'I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings'

Diahann Carroll portrays a part-time mother

More than 750,000 elementary and secondary school students throughout the country will be participating in the television script - reading of "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," a new motion picture - for - television based on Maya Angelou's autobiography of the same title.

A compelling drama about a bright, sensitive girl growing up in the South during the Depression years, "I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings" will be broadcast on "The CBS Saturday Night Movies," Saturday, April 28.

The students are participating in the final television offering of the 1978 Spring Semester of the CBS Television Reading Program, a nationwide script - reading project designed to use children's enthusiasm for television to motivate them to read.

In the next few weeks, the participating students will be receiving matched - to - broadcast scripts of "I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings," a story that has been hailed as a work that "quietly and gracefully portrays and pays tribute to the courage, dignity and endurance of a small, rural Southern black community . . . of the 1920s."

The students will be reading scripts in the classroom, and referring to them while watching the broadcast at home with their families. Their teachers are also receiving comprehensive Guides, which will be used to generate classroom - discussions and to involve the students in a wide variety of additional reading, writing and creative projects.

Constance Good and John M. Driver II are the children of divorced parents sent to live with their grandmother.

Jesse Walker in N.Y.

Amid growing reports that Alex Haley may be facing "personal tragedy" if his Pulitzer Prize is rescinded (it's reportedly under consideration), more stories are appearing re his settlement out - of - court settlement with Harold Courlander, author of "The African," and admitting that various materials from that book found their way into "Roots." All could have been simplified if Haley had simply given credit for some of his sources.

Harlem's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture has been formally placed in the National Register of Historic Places. This means the 74 - year - old branch library at 103 West 135th Street is eligible for Federal preservation funds. The new $3.8 million five - story Schomburg center, about three times as large as the present one, will be opened in August, and spans the entire block from 135th Street to 136th Street on Lenox Avenue.

Handsome Johnny Mathis is going to make a pig of himself. By that is meant he has been chosen to dub the singing voice of Miss Piggy, making her screen debut in "The Muppet Movie," which opens in June.

The audience development group, AUDELCO is seeking any memorabilia on Black Theatre — playbills, scripts, photos, posters — for its archives collection. They've already received gifts from playwrights Micki Grant and Owen Dodson and Jim Macbeth of the New Lafayette Theatre. "Don't throw anything away. Give it to us," implores AUDELCO proxy Vivian Robinson. Group has just received a grant from the N.Y. State Council on the Arts. Send gifts to P.O. Box 30, Manhattanville Station, NYC 10027.

The 21st Annual Convention of the National Conference of Artists will be held in Detroit's Radisson Cadillac Hotel, April 18 - 21. It attracts artists and creative people from all over the country and the Caribbean. This year's theme: "Continuity: Our Heritage Great, Our Destiny Even Greater."

A "Roots Literary and Artistic Contest" is being held this spring for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors in Newark, New Jersey's public and parochial schools. Contestants are asked to submit written compositions or works of art based on their family roots.

In Washington, D.C., the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum is putting on a sight - and - sound demonstration "Out of Africa", that tried to show youngsters especially, what it means to have roots in Africa and to share its history. Exhibit continues throughout this year.

Choreographer Alvin Ailey has been named winner of the 1979 Capezio Dance Award, a $1,000 prize established in 1952 by the Capezio Foundation in recognition of significant contributions to the world of dance. Singer Roberta Flack, a board member of Ailey's American Dance Theatre, will present the award April 23 at the Library of the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center. Ailey's company opens a three - week spring session, May 2 - 20 at City Center and will give three premieres.

TV Watching

By Vanessa Johnson

Friday

Dinah: Guests today are Carol Burnett, Eddie Blake, writer - producer Fay Kanin and others. 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. - Channel 9.

Rhythm and blues artists honored by Record World in 1978 perform in a program taped Feb. 15, in Los Angeles. Patti Labelle, Lawrence - Hilton Jacobs and Ja'net DeBois are the hosts, joined by Ashford & Simpson, Chic, Linda Clifford, the Commodores, Earth, Wind & Fire, the Emotions, the Floaters, Millie Jackson, Chaka Khan, Rose Royce, Stargard, Barry White, Betty Wright. Offering introductions are Marvin Gaye, Eddie Kendricks, Van McCoy, and Johnny Guitar Watson. 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. - Channel 5.

Diff'rent Strokes: Drummond's attempt to teach the kids about the justice system traps him into giving Arnold a fair trial for his latest misdeeds. Starring Todd Bridges & Gary Coleman. 8:00 - 8:30 p.m. - Channel 11.

Soap Factory Disco: Tonight Amili Stewart and Machine are featured. Music "Knock on Wood". 11:00 - 11:30 p.m. - Channel 45.

Midnight Special: Hosts Brooklyn Dreams is joined by Donna Summer, Edwin Starr, Eddie Money, the Destroyers and Voyage. 1:00 - 2:30 a.m. - Channel 11.

Saturday

Fat Albert: The gang falls for Edward's tall tales then discovers he can't prove them. 12:30 - 1:00 p.m. - Channel 2.

Soul Train: Guests are Amili Stewart, "Knock on Wood" and "Light My Fire" and Benny M. does "Dancing in the Streets". 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. - Channel 5.

Olympiathon '79: This telethon to benefit the 1980 U.S. Olympic team originates from Las Vegas and runs for six and a half hours. There are film highlights of past American Olympicans and scheduled appearances by sports and show business celebrities, Sammy Davis Jr., Ben Vereen, Wilma Rudolph, Ken Norton, O. J. Simpson, Gary Coleman, Lola Falana, and many others. 8:00 - 2:30 a.m. - Channel 11.

