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## “The Help” movie sound mixer and two-time Oscar Winner Willie Burton to speak at JSRCC for Black History Month

**RICHMOND, Va.** (January 26, 2012)—Two-time Oscar Award winner and seven-time nominee for his work as a movie production sound mixer, Willie Burton will speak at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College on February 8 at 7 p.m. in the Massey Library Technology Center’s Lipman Auditorium on the Parham Road Campus. The event is free and open to the public and is sponsored by the JSRCC Multicultural Enrichment Council.

Burton is credited with breaking barriers for African-Americans and minorities entering the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) in the 1970’s. Burton's accomplishments include two Oscars- Best Achievement in Sound Mixing (*Dreamgirls*) and Best Sound (*Bird*). He was nominated for the same award in 1978 for *The Buddy Holly Story*, in 1980 for *Altered States*, in 1983 for *WarGames*, in 1994 for *The Shawshank Redemption*, and in 1999 for *Green Mile*. He won a British Academy Award in 1983 for *War Games*.

Born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Burton's younger years were in California where he attended community colleges studying electronics and engineering. Burton continues to live in California where he recently completed sound production and mixing for the movie *The Help*. Burton's list of filmography includes over 100 movies and he joins actor Denzel Washington as African-American males with the most Oscar awards.

Serving nearly 21,000 students annually, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College is the youngest and third largest of 23 community colleges in Virginia. The College operates three campuses serving residents in the City of Richmond and the counties of Henrico, Hanover, Goochland, Powhatan and Louisa.