

# Just Awards

Bronx ceremony celebrates the best locally televised shows

ILEANA FERRERAS  
Bronx Journal Staff Reporter

The religious music program "Gospel Today" was the evening's big winner at the fifth annual Bronx Excellence in Television Access (BETA) awards, held at Lehman College's Lovinger Theater on Oct. 26.

Hosted by TV legend and WOR and WBBR radio personality, Joe Franklin, the BETA awards were taped before a live audience for the first time in the ceremony's five-year history. The program is presented by Bronx.net, a cable-access station originating from Lehman College's campus.

Several local celebrities including Lynn Brown of Fox 5 and Good Day NY, Glenis Henriquez of radio talk show "Dialogo en el Bronx," Tony Aiello of WNBC-TV, Arlene Mukuko from the Bronx Borough President's office and musician Dave Valentin, presented awards. Joe Franklin, who has served as master of ceremonies for the past five years, once again charmed the audience with his wit.

Of the 28 nominees, 11 were awarded with BETAs in 14 categories. "Gospel Today," a gospel program produced and hosted by Michael Ashton, showcasing church talent in the metropolitan area, won for Best Inspirational, Best Music, Best Entertainment/Variety Show and Best Religious Program. Upon receiving his third award, Ashton said, "This past year, has been rough, I wanted to give up so many times, and now I am glad I didn't."

The Men in my Life," a talk show high-

lighting positive contributions made by African-American men to the communities, won the prize for Best Talk Show. The program is produced and hosted by Denise Morgan. "Poder Para Vencer," a bilingual self-development series produced by Isaac Tirado and designed to improve viewers' lives through bilingual instruction, won for Best Studio Series.

"Church Alive," a holistic talk show focusing on political, economic, social and spiritual issues relevant to the Bronx community won for Best Educational, and "In the Neighborhood," highlighting games and other recreational activities in the Bronx won for Best Community Service.

The Millennium BETA Awards were dedicated to Jean Brooks and Keith Copeland, two Bronx net directors who died of cancer earlier this year. Bronx musician Dave Valentin played his flute in their honor, which was followed by a 10-minute video presentation highlighting Copeland and Brooks' professional accomplishments and contributions to Bronx net programming.

The programs they produced, "Faith Works" and "First Impressions" were inspirational to audiences. "First Impressions," created by the late Copeland is currently produced by Kevin Pedengrast and continues to provide a venue for up-and-coming artists to showcase their talent. The award winners and presenters all expressed their pain and sadness at the loss.

The Doo-Wop sounds of the 1960s vocal group the Darlettes graced the evening as they sang a few oldies and a new song called "Bronx net is the Place to be," written by their manager Arthur Crier.

The evening's winners were determined by a panel of 10 judges including Joe Glus of Bronx News 12 and Patricio Lerzundi, Editor-in-Chief of The Bronx Journal, who also presented the awards for Best Youth Program and Best Foreign Language, respectively.

After the awards ceremony, Jim Carney expressed a great sense of pride at the accomplishment of being broadcast live on

Bronx nets channels (67-70) seen in over 269 million Bronx homes.

Carney said "Whenever you do a live production there are lots of things that go wrong, our job is to make sure that the people in the audience and at home don't see the problems." He added, "there were only a couple of bumps in the road but we did well."

Carney also spoke of Franklin saying "Joe is a legend, he was the main stay of overnight television before Johnny Carson was around."

Joe Franklin, a native of the Bronx, has worked in the television business for 44

years and considers himself "a fanatical, ardent, avid, advocate of public access especially in the Bronx."

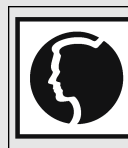
Franklin who introduced Barbara Streisand, Bill Cosby, Eddie Murphy, Bruce Springsteen, Michael Jackson and Bette Midler to audiences said he is proudest of those years as master of ceremonies for the BETAs.

At the end of the ceremony, Carney presented Franklin with a clock in appreciation for his dedication to the BETAs. Honored, Franklin replied "In all my years and of all the gifts I have received, this is without a doubt the most recent."

