Mid-Atlantic Songwriters Confab

Bob Douglas of Los Angeles to be honored for five decades of jazz photography at Mid-Atlantic Songwriters and Musicians Conference.

By Ida Peters

The Mid-Atlantic Songwriters Conference on the art and business of music will be held May 20-22 at Catonsville Community College, 800 S. Rolling Rd., Catonsville, Md. This will be the region's first major education-based forum on the music industry, according to Dorothy T. Colvin, conference founder and the college's director of promotions.

"An Evening of Jazz in Retrospect," a multimedia slide presentation, narrated by electrifying jazzman Keith Marks of New York will be the conference on Friday, May 20 at 8 p.m. Marks, who will perform on flute, will give an oral history of music, backed up by his trio. The program will be augmented by slide photo images of Miles Davis, Max Roach, Dave Brubeck, Charlie Parker, Billie Holiday, Dizzy Gillespie and other jazz legends.

Among the images will be those of Bob Douglas of Los Angeles whose works will be on display in the Catonsville Fine and Performing Arts Center gallery for the duration of the conference. Photography by Douglas' colleagues Maxie Floyd, Roland Charles (co-editor of "A Day in the Life of Black Los Angeles"); bassist Milton Hinton and other members of the Jazz Photographers Association of America-Southern California Chapter, will also be on display.

Mr. Douglas will be honored for his five decades of jazz photography by CCC President, Dr. Frederick J. Walsh. Douglas began his career in Detroit as photo-journalist for the Michigan Chronicle and the Pittsburgh Courier and is founding member of the Jazz Photographer's Association of Southern California.

Keynote speaker for the conference is Dr. Warrick L. Carter, dean of faculty, Berklee College of Music, Boston. The primary goal of the conference is to offer networking opportunities for lyricists, musicians, industry management, music educators and aspiring music students. On Saturday, May 21, 10 a.m. a series of round table discussions, workshops and presentations include career planning, talent development, promotion, marketing, song writing and publishing.

The first Preakness Celebration Jazz and Melody Jam Festival at the CCC Arena will be held Saturday night at 8 p.m. featuring Ken Navarro, Gene Rice, Global Functions with Gali Sanchez; and the tenors of Nikki Cooper and Philadelphia tenor saxophonist Ed Willy.

The conference closes Sunday with a gospel extravaganza at 1:30 p.m. For info, see ad in this AFRO issue or call 410-455-4187.

Vocalist Gene Rice, Baltimore native and D.C. native, Ken Navarro will be featured at 8 p.m. at Preakness Celebration Jazz and Melody Jam, Saturday, May 21 as part of Mid-Atlantic Songwriters and Musicians Conference.

D.C.'s Ken Navarro, May 21 at