's production, A Spring Fantasy.



"This Land Is Your Land," a portion of A Spring Fantasy, which was presented by the children at the Operation Independence Pre-School, featured (left to right) Andre Moore, Brian Lee, Derick Drumgoole, Jyron Mayfield, Crystal Lilly, Lakeshia Williams, David McGhee, Megan Winn and Joshua Swartzbaugh.



A production number "Scarlet Ribbons" was a featured act in the Operation Independence Pre-School's SPRING FANTASY. Featured in the number were (left to right) Amber Rideout, Ernest Rogers, Shonte Mosby, Quincy Brown, Kristy Gray, Darrio Hall, Luquisha Baity, Antonio Mosby and Tara Tyler.