## YOUR HOROSCOPE FOR THE MONTH



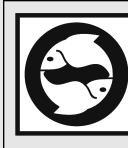
**AQUARIUS**  
Jan. 20 -Feb. 18  
Love interests may develop through work-related events.  
Your numbers: **11, 32, 34**



**GEMINI**  
May 21-June 20  
To accomplish the most, it is best to work with your peers.  
Your numbers: **7, 26, 48**



**VIRGO**  
Aug. 23 -Sept. 22  
Get very busy turning your home into the place you really want to live in.  
Your numbers: **2, 40, 45**



**PISCES**  
Feb. 19 -March 20  
Work quietly behind the scenes and refrain from pushing your beliefs on others.  
Your numbers: **1, 25, 49**



**CANCER**  
June 21-July 22  
You will meet new romantic partners while on vacation.  
Your numbers: **4, 27, 28**



**SCORPIO**  
Oct. 23 -Nov. 21  
You need to do some soul-searching and make adjustments to your attitude.  
Your numbers: **9, 20, 44**



**ARIES**  
March 21-April 19  
Your ability to converse with knowledge and wit will attract intelligent individuals.  
Your numbers: **5, 25, 39**



**LEO**  
July 23 -Aug. 22  
Self-realization and creative projects can be satisfying and enlightening.  
Your numbers: **11, 18, 23**



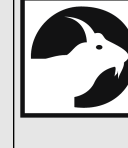
**SAGITTARIUS**  
Nov. 22 -Dec. 21  
Don't let jealousy lead to an unpleasant situation with your loved one.  
Your numbers: **1, 13, 22**



**TAURUS**  
April 20 -May 20  
Romantic encounters will be stressful if you haven't been completely honest.  
Your numbers: **2, 17, 23**



**LIBRA**  
Sept. 23 -Oct. 22  
Don't waste any more time. Talk to your boss about a promotion.  
Your numbers: **6, 19, 27**



**CAPRICORN**  
Dec. 22 -Jan. 19  
You need a change. Join groups that will spark some enthusiasm in you.  
Your numbers: **7, 14, 33**

Answer on page A-12

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18						19	20				
			21			22	23				
24	25	26					27		28	29	
30				31			32		33		
34			35					37			
		38				39					
40	41				42	43			44	45	46
47					48	49					
50					51				52		
53					54				55		

**ACROSS**

- 1. "\_\_\_, Brute" (2 wds.)
- 5. Kind of maniac
- 8. N.Y.-Paris jets
- 12. Section of Chicago
- 13. Part of RPM
- 14. The Buckeye State
- 15. Quiche \_\_\_
- 17. TV host Jay
- 18. Three-legged chairs
- 19. Strangest
- 21. Perched on
- 23. Always, poetically
- 24. Straddling
- 27. Cornered
- 30. Half a dance
- 31. Of few words

**DOWN**

- 33. Depot (Abbr.)
- 34. Japanese poetic form
- 36. Lengthen
- 38. Guided
- 39. Work for money
- 40. Wailing coyote
- 43. Wyoming range
- 47. Allies' WWII foe
- 48. Outbreak of sickness
- 50. \_\_\_ Lacoste
- 51. Comfortable room
- 52. Costa \_\_\_
- 53. \_\_\_ 500
- 54. Wilt
- 55. Plant stalk

**DOWN**

- 1. Building extensions
- 2. Beep
- 3. Bull (Sp.)
- 4. "Tumult"
- 5. Incident
- 6. Colin Powell's rank (Abbr.)
- 7. Sandwich cookie
- 8. Weld together
- 9. Thinnest
- 10. Metal containers
- 11. Chimney deposit
- 16. Height
- 20. Turned away
- 22. In itself (2 wds.)

**DOWN**

- 24. German exclamation
- 25. \_\_\_ Na Na
- 26. Flight aid
- 28. And so on (Abbr.)
- 29. "Zip-A-Dee-Doo-\_\_\_"
- 32. Declaring
- 35. Actor Grammer
- 37. Goes inside
- 40. Spy Mata
- 41. Draft animals
- 42. Skelton and Barber
- 44. Skip
- 45. Agreeable
- 46. Rip-off
- 49. Split \_\_\_ soup