

BEVERLY HILLS/HOLLYWOOD NAACP CELEBRATES 20th ANNIVERSARY IMAGE AWARDS

HOLLYWOOD, Ca.—It was 1965 and all of Hollywood (or most all of Hollywood) was preparing for the biggest event of the year — the Academy Awards show.

But on this fateful day in 1965, preparations were also underway for a major demonstration and picket that would focus national attention on the plight of Blacks in the entertainment industry. This action led to preliminary discussions with major Hollywood studios, television companies and record label executives on such issues as more meaningful roles for Blacks, jobs as writers, producers, directors, and technicians, and more opportunities for Blacks to advance within the entertainment industry corporations.

The NAACP then decided to take the issue of full and equal opportunity a step further. An awards system which would honor those artisans, craftsmen, technicians and executives who contrib-

uted to the positive portrayal of Blacks was created. Thus an entirely new era in the entertainment award was initiated by the NAACP with the creation of "The Image Award."

What began as a small dinner with a few award presentations, has grown to become the largest and oldest awards show of its kind. Now in its 20th year, the coveted statuette has established itself among other major awards through years of phenomenal growth and acceptance by the many recipients, supporters and the entertainment industry itself.

Efforts were made for several years to televise this prestigious show so that millions of Americans would be able to share in the positive and enriching images that this award represents. Finally, in 1981 and 1983, the 14th and 16th Image Awards were televised through syndication.

But Willis Edwards, Pres-

ident of the Beverly Hills/Hollywood Chapter (hosts of the annual fete) declared that he would not rest until this historical show aired on national television. Through his diligence and commitment, the 19th Annual Image Awards was broadcast on the NBC network on January 17, 1987.

Thanks to President Edwards, other NAACP chapters around the country and the millions of viewers who tuned in, the 20th Anniversary show will be taped on December 13, 1987 at the Wilton Theatre in Los Angeles for broadcast at a later date on NBC once again.

This year, the 20th Anniversary Image Awards show will prove to be the most spectacular and star-studded event in the history of the show, with many surprises that will certainly be recorded in the annals of entertainment history.

Kid's Day Events Planned for North Las Vegas Fairshow

Plans for Kid's Day at the North Las Vegas Fairshow running the weekend of Oct. 23-25 are now complete, announced Fairshow Manager Betty McCreless.

Admission to Fairshow and Kid's Day is free. "We invite teachers and young group leaders to call our Fairshow Office at 642-1944 for information about Kids Day, the pre-Fairshow Can Art Contest and all of our special activities designed to educate our area youngsters in a fun way," McCreless said.

Kid's Day events begin at 9:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 23, with hot air balloon demonstrations.

"Our pilots will take the kids inside a balloon to show them what a gondola, envelope and burner are; how to inflate these beautiful giants so they fly; show how pilots literally fly on the wind and how they maneuver their balloons in these sometimes dangerous wind currents," explained McCreless.

Many other fun, educational events are scheduled for Kid's Day including K-9

Hospital." He has appeared in several TV series, including "The Scarecrow and Mrs. King" and "Mickey and Maude."



MONICA PEGO of the Sahara Hotel's "Ain't Misbehavin'" was escorted by the UNLV Marching Band recently to sing the opening anthem for the first Rebels football game of the 1987/88 season.

demonstrations by the North Las Vegas K-9 Corps, fire safety and "snorkel" rides by the North Las Vegas Fire Department, ultralight demonstrations, clowns, face painting, carnival and food throughout the day.

Kid's Day concludes with the Parent of the Year Awards Presentations at 5 p.m. This ceremony features entertainment by the Centel Singers, a visit by a noted UNLV football player and McGruff.

Other special events are designed for youngsters throughout Fairshow. There are Halloween, Prince - Princess and photo contests scheduled.

The Petting Zoo will be at Fairshow all weekend along with an unusual Touch and See Exhibit of antiques and prehistoric dinosaurs presented by the Museum of Natural History.

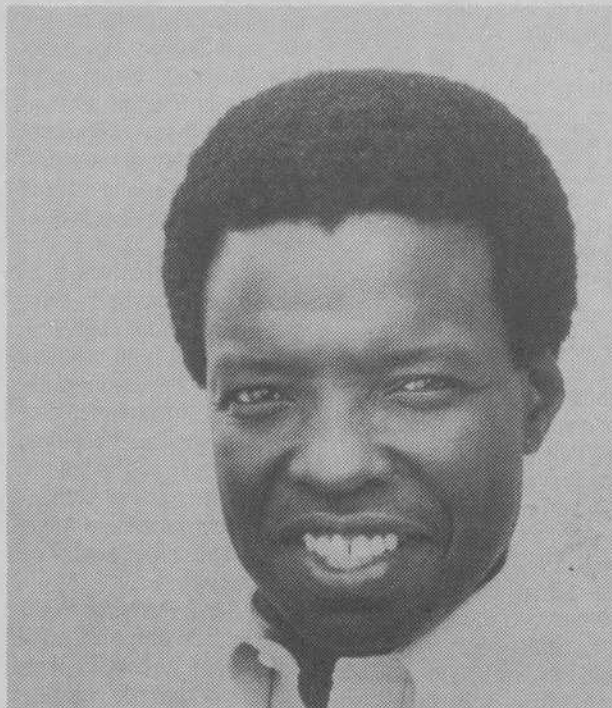
And from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, at Mort's Muleteer Restaurant the annual pointing of the cans takes place.

This pre-Fairshow Can Art Contest is open to all children who simply want to express their concept of Fairshow. They use their imaginations in depicting some aspect of Fairshow by painting this concept on large trash cans. Many fun prizes are awarded.

"The results of this contest can be seen all weekend at Fairshow because these unique trash cans are displayed and used throughout the Fairshow grounds," McCreless said.

But Kid's Day, like the North Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce sponsored Fairshow and Nevada Championship Hot Air Balloon Races, is not just for children; it's for members of the entire family.

JESSIE LAWRENCE FERGUSON 'Prince of Darkness'



Jesse Lawrence Ferguson

Jessie Lawrence Ferguson appears as one of the living dead in "Prince of Darkness." John Carpenter discovered him in the role of Blossom in a production of "The Hasty Heart" at the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles in 1981 and has kept him in mind ever since, looking for the right role in which to showcase the tall black actor's gifts.

Born in Tyler, Texas, the middle of three children of sharecropper parents, Fer-

son graduated from John Muir High School and Pasadena City College. He received an architectural degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C., and was attached to the Pentagon during his Army days, designing awards and emblems for the U.S. Institute of Heraldry. After the service, he became interested in acting and worked with inner-city groups. He was in "The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh" and had a recurring role in the daytime drama "General

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