



KWANZAA!!

Las Vegans celebrate the African-American holiday



Dr. Al Gourrier helped lead a Dec. 26 Kwanzaa celebration at the West Las Vegas Cultural Arts Center that included participation from several local young people, residents, musicians and vendors. Photos by John Broussard

Kwanzaa celebrants at the West Las Vegas Cultural Arts Center included, clockwise from top left, drummer Akis, Ida Bowser, an unidentified musician, Omeche's Imports' Kawiim Kawer and Dorothy Ometse Okunor and guitarist Arthur Starling. The crowd enjoyed the music, food and atmosphere of sharing and reaffirmation of black culture.

Las Vegas celebrated the seven-day holiday with a variety of events held at the Doolittle Center, West Las Vegas Cultural Arts Center and the Reed Whipple Cultural Arts Center. The events stressed pride in African-American history through a sharing of history, song, dance, poetry and storytelling.

Many even vowed to live true to the last four lines of the African Pledge:

We will have discipline, patience, devotion and courage

We will live as models to provide new direction for our people.

We will be free and self-determining. We are African people we will win.

