

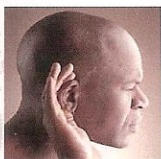
A Sign Of The Times of the Carolinas - 2017 Programs

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Jan - Dec 2017 Black History Is Invisible To Most; Yet Invaluable To All:

A Sign of the Times collaborates with educational institutions and local community groups to implement a structured and entertaining approach to learning "pre-slavery" Black history for Youth grades K-12 as well as Adults.



Jan - Dec 2017 LISTEN!: A Sign of the Times partners with community groups and leaders to create opportunities for diverse and divergent people and groups to engage in conversations that are designed to encourage people to listen to each other...while seeking to understand without a requirement for "agreement". Music and spoken word are used as the thread to connect people and entice conversation.



August 2017 A Sign Of The Times offer competitive music and dance scholarships for high school and first-year college students:

- Two \$500 music scholarships to a deserving high school & college freshman student
- \$500 multi-discipline scholarship to a deserving high school or college student
- \$500 dance scholarship to a deserving college freshman student

Website: <http://ASignOfTheTimes.org> eMail: Info@ASignOfTheTimes.org Tel: 704.399.0243

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Jan-15-17 9th Annual Bridging Musical Worlds: A Sign Of The Times, the Charlotte Symphony String Quartet and UNC-Charlotte perform music dedicated to the life & work of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church on Beatties Ford Road in Charlotte. **Admission - \$5**



Jan-18 to Mar-1-17 Diggin' History Through Music and Dance: A 7- week program that meets on consecutive Wednesday evenings January 18th through March 1st 2017 and shares African and African-American history through the spoken word, music, and dance. **Admission - FREE**



Sat Mar-11-17 "A Tree Without Roots": 17th Annual Black History Production @ CPCC's Pease Auditorium entitled "**A Tree Without Roots**" featuring 'A Sign Of The Times' + **Special Guest Artists The African American Dance Ensemble founded by Dr. Chuck Davis.** **Admission - Adults \$25, Seniors \$20(60+) & Youth \$15(17-). Free Dance Master Class on Friday March 10th. African Marketplace on sight!**



Apr - Oct 2017 Straight-Ahead Jazz Workshops & Concerts every 4th Sunday: at the Little Rock A.M.E. Zion Community Development Center located in Uptown Charlotte. The goal is to share the history of jazz and maintain the tradition by performing Live Jazz. **Admission - \$5**



Nov-23-17 9th Annual "Giving Thanks" Jazz Vespers Concert: A Jazz Vespers Concert in November (*the Sunday before Thanksgiving*) – with gospel, sacred and jazz inspired music – is our way of giving thanks to our Creator for the spiritual strength, rich tradition and cultural heritage of our community. **Admission - FREE**



Dec-26 to Jan-1-18 Kwanzaa 2017: 'A Sign Of The Times' collaborates with local community organizations to observe the seven principles of Kwanzaa - the Nguzo Saba (in-GOO-zoh-SAH-bah).

Programs funded in part by the Arts & Science Council and from Donations from People like YOU!!!



A Sign of the Times of the Carolinas' "Listen!" Program

- Issue:** The Listen program was designed on the premise that all people have a need to be heard and, hopefully, understood. Today, however, we seem to deal in absolutes...that require only winners or losers, right or wrong, sinners or saints, young or old, black or white...democrat or republican! We only want to hear voices within our siloes that agree with and sound like our own...so we are caught, all of us, in a proverbial "stand off" that prevents our ability to live together, peacefully enjoying and embracing the beauty of our differences.
- The Idea:** A Sign of the Times of the Carolinas collaborates with other community groups and leaders to create opportunities for diverse and divergent people and groups to engage in facilitated conversations designed to encourage people to listen to each other...while seeking to understand without a requirement for "agreement". Music and the spoken word are often used as the thread to connect people, soften hearts and entice conversation.
- Product:** "Listening" events occur in comfortable places throughout the City of Charlotte or its region.... in any corner of the community...coffee houses, community gathering places, faith based settings, libraries, schools, restaurants.... When appropriate, music supports the topic of conversation and sets the tone for the event. In some instances, the "listening" might occur as people dance or play music together...in most instances, there is an agreed upon topic of conversation for discussion that is facilitated by a trained facilitator and enhanced with live music.
- Goal:** To have individuals leave conversations saying or thinking: "I never thought of it that way"; "I never knew...."; "I understand..."; "I want to learn more...", How can we make this situation better?
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