

# Dance, listen, learn at Sheldon arts quad

BY GEORGE GREEN

If you ever feel the need to dance, sculpt and listen to music — tonight is your night.

Friday Festival at the Arts Quad will be held in the area near the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery known as the arts quad from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

The festival is a celebration of the beginning of the school year and will provide students with information about the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's art activities, said Karen Lyons, assistant director of the University of Nebraska Honors Program.

"It should be an exciting opportunity to introduce students to art opportunities," Lyons said.

The celebration will include tours of the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, film shorts at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, music and dance by UNL groups, pottery activities, house-building demonstrations by architecture students, refreshments from area businesses and more, Lyons said.

The freshman orientation committee, a division of the Freshman Year Experience Task Force appointed by the chancellor to review orientation procedures, generated the idea for the

festival.

However, the festival is not limited to freshman students — upperclassmen and members of the community are invited — and many student organizations will participate, Lyons said.

Lyons expects at least 1,500 students to attend but hopes that as many as 5,000 will show up.

She also said she hopes that the festival will become an annual event that will lead to more celebrations like it.

"We want to provide an opportunity to get everyone together to celebrate in ways that the Big Red Welcome doesn't, by having a more academic focus," Lyons said.

# Prominent activists to speak on Capitol steps

BY JOSH FLINK

Two internationally known human rights activists will join Nebraskans in calling for justice on the Capitol steps Monday.

Angela Davis and Charlene Mitchell will speak at a rally to mark the 30-year anniversary of David Rice and Ed Poindexter's incarcerations.

Poindexter and Rice, who changed his name to Mondo we Langa while in prison, have been called political prisoners by human rights groups.

"We want to raise awareness of the unjust incarcerations of 30 years," said Mary Dickinson, spokeswoman for Nebraskans for Justice, which is one of the event's sponsors. The Lincoln NAACP chapter and the social

action committee of the Lincoln Unitarian Church are also sponsoring the event.

Davis, who had been a member of the Black Panthers and the Communist Party, gained notoriety when she was imprisoned for 16 months in the early 1970s and later acquitted of charges that stemmed from a shoot-out in front of a California courthouse.

In addition to her other achievements in the fight against racism and injustice, Mitchell led the fight to free Davis.

Mitchell became the first black woman to run for president in 1968 when she ran on the Communist Party ticket. In 1980, Davis joined national politics with a bid for vice president,

*"We want to raise awareness of the unjust incarcerations (of two so-called political prisoners) of 30 years."*

Mary Dickinson  
Nebraskans for Justice spokeswoman

also on the Communist ticket.

The Rice-Poindexter case has gained international attention and was the subject of a British Broadcasting Corporation documentary in 1990.

Rice and Poindexter were convicted of first-degree murder in the death of an Omaha Police officer killed on Aug. 17, 1970, by a dynamite-filled briefcase.

Both men, who are serving

life sentences, have maintained their innocence throughout their prison terms.

While in Lincoln, Davis and Mitchell will visit with Mondo we Langa in the Nebraska State Penitentiary.

On Tuesday, there will be a second rally on the steps of the Douglas County Courthouse in Omaha at noon.

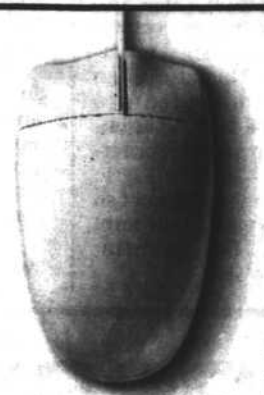
State Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha also is expected to speak at that rally.



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