

THE DEDICATION
OF THE
JAMES EARL JONES &
DONALD CROUCH
"MENTORSHIP CAN BE LIFE CHANGING"
SCULPTURE PROJECT

Saturday, October 14, 2023

3:00 pm

*Kaleva Norman Dickson Schools
4400 Highbridge Road
Brethren, Michigan*

*Arts & Culture Alliance
of Manistee County*

Program

Welcome: Jakob Veith, Superintendent of KND Schools

History of the project: Cindy Asiala, ACA vice president

Skit: Mentorship Can Be Life Changing

Message from James Earl Jones

Donald Crouch's life: Sid Halley, great grandson

Poem by Donald Crouch: Terry Connolly,
cousin of James Earl Jones

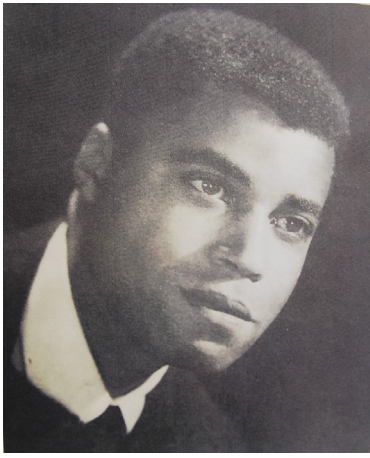
Introduction of sculptor: Rhonda Erbel, ACA board member

Perspective of the sculptor: Bernadette Zachara Marcos

Thank you: Joy Smith, ACA president

**Procession to sculpture site:
KND Band, under direction of Brenna Richardson**

Unveiling of sculptures and mentorship plaque



James Earl Jones was moved in the 1930's, from his birthplace in Mississippi to be raised by his grandparents on a farm in Dublin, Michigan. The trauma of being uprooted triggered stuttering, and James withdrew into silence for years; rarely choosing to speak. As a student at Norman Dickson High School, he met Donald Crouch, a teacher and writer of poetry. Mr. Crouch discovered that James also wrote poetry. He challenged his student to read one of his original poems aloud to the class. To his amazement, James read his poem without stuttering. He credits "Professor Crouch" with helping him reclaim his voice; a voice that is recognized throughout the world.

After graduation from the University of Michigan, James performed at the Ramsdell Theater in Manistee, eventually moving to New York and going on to become one of the great actors of our time. He is one of a few to earn the EGOT (Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony) award.

He currently resides in Pawling, NY. and has given his permission for the James Earl Jones - Donald Crouch Sculpture/Mentorship Project.

Donald Emerson Crouch was born in Manistee County in 1891 and spent his early years in Onekama. He earned his teaching degree at the Normal School in Mt. Pleasant and taught at Marilla and Kaleva. He also became an ordained minister at that time. He lived much of his life in Brethren, teaching Latin, English and Ancient History at Norman Dickson School. He learned to write poetry at an early age and never quit writing. A poem called "Mr. Brethren", details all the roles he played in his life including pastor, teacher, neighbor and friend. He was eventually named Poet Laureate of Manistee County. (info taken from "Poems by Donald Emerson Crouch" c. 1981)



Bernadette Zachara Marcos received her fine arts education at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, Michigan. She has frequently been engaged in teaching figurative sculpture in the Detroit area, and is a talented member of the Sculptors Guild of Michigan. Throughout her career she has completed a wide variety of commissioned sculptures and is known for her many pieces of religious sculptures for churches.



In 2020, a number of her sculpture works were displayed at a Gala sponsored by the ACA and held at the Ramsdell Theater to kick off the Mentorship-Sculpture Project.

When she and husband, Randy, relocated to Northern Michigan, she established a studio in Honor. Here she created the life-size sculptures of James Earl Jones and Donald Crouch from high school photos. The sculptures were cast in bronze and installed on granite bases near the site of Jones' former high school.

*The Arts and Culture Alliance Board of Directors sincerely appreciates
and every donation helps.*

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tes the over 150 donors who supported the Sculpture project. Each
ped us to reach our goal.

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Sister Ann Porter	Gordon and Frieda Wilson
Ron Porter	Sue Wilson
Chuck Randall	Richard Wilson
	Women Who Care

"The mentors named here were nominated because of their positive influence on the nominators' lives. Their stories are proof Mentorship Can Be Life Changing". The nominators' donations helped support the James Earl Jones/Donald Crouch Sculpture Project.

