

Education

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The College With The Shiny Mercedes



KEITH O. HILTON

There are sacred and borderline sacred cows in the African American community: the Church, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the NAACP, our historically African American colleges, EBONY, Greek letter organizations, etc.

It is the policy of HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION that constructive criticism is healthy for the African world, the world in which these and other important institutions are most appreciated.

Criticisms and disagreements are normal and can be unifying. For example, three of the brightest voices that the world had during the early twentieth century were Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois and Marcus Garvey. Their differing philosophies and approaches are well documented.

Also during the 1950s and 60s, contrary to popular belief, Dr. King was actually

often viewed as too non-traditional by the traditional African American leadership. His positions often placed him against the grain of some (borderline) sacred cows.

But these institutions and prominent personalities deserve our respect and support when they produce and our feedback when they fall short.

A few years ago, I came across a small predominantly African American public college located in the heart of one of this nation's poorest neighborhoods and was struck with one incredible contradiction - key African American educators were driving Mercedes while local students were walking and taking the public transit.

Don't get me wrong, it is not that I have anything against a Mercedes Benz - ENGINEERED LIKE NO OTHER CAR IN THE WORLD. It really is a fine automobile

and many of the owners are not so bad either.

Besides, HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION continues to encourage students to enter the fields of college teaching and management.

My criticism is with the subliminal signals being sent to this predominantly African American student body and community; that of "haves and have nots" and of distancing vs bonding.

I discovered that, for example, the following administrators enjoyed showcasing their Mercedes Benz: the Deans of Academic Affairs and Continuing Education, the Assistant to the President, the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, the Directors of Financial Aid, a student support program, Vocational Education, the Day Care Center, Community Relations and of Grant Writing and Development.

What kind of a car a person drives really is not the most accurate indicator of commitment, nor does taking public transportation serve as a sure measurement of course dedication.

However, we know that it is important to raise questions, much in the same spirit that King, DuBois, Garvey, Washington and many others did before us.

Therefore, to the college with the shiny Mercedes Benz, we say, "If you are true to those students and community, you may discover that they are ENLIGHTENED like no other people in the world."

HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION is designed to dialogue with college and world readers. Education is ongoing and certainly not limited to school classrooms. Let's talk. (714) 899-0650.

Safekey Program Preregistration Scheduled

Representatives from the City of Las Vegas Safekey Program will accept preregistration for the Fall 1990 session during Channel 3's Back To School Fair at the Meadows Mall, August 11 - 15. Designed for the working parent, Safekey is an afterschool recreational and enrichment program for grades K-6. The program

runs weekdays 3:00 - 5:45 p.m. at 69 elementary schools throughout Clark County and from 7:00 - 8:30 a.m. at selected sites at a cost of \$20.00 per week. The child will receive assistance with homework, a nutritional snack, and recreation activities. For more information call Carol Burrell at 386-6297.

Registration For Junior High Students New To Las Vegas

Families new to Las Vegas who have children that will be attending junior high school in the fall should contact the school they are zoned for no later than August 13 for registration and placement information.

Junior high schools are closed during July, but will be open for registration information and questions beginning August 1. The

1990-91 school year begins August 27 for all students.

New students who do not know what school they will be attending should call the school district's Demographics and Zoning Office at 799-7573.

Items to bring when registering students new to Clark County are a birth certificate, immunization record and proof of address.

Sunset High School Announces Registration Schedule

Registration for students who were enrolled during 2nd semester 89-90 school year at Sunset is scheduled for Thursday, August 23, 1990. Seniors will register 3:30-4:30 p.m. Sophomores and juniors will register from 4:30-6:00 p.m. School dress is required for registration. Students not dressed appropriately will not be allowed to register for classes.

Registration for new students to Sunset will be held Friday, August 24, 1990, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. All students who wish to register must bring a copy of their school transcript and proof of immunization. School dress is required for registration.

Complete registration information and student packets can be obtained by calling the Sunset High School Office at 799-4160 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. prior to the registration dates. Office hours will change to the evening schedule of 1:30 to 10:00 P.M. on August 22.

Only persons actually enrolling will be permitted on campus during registration. Enrolling students should be prepared to pay any required lab fees when they register for art, cooking, crafts, drafting, or shop classes.

Sunset High School offers evening classes for Clark County School District residents under the age of 21 who wish to earn a traditional high school diploma. Classes are held from 3:00 to 9:30 P.M. at the Hyde Park Junior High School Campus, 950 Hinson Street.

Wood Sculpture To Be Exhibited at West Las Vegas Library

Artist Jackie Reese will exhibit his wood sculpture at West Las Vegas Library's Beni Casselle Gallery, 951 W. Lake Mead Blvd. Aug. 9 - Sept. 17. A free public reception will be held Aug. 9 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Reese sculpts his pieces from the dry, woody roots of desert plants such as Teddybear cactus and Silver Cholla. Inspired by life-forms he perceives in the organic material, he sands and stains the wood until the forms take shape. "I started carving features I could see and feel," he said. "To my amazement, life forms were easily created."

The gallery is open during library hours, Mon. - Thur., 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.; Fri. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sun., 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Call 435-0919 for more information.

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