

The Birmingham Bloomfield  
Art Center Presents...

## What the Fourth of July means to me...

Draw on an 8 1/2" x 14" sheet of paper what the  
4th of July means to you (ages 4-10 years).

Please send it to:  
BBAC 4th of July Contest  
1516 South Cranbrook Road,  
Birmingham, Michigan 48009

The winner will be announced on the evening of Tuesday,  
July 3, 2001 at 8:30pm at our annual  
"SKY EXHIBITION EVENT"

at the Art Center. The winner will receive a Radio Flyer red  
wagon filled with art supplies donated by Miller's Artist Supply!  
Must be present to win. Please remember to include your  
name, address, phone and age  
on the back of your drawing.  
ENTRIES DUE BY MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2001.

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO THE SKY FESTIVAL EVENT BY CALLING  
(248)644-0866 X108

An exceptional, all-inclusive family event including food, entertainment,  
fireworks, art workshops and demonstrations for  
adults and children from 7-11pm on July 3.

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NEWSPAPERS

BIRMINGHAM-BLOOMFIELD  
**Art Center**

## Thomas from page B1

There are no large families anymore, he explains. People have two children - Brittany and Jason - and a dog with a person's name. "Like my dog George," I answer back. "You got it," he says.

Thomas is familiar to Trinity House Theatre fans, he performed there last year.

That show, he says was more stand-up comedy, this one is storytelling.

### Offbeat

"I love Trinity House Theatre," he says. "I like the location and the fact that the people who run it want to do something different, a little offbeat. They've been very encouraging."

Then he asks me about Hamtramck, and for the name of a good restaurant and coffeehouse. Bill's an offbeat kind of guy.

He tells me that I should always seek offbeat things in my

## Concert follows one-man show

Singer-songwriter Christopher Williams will perform a special concert at Trinity House Theatre on 9:45 p.m. Friday, June 8. Williams third CD "The Silence In Between," features an all-star cast of musicians including Willy Porter, Ellis Paul, David Hidalgo (Los Lobos), bassist Michael Manning, and drummer Jerry Marotta. He has performed on stage with Peter Himmelman, David Wilcox, Patty Larkin, Chris Smither, Dougie MacLean and many others.

The concert will immediately follow a performance from comedian Bill Thomas. Those who attend Thomas' performance can stay for the concert at no charge.

Tickets for the Christopher Williams concert are \$5 and can be reserved by calling (734) 464-6302.

Trinity House Theatre is at 38840 West Six Mile Road, between Haggerty and I-275, in Livonia.

life; that it will make me rich.

He's toured with Jay Leno, Kenny G and others, and makes a living making people laugh - even in corporate settings.

It's all perspective, how you

look at, and react to things. We ask a lot of the same questions, but when Bill Thomas answers, people smile.

Visit his Web site [www.comedianbillthomas.com](http://www.comedianbillthomas.com)

## Backstage Pass celebrates music

### BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN  
DELSI

Over the past several weeks, I've been asking readers of this column and viewers of Detroit Public TV's *Backstage Pass* to vote for their favorite music acts presented over the first five seasons of the series.

By tallying a surprising number of e-mail messages, phone calls and even a few old-fashioned and fondly-received letters, we're ready to announce the winning performances to be reprised in an all-music edition airing 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 7.

It came as no surprise that Detroit legend Marcus Belgrave was a favorite in the jazz category. He's made five appearances on the show, each time performing with different artists. For the viewers' choice program, he'll be joined by the Jeff Haas Trio and Israeli violinist Miri Ben-Ari.

A bit unexpected was the pick

in the pop/rock genre, with Edwin McCain's performance of his huge hit, *TV Be*, selected. Voters reached back a couple of years to pluck this goodie. Also making the list of favorite musical moments were gospel's Angie Smith and Don Mynburry and a tremendous recent performance by jazzman Joshua Redman.

Ready for the top vote getter?

The *Backstage Pass* crew was pleased with the choice because it is an outrageous one. The Original Parliament delivered pure funk along with much spectacle, and it was rewarding to discover that the excitement we were experiencing in the Channel 56 studio had been effectively transmitted to the small screen.

Getting a music performance to sound and look its best on television is an art in itself. Deftly handling the sound on *Backstage Pass* is music producer Ron Pangborn. Meeting the challenge of capturing the mood of the performance, whether sultry jazz or frenzied funk, is the specialty of director Tim Daniell.

With a group like Parliament,

I encourage our camera operators to have a little fun, because that's what I intend to do. Shoot from a weird angle. Zoom in on the wild hat or the flying feet. Because flash is an essential part of the act, when we try something new, it seems to work," says Daniell, who just captured his third Emmy from the Michigan Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for multi-camera studio direction on *Backstage Pass*.

Part of Tim's expertise is the ability to practice restraint.

"When you have someone like the immensely talented Joshua Redman wowing everyone during rehearsal, you realize that every decision you're going to make in the control room must complement the performance. I'm in constant communication with audio technicians and camera crews to make sure our production enhances the music and doesn't distract."

You can get an earful of outstanding music by directing yourself to the video vault on [www.backstagepass.org](http://www.backstagepass.org).



June 16 & 17

Saturday 10am - 6pm

Sunday 10am - 5pm

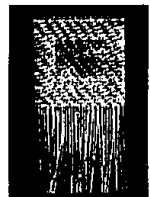
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A JURIED OUTDOOR FESTIVAL FEATURING NEARLY 200 OF THE NATION'S TOP ARTISTS  
ADMISSION: \$1 DONATION TO CHARITY



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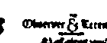
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