



RHYTHMS


 THE DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS PRESENTS
PASSINGNOTES
 CONCERT SERIES



CELEBRATING THE SEASON WITH
BYRONCAGE
 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2009 • 8:00 PM
 DUKE ELLINGTON THEATRE
 FEATURING THE DUKE ELLINGTON SHOW CHOIR

Recently Released Album: Faithful to Believe! • Stellar Award Winner "Song of the Year" • Grammy® Nominee

TICKETS: \$25/\$50/\$75
 VISIT THE ELLINGTON THEATRE BOX OFFICE: WWW.ELLINGTONSCHOOL.ORG

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 10
Student Recital

November 19-29
[Trojan Women](#)

December 3
Wind Ensemble

December 3-4
"Why Now?"
10 minute Play Series Dinner Theater

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Sign up Now on eScrip.com



Here is an easy way to support Ellington without taking any more money out of your pocket.

eScrip.com is an online account that allows you to give back to Ellington every time you shop at one of its member stores. Here are examples of how eScrip works -

- First you sign up for an escrip account, designate Duke Ellington and register your credit card.
- Next, you buy your groceries at Safeway, as just one example, and use your registered VISA or Safeway card (either needs to be registered on the eScrip website). After you complete your transaction, Safeway will earmark a percentage of your purchase to Ellington. Note: we are in the process of registering with Giant's program and will let you know when that is finalized.
- Another way to shop is online on the eScrip website. Select a store on eScrip.com after you have registered your VISA card. Again, a portion of every online purchase you make on eScrip's website will go back to Ellington AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU!

You only need to register your VISA(and/or) Safeway card once a year on eScrip. It is as simple as this:

1. Logon to www.eScrip.com.
2. Highlight "group name" and enter "Duke Ellington School of the Arts".
3. Under "Supporter Registration", enter your name and other details about yourself.

*****December 5*****

[Byron Cage](#)

For a more detailed and up-to-date calendar of events,
please visit www.ellingtonschool.org
or call the Box Office at 202.337.4825

The full performance schedule for the Fall is available
[here](#).

TO MAKE A DONATION....

[**CLICK HERE**](#)

Again, the merchant stores will send a percentage of the purchase to Ellington, and it will be noted in your online account (Note: it takes 60 days for them to post online, so be patient!). Some schools receive over \$5,000/month through people who register on eScrip.

Don't delay! Sign up today and give back to Ellington!

CFC CAMPAIGN



The Duke Ellington School of the Arts (DESA) is one of the charities listed and promoted by American Charities of

the Greater Washington DC network, as part of the 2009 CFC Campaign. **Our CFC number is 38270.** If you, your spouse, relative or friend works for federal agencies that partner with the CFC, have them log into the American Charities website at <https://www.charities.org/memberdir/>, and look up "Duke Ellington School of the Arts" to see how they can donate.

ELLINGTON ANNOUNCES NEW DEAN OF ARTS

Many of you know her as one of our dedicated theater teachers, or even as a parent of an Ellington student, and now Tia Powell Harris is our new Dean of Arts. Having gone several years without a Dean of Arts, and at times without a Dean of Academics, our head of school has filled all three roles. Now with both a Dean of Academics and a Dean of Arts in place we are looking towards a highly productive and creative year!

Tia has over twenty years of experience in the arts. She is currently an adjunct faculty member at American University's Arts Management division and previously served as Manager of Community Partnerships at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. She also held the position of Associate Director of Education Programs at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. She earned a BS in Speech and Drama Education and an MA in Communication Arts and Theatre from the University of Maryland. Tia competed successfully against more than ten highly qualified candidates and won the job hands down! We're glad to have her and wish her much success as the new Dean of Arts!



"The case for giving the arts a larger role in education is well substantiated and documented bringing promise of new and exciting avenues of learning. The Arts allow arbitrary borders to be extended and perceived limitations to be erased...sound like a revolutionary concept? It should.

It is my hope that our work will continue to change lives in even deeper and significant ways; that the best of our practices will reach and be emulated by a greater audience, and that the products of our practices, our graduates, will journey even farther as influential culture and change bearers. I feel privileged to lend my artistic leadership and revolutionary zeal to this effort."

