



“If three is the charm,” then things should go well for Cheryl Harry. Cheryl has successfully managed to combine her three loves Christ, community and culture. Working full time at the mega church, Union Baptist, as the program director, she is responsible for special program planning and execution (i.e., conferences, revivals, galas, forums, concerts, etc.), internal and external communications, and the management of several auxiliaries. With Union Baptist being a church with innovative programming to reach the community at all levels, Cheryl’s expertise allows her to really flow in her love for community outreach and engagement. She has landed two grants through the Center for Community Safety’s Weed and Seed program to implement an ex-offender employment and job training programs in an effort to reduce recidivism through the church’s Corner 2 Corner Drug Dealers program and to enroll youth into the Character Football League which focuses on gang prevention and childhood obesity. Her job at Union has given her the opportunity to present national voices to our community, such as Al Sharpton, Bishop Noel Jones, Rev. Jessie Jackson, Congressman Elijah Cummings and Dick Gregory. She works with community organizations that use the church’s facilities for conference, workshops, forums, concerts and other events.

Recognizing the need for the community to be informed and support African American programming throughout the Triad, Cheryl launched www.comingeventz.com, an online guide for events held in Winston-Salem and the Triad-Piedmont communities. The Coming Eventz website includes a Calendar page (groups may post events on the website free of charge) a Gallery page that provides a listing art galleries in the Piedmont, a Sports page which list the North Carolina HBCU sports schedules, a Meetings Page listing for local community organizations, alumni associations and youth groups, a Cultural page with listing of local and statewide arts organizations with links to their sites, a Spiritual with listing of Gospel events sponsored by churches and other Christian organizations and a Travel page with listing of destinations connected with events of interest. Monthly, Cheryl sends out an e-newsletter that lists upcoming events. Sign-up for the newsletter is free!

It has been her aim to foster a love for African American culture, in which its preservation and perpetuity is priority. To that end, she founded the Triad Cultural Arts, which houses various programs and initiatives geared to the promotion of African American culture. The organization hosts the Triad Juneteenth Festival and Kwanzaa Celebration annually. Artistic workshops and cultural enrichment for youth are at the heart of Triad Cultural Arts and Cheryl works to ensure their place in African-American culture is recognized and their voice is heard. Currently the organization has implemented a youth program, entitled New Voices. **NEW VOICES** provides an opportunity for young artists to find their voice in today’s society through artistic mediums.

The goal of the program is to create a spirit of social responsibility so that young artists can impact the community in a positive way using their art.

For over twenty years, Cheryl Harry has used her broad based experience to positively impact the lives of others. From grassroots organizations to national non-profits, she has worked with such prestigious organizations as the Maya Angelou Research Center, The Arts Council, The YMCA, Winston-Salem State University, The National Black Theatre Festival, The Urban League, and the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation. Cheryl can be reached at 336-793-7462 or by email: charry@unionbaptistwsnc.org.