

# The North Charleston NEWS

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Ricsha Michelle Edgar was crowned Miss North Charleston High School last Friday.

## Ricsha Edgar wins Miss N.C.H.S.

by Ellen L. Gearhart

## Rhodes Center for the Arts opens

by Amanda Brown

The city of North Charleston celebrated the opening of the Rhodes Center for the Arts at noon, Friday. The new cultural center is located on Firestone Road, adjacent to the coliseum parking lot.

"This is a good opportunity for this community to showcase its talent," said the center's namesake, Dr. T.M. Rhodes. Rhodes is a retired North Charleston veterinarian, influential member of the North Charleston Arts Advisory Committee, and 30-year Rotary International Club member.

The city will celebrate the center's opening for a full month. All grand opening events are open and free to the public.

The month-long celebration began with Friday's grand opening. Guest speakers included interim North Charleston Mayor Ken McClure, Dr. T.M. Rhodes, and his son, Milton Rhodes, who is general manager of the Spoleto Festival USA.

Saturday evening, the Charleston Symphony Orchestra presented a light classical and pops concert on grounds near the center. Monday evening, the Rhodes Center hosted a reception and gallery lecture for the paintings of German Expressionist artist, Robert Hoffman-Salpia (1887-1983), whose style has been compared with that of Cezanne and Utrillo.

Guest lecturer was world-renowned concert pianist, Thomas Nash Marshall, who owns the paintings. The collection of 33 oils on canvas and fiberboard will be on display weekdays 8:30-5pm through June 5.

At 8pm, May 16, Marshall will give a solo performance inspired by the Hoffman-Salpia exhibition the center's grand piano. Marshall was born in Philadelphia in 1932.

He has lived in Italy and Germany his entire career. Marshall has performed in 300 cities in Europe and the US. He studied at Fordham University, in Paris, in Strasbourg, and at the University of Vienna. He makes frequent appearances on TV and radio talk shows and is making his debut as a playwright. His concert is sponsored by Spoleto and Air Force Brig. General Thomas Mikolajcik and his wife, Car-

men.

The center moved from the old Bethune school on Rivers Avenue to the renovated house on Firestone Road by the North Charleston Coliseum in March. The Hoffman-Salpia exhibit is the fourth to be displayed there.

"The center's art gallery can display works from all over the world," said Mayor McClure. "It will just be a boon to this area."

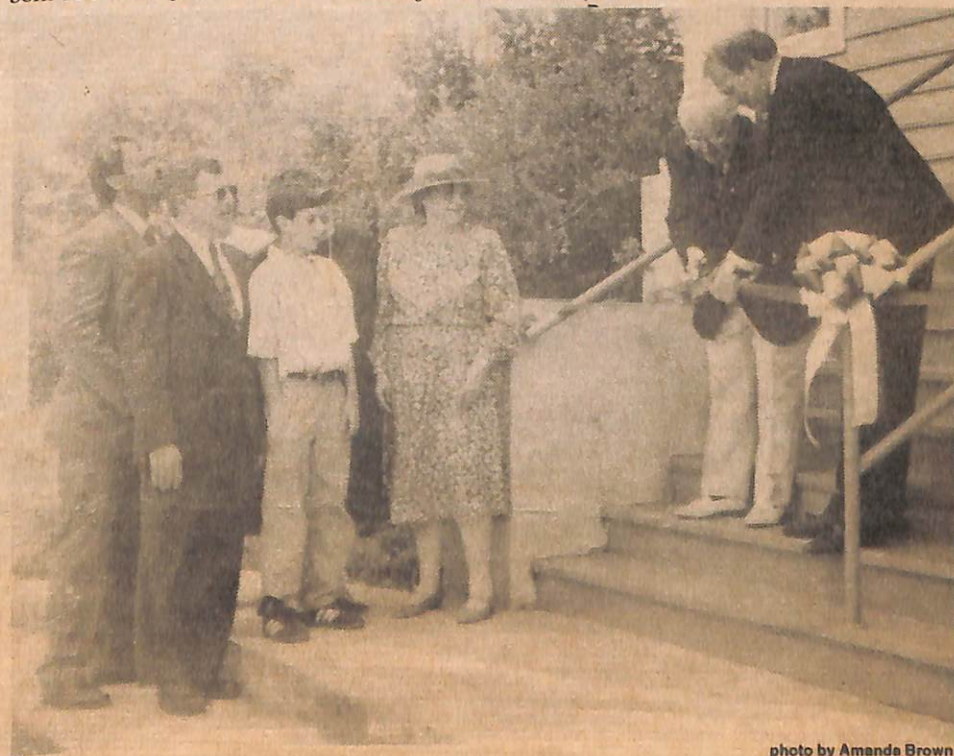


photo by Amanda Brown

Dr. T.M. Rhodes and Mayor Ken McClure participate in Friday's ribbon-cutting ceremony at the grand opening of the Rhodes Cultural Art Center on Firestone Road