TEACHER LAYOFFS

The education news has been rife with the talk of budget cuts, layoffs, and protests, and Ellington along with other schools in the city was faced with losing teachers. Students protested (see articles below) and parents wrote angry letters to the Chancellor, but Mr. Pullens was not to be undone by the disruptive budget cutting. Instead, he asked Ellington teachers to consider taking a one-day furlough each month in order to save the jobs of their colleagues. The teachers and staff at all levels, were overwhelmingly supportive of the suggestion and were joined by Ellington Fund staff. While classrooms are filled to the brim and supplies are running short, teachers, nevertheless are determined to continue to provide the high quality education Ellington is known for!

[NBC Article](#)

[FOX Article](#)

ERNST & YOUNG AT ELLINGTON

Once again Ernst & Young has shown its great support for Ellington. On September 25th Ernst & Young purchased the paint and recruited more than 40 employees to come to Ellington and do some painting and cleaning work throughout the school. This is billable time for which we are grateful! Our gratitude goes to our Ellington Fund board member, Alison Hooker, at Ernst & Young, for organizing this very productive and important day.



BUSINESS OF MUSIC

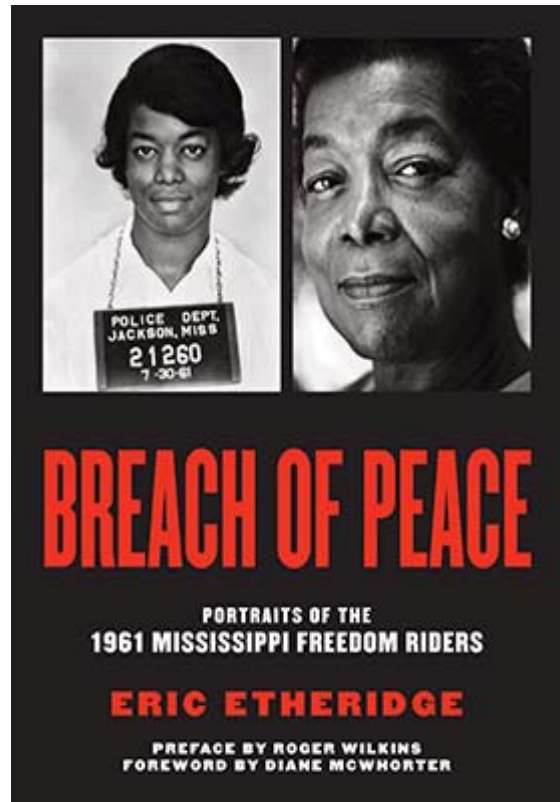
This school year is off to good start. We have a new Dean of Arts and multiple new initiatives to enhance the academic and artistic learning experience of our students. One of these initiatives is the Business of Music class which includes a speaker's series where various professionals in arts and business speak to students about the industry. In September, the highly regarded R& B singer, Ledisi, and her manager, along with a senior representative from the U.S. Copyright Office spoke to the students about how to protect one's work.

New Yorker, Lisa Cortes, who is the well known Executive Producer of the upcoming movie *Precious*, traveled from New York to speak to the students about the production business and how to get into it. We expect Gamble and Huff, the recording pros, and others like them to pay visits to the school as part of this series. For more information, please contact Haqq Islam, Adjunct Professor, at haqq.islam@march3rdrecords.com.

BREACH OF PEACE

At the beginning of October, the Ellington Fund began a new initiative, the Ellington Fund Speakers Series, which is intended to present to the Ellington community speakers on cultural and/or historical topics. The first speaker was Mr. Eric Etheridge, the author of "Breach of Peace - Portraits of the 1961 Mississippi Freedom Riders". On Thursday evening, Mr. Etheridge (along with two of the Freedom Riders) made a presentation to a gathering of Ellington Fund supporters and signed copies of his book, On October 1st. The following Friday, October 2nd, Mr. Etheridge and the Freedom Riders spoke to the Ellington student body and faculty. The presentations were very well received and the students were clearly captivated by the stories of these civil rights heroes. The book was sold out at the event and as it is a beautiful presentation of the Freedom Riders and makes a wonderful and thoughtful gift, we urge you to go out and buy it.

More information about the book can be found at <http://breachofpeace.com/blog/>.



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