

Proud Past...Promising Future

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ABAC

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## ABAC Public Relations

ABAC 30, 2802 Moore Highway • Tifton, GA 31793-2601 • (229) 391-5055

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[www.abac.edu](http://www.abac.edu)

# FOCUS

## Second Annual Film Festival Tonight at 7

The second annual ABAC Film Festival will be held tonight at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium. The top iMovie selections from the ABAC Learning Communities will be shown on the big screen. All the movies are written, filmed, and produced by ABAC students. Make your plans to attend for prizes, popcorn, and the best of the best as far as ABAC student movies. Admission is absolutely free.



## ABAC Holiday Music Celebration Dec. 2



Join the entire ABAC Family for the annual Holiday Music Celebration in the Chapel of All Faiths at 4 p.m. on Dec. 2. Dr. Susan Roe coordinates the event, which is now in its seventh year.

Highlights include "Go Tell It On The Mountain" by Andrew Davidson on the piano, "On With The Show," "J.B.M.C.A.," and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" by the ABAC Jazz Choir, a reading by Dr. John Farrar, "Away in a Manger" by Seth

Wooten on the guitar, "Still, Still, Still" by the Jazz Choir, "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" by Wayne Jones and Andrew



Davidson, "O Holy Night" by Roe and Davidson, and audience singalongs in five tunes:

"The First Noel," "Joy to the World," "O Come All Ye Faithful," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," and "Silent Night."

Refreshments will follow the program in the lobby of the music building.

## D'Vine Ushers in Christmas Holidays With Song

The holiday season will be ushered in with **A D'vine Christmas** on Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. in ABAC's Howard Auditorium as a part of the Arts and Entertainment Series. Comprised of sisters Paula McGuire Saunders and Pamela McGuire Dees and friend Sheryl



Dennis Pollard, D'vine is a world class gospel and inspirational group. This trio will sing their versions of many holiday classics plus newer songs sprinkled throughout the evening.

These ladies will present an evening of rich harmonic tones setting the mood for the season. Their soul stirring music will be a mix of a cappella singing and songs with accompaniment.

"We are delighted to bring this holiday concert to South Georgia. It will be a wonderful night. These ladies are tremendous vocalists and entertainers. The concert is a great way to begin the month of December – all without having to travel to a major metropolitan area,"

remarked Wayne Jones, Executive Director, ABAC Arts Connection.

This Georgia-based group has performed for presidents, world leaders, and corporate executives while touring both domestically and internationally.

Annually, they perform 150 concerts in addition to maintaining their full time jobs. Performances at the White House and during the 1996 Olympic Games were highlight events for the ladies. Their international performances often have been in conjunction with key government and business officials promoting economic development of Georgia and the USA.

During their thirteen years together, this trio has made three CDs. Their lat-

est recording titled "Two Sisters and A Friend" was produced by Dove award-winning gospel music artist and producer Babbie Mason.

A D'vine Christmas is the third event in the Arts and Entertainment Series presented by the South Georgia Arts Alliance which is comprised of the arts councils of Tift and Turner counties along with the ABAC Arts Connection. The goal of the Alliance is to bring quality performances to the people of South Georgia at reasonable prices.

Ticket can be purchased as a part of the Flex Pass 4 subscription for \$48 which offers admission to the remaining series events. Student subscriptions are \$15 for those under 18. ABAC students and UGA Tifton students are admitted free with a valid ID. Individual show tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Tickets can be purchased by calling 229-391-4820 or at the door the night of the event. Cash, check and credit cards are accepted. Get Online tickets at [www.southgaarts.com](http://www.southgaarts.com).

Other series events include California Guitar Trio Feb. 19; Five by Design in Club Swing Mar. 15; and A Night of Jazz Stars Apr. 21.

# Graydon to Speak at Dec. 12 Graduation

Wasdon Graydon, Director of Sponsored Programs and the Minority Advising Program, will be the guest speaker at the fall graduation ceremony at 6 p.m. on Dec. 12 at ABAC.

A 1970 graduate of ABAC, Graydon earned his Bachelor of Science degree in History and Education from Georgia Southern University. He received his Master of Education degree from Valdosta State University. He also has done graduate studies in Higher Education from Georgia Southern University.

Employed by ABAC since Sept. 1, 1973, Graydon is very active in the Tifton community including service as a member of the Board of Directors for First Community Bank of Tifton. In the December 2004/January 2005 edition of "South Georgia Business Magazine," he was highlighted as one of the 25 Most Influential South Georgians.

In 2001, Graydon received the E. Lanier Carson Leadership Award for College Administrators at ABAC and the President's Award for Achievement, Leadership and Service. In 1994 he was named Arts Citizen of the Year.

Graydon served as a Tift County Commissioner from 1984-1992 and was selected as a member of the Leadership Georgia program in 1991.

Graydon is a member of Everette Temple C.M.E. church, where he serves as Trustee and Sunday School Superintendent. He is the current chair of Interventions and Prevention Services, Inc., Advisory Board, and has served on



the Board of Directors of PLIGHT, Inc., Tiftarea YMCA, and J.T. Reddick Scholarship Fund.

