

EDUCATION

CCSN's Auto Tech Training Earns National Excellence Certification

The automotive technology training program at the Community College of Southern Nevada has been certified by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) after undergoing evaluation by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation.

"Although many educational institutions strive for it, only a small percentage achieve this level of excellence," said Ronald Weiner, president of ASE.

"The automotive industry, CCSN's automotive students and Nevada consumers should be proud of CCSN's commitment to quality training."

The college's program met strict industry standards in all eight certification areas and earned the highest level of achievement. The categories

were engine repair and engine performance, automatic transmission and transaxle, manual drive train and transaxle, suspension and steering, brakes, electrical and electronic systems, and heating and air conditioning.

"We owe this success to our partnership with the southern Nevada automotive sales and service industry and to an excellent auto tech faculty," said CCSN president Dr. Richard Moore. "Our industry partners provide CCSN expert guidance, new test vehicles, equipment and repair parts. The industry's auto service technicians are enrolling in our program as well."

Southern Nevada's New Car Dealers Association and Independent Auto Service Association helped the college revamp its program in less than

a year to train industry mechanics to national standards of excellence in Nevada rather than going out of state to Utah for training. Enrollment is up to 250, a jump of 150 percent from a year ago when 100 people took automotive classes.

"We are committed to sending technicians through CCSN's outstanding training program to better serve our customers' car repair needs and deliver the excellence signified by the coveted ASE designation," said Alan Fulks, president of the Automotive Joint Technical Skills Advisory Committee of Southern Nevada.

This governing body is comprised of area new car dealers and independent service and support centers, as well as CCSN and Clark County School District faculty.

Local student wins 'McDonald's/KCEP Black History Makers of Tomorrow' scholarship

Erica Johnson, a senior at Bishop Gorman High School, has been named the 1996 "McDonald's/KCEP Black History Maker of Tomorrow." As part of McDonald's Black History Month celebration, the program honors outstanding high school seniors who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, character and scholarship, along with the potential to be future Black History makers.

As the Las Vegas "McDonald's/KCEP Black History Makers of Tomorrow"

winner, Johnson will receive a \$650.00 scholarship.

"The McDonald's/KCEP Black History Makers of Tomorrow' program gives us the opportunity to recognize outstanding students in the Clark County area who are committed to making a positive contribution to their communities and to themselves," said Tom Arlt, president of the Greater Las Vegas McDonald's Owner/Operator Association.

"Ms. Johnson is dedicated to making a difference right now

and in the future by dedicating her time to Student Government, Black Student Union, Sun Youth Forum and Student Ambassador activities."

Titled "How I Plan To Make An Impact On Black History," the essays submitted focused on the contributions that area students would make.

Arlt said, "The topic required the students to examine themselves and explain how they could impact Black history, thus American history, in the future."

North Las Vegas Library hosts a Multicultural Family Festival

The North Las Vegas Library District will sponsor the February Multicultural Family Festival on Thursday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

The Multicultural Family Festival is held each month and celebrates the contributions of various ethnic groups to the cultural diversity of our community. This month, the North Las Vegas Library District will host a variety of African American businesses from our community to display artworks, crafts, clothing, and other items. The program was developed in an effort to honor Kwanzaa principles throughout the year; the fourth principle of Kwanzaa is Ujamaa — economic support and independence. A Caribbean jazz duo will perform during the program. A free coloring/activity book will be given to each child.

You are also invited to celebrate Black History Month at the North Las Vegas Library with Langston Hughes. We'll read excerpts of his *Sweet and Sour Animal Book* and create our own "clay" sculpture on Tuesday, February 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

In addition, the North Las Vegas Library District invites families of all ages to participate in its President's Day Celebration, Saturday, February 17; and Leap Year Program, Saturday, February 24. Both programs begin at 10:30 a.m.

