

# Art conveys Preach's vision

James Prince  
FOR THE GAMECOCK

For some people, one of the most important things in life is art. Whether the art form is painting, music or photography, it brings beauty into many peoples' lives. In many ways, it is the element of life that allows some people to see others and themselves in a way that would be unavailable without it. It can be a learning module for the masses. For many, it is their lives — it is what they breathe for.

Preach Jacobs on Friday allowed Columbia to see itself through two art forms. At Vista Studios, Preach, a photographer and hip-hop artist, shared his

music, his photography and his dedication to sharing the experiences of African-Americans. Photos of rapper KRS-One with a banner that read "Declaration of Hip-Hop" greeted gallery guests. The declaration was written by KRS-One and other artists to ensure big record labels did not take advantage of new hip-hop artists.

The opposite wall was adorned with faces of local African-American rappers, who the declaration protects. Looking at them standing against the walls in their communities, one could feel the pride these black men exude when they speak of their hometowns.

Looking to the middle

revealed large photographs of Common (formerly known as Common Sense), who just released an album titled "Be," which he says stands for "Black Experience."

To the far right was Outkast, who say on their debut album, "Southernplayallisticadillacmu sik," "... an outkast is someone who is not considered to be a part of the normal world ... he is not accepted because of his clothes, his hair, his occupation or his skin color."

Outkast represents the group in which Preach dedicates his art forms — not only African-Americans, but artists who seek to use their art and their lives to educate.

Turning to the left revealed

pictures capturing the beauty and the essence of African-American women.

Whether photographed while the sun kissed the horizon as well as her skin, or the stars twinkled in the sky as she ran in her black dress while she rushed along the street, or as the morning awakened her while she held her son, each photograph enabled the viewer to see black women under a different light.

On the final wall, photographs of children were displayed. For Preach, they are important in his life.

"You see me up here, I do the music and I do the photography, but what always

comes first are the kids."

Enjoying their space in the place called youth, they are seen in parking lots gossiping about the latest news in school or holding a pole on the playground as if they are professional models or just simply hugging one another.

As one stared and found the message from each image, one had the pleasure of listening to the other art form Preach had in store for the evening's event — music, played by his band.

He played tracks from his latest CD, "Baby Blues" as well as hits from Common, A Tribe Called Quest and other musical artists.

From Tribe's "Bonita Applebaum" which gave a

lyrical explanation for Preach's photography dedicated to women, to Common's "I Used to Love H.E.R.," which explained his love for photographing hip-hop artists as well as his dedication to hip-hop in general, Preach played music from his soul.

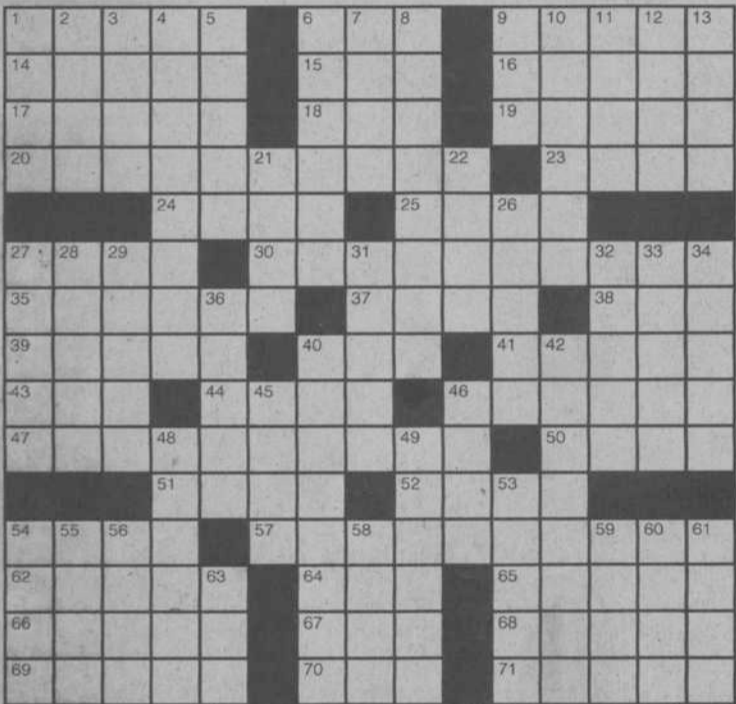
The event allowed people to see beautiful photography but also the opportunity to listen to music where guitars spoke to the soul and drums were like heartbeats.

And for those who believe art is the reason why they breathe in air, this definitely was fresh air to breathe.

