



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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### 'Tea For Three' Exhibit Opens Saturday at the Museum

Three exceptional Georgia artists will showcase their works beginning Saturday as part of a new exhibit at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC.

The exhibit will kick off with a reception on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. at the Gallery of the Museum. The "Tea For Three" exhibit will feature the works of Mary Ann Cox, Dr. Vincent Keese, and Anthony Scheffler.

The exhibit will include Cox's brand-new line of paintings, Keese's paintings of rural scenes, and Scheffler's collection of unique wood and metal teapot sculptures. A tea-themed opening reception sponsored by the Wiregrass Farmers Market will feature high-tea nibbles made by local farmers. Hot and cold teas brewed from herbs and fruit will be prepared and served by exhibit partner Hilton Garden Inn. The GMA's bluegrass band will provide the enter-

tainment for the event.

The "Tea For Three" exhibit will remain open until March 21. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For a special private tour, a class visit to the Gallery, or a lecture by one of the featured artists, interested persons can contact Polly Huff, Museum Gallery Coordinator from the ABAC Arts Connection, at (229) 391-5222 or [phuff@abac.edu](mailto:phuff@abac.edu).



### Mark your Calendars for Stallion Day Feb. 11

The schedule will be similar to the fall day, including a stallion marketplace in Gressette Gym from 9:30-10:30 a.m. For more information visit

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



### March 2 'Evening For ABAC' Features Alumna

The annual "Evening for ABAC" scholarship fundraiser on March 2 will feature the one-woman show "Mrs. John Marsh - The World Knew Her as Margaret Mitchell", written by ABAC alumna Melita Easters.

Easters' play tells the story of the reclusive author's life before and after she became a publishing sensation with her novel, "Gone With The Wind". The play includes an audio visual component of rarely published photographs and newsreel footage from the movie's Atlanta premiere.

Largely in Mitchell's own words, the play is based on the author's articles, the thousands of letters she wrote, and the hour-long radio interview she gave in 1936 as edited and organized by Easters. Additionally, she incorporates her research of literary sources and biographies to construct an engaging and historically accurate picture of Mitchell's life.

The show includes a "Talk Back" ses-

sion which offers the audience the opportunity to interact with the actress and playwright. Those who have attended past "Talk Back" sessions include the author's first cousin, senior citizens with fond memories of Mitchell, and a Morehouse Medical School professor whose medical school scholarship was paid for by Mitchell.

"Audiences just love being able to share reminiscences of Margaret Mitchell and ask questions," said John Gibson,

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### ABAC Fitness 5K Saturday @ 9 a.m.

The race supports ABAC Fitness Club. Contact Joe Wilson at 392-6587 or Jimmy Ballenger 391-4939 to register.

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the owner of Ansley Park Playhouse, where the show had a three-month run last summer. "Easters has a vast knowledge of her subject and answers questions in an engaging and entertaining fashion."

Actress Mandi Lee plays the author who created one of the nation's most memorable portrayals of the South during the war. Lee made her stage debut at age six in a production of "Cinderella" at The Talent Factory, where she performed until the age of 14 when she switched to productions at Lilburn's Providence Christian Academy. She is a graduate of the prestigious Webster Conservatory of Theatre Arts in St. Louis where she had the lead role in several productions. She has also appeared in three small independent films.

The evening begins with a dinner at 6 p.m. in Gressette Gym which will be designed similar to the 1939 Atlanta premier of the movie. After dinner, the focus moves to Howard Auditorium at

7:30 p.m. where patrons will take in the play and meet Easters and Lee.

Advance tickets are available for the performance and dinner for \$100 a person or \$180 a couple. Reserved tables for eight persons in Gressette are \$1,250. Tickets for the performance only are \$45 a person or \$80 a couple. Proceeds from this event go to support ABAC student scholarships. Reservations can be made by calling the ABAC Foundation at 229-391-4895.

Easters is a 1974 graduate of ABAC and received the Donaldson Award from former president George P. Donaldson on graduation day. While at ABAC, she edited the award-winning student newspaper, "The Stallion", was associate editor of "The Agriculturist" and Chief Justice of the Traffic Court. A 1976 graduate of

the University of Georgia, she served as president of The University Union and copy editor for "The Red and Black" while on campus.

"Gone With the Wind" was published 75 years ago on June 30, 1936. With almost 100,000 pre-publication copies printed, it debuted as a Book of the Month Club selection for July. Glowing reviews hailed the book. The Washington Post called it, "A great book ... without a dull page." In The New York Times, the reviewer said, "This is beyond a doubt one of the most re-

markable first novels produced by an American writer. It is also one of the best. In sheer readability, it is surpassed by nothing in American fiction."

The novel won the 1937 Pulitzer Prize and became one of the best selling, most widely translated and beloved books of all time. The book has sold more than 30 million copies and has been translated into 40 languages.

The David O. Selznick movie adaptation starring Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable won 10 Oscars. The movie continues to be recognized as one of the greatest and most popular movies ever made. It is seen as the epic film most representative of Hollywood's Golden Age.



Easters



**First Bottles and Brushes of 2012 on Jan. 27**

Bottles and Brushes art class Jan. 27 from 6-9 p.m. at the Museum. Participants will recreate "Owl Perched in Tree" by Brenda Rose. There is a fee of \$25 per person for the class or \$40 for a couple. Participants must register ahead of time by contacting Huff at (229) 391-5222 or by emailing her at phuff@abac.edu. Space is limited so be sure to register early.

**Run for the Nurses**

Join the School of Nursing and Health Sciences on Feb. 25 for a 1 mile fun walk/run, 5K run, and 10K run event to assist in the future education of nurses through scholarships at ABAC. The 5K race will benefit the Lisa Purvis Allison Spirit of Nursing Scholarship Fund. Visit [www.abac.edu/nursing](http://www.abac.edu/nursing) or email Rebecca Arnold at [rarnold@abac.edu](mailto:rarnold@abac.edu) for more info.



**Anti-Plagiarism Workshop Thursday at 3:30 p.m.**

Brian Ray and Wendy Harrison will facilitate a workshop on preventing plagiarism using Turnitin.com. The meeting will be in Conger 230.



**Save the Date**

Celebrate ABAC Weekend March 2&3. For more info visit [www.abac.edu/celebrate](http://www.abac.edu/celebrate) or call the Alumni Office at 391-4900.

The FOCUS is a weekly electronic publication produced by the ABAC Public Relations Office.

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

**ABAC Birthdays**

- 20 JoAnn Brannen
- 20 Paul Willis