

## ENTERTAINMENT

**Mandela, the movie opens nationally***Special to Sentinel-Voice*

Mandela, the Academy Award-nominated documentary film of South Africa's first democratically elected president, premieres this week in New York and Los Angeles.

The Island Pictures film, directed by Jo Menell and Angus Gibson, traces the life of Mandela from his childhood in the Xhosa tribe to his political awakening and imprisonment and ultimately his inauguration as president of South Africa.

Mandela, the charismatic leader who has become a hero to millions around the world, narrates the documentary along with commentary from family and political allies.

The premieres will benefit three groups. The Ex-Political Prisoners' Fund was founded by Mandela aids political prisoners who now cannot sufficiently provide for themselves or their families. Shared Interest, a non-profit social investment fund, enhances the self-sufficiency of South African communities previously denied access to credit because of their race, gender or income and Artists for a New South Africa, a non-profit organization of arts and entertainment professionals committed to a democratic South Africa.

ANSA focuses on assisting South Africans in redressing some of the country's severe social problems. Mandela opens nationally March 21.



NELSON MANDELA

**Marvelettes to perform March 29 at Rio***Special to Sentinel-Voice*

Gladys Horton's original Marvelettes, who gave Motown Records its first number one pop chart hit, will perform at the "The Evening of Stars" March 29 at the Rio Suites Grand Madeira Ballroom. Horton, who has won a Rhythm and Blues Foundation Pioneer Award led the group who pioneered the Motown sound with "Please Mr. Postman."

The Palmore Brothers will open The Evening of Stars.

A silent auction and dinner will precede the concert.

The formal Motown-theme event will benefit The Las Vegas chapter of the Links Inc. which is celebrating its 50th nationwide anniversary and its 25 local anniversary.

The Links, Inc. is an international civic organization dedicated to implementing diverse cultural and art programs, providing scholarships and taking stands on national and international issues which impact African-American communities.

The chapter sponsors local visual and performing arts events, walk-a-thons, mentoring programs, health forums and provides \$500 annually to an elementary school for African-American history books. Links, Inc. also sponsors a student at the Alpha Boys School in Kingston, Jamaica and supports the Rwanda/Liberia "School-in-a-Box Program."

Links, Inc. is currently collecting African-American dolls for girls in South Africa. The dolls were banned during apartheid.

**POSITIVELY BLACK****Encourage your children to love themselves**

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

Over the last few years, I have experienced the pleasure of dealing directly with some of our young people by going

into the elementary and middle schools speaking with them on various topics. Contrary to the predominant media portrayals, all our children are not

ignoramuses, sociopaths or degenerates. I've found most of them to be bright, articulate and energetic.

They are, however, under immense pressure. Many of them are racked with fear for their personal safety and they are anxious about their futures. A significant number of them have actually contemplated suicide! Imagine 11, 12 or 13-year-olds viewing life as so awful they've actually considered ending it all?!!

Recently I went to one school to speak to several classes about self-esteem. In one class I asked them to be candid and truthful with me. I asked the children to close their eyes so they couldn't see anyone else and not to peek. Then I told them to raise their hands if they really liked themselves, or thought well of themselves. Only about half the class raised their hands. In the next class it was about 70 percent and in the third about 80 percent.

Herein lies the root cause of much of our communities woes, low self-esteem. The fact is no one is born not liking oneself or with a negative self-image. The one thing I attempted to impress upon the young people was that self-esteem is a personal

assessment. It is what you think about yourself, it is how you feel about yourself! Self-esteem is an internal process.

I asked the youngsters what factors they thought contributed to low self-esteem and a poor self-image. They responded: Parents, teachers, peers making fun of them, talking down to them or not liking them. They also indicated not having the things others considered fashionable or stylish as another reason.

I explained to them that many adults don't like themselves and we discussed possible behavioral consequences of low self-esteem and lack of self-confidence. They knew the answers, stating them in their own terms and they made sense. Essentially they said people with low self-esteem engage in self-destructive behavior, make the wrong choices of friends and acquaintances, bow to negative peer pressure and don't develop their full potential.

Our children are very bright. They know the deal on a conscious level. Our challenge is to encourage them to like and love themselves despite the overwhelming negative influences in their lives. I

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**The Great Fashion Mix**

The 39th Ebony Fashion Fair will be arriving at the Flamingo Hilton in Las Vegas on Easter Sunday, March 30. For ticket information call 648-7918.

Photo special to Sentinel-Voice

## FREE LAW ENFORCEMENT SEMINAR



The Black Police Officers Association will be having a Law enforcement seminar at the West Las Vegas Library on Thursday, March 20, 1997 5:30-7:30 p.m. Our goal is to provide applicants with information concerning all areas of the testing process. In addition, sign individuals up for physical fitness training at UNLV every Sunday at 1:00 p.m. with assistance of one of the track coaches.

This final seminar before the written exam, which is on March 26th will help target and track minorities, increase the numbers at the written exam, and hopefully provide us with a more diverse September 1997 academy.

For more information call:  
Officer Juanita M. Goode, Recruiter at (702) 229-3497.