



FOCUS

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Fall Concert Thursday at 11:30 in Dining Hall

The ABAC Bluegrass Band, Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Choir's fall concert will be held at the Donaldson Dining Hall on Oct. 14 beginning at 11:30 a.m.

This event is sponsored by the ABAC Music Program in the School of Liberal Arts and the Music Educators National Conference (MENC). The cost of \$6.30 per person includes the regular Thursday fried chicken lunch in the dining hall.

The ABAC Bluegrass Band will kick off the concert from 11:30 a.m. until noon, followed by the Jazz Band from noon until 12:30 p.m., and the Jazz Choir from 12:30 to 1 p.m.

The ABAC Bluegrass Band will feature standard bluegrass selections including "Wildflower", "Dooly", "I'll Fly Away", "Keep on the Sunnyside", "Will the Circle Be Unbroken", "Somebody

Touched Me", "Talkin' To Myself", and "Martha White".

The ABAC Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Don Coates, will perform a variety of jazz styles including swing, Latin rock, ballads, and a hip-hop tune titled "Don't Stop", arranged by ABAC's own Woody Leonard, director of the ABAC Concert Band.

Joining the Jazz Ensemble will be the ABAC Jazz Choir under the direction of Dr. Susan Roe. The choir will perform a set of standard tunes accompanied by Marjorie Fix. Selections will include such classic renditions of "I've Got You Under My Skin," "L-O-V-E," "Blue Skies," and "Something's Gotta Give", as well as a unique jazz version of "America the Beautiful."



Ambassadors Get Into Fall

The ABAC Ambassadors spent Saturday at the Pumpkin Patch at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village. Members of the group painted faces and sold concessions as well as helped with the corn maze. Brooke Justice of Tifton is pictured painting a butterfly.

ABAC Receives \$234,000 ICAPP Nursing Grant

Because of the shortage of nursing faculty in the state of Georgia and the college's stellar reputation in producing nursing program graduates, ABAC has been awarded a \$234,000 grant by the Georgia Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP).

Wanda Golden, Dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences at ABAC, said the grant is the first of its kind that allows teaching faculty to go back to college to receive a master's degree in nursing and then return to ABAC as nursing instructors.

"This is a new grant that is funding the education of nurses to become nursing faculty in the state of Georgia," Golden said. "Only four schools had proposals that were accepted for this grant, and ABAC was selected to be one of them."

"We have been lucky enough to receive a nursing grant every time one has become available through ICAPP. This speaks highly of the strong community and institutional support the nursing program at ABAC receives."

More students major in nursing than in any other single program of study at ABAC. Graduates of the ABAC program receive an Associate Degree in Nursing. Upon graduation, they qualify for the Registered Nurse (R.N.) licensure examination. ABAC has a 98 per cent pass rate on the exam.

Under the ICAPP grant, new nursing faculty will have two years to complete a master's degree in nursing. The grant pays for their salary and benefits as faculty for up to two years. Faculty members must also qualify for the Tuition Assistance Program. Once the faculty members complete their graduate degrees, they will participate in a mentoring program while teaching an additional two years at the institution that awarded the grant.

"The mentoring program is a part of the grant requirement," said Golden. "Nurses transitioning from the practice setting into the academic environment require support and guidance from seasoned nursing faculty. This is why the

mentoring aspect of the grant is so important."

This semester, ABAC has hired two nursing faculty members as the first recipients to receive a master's degree in nursing under this grant.

"The goal is to grow nursing faculty so we can educate more nurses," said Golden. "With a larger nursing faculty, we can allow more students into ABAC's nursing program to help with the nursing shortage in the state."

ABAC currently enrolls 219 students in its nursing program. Approximately 509 more ABAC students are taking classes in an attempt to qualify for admittance into the program. ABAC also has an additional 32 nursing transfer majors who plan to attend other colleges to obtain a bachelor's degree in nursing or advance to a graduate nursing program.

For more information on the ABAC nursing program, interested persons can contact Golden at (229) 391-5020.

ABAC To Spotlight Music Groups At 2010 Sunbelt Expo Exhibit

For the first time in over 20 years, the Bluegrass Band from ABAC will perform on Oct. 19 at the ABAC exhibit at the Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition at Spence Field near Moultrie.

ABAC Music Program Director Don Coates said the ABAC Bluegrass Band will be featured at 10 a.m., noon, and 2:30 p.m. on the first day of the three-day event.

"We had some students who were really interested in bluegrass music this year, and I think the audiences at the Expo are in for a real treat," Coates said.

The ABAC Jazz Choir will perform at 10 a.m., noon, and 2:30 p.m. on Oct. 20 at the ABAC exhibit at the Expo, and the



ABAC Jazz Choir

Mike Chason said ABAC will showcase the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources with 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. sessions on Oct. 19 and Oct. 20. The Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village, now operated by ABAC, will be in the spotlight with 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. sessions on Oct. 21.

"The Museum will also have its own exhibit adjacent to the ABAC building at Expo this year," Chason said. "We will

Thundering Herd Pep Band will perform classic rock tunes and beach music songs at 10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m. on Oct. 21 on the final day of the Exposition. ABAC Public Relations Director

have interpreters out there with some on-site demonstrations."

The ABAC Ambassadors will be the emcees on the ABAC stage throughout the week and will also be selling ABAC t-shirts, sweat shirts, and caps at the exhibit. They will also be answering questions from prospective students and alumni.

"The Expo represents a great opportunity for ABAC to connect with high school students and to re-connect with alumni," Chason said.

ABAC will also host the Expo Scavenger Hunt for middle school and high school students. The students follow clues to find answers to questions posted on the Expo web site at <http://www.sunbeltexpo.com/resources.html#scavenger>. Prizes will be awarded after the Expo.

The Expo began as a series of small farm equipment shows on the ABAC campus in the 1960s. It moved to Spence Field in 1978. The college has exhibited at the show every year near the main entrance.

Heritage Festival November 6 at Georgia Museum of Agriculture

The Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC will host the first ever Georgia Heritage Festival on Nov. 6. The festival will be held from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., followed by a concert on the Wiregrass Opry stage at 7 p.m.

General admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, and no charge for ABAC students to attend the festival. The concert is \$15 for adults, \$10 for students, and no charge for ABAC students. Tickets can be purchased through the ABAC Arts Connection at (229) 391-4820 or via e-mail at artsconnection@abac.edu.

"This is a brand new endeavor dedicated to traditional arts and living," said Wayne Jones, Director of the ABAC Arts Connection. "This festival will feature performers, visual artists, and practitioners of other traditional art, as well as the historic village. This is going to be reminiscent of a 19th century fair."

Other points of interest will include traditional food and drinks from the era, children's games, an arts market, and the kickoff to a special month long exhibit of artwork from "The Carving Collection of C.L. Morehead, Jr., and Friends". There will also be a panel



Diane Durrett will perform on Nov. 6 at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at 7 p.m. as part of the Heritage Festival.

discussion on the arts with experts brought in by the Traditional Arts Network of Georgia (TANGA). When the sun goes down, the first concert of the Georgia Singer/Songwriter Performance Series will begin with featured musician Diane Durrett. With a blend of raw soulful vocals, sultry tones and

strong original songs, Durrett has sung with Sting, The Indigo Girls, Gregg Allman, Chuck Leavell, and Peter Stroud. She has opened shows for Tina Turner, Faith Hill, Little Feat, and Delbert McClinton. She has also recorded five of her own albums, written a book, and just recently launched an artist development company, Blooming Tunes.

The Georgia Heritage Festival is being organized by the staffs of the Georgia Museum of Agriculture, Arts Connection, Educational Outreach, and members of the Tifton-Tift County Arts Council and the Tifton-Tift County Tour-

ism Association.

The Arts Connection is supported by the Tifton-Tift County Tourism Association, ABAC, ABAC student activities, the Agrirama Foundation, the Georgia Council for the Arts, the Georgia General Assembly, and its partner, the National Endowment for the Arts.

"We really hope this will become a signature event for arts in Georgia," said Jones.

ABAC Offers 'King And I' Trip to Jacksonville

The Office of Educational Outreach at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will offer a day trip to Jacksonville, Fla., to see one of Rodgers' and Hammerstein's most beloved musicals, "The King and I", on Oct. 23.

Located at the Alhambra Theater, the Saturday matinee includes lunch and the show, as well as transportation via motor coach to and from the venue. There is a cost of \$99 for this trip.

For more information on this trip or any others, visit the ABAC Educational Outreach web site at www.abac.edu/psbo/Travel/index.cfm, contact Diane Kilgore at dkilgore@abac.edu, or call (229) 391-5070.

ABAC Opens Campus for High School Students on Stallion Day on Nov. 13

High school students will have an opportunity to experience the campus of ABAC on Nov. 13 at Stallion Day. Registration begins at 8 a.m. in the Donaldson Dining Hall.

"It's never too early to explore college opportunities and everyone is welcome to attend," said Donna Webb, director of enrollment services.

Visiting students will get the chance to tour the college or walk around the Stallion Marketplace located in Gressette Gym from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. The Stallion Marketplace offers a glimpse at over 50 programs of study including the on-campus bachelor's degrees in Rural Studies, Diversified Agriculture, Turfgrass and Golf Course Management, Early Childhood Education, Management, and Accounting.

Conversation Corners will take place from 10:45 – 11:50 a.m. at various locations across the ABAC campus. This activity allows students to choose two

detailed information sessions focusing on areas such as learning communities, music, housing, student activities, and the Honors Program. Parents are also welcome to attend.

A free lunch in the Donaldson Dining Hall will be provided for the visiting students from noon – 1 p.m. Meals are available for parents at a cost of \$6 per person. Waivers for housing and meals are up for grabs, as well as a \$500 tuition grant. Only students enrolling for the fall 2011 term will be eligible to win. Some students will also receive on-the-spot admission to the college.

From 1 – 1:45 p.m., parents will remain in the dining hall for an information session while students will take part in interactive classes within the seven schools at ABAC.

"This gives the students a chance to see what the classes and facilities are like on the campus," said Webb.

"Parents will have the opportunity to get

their questions answered, not just from the faculty and staff, but through testimonials from students and parents of ABAC students."

Students and parents will meet from 2 – 3:30 p.m. to take advantage of sessions on financial aid and housing, or get the chance to tour one of the ABAC residence halls on campus.

"With Stallion Day, we want to help students make an informed decision to attend ABAC," said Webb. "We are excited about Stallion Day and it should be a great time for students to experience what ABAC has to offer them."

Prospective students should sign up ahead of time for the Stallion Day event at www.abac.edu/stalliondays or call (229) 391-5004. If there are any questions regarding Stallion Day, contact the Office of Enrollment Services via e-mail at abacinfo@abac.edu.

Flu Shots Now Available In The Health Center

Flu shots are available now in limited quantities in the Student Health Center. The cost is \$15. Vaccines are available from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Friday while supplies last.



Kappa Sigma Golf Tournament to Benefit Cancer

The Kappa Sigma fraternity at ABAC will host its first charity golf tournament at the Golf Club of South Georgia on Nov. 5 at 1 p.m. to benefit the American Cancer Society.

The event is a four-man scramble. There is a \$50 fee per golfer that includes lunch and tee gifts. Golfers can also buy a hole for \$100 to have a sign made advertising a company business. Registration will take place at 12:30 p.m. on the



tournament day. Cash and checks are accepted. A drawing will be held at the end of the tournament before the winners are announced. Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place teams of the tournament.

For more information on this event, contact John White, Event Coordinator, at (229) 402-4291.

Dress For Success

Dr. Sally Whatley, former superintendent of schools in Dougherty County, addresses the audience at the recent Dress for Success: Cracking The Interview Dress Code Fashion Fair in Bowen 100. Annie Sims from the Student Development Office coordinated the event.





New Chair For ABAC Foundation

ABAC President David Bridges (left) meets with Roger Dill, the new chair of the ABAC Foundation Board of Trustees. Dill is a longtime Tifton resident who has been an ABAC Foundation Trustee for seven years. The ABAC Foundation is the fundraising arm of the college. Dill will serve for two years as the chair.

Alumni Award Nominations Due Dec. 1

Nominations are now being accepted for awards to be presented by the ABAC Alumni Association at the Celebrate ABAC alumni weekend on March 4 - 5, 2011 at ABAC. Nominations are due by Dec. 1, 2010.

Awards are based on professional achievement, community service, and service to the college. Anyone who has attended ABAC for one full year and has 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of credit is eligible for nomination.

Nomination forms may be obtained by logging onto www.abac.edu/alumni and clicking on the "Alumni Awards" link. Completed nominations may be mailed to the ABAC Alumni Office, ABAC 13, 2802 Moore Highway, Tifton, GA 31793-2601, or returned as an e-mail attachment to Vonda Fenn at vfenn@abac.edu. Nominations should provide specific details about the person being nominated. Nominations may be made by alumni, friends, family members, or ABAC faculty and staff.



ABAC Family

Dr. Susan Roe talked about the First Tuesday concerts on the WTIF Morning Show with Chris Beckham on Oct. 4

Mike Chason presented "The Eagle in You" to two groups of students at the Sixth Street Academy on Sept. 24.

ABAC Birthdays

- 12 John Layton
- 14 Gail Dillard
- 17 Polly Huff



Fillies At Home On Tuesday

Coach Jimmy Ballenger's ABAC soccer team will host Andrew College at 4 p.m. on Tuesday at the ABAC soccer field. Come out and support the Fillies!

For 30 Years of Kiwanis

ABAC Public Relations Director Mike Chason receives a Legion of Honor award from Tifton Kiwanis Club President Patricia McConville for his 30 years of service to the organization. Chason is a past president of the club and served for many years as the editor of the weekly newsletter.



Barnes Speaks At ABAC

Former Governor Roy Barnes spoke to students, faculty, and staff at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College on Wednesday. The visit was sponsored by the ABAC College Democrats student organization. Cody Morris, president of the ABAC College Democrats, welcomed Barnes to the campus and introduced him at the event.