In true entrepreneurial spirit, Graydon began Graydon Enterprises, LLC, a rental properties business. He and his wife, Veronica, reside in Tifton, with their daughter, Jasmine, while their son, Tremayne, and daughter-in-law, Rechara, live in Fairburn. There is

one other woman who has a tremendous influence on his life -- Lenora or "Doll" as some refer to her. She is his mother, his best friend, and conscience.

Approximately 130 graduates are expected to receive diplomas at the ceremony in Gressette Gym.

**Phi Theta Kappa**  
**Annual Poinsettia Sale**  
**Prices: \$8 each or \$7 for orders of 10 or more**  
**Orders can be placed with any Phi Theta Kappa member or you can email your order to [jgandy2@stallions.abac.edu](mailto:jgandy2@stallions.abac.edu). Plants will be delivered to your office December 2.**



## Student Success Center Grand Opening

ABAC student Willie Hill from Poulan cut the ribbon at the grand opening for the Student Success Center last Monday. Students and tutors spoke highly of the academic resources available during the ceremony. Comments were also made by President David Bridges, Dr. Gail Dillard, and Dr. Don Parks.

## Town Hall Meeting on Front Campus Project Dec. 1

All faculty and staff of ABAC are invited to a Town Hall meeting on Dec. 1 at 2 p.m. in Health Sciences 108 for the latest information on the project to renovate the front of the ABAC campus including Tift, Lewis, Herring, and Weltner Halls. President David Bridges will update you on the progress so far. Join us if you can.

## ABAC Closed For Thanksgiving

ABAC will be closed Thursday and Friday in observance of Thanksgiving. The college will be open for regular hours on Wednesday. Students will not have classes on that day.



## Cox Wins High Five Award

Shawn Cox, Farm Technician, is this week's high five winner. Cox was nominated by Jimmy Felton who writes, "Shawn always goes out of his way to help us with labs that need large equipment. He has repaired equipment several times when we have had trouble. Anything that Shawn can do to help us he does."



The FOCUS is a weekly electronic publication produced by the Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College Public Relations Office.

**Ashley Williamson**  
Writer and Layout

**Mike Chason**  
Writer and Editor

Please submit any information to Ashley Williamson at [awilliamson@abac.edu](mailto:awilliamson@abac.edu) by Thursday at noon for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

Don't Forget to pick up your **Boston Butts** in the Evans Hall Circle **Tuesday from 4-6 p.m.** Don't worry if you didn't pre-purchase a ticket. We will have a few extras. Thanks for everyone's support of the ABAC Ambassadors!



## Job Opportunities

- Computer Services Specialist I
- ABAC Police Officer
- Overnight Desk Clerk
- Part-time Credentialed Faculty

## Web Site Gets New Look On Dec. 1

The ABAC web site will have a total makeover beginning Dec. 1. When you pull up [www.abac.edu](http://www.abac.edu) on your computer that day, you will see that a lot has changed. Take some time to familiarize yourself with the new site. It has a cleaner, more open look. All the necessary pages are still on the site, possible with a different entry point.

## ABAC Accepting Hall of Fame Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the Athletics Hall of Fame at ABAC. The honorees will be inducted at the annual Hall of Fame dinner on Feb. 13, 2009. The deadline for nominations is Dec. 1, 2008.

Any individual, living or deceased, may be considered for induction into the ABAC Athletics Hall of Fame. Individuals are nominated in one of three categories: Athlete, Coach, or Contributor.

"We were very excited about the establishment of the Athletics Hall of Fame and our inaugural class last year," Athletics Director Alan Kramer said. "With the rich athletics history of our college, it's going to be exciting to see the selections for this next group."

Thanksgiving Break  
Baldwin Library Hours  
Wednesday: 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

THANKSGIVING:  
CLOSED  
Friday: CLOSED  
Saturday: CLOSED  
Sunday: 5 -10 p.m.



## ABAC Birthdays

- 24 Gwynda Shields
- 25 Brenda Graham
- 26 Keith Barber
- 27 Doug Hicks
- 27 Eric Cash
- 28 Billy Purcell



## ABAC Continues Customer Service Training

As part of Service Excellence suggestions, Janet Weaver conducted four customer service and phone etiquette classes for the student workers of ABAC. The 50 minute class focused on the resources available to help a caller or visitor get the answers they need. Community Assistants will also be required to take the class. Future classes will be scheduled at the beginning of the semester after new hires have been made, and anytime throughout the semester that is needed.

The inaugural Hall of Fame class included Thomas Cheney, Bruce V. Gressette, Norman "Red" Hill, Orion Mitchell, Philip Simpson, and Milena Stanoytcheva. Kramer said athletic achievement as well as integrity, sportsmanship, and character will be considered. He said the college is also looking for individuals who may have been good athletes while at ABAC, but who went on to coach high school or college teams to state or national titles.

Alumni as well as the general public are encouraged to nominate individuals for this honor. Athletics Hall of Fame criteria and a nomination form can be found at [www.abac.edu/halloffame](http://www.abac.edu/halloffame).

For more information, interested persons can contact Kramer at (229) 391-4928.