Africa Student Organization hosted Africa Night in Moore Hall Auditorium on March 15. The members of ASO presented “Deeply Rooted,” a show to represent their African heritage and culture. The show began with a tribute to the late Nelson Mandela with an African Dance that included the members of ASO. “Deeply Rooted” showcased the history of Africa, two skits, poetry, African clothing and dancing from five different regions of Africa.

**Dance performances**

There were dance performances from Angelique Niyonkuru, Vanessa Kamashara, Luwam Alemayehu, Najwa Allison, Santanu Chimmere and Cecilia Nwosu. The skit played by four ASO members was a representation of how an African family reacts to their child being sick. Elbony Taylor said that she was blown away by the performance and the skit was very interesting. “I never realized the difference in our culture. I am African American, and I have African friends, but I didn’t really know how different we are until now. The skit made me appreciate my own culture even more than before,” she said.

Esther Anponsah, an African student at UNCP, really enjoyed the program. “I’m from Ghana, but I’ve lived in the United States for some time now. It’s really nice to see a group of Africans put together such an informational, yet funny show,” she said.

**Other performances**

There were also performances by Intrigue Modeling, a music selection by Prince Dre and spoken word by Tamara Oglesby. Hosts Charles Ijeoma and Ferdinand Goke kept the audience laughing with their jokes and had a dance-off that made the crowd go wild. Goke spoke about his travels and upbringing in an African household. He told stories of how each culture and tradition means to his family. “I really love my African heritage. We are who we are because of where we come from. Who wouldn’t love us?” he said.

To join ASO contact the President Fisayo Aladeniyi.

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Comedian and host Jay Dukes entertained as part of the Association of Campus Entertainment in the UC Lounge on March 12. Dukes is originally from Spartanburg, S.C., and graduated from Claflin University in 2010. Starting out as a host for parties, talent shows and different events, Dukes never thought he would ever be a part of a comedy tour. “Ever since I can remember, I’ve been making people laugh and putting smiles on others’ faces,” he said.

Students at UNCP really enjoyed the performance. “I was really funny for me to relate to his jokes because I am a college student. Although it was a comedy show, he actually spoke about real life scenarios,” she said. His jokes focused on what it’s like to be a college student, what can go wrong in a relationship and life as a young adult.

With his crazy sense of humor, he even created a song, along with the audience that gave UNCP its own special theme.

Dukes is also a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and relayed the message behind the meaning of brotherhood. “I always like to tell people my story because it’s the reason why I’m here today,” he said.

Dukes believes that it’s really important to follow your passion, and he explained throughout the show how important it is to follow your dreams. “If I could leave you guys with anything, I would tell you all to always follow your dreams. Do what you want to do in life and never let others discourage you. Let your passion be your motivation and never give up on your dream,” he said.