

Schiller Institute Concert Honors D.C. General Hospital

The Mother's Day Marian Anderson Memorial Concert in honor of D.C. General Hospital, given at the Ebenezer United Methodist Church in Southeast Washington May 13, was conceived and implemented in the spirit of the fight for the General Welfare simultaneously being carried out by the LaRouche political movement and Pope John Paul II.

The success of the Schiller Institute concert came from a combination of the artists who were there, sopranos Detra Battle Sparrow and Elaugh Butler, tenor Reginald Bouknight, baritone Andre Solomon-Glover, and Sylvia Olden Lee; and those who weren't, William Warfield (who was unable to attend because of illness) and Marian Anderson, whose beautiful photo performing at the Lincoln Memorial adorned the concert posters and program.

'The Fight Throughout the Whole World'

In a brief introduction to the concert, Dennis Speed promised that the reasons why the Civil Rights movement had been rooted in the churches would become evident as the concert unfolded. He then introduced his wife, Lynne Speed, who located the fight to save D.C. General in the context of Friedrich Schiller's view of the dignity of man. D.C. General leader Charlene Gordon then took the pulpit. Holding up her "Save D.C. General" poster, which was completely covered with signatures from around the world, she gave an impassioned speech, challenging everyone to join the fight to save D.C. General. She said she had just returned from the Schiller Institute's international conference in Germany. "This was a life-changing experience for me. Before I went, I saw how important our own fight was here, because I have worked at



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis



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Sopranos Detra Battle Sparrow (left) and Elaugh Butler (above) perform at the Mother's Day Marian Anderson Memorial concert in honor of D.C. General Hospital.

D.C. General for 18 years. But now I have learned about the fight throughout the whole world: in Russia, throughout Europe, in Africa." The entire audience then rose to sing the Negro National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

The interplay between the Bach, Beethoven, Schumann, Schubert, Mendelssohn, and Handel on the pro-

gram, and the beautiful selections from the repertoire of Spirituals, especially the magnificent "Life of Christ" cycle of Roland Hayes, created an awareness and discussion among the audience of the unifying quality of *agapē* embodied in this concert, dedicated to the ecumenical cause of promoting the General Welfare of all mankind.

Robinson Tours Europe

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70 people, mostly students, but also including several reporters (who appeared "with their tails between their legs").

In Copenhagen, Mrs. Robinson recounted the history of the voting rights movement in America, noting that the Voting Rights Act was trampled on in the 2000 elections, when Lyndon LaRouche's votes were trashed by the Gore campaign. She concluded by singing her favorite Spiritual, "This Little Light of Mine."

In Former East Germany

One of the highlights of Mrs. Robinson's tour of Germany was an address in Magdeburg, in former Communist East Germany. She spoke before 150 high

school students in the school gym, responding to dozens of questions from the enthusiastic crowd.

In Milan, she spoke at an event at Catholic University organized by the Civil Rights Movement-Solidarity, which was attended by over 130 people, and was received at the Milan City Hall by officials of the Mayor's cabinet. Her visit was covered by the press, with a long interview in the Roman Catholic daily *Avvenire*, and TV and radio segments of her speaking at the Solidarity Movement conference.

The May 29 reception for Mrs. Robinson, hosted by the Deputy Mayor of Mainz, was attended by 30 guests, including representatives of the parties in the municipal council, and of several foreign consulates.