

College Choir Invited To Leningrad Philharmonic

By Karen M. Tagg

The College Choir, along with the Choral Society of Montgomery County have been invited to perform at Leningrad's Philharmonic Hall, on June 14.

The two choir groups' presentation of *Messiah* on campus last Christmas proved to be a vital link in procuring the esteemed invitation, said Judith Willoughby-Miller, Artistic Director of the Choral Society of Montgomery County and Director of the College Choir.

Miller said she was so inspired by the groups'

demonstration of *Messiah* that she made tapes of the Christmas show and forwarded them to her music choral colleagues from across the country as Christmas gifts.

One particular college from New York was so delighted with the tape that she immediately called Miller demanding to know why the groups were not touring. Flattered, Miller said she started considering the possibility of taking the choir on the road.

But, before she had a chance to think much further she received a call from the Artistic Director from ConcertWorld,

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Black History Is Focus of Month Long Celebration

By Carmela D. Thomas

African-American art, oratory, music, dance, and a "Wall of Heroes" will highlight Black History Month on campus. On Sunday, February 3 MCCC's "Artists Invitational" exhibit was launched with an opening show and a reception. The exhibit will continue through Friday, March 1 and will feature African-American artists from Montgomery and surrounding counties who have been invited to display their works.



Sculpture by Myrtle Williams.

(Photo by Susan Tillman)

Those artists are: James Adkins, Fred Bacon, Reba Dickerson Hill, James Rose, Howard Watson, and Myrtle Williams.

The exhibition is being held in the Multiple Choice Gallery in MCCC's Learning Resources Center, i.e. the library. A reception followed the exhibit opening and admission is free. For information on the hours of the Multiple Choice Gallery, call the learning resource center.

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The War Forum brought professors and students together to discuss the economics and social aspects of the Gulf Conflict. Professor David Rosso outlined the background of American/Iraqi relations. (Photo by Susan Tillman)

Standing Room Only Crowd Fills Auditorium for Gulf War Forum

By Carla Boccella

"Western civilization began in the Middle East 4,000 years ago. In fact, the Garden of Eden is said to have been located in what is Iraq today, and the apple of discord still exists..." said History Professor Dr. Thomas Kolsky during the "U.S. At War" forum held on January 30 in the Science Center Auditorium.

Over 300 students and members of the faculty and administration filled the auditorium to take part in the "standing room only" program which gave those present an opportunity to ask questions and express their concerns regarding the Persian Gulf Conflict.

The audience shared a moment of silence for "those witnessing the battle first hand" when John Gallagher, professor

of communicating arts and the moderator of the event, began the session.

During his opening statement, Kolsky described the First World War as being "the midwife of the modern Middle East."

He said that it brought an end to the Ottoman Empire and laid the foundation for the direct influence of Western Imperialism by Britain and France, which led to internal reactions in the area.

Kolsky continued to explain that post World War I was a struggle for Arab independence and a movement of Arab nationalism. Iraq gained its independence from Britain in 1932.

"After World War II," Kolsky concluded, "the U.S. inherited the Middle Eastern situation when Britain could no longer control the area."

Other panelists, including Associate Professor of Economics Kevin Baird, Lieutenant Commander Mark

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The Deans' Corner

Dr. C. Ernest Cronan, dean of academic affairs, and Dr. David Stewart, dean of student affairs, welcome everyone back for the new semester.

The deans look forward to meeting with students at the Deans' Forum scheduled for Wednesday, February 20.

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