Comments on this story? E-mail [gamecockfeatures@gum.sc.edu](mailto:gamecockfeatures@gum.sc.edu)

## CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Liquor container
  - 6 Tucker's partner?
  - 9 Old English county
  - 14 Tori Spelling's dad
  - 15 Self-image
  - 16 Pay tribute to
  - 17 Santiago's land
  - 18 Bill's partner?
  - 19 Boredom
  - 20 Product logos
  - 23 Villa d'
  - 24 Dutch cheese
  - 25 Funny folk
  - 27 Headliner
  - 30 Some circuits
  - 35 Opportunity
  - 37 Kind of school
  - 38 Place
  - 39 Omit in pronunciation
  - 40 Buzz
  - 41 Actress Verdugo
  - 43 Promos
  - 44 One who performs
  - 46 Reveres
  - 47 Picked
  - 50 Singer Johnny
  - 51 Require
  - 52 Brent Spiner character
  - 54 Harrow blade
  - 57 Common special effect
  - 62 Mexican ciao
  - 64 Chicken/king connector
  - 65 Narrow crest
  - 66 Contract components
  - 67 Mal de
  - 68 Piggish sound
  - 69 Double curves
  - 70 Pea package?
  - 71 Gives the eye to



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### Solutions

S	E	L	E	G	O	D	P	E	S	S	S	S	S	S
T	H	O	N	S	M	E	R	S	M	S	T	E	R	M
G	E	I	R	I	A	L	V	A	S	O	I	D	A	V
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A	V	A	T	A	D	D	E	E	N					
H	S	V	A	C	A	D	D	A	N	I	G	N	A	D
S	H	O	D	A	V	H	O	D	S	S	A	D	S	A
N	E	L	E	N	A									
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A	R	O	N	O	H	E	G	O	N	O	H	A	H	O
L	I	B	S	H	I	R	E							

- 6 Developed into
- 7 Frankenstein's assistant
- 8 Constant reader
- 9 That lady
- 10 Like Abe
- 11 Motels' predecessors
- 12 Decisive defeat
- 13 Quaker State port
- 21 Astor or Martin
- 22 qua non
- 26 Used the VCR
- 27 Place
- 28 Diacritical mark
- 29 Out of whack
- 31 Gush forth
- 32 Massenet work
- 33 Ancient characters
- 34 Hidden loot
- 36 Shelf
- 40 Car light
- 42 Finding
- 45 Fifths of a fin
- 46 First grandfather
- 48 Earnings
- 49 Playwright
- 53 Main part of body
- 54 See regularly
- 55 March 15, e.g.
- 56 Letter opener?
- 58 Bread spread
- 59 Rocker Billy
- 60 Fairytale baddie
- 61 Snares
- 63 Draft org.

Quigmans • By Buddy Hickerson



"I was through with bad boyfriends when I met this great guy: my e-mail emoticon."

Paper Asylum • By James Hickson/The Gamecock



## Scene at USC

Cru Jones



**Today**  
**UNDECIDED RECORDS TOUR 05**  
FEATURING CRU JONES, CHASING AUGUST, MIDNIGHT ARIA, MERIDIAN & MAYCOMB: 7 p.m. New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St. \$7 in advance. All ages.

**"FAST TIMES AT RIDGEMONT HIGH":**  
8 p.m. Russell House Theater. TOASTER 2005: 7, 9 p.m. Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 Main St. \$5.50 with student ID.

**Thursday**  
**SOILENT GREEN, INTO THE MOAT, QUICKFUSE, IN MY TRUNK:** 7 p.m. New Brookland Tavern. \$8 in advance. All ages.  
**"FAST TIMES AT RIDGEMONT HIGH":**  
8 p.m. Russell House Theater.

## HOROSCOPES

**ARIES** You've been good, and for your prize you get good traveling conditions. As a bonus, you'll find nearby a charming and eager companion. Get outta here.  
**TAURUS** You're a creative person, and it's great to be wild and free, but the next project requires some planning first. You can get crazy later.  
**GEMINI** You can create new possibilities where none existed. You don't have to take "no" for an answer. Keep talking 'til you get through.  
**CANCER** Public and private obligations compete for your time. Should you stay or should you go? The nearer option's most successful.

**LEO** A field trip is appropriate, whereby you investigate a subject you find fascinating. Take along a good friend, of course, and a picnic lunch.  
**VIRGO** Lend a hand to the mathematically challenged. You have a natural talent, but you don't have to do it for free.  
**LIBRA** Looking into the face of the tiger, you smile, and the tiger purrs. A bond is formed, and you never have to worry about that cat again.  
**SCORPIO** Dig through that stack of stuff you've let accumulate. Find the treasures you seek — and a lot of other things. Some of it you can throw away, and you should.

**SAGITTARIUS** The problem now is about your growing popularity. Everyone wants a piece of your time and attention. Get used to it.  
**CAPRICORN** An authority figure is a big help. Your efforts are appreciated. Be nice, even if you don't always agree. You'll gain nothing by being cranky.  
**AQUARIUS** With inspiration from a wise friend, it's much easier to advance. You've got the energy and the dream, but your friend has the vehicle.  
**PISCES** Of course it's nice to have a few very special treats, but don't forget how good it feels to have your bills paid off. Defer gratification.