

Expressions from page C1

"We offer a \$3,000 scholarship to any freshman who wants to audition, is talented in voice, piano, saxophone or another instrument, and has a 3.0 grade average," said Swan. "I like to think of us as the school that can help those than can't afford the big schools."

Smaller doesn't mean inferior in the case of the music department at William Tyndale College. By singing in concert like the one today in Canton, Swan helps her students learn about all aspects of a professional career.

Jerry Smith brings plenty of music education experience to his position. His background

includes 27 years as choir director at Bentley High School in Livonia, 27 years as director of music ministry at Ward Presbyterian, and 12 years teaching music at William Tyndale College. He was recently named director of music and worship at First Presbyterian in Plymouth.

Most important, Smith is the college's biggest cheerleader. Smith is used to starting from scratch. In 1986, he founded the Creative and Performing Arts Program based at Churchill High School in Livonia.

"When I first came to William Tyndale 12 years ago, the department was stable and occupied an entire wing. Then the

full-time faculty was dismissed and nearly phased out. It was brought back with minimal funding about seven years ago," said Smith.

"You need a music department especially in a Christian college. We receive calls every day for people to play for churches. The churches are begging for organists and pianists. Now we need to build the department up by seeking out more students."

In order to make that happen, Smith has taken lessons from an unlikely source.

"Sports can't survive at any level without recruiting. I watch to see how they recruit. You get a star like U of M did with

Charles Woodson and the enrollment grows. We need to find the numbers and the stars to build the program."

Vardi Opera Theatre

Tickets for today's Vardi Opera Theatre of Michigan concert at Summit on Park, 4600 Summit Parkway, (west of Canton Center), Canton are \$16. A lecture by John Zaretti on the music, life and times of Giuseppe Verdi begins at 3:15 p.m. Call (734) 394-5193.

Have an interesting idea for a story? Call arts reporter Linda Ann Chomin at (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to lchomin@oe.com.

Brown from page C1

was planted in Brown during a visit to a Jacob Lawrence exhibit in 1996.

"I spent hours at the museum looking at the migration series—the images of the people coming to the city with their rural background encountering the new culture and their need to be outside," said Brown. "This stoop culture develops."

The Black experience runs like a siltken thread through all of Brown's pieces including "Upside Down" from "Destiny," a 1998 piece he co-choreographed with Rokiya Kone from the Ivory Coast.

Brown's exposure to a variety of styles over the years helped develop his own voice. From his participation in the Police Athletic League's summer dance programs and performing in the ballet "Swan Lake" in high school to working as a member of the Mary Anthony Dance Company for two years, Brown took what he needed and invented the rest. "It's contemporary African dance, a fusion of different techniques," said Brown. "We use a lot of energy. I'm interested in using dance as a mode of expression. I try to share stories. I have this belief that dance is a narrative or con-

temporary ritual that the dancers go through and a journey the audience can witness."

Peter Sparling finds the "world" aspect of Brown's choreography particularly exciting. He's seen the young troupe perform and admires Brown's style. Sparling performed with the Martha Graham Dance Company for many years before becoming an accomplished choreographer in his own right. His company, Peter Sparling Dance, recently performed a concert presented by Canton Project Arts.

A professor of dance at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Sparling is especially looking forward to the master class Brown will give at his Dance Gallery Studio in Ann Arbor. It is one of three classes in which Brown will help dancers to increase their physical range and work on phrasing as a way of expression to free up the spirit. The classes are open to the public for observation and participation.

"They're quite an extraordinary group of dancers," said Sparling. "It's a fusion of styles and colorful. It's exciting for the UMS series because it brings in world dance."

Artists from page C1

Chilkiewicz's electric pink sky is every bit as vibrant as Esther Franz's strawberry and blue sky on exhibit at city hall. Kelsey Shore, and many of the students were way off, however, when creating their version of "Dancing Wolf." Naturally, Shore's wolves dance across the landscape.

"I thought it was a wolf dancing, too," said Kara Cetnar. She and Gina Pearson seemed especially fascinated with Eid's colored pencil drawing of a cat taking a sun bath and Ruth Shaw's "Seen Through a Mouse Hole."

"It's very interesting," said Pearson. I like it because I like cats."

While Thomas Cullen was taken with Fred Baker's "Red Tailed Hawk" and "Head of a Hawk" because of an interest in animals and birds, he was here to learn. Cullen shares a love of drawing with the artists whose works are on exhibit. Cullen took his first class at Art Store & More in Livonia six months ago.

"I found out there's computer art," said Cullen.

Renee Boudreau likes art as well and also takes classes at Art Store & More. But not all children have the same opportunity.

"I think it's good for the kids to have that exposure to the culture

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out there," said Kathy Boudreau, Renee's mother. "Maybe some kids will find they like art."

Mom Linda Macinkiewicz couldn't agree more.

"It's very important that they be exposed to art and see all the different things you can do, that you can do things other than crayon."

That is exactly the conclusion Lauren Myers came to about art. "I learned that they don't use all crayon and marker but pastel," said Myers, "and sometimes they do pencil sketches."

"It's wonderful to see young people interested in the arts," said Lorelei Christy one of the artists leading the tour. "If they're not exposed to these things they just won't know."

And Eid isn't about to let that happen.

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