Mentors:

Thomas Adams	Chuck Hindman	Alvin Richmond
Russell H. Anderson	Glen Hindman	Julie Riggs
Cynthia Asiala	Mary (Maue) Hindman	Suzanne J. Riley
Linni Baldwin	Maynard Hoeh	Robert "Bud" Rogers
H. Wayne Beldo	Sabina Bihler Houston	Shirley M. Rogers
Eugene Bischoff	Wayne Humfleet	June Rose
Mary Leckrone Black	Oscar Jaquish	Curan Russell
Dorothy Brian	James Earl Jones	Reta Mae Russell
Dick Caldwell	Fabian Knizacky	Elbert Leander "Burt" Rutan
Grace Cameron	Iola Lagerquist	Richard "Dick" Rutan
Dorothy Carpenter	Marvin Lagerquist	Mary K. Saliors
Grace (Gustafson) Coleman	Reino Lagerquist	Albert Sapatka
Thomas A. Coleman	Leslie J. Laskey	Delbert Sapatka
H. B. Connolly	Ernest Leckrone	Helen Schabel
Dean Cottrell	Merry Lemponen	Homer Ray Schoonover
Deb Crandell	Ida J. Lycander	Jean Krahe Shaffer
Donald Crouch	Rita B. Lynch	Silvia "Bobbie" Snyder
Trevadon Cullar	Bayard W. Lyon	Maude Steger
Anna Cunningham	Nancy C. Lyon	Donald Stroup
Cheryl De Young	Dr. Jean Malstrom	Janet Stroup
Margaret Distler	Aini Makinen	Irma Sundling
Helen Dodds	John E. Makinen	Veryl Swanson
Doyle Eckhardt	Thomas Cruise Mapother IV	Janice Thomas
Marvel Eckhardt	Pete Mavian	Robert Thomas
Alice Rhodes Edwards	Keith Mayfield	Richard L. Thomas
Rhonda Erbel	Mary Jo McElroy	Opal Leckrone Townsend
Sheriff Ken Falk	James M. Miller	Mary L. Trucks
Bob Fennell	Avanell Anna Minton	Carol Voigts
Walter Fischer	Judy K. Minton	Ford Waterman
Violet Ghofulpo	Lee Ann Minton	Donald Willoughby
Garold Grossnickle	Tedroe Daniel Minton	Marie Willoughby
Levon Grossnickle	Jean Ann Muldavin	Ted Winkel
Mary A. Grossnickle	Nancy Nelson	Jim Wojciechowski
Doris Gustafson	Michael Ordning	Sally Wresinski
Francis "Poppy" Hershberger	Sister Ann Porter	Jennie Zachara
	Rev. Msgr. John F. Porter	

Errata: These names are spelled incorrectly on the plaque.
Please accept our apologies.

Sabina Bihler Houston, Pete Mavian, Jennie Zachara

**~The Arts and Culture Alliance wishes to thank all who
shared their Time and Talents~**

Bernadette Zachara-Marcos

KND Schools

Jakob Veith

KND School Board and Staff

Brenna Richardson and Band

Mika Meyers Law LLC

Richard Wilson

Jennifer Puplova

IPR Morning Edition

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Figurative Bronze

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Tad McKillop

Greater Lansing Monuments

Jeff Daniel

Troy Guinan

Jake Riggs

Zupin Crane

Elaine Carey

Terry Connolly

Clinton Crow

Sid Halley

James Earl Jones

Glenn Lottie

Randy Marcos

Judy Minton

Marlene Wood

Volunteers for the Spirit of the
Woods Folk Festival Fundraiser

Ramsdell Regional

Center for the Arts

Mick Mikula

Dave Mix

Xavier Verna

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Mr. & Mrs.

Raymond A. and Anna May Smith

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Cheryl DeYoung

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Joel Asiala



About ACA-

The Arts and Culture Alliance of Manistee County (ACA) was formed in 2006 to promote and support the wide variety of arts and culture organizations in Manistee County. The goal of ACA is to make art, drama, museums and culture an integral part of residents' lives. They have accomplished this by financially supporting choir, theater and music groups; promoting the area's outstanding museums; and maintaining a website (www.allartsmanistee.com) that lists area resources and cultural events. They also developed a Quilt Trail, and erected a sculpture to honor migrant workers in the county. The ACA is proud to have accomplished the largest project to date: placing life-size bronze sculptures of James Earl Jones and Donald Crouch on the grounds of Kaleva Norman Dickson Schools in Brethren. Using the theme "Mentorship Can Be Life Changing", this project includes a plaque naming 103 mentors nominated for their positive influence on the nominees' lives.

Members of the ACA Board of Directors are:

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To make a donation send a check to ACA, 19708 Cadillac Hwy., Copemish, MI 49625
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