ings to receive volunteer awards



## American Council for the Arts Announces New Role for its President

**M**rs. Jack S. Blanton, chair of the American Council for the Arts, announced in November that **Milton Rhodes**, president of ACA, has accepted the position of general manager of Spoleto, Inc., the sponsoring organization of Spoleto Festival U.S.A. in Charleston, South Carolina.

In making the announcement in New York, Mrs. Blanton said "Spoleto has added so much to our country's cultural life, and I am thrilled that Mr. Rhodes has been selected to head this organization. Milton has led ACA with vision and creativity for the past 11 years. He is truly one of this country's outstanding national leaders in the arts. Needless to say, he will be missed, and the prospect of replacing him will be monumental."



*Milton Rhodes*

In a statement released this morning, Rhodes said, "I am excited about my appointment as the new general manager of the Spoleto Festival U.S.A. I am delighted with the prospect of joining an organization which is responsible for what *The Washington Post* called 'the world's most comprehensive arts festival,' and working with a team of dedicated and knowledgeable staff and board members, including the festival's talented opera and symphonic leader, Spiros Argiris."

He added, "My professional experience in both Winston-Salem, North Carolina and New York enables me to go to Spoleto with great confidence. I am equally confident of the ability of the very capable leadership of

ACA's outstanding board to move the organization forward and to continue its stellar record of accomplishments in the arts. My leadership of ACA for the past 11 years will be of invaluable assistance to me in my new role. ACA is the leading national arts advocacy and service organization in the country, and I have enjoyed working with numerous arts organizations and individuals, representing all artistic disciplines to explore issues and implement specific programs affecting the arts field."

The leadership of ACA has organized a search process to identify candidates to replace Rhodes. In the interim, Mrs. Blanton stressed that Rhodes would continue to work with ACA until the selection of his successor, and beyond that will continue to serve as an advisor to the newly formed National Arts Policy Center and Clearinghouse and as a member of the ACA's Board of Directors. Ongoing operations will continue to be handled by Executive Director Linwood Oglesby.

Under Milton Rhodes, ACA has emerged as one of the country's premier arts service organizations. Its publishing program and its arts advocacy are among the strongest in the country. Since 1979, ACA has annually coordinated Arts Advocacy Day, and since 1988 the Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy. These events have brought arts leaders from around the country to Washington to advocate on behalf of national legislation supportive of the arts. The board of the American Council for the Arts just recently announced the establishment of ACA's newest program, a National Arts Policy Center to conduct research on critical issues in the arts.

"For the past several years Milton has been a leading force in shaping the National Arts Policy Center," said Mrs. Blanton. "He will continue his involvement with the National Arts Policy Center as an ACA board member and will remain an advisor as plans evolve."

Rhodes has played a major role in the development of many national coalitions in the arts around such issues as public awareness for the arts, arts education, support for the individual artist, and research on arts policy for the field. His unique role as an outstanding spokesman for the arts was recognized in 1989 when he was a serious candidate for the chairmanship of the National Endowment for the Arts. Mr. Rhodes currently serves on numerous national boards and commissions. □



**ROSE ANN RHODES**

# Rhodes, Carson Troth Told

**Mr. and Mrs. Creighton LaVerne Rhodes announce the engagement of their daughter, Rose Ann Rhodes, to Barry Keith Carson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edward Carson of Athens.**

**The wedding is planned for May 29 in Athens.**

**Miss Rhodes is a candidate for graduation in June from the University of Georgia.**

**She is the granddaughter of Mrs. John Joseph Stegin and the late Mr. Stegin and of the late Mr. and Mrs. Ivey Winbon Rhodes.**

**Mr. Carson is employed by Jody's Discount Inc.**

**He is the grandson of Mrs. Floyd C. McDaris and the late Mr. McDaris of Athens and of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. Carson of Madison.**