



Shown above in attendance are (L-R) (kneeling) Yunnus Asami, Princess Rashid, Marsha Hatcher, Pam Barnett, Jelena Gallon, Roxanne Hilbert, (standing) Traci Mims-Jones, Solomon Dixon, Suzanne Pickett, Gil Mayers, John Wise, Annelies Dykgraaf and Keith Doles.

FCCJ Artist Exhibits Features Works of Ethnic Artists

"Subliminal Visions: Abstract and Non-objective Works", an exhibit by The Jacksonville Consortium of African American Artists (JCAAA) opened recently at FCCJ North Campus. The exhibit features a variety of works by artist that compose the Jacksonville Consortium of African American Artists.

JCAAA is a non profit organization whose mission statement is "To foster an environment which encourages African American arts and artists to flourish". The group consists of visual and performing artists, as well as individuals interested in supporting JCAAA's goals. It is a diverse group and new mem-

bers are welcome with no artists being excluded on basis of race or gender. The goal of the organization is to draw attention to and help artists overlooked by mainstream galleries and corporate collections when it comes to funding and display opportunities.

Art work on display includes pho-

tos, pastels, steel sculptures, digital, mixed mediums and oils. All of it is available for purchase.

The exhibit is free and open to the public and can be viewed Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 a.m.; closing at 9 p.m.; Fri. at 5 p.m. It is closed on weekends. The exhibit runs through Feb. 16.

Call 766-6786 for more info.

White Atlanta Suburbs for Secession from B

by D. Gross

A potentially explosive dispute in the City Too Busy to Hate is taking shape over a proposal to break Fulton County in two and split off Atlanta's predominantly white, affluent suburbs to the north from some of the metropolitan area's poorest, black neighborhoods.

Legislation that would allow the suburbs to form their own county, to be called Milton County, was introduced by members of the Georgia Legislature's Republican majority earlier this month.

Supporters say it is a quest for more responsive government in a county with a population greater than that of six states. Opponents say the measure is racially motivated and will pit white against black, rich against poor.

"If it gets to the floor, there will be blood on the walls," warned state Sen. Vincent Fort, an Atlanta Democrat and member of the Legislative Black Caucus who bitterly opposes the plan. Fort added: "As much as you would like to think it's not racial, it's difficult to draw any other conclusion."

The legislation calls for amending the Georgia Constitution to allow the return of Milton County, which succumbed to financial troubles during the Depression and was folded into Fulton County in 1932.

The former Milton County is now mostly white and Republican and one of the most affluent areas in the nation. Atlanta and its southern suburbs are mostly black, are controlled by Democrats and have neighborhoods with some of the

highest per capita income (Buckhead neighborhood) and many of the poorest (Fulton County).

"The county is a patchwork of rich and poor," says County Commissioner John Jones, a Democratic member of the Georgia Legislature's Republican majority earlier this month.

Jones, a former mayor of Atlanta, is a vocal supporter of the move. He says the move would allow for more responsive government in a county with a population greater than that of six states.

Milton County would be a new county, making it difficult to compare it to other counties.

Residents of the county sent 29 percent of its income to a local government, compared to 10 percent in Fulton County.

About 10 percent of the downtown area, including the area around the Milner station, would be lost to the county, causing an economic effect on the area.

"If you have a choice, you would choose to live in a white neighborhood," says Fort. "If you have a choice, you would choose to live in a white neighborhood." Fort says the move would allow for more responsive government in a county with a population greater than that of six states.