

# COLUMBIA SPECTATOR ARCHIVE

Columbia Daily Spectator, Volume CXVII, Number 129, 2 December 1993 — A Day Without Art turns attention to AIDS Memorial service remembers victims [ARTICLE+ILLUSTRATION]

## *A Day Without Art turns attention to AIDS*

### *Memorial service remembers victims*

**By Olaina Gupta**

*Contributing Writer*

About 30 members of the Columbia community reflected on friends, relatives, and colleagues who have died of AIDS at a service commemorating World AIDS Day Tuesday evening in St. Paul's Chapel.

According to the World Health Organization, one-fifth of the 2.5 million people who have AIDS worldwide are children, and an AIDS-related death occurs every six minutes in the United States. Furthermore, 20,000 children in New York City have lost at least one of their parents to AIDS, according to Rabbi Michael Paley, director of Earl Hall, who gave the opening remarks.

E.R. Shipp, a doctoral candidate in the history department, spoke of her personal experience with AIDS. Shipp has lost her best friend, her brother, and an uncle to AIDS.

"We all are hoping for a cure as the toll keeps mounting," Shipp said.

Associate Dean of the School

of Public Health Robert Fullilove, who has been involved with AIDS research since 1986, spoke about AIDS in the broader community.

Fullilove acknowledged the relatively empty chapel, commenting that more than 12,000 attended a World AIDS Awareness Day ceremony in New York City three years ago. Fullilove said the decrease in attendance illustrated the lack of attention the AIDS epidemic has received recently.

Co-chair of the Lesbian Bisexual Gay Coalition Conor Kennedy Ryan, CC '96, said one of the tragedies of AIDS is that the disease kills people in the prime of their lives.

"People aren't supposed to die before they graduate from college or before they find a lover, or before they go through their first mid-life crisis," Ryan said.

AIDS does not discriminate on the basis of color, sexual orientation, or gender, Ryan said. In addition, he urged everyone to work together to fight the disease, saying it is the only way to win the battle against AIDS.

The service also included a performance by the Kingsmen, who sang "Tomorrow, Wendy," a song about AIDS written by Andy Preboy.

Prayers were offered by Rabbi Susan Oren, Reverend Robert Freeman, and Rabbi Charles Sheer, the campus Jewish chaplain.



STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/ARIANA E. CHA

**Stephen Davis, assistant director of Library Systems and coordinator of Columbia's Day Without Art observance, covers the painting of Athena in the Butler foyer. Similar action was taken throughout the nation yesterday to turn attention to AIDS.**



STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/KATE HAMLIN

Barnard students participated in a candlelight walk on Quad Lawn to commemorate the school's commitment to the fight against AIDS during World AIDS Day yesterday at dusk.