Also ongoing, Preschool Storytime is held every Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m. A half hour of stories, finger plays, songs, and flannel board activities for 3, 4, and 5-year-olds.

For more information about the Multicultural Family Festival, call Susan Graf at 649-2363.

THE EDUCATION MINUTE

Parents can make a difference in helping children succeed at reading

By Mary Peterson, Nevada Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the State Board of Education

Sadly, many thousands of Americans are illiterate. Here are some things parents can do to help ensure their children succeed at reading.

Read to preschool children at least 20 minutes a day — or have older children read to you. Make reading a natural part of their daily routine.

Keep good books, magazines and newspapers in the house. Make it easy to find something to read.

Add to your children's enjoyment of reading by discussing each book they read. It also helps them learn to express themselves.

Make sure your children see you read for at least 20 minutes a day. Remember, you're their primary role model.

If you have difficulty reading, tell your children stories. Hearing about your family history and your own experiences will help them develop an appreciation for storytelling.

Limit your children's TV viewing to no more than two hours a day. Studies show that while a little television each day

is okay, excessive time is directly linked to poor school performance. If you have an idea to contribute to the Education Minute, please call 702-333-1392.

More black history activities listed for CCSD

Following is a listing of some additional activities that will be held in CCSD schools to celebrate Black History Month:

- An assembly featuring short plays, music, dance, poetry and folk tales from African American culture will be presented at Johnson Middle School on Friday, February 16, at 10:05 a.m., 12:40 p.m. and 1:40 p.m. in the school's theater, 7701 Ducharme Avenue. For more information, call Kay Singer or Helen Mingleton at 799-4480.

- Lincoln Elementary School, 3010 Berg Street in North Las Vegas, will host a black history program at 10 a.m. Friday, February 16, at the school. Activities include a play by fourth graders titled "A Look At Black History," a dance presentation and fashion show. The speaker will be Theron Goynes, a retired principal and member of the North Las Vegas City Council. For more information, call Edith Bennett at 799-7133.

- Two programs celebrating Black History Month are scheduled at Eldorado High School, 1139 N. Linn Lane. A career night featuring successful local African Americans as panel members will be presented at 6 p.m. Thursday, February 22, in the cafeteria. The school's annual talent show/unity night will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 28, in the theater. Both events are open to the public. For more information, call Pearl Morgan at 799-7200, Ext. 214.

- Activities are being held throughout the month at Thurman White Middle School, 1661 Galleria Drive in Henderson. Biographies of African Americans are being read during morning announcements, followed up by a trivia quiz on the information during lunch. Related displays include a bulletin board emphasizing black history and African American culture, and artifacts and jewelry in the library. A multicultural feast caps the month's activities. For more information, call Anita Williams at 799-0777, Ext. 212.

- The Cheyenne High School Theatre Department is celebrating with a production of "Raisin in the Sun," one of Broadway's longest running plays, at 7 p.m. February 15-17 in the school theater, 3200 W. Alexander in North Las Vegas. Tickets cost \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. For more information, call Jo Yanda at 799-4830, Ext. 208.

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Wine, Spirits, and Jazz Fundraiser

Introducing

Dr. Haki Madhubuti Million Man March Speaker

Noted Author, Lecturer on
Society & Culture

Saturday, Feb. 24 • 6-10 pm

Community College of Southern
Nevada Cheyenne Campus
Student Lounge

3200 East Cheyenne Avenue
\$15 per person • \$25 per couple

Sponsored by Southern Wine & Spirits of Nevada
Purchase tickets at all CCSN Bursars' Offices
Nicholas Horn Theatre Box Office, 651-LIVE
African Heritage and Larry's Sight & Sound



Dr. Haki Madhubuti

The 23rd Annual Black History Program

The Role of the African-American
Male in the 1990's:

What It Means To Be Male vs Man

Featuring Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Haki Madhubuti

CCSN Nicholas J. Horn Auditorium

Sunday, February 25 • 6 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION