

Positive Celebration of Hip-Hop Culture

By Kamane' Malvo
Staff Writer

From the print ads of Tommy Hilfiger and Fubu to the catchy tunes of Pepsi and Sprite television commercials, the influence of hip-hop culture has successfully moved from the east coast underground scene of b-boys and b-girls to global commercial success.

The Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco celebrates the history and evolution of hip-hop culture with its multidisciplinary exhibition of "Hip-Hop Nation" that will be on display until Aug. 12.

Visual and performing arts, film, video, flashy hip-hop clothing and artifacts from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame are on display in five different galleries: "Roots, Rhymes and Rage," "Hip-Hop by the Bay," "Rappers Delight (The Visual Avant-Garde of Hip-Hop)," "Brett Cook-Dizney's Tenderloin Murals," and the "Hip-Hop Resource Lounge."

Live performances of rap, spoken word and hip-hop dancing are free to the viewing public every Thursday Night at 6 p.m.

Jenny Brown, a 27-year-old Canadian tourist, was awed by the rich history she discovered after viewing "Rhyme and Reason" in the screening room.

"A watered-down version of hip-hop culture exists in my country," Brown said. "It's nice to experience an authentic representation of this amazing urban movement."

With the deaths of Tupac Shakur and Biggie Smalls and the recent controversy surrounding the trial of Sean "Puffy" Combs, the genre of hip-hop music is often portrayed in a negative light.

But the roots of hip-hop's cultural lineage can be traced back to the vocal stylings of Cab Calloway, the be-bop lingo of Dizzy Gillespie and to the poetic expressions of '60s activists like LeRoi Jones and the Last Poets.

Ahmad Wilder, a 20-year old aspiring rap artist and Yerba Buena security guard, is an avid hip-hop fan. During his various shifts at the museum, observers of the large-scale exhibit often shared their questions and ideas with him.

"The majority of the people that come in here don't have a clue about the heart of hip-hop," Wilder said. "They only hear about the negative things, so when they come in here and see all of this history, of course they have questions."

Wilder pointed to an alarm-protected display showcasing the poetic works of Tupac and exclaimed, "I try to explain to them that hip-hop is about struggle."

"Hip-hop is not about being a gangster. It's about survival," he said. "Tupac poured his

blood, sweat, and tears into his lyrics. He used his gifts and talents to rise up out of the ghetto, and that's honorable."

In a recent interview with Black Electorate.com, Davey D, a popular host at KMEI, the Bay Area radio station, and journalist at www.daveyd.com, described hip-hop culture as a continuation of cultural aesthetics and expressions from past generation that can be found within African American and Latino communities.

But new hip-hop icons like Eminem and the hip-hop pop grooves that can be heard in the music of N-SYNC and Britney Spears show that the expression of hip-hop is becoming more and more racially diverse.

Kevin Powell, music critic and cast member of the original "Real World" on MTV, fears that the commercialization of hip-hop will destroy the core of its message.

"A hip-hop head is not someone who listens and copies the music, lingo, fashion and dance," Powell said during an open forum at Northeastern University. "It is someone who knows and appreciates its history, going back to the Negro spirituals of the plantation."

Kevin Powell and Davey D both contributed to the exhibits of "Roots, Rhyme, and Rage" and "Hip-Hop by the Bay" and were participants in the "Hip-Hop and Conversation" program at Stanford University in May of this year.

"Putting together a large and in-depth exhibit of the Bay Area hip-hop scene was a painstaking yet rewarding task," Davey D wrote in an article about Hip Nation's opening night. "It was really a coming together of a community in ways that haven't happened in a very long time."

Information about "Hip-Hop Nation" and upcoming events at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts is available by calling (415) 978-ARTS or visiting the center's Web site, www.yerbabuena-arts.org.

'Dining Room' Serves Up Nostalgic Fare

By Amy Doan
Staff Writer

If the walls of a dining room could talk, they'd have quite a few interesting stories to tell.

Some of these stories will be told in director Ed Wright's version of A.R. Gurney's "The Dining Room," a nostalgic look at the dining room and its role in American families that opens Friday in the Cal State Hayward Studio Theatre.

"It's a day in the life of a dining room," says Wright. "There is no specific dining room or time, but it's almost like ghosts of the past coming to inhabit and show us different lives in different dining rooms over time."

Unlike Edgardo de la

Cruz's version of "The Taming of the Shrew," which precedes "The Dining Room" in this year's Highland Summer Theatre series, Wright remained consistent with the original story.

"It's fairly modern and realistic, so you really don't want to mess around with something like that," Wright explains.

The only change Wright made was the inclusion of 12 characters rather than six.

"Most of the actors play three or four roles," he says. "We use very basic costumes but add a smoking jacket, apron or housecoat to change characters." Wright wanted the emphasis to be on the story and not on fancy costumes.

"That's not the point of the play," he says. "As for the set,

we will be using all four sides of the theatre for seating. All there is is a dining room table in the middle."

Wright held three auditions in April before selecting his cast members. Half of the actors are students from local high schools, and the other half are from Cal State Hayward.

"I wasn't looking for a specific look or talk," Wright says. "I picked based on what I thought they could do as far as a variety of roles."

"The Dining Room" will play Aug. 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 12 at 2 p.m.

A.R. Gurney originally began writing shows to entertain military personnel when he joined the U.S. Army in 1952. He eventually received his master's degree in playwriting at Yale

School of Drama.

In 1982, Gurney enjoyed his first breakthrough success with "The Dining Room." He has since written many award-winning plays, including "The Perfect Party," "Another Antigone," "Love Letters," and "A Cheever Evening."

"I imagine an awful lot of 'the Dining Room' was semi-autobiographical," says Wright. "A lot of interesting and important things in peoples' lives have taken place in the dining room. The story brings back memories for me, and I hope it does that for anyone else who watches the play."

"The dining room is becoming extinct."

Gimmie Shelter

Princess needs a home with a loving family, as her previous owner has moved out of state, leaving her homeless. This beautiful black and white cat is approximately 9 years old, spayed and has had her front claws removed. Please refer to her MS #27753 when requesting additional information about this Princess.



Shelly is a 2-year-old, female Shar-pei/Lab mix. She has been spayed but needs vaccinations. Shelly is house trained and prefers the company of humans rather than other dogs. Please refer to MS #27697 when calling for more information about this dog.

L'Amour Shoppe

GIFT AND VIDEO STORE FOR
DISCRIMINATING ADULTS

We carry a wide selection of magazines, novelties, gifts, DVD's and Video Movies. Modern Arcades.

Come & Visit Us Today!

22553 Main St. • Hayward • (510) 886-7777

BEST DISCOUNT CENTER!

DURANT MARKETPLACE

CLOTHING • SHOES • JEWELRY •
HOME FURNISHING • GIFTS • PHONICS •
BEAUTY SUPPLIES • PERFUME •
ELECTRONICS • CD'S & TAPES

Open 10am - 7pm. Open Sundays 11am - 6pm.
Closed Tuesdays

10970 International Blvd. & Durant Ave, Oakland

CLASSIFIED

Announcements
Looking for an Avon sales rep? I am a student just starting my Avon business and trying to get more customers. If you would like a brochure or know anyone interested in selling Avon, please contact Nolita @ (510) 782-3877 or Nolitab@aol.com.
Your personality determines your happiness. Know why? Call for your free personality test. 1-800-293-6463.

Announcements
• **Closing Store** •
50% Off All In Stock Furn. 20431 Mission Blvd Hayward, CA
Natural Wood Furn
NEW SMILE CHOICE DENTAL PLAN (includes cosmetic) \$69.00 per year. SAVE 30-60% CALL 1-800-655-3225 or www.studentdental.com or www.goldenwestdental.com

Support Your CSUH Arts Program

Employment
Cleanroom and Laboratory micro-cleaner position serving the Pharmaceutical and Electronics Industries. Part-time positions available 15 + hours/wk. Some physical work. \$12 an hour start with opportunity for advancement. Evenings and weekends. Ideal job for college students. Call Santiago at 510-818-1112.

For Rent
Quiet top floor apt, pvt. Bdrm./bath, pool, security, AC; near BART/91 busline: \$740 & dep., male preferred. (510) 582-2026.
Large 1 bedroom apt 1 mile from CSUH. Close to bus. Fireplace, large deck, view of bay yard, washer/dryer. \$895/mo + utilities. (510) 247-1639.

For Rent
Large room with household privileges in established & friendly home of female CSUH grad. Short walk to campus, bay view, quiet, country-like neighborhood. One cat here; sorry, no more pets. For female nonsmoking student. \$485/mo (utilities included). First, last, \$100.00 deposit. 582-8378.

"Roommate Wanted must be clean, quiet, and vegetarian preferred" Sounds cool! I'd better call!

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES

Pioneer Advertising
25800 Carlos Bee Boulevard
Hayward, CA 94542-3050

(510) 885-3526

• Contract Frequency rates, Contract Volume/ Bulk Discount rates, Non-Profit rates and Restaurant/Entertainment rates are all available. Call the above number for details 9:00am to 5:00pm weekdays.
• CSUH student/faculty (minimum charge) \$4.50 per issue display ad
\$4.00 based on a rate of 20 words or less. If the count of words/numbers in your ad exceed the minimum charge, add 20¢ for each additional word. If boldface, CAPS or italics, add 20¢ per word. Requires CSUH ID. This offer does not apply to businesses or political advocacy advertising. Must be placed in person.

• Each Ad (minimum charge) \$7.50 per issue
Based on a rate of 20 words or less. If the count of words/numbers in your ad exceed the minimum charge, add 35¢ for each additional word. If boldface, CAPS or italics, add 35¢ per word. SPECIAL!!! Buy 10 weeks, get the 11th FREE!

• Classified Display Ads are based on the following open rate, and apply to short term adve/rting only (up to three issues*):

1" to 20"	\$11.00 pci
21" to 50"	\$10.00 pci
51" to 80"	\$ 9.00 pci
81" to 126"	\$ 8.00 pci
Double Truck	\$ 6.50 pci
Restaurant/Entertainment	\$ 9.00 pci

• All individual classified ads must be paid in advance. VISA/MC accepted. Checks or money orders should be made payable to "The Pioneer". For more information, call (510) 885-3526 or fax your copy to (510)885-2584.
Summer 8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30
* Ads running for more than three issues switch to cheaper contract rates.

Personnel Service

Specializing in Temporary Staffing & Direct Hire Placement

Your Choice for Uncompromised Service and Unequaled Expertise

26236 Industrial Blvd, Hayward, CA 94545
(510) 782-6187 Fax (510) 782-6189
sterling@msn.com
www.sterlingjobs.net

New in Town?
Wondering where to go for auto repairs?
Beauty Products? A Good Haircut?
Check out the new Service Directory-
Coming Soon in Your Pioneer!

Call (510) 885-3526 or e-mail to pioneeragency@hotmail.com, get Results Fast in the Pioneer Classified Section

The Pioneer makes a reasonable effort to assure the accuracy of advertising in these pages. However, no guarantee or liability is assumed for ads. All advertising is accepted with the understanding that the advertiser has read, understood and agrees to abide by the policies published in our rate card. Advertisers in some classifications may require an investment of a fee for services or materials. PLEASE BE WARNED! DO NOT SEND MONEY until you have completely investigated the offer.