What's Happening: A fast talking swindler tries to capitalize on te sudden popularity of Shirley's cookie recipe. 8:00 - 8:30 p.m. - Channel 13.

CBS Movie: Sidney Poitier and Bill Cosby breeze through the under - world searching for a stolen wallet in "Uptown Saturday Night". Poitier also directed this 1974 farce. Also starring Harry Belafonte, Flip Wilson, Richard Pryor and others. 9:00 - 11:00 p.m. - Channel 2.

Love Boat: Julie falls for a bungling widower who is traveling with his bratty daughters. Starring Ted Lange. 9:00 - 10:00 p.m. - Channel 13.

Kicks: Tonight Evelyn Champagne King and Gail Bee are the guests. 11:30 - 12:30 a.m. - Channel 2.

Harry Belafonte (left) and Calvin Lockhart play rival gangsters whose feud reaches a comic climax at a church picnic, in "Uptown Saturday Night," comedy to be rebroadcast on "The CBS Saturday Night Movies," Sat., April 21.

Top Disco Records

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GINO SOCCIO
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SISTER SLEDGE
3 (everybody) GET DANCIN'
BOMBERS
4 I GOT MY MIND MADE UP
INSTANT FUNK
5 KNOCK ON WOOD
AMII STEWART
6 FIRE NIGHT DANCE
PETER JABBARES BAND
7 TAKE ME HOME
CHER
8 THERE BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD GO I
MACHINE
9 DISCO NIGHTS
10 DO YA THINK I'M SEXY
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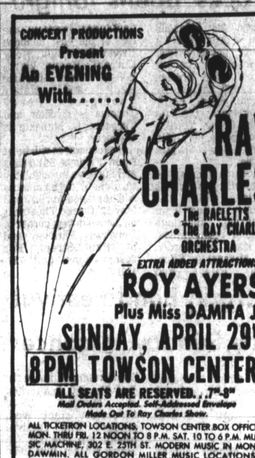

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Bernard Harris Elementary

AEROBIC DANCING is a physical fitness program presented for the first time this year for the boys and girls of the 4th and 5th grades. Shown above are Robynett Cook, Laverne Jackson, Vertrell Oliver, Sinorya Sellers, Sheila Jobes, Rochelle McBride, Charolette Wilkins, Kia Banks, Tabatha Averette, Robin Bradshaw and Yvette Randall. Mrs. Betty Lyle is sponsor.

750 pupils study at Eastside Elementary School

By Elizabeth M. Oliver, Arnetta M. Lottier
Photos by Glasco Ryales

Elementary School No. 250 at 1400 N. Caroline St. is named for the late Dr. Bernard Harris, the beloved physician who served the Eastside citizens nearly 50 years.

Some 750 youngsters are enrolled in the classes which range from pre - kindergarten to the 6th grade.

Mrs. Ruth P. Brown is principal and Charles J. Burke, assistant. There are 41 teachers including those in the Title I and Follow Through Federal Programs.

Special features are the cafeteria, gymnasium media center, art and music rooms and health suite.

Breakfast is served daily. Senior teachers are Leon Pulley and Barbara Thomas.

COMMITTEES

ARTS AND CRAFTS — Gayle Wargo, Barbara Kilgore, Vernice McKay, Loretta Lewis,

AUDIE—Theola White, Gloria Carter, Eva Cook,

BOOK — Susan Winter, Jean Kasckow, Jacqueline Bowser, Maxine Trammell, Lenora Knox, Theola White, Charles Burke,

BLACK AUTHORS — Calvin Gaither Earl Howard, Leona Frazier, Vernice McKay, Elaine Davis, Lillian Mise, Martha Thomas, Brenda Carter, Pearl Dotson,

BOOK TALKS — Elaine Davis, Susan Connell, Janet Smith, Calvin Gaither, Jacqueline Bowser, Regina Logan, Martha Thomas, Charles Burke, Anna Fisher, Betty Corbett,

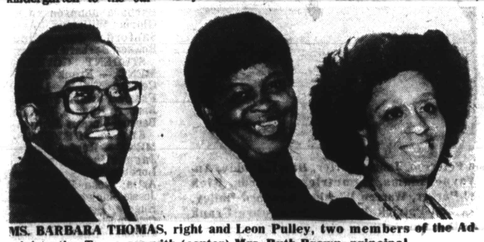
CHARM CLUB — Yvonne Barnes, Joan Kelly, Noreen Johnson, Lenora Knox, Celeste Fields, Gloria DeLillye,

CHESS CLUB — Martha Thomas, Lorraine Spencer,

CHRISTMAS — Susan Connell, Joan Kelly, Beonia Jeter, Annette James, Barbara Kilgore, Elaine Davis, Pearl Dotson,

MEDIA SUPPLIES — Jean Kasckow, Leon

(Continued on page 2)



MS. BARBARA THOMAS, right and Leon Pulley, two members of the Administrative Team, are with (center) Mrs. Ruth Brown, principal.

Mr. and Mrs. Ishmael Cooper have been affiliated with #250 for eight years. All three of their children started kindergarten there. Charles is in the 8th grade; Kimberly the 6th grade and Duran, the 2nd grade. The children say that School #250 is one of Baltimore's best and that training, teaching and learning begin in the home first.