Art Exhibition November 2 at ABAC

The Bowen Gallery Juried Art Exhibition will be held on Nov. 2 at the Bowen Gallery, Room 121. The exhibit opens with a reception from 4:30 – 7 p.m. on Nov. 2. Refreshments will be provided and there is no charge for this event. The general public is welcome to attend this exhibit.

The works of 17 student and faculty artists will be on display. Artists chosen to participate in this exhibition were selected by jury of peers. A variety of mediums will be showcased at the gallery.

Also featured in the exhibit will be a collection of works including oil paintings, three-dimensional designs, and ceramic pieces from student artist Jean Gay. Gay is fresh off a third place win for her painting, “Evening Shadow” from the Georgia National Fair. Additional works by the artist are available in Moultrie at Sid’s Antiques, and Funderburk and Newsome CPA office, and in Tifton at Classic Art and Frame.

The exhibit will be open in the Bowen Gallery to all who would like to view the pieces from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. through Nov. 3.

For more information on this event, contact Donna Hatcher at dhatcher@abac.edu.

AGR Donates $2,600 to Alzheimer’s Foundation

Zebb Luster (right, holding check), President of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College’s Alpha Gamma Rho (AGR) fraternity, donated $2,600 to the Alzheimer’s Foundation on behalf of the Greek organization at the Walk to End Alzheimer’s. The money was raised during the fraternity’s annual barrel race held at the ABAC rodeo arena in September.

Alumnus in Concert at ABAC Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The First Tuesday Concert at ABAC on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Chapel of All Faiths on the ABAC campus will feature “A Night of Jazz”.

Saxophonist Kenyon Carter and his group, The Kenyon Carter Connection, including Chris Blackwell, guitar; Coleman Woodson II, keyboard; Billy Thornton, electric bass; and John David, drums; will be the featured performers.

The ABAC First Tuesday Concert Series takes place on five selected first Tuesdays during the year. Dr. Susan Roe, associate professor of voice at ABAC, directs the series. All First Tuesday concerts are presented to the community as a gift from the college through the School of Liberal Arts and the Georgia Council for the Arts.

Carter is an Atlanta-based jazz saxophonist and international recording artist recognized for his melodic compositions and engaging live performances. He is an ABAC alumnus who also holds bachelor’s degrees in both performance and music education from Valdosta State University as well as a master’s degree from Georgia State University in jazz saxophone performance. While studying at VSU he was named “outstanding soloist” at the Elmhurst Jazz Festival.

Carter has recently released his debut album “Right By My Side”, a 12-track CD, to rave reviews. CDs will be available for sale after the performance. Interested persons can visit www.kenyoncarter.com for more information.

Other First Tuesday events will be held on Feb. 7 featuring “A Night of Chamber Music” with the Azalea String Quartet; March 6 with “A Night of Classical Guitar”, featuring Matt Cochran; and April 3 with “A Night of Broadway Music” featuring ABAC faculty, students, and voice majors.

For more information, Roe can be reached at sroe@abac.edu.
ABAC Jazz Groups Present An Evening of Jazz Thursday at 7 p.m.

The ABAC Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Choir will present an evening of jazz music on Thursday at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium on the campus of ABAC. This concert is sponsored by the ABAC Music Program in the School of Liberal Arts. There is no cost for this event.

The ABAC Jazz Ensemble, directed by Don Coates, will begin the evening with a swing tune, “Dat Here”, followed by “North Africa”, a Latin tune written by Chick Corea. Woody Leonard, director of the ABAC Concert Band and noted composer/arranger, has arranged singer Nina Simone’s “I Put A Spell on You” for the ABAC Jazz Band featuring soloist Brian Holland, a vocal music major from Fitzgerald.

“Groovin’ High” written by the famous jazz artist John “Dizzy” Gillespie and featuring Kwame Paige, an ABAC music major from Valdosta, and Harry King, a former ABAC music major, on alto and tenor saxophones will be one of the highlights of the night.

The second half of the concert will feature the members of the ABAC Jazz Choir with tunes of Cole Porter in Jay Althouse’s arrangement of “Let’s Fall in Love: A Tribute To Cole Porter” featuring soloists Alyson Ireland, a early childhood education major from Tifton, and Daniel Gibson, a music major from Ty Ty. They will be accompanied by the ABAC Jazz Ensemble and Marjorie Fix, staff accompanist for all choirs at ABAC. The next tune, “You’d Be So Nice To Come Home To” by Cole Porter, features soloists Scarlett Eirish and Patrick Ireland, music majors from Tifton. They will be accompanied by the rhythm section of the Jazz Ensemble. Ira Gershwin and Jerome Kern’s “Long Ago and Far Away” and Cole Porter’s “You’re the Top”, both arranged by Mark Hayes, will follow.

The evening’s performance will conclude with “Rule The Roost” and big band hit “Swingin’ The Blues”, which was written in 1938 and performed by the Count Basie Orchestra in 1960.

Baldwin Players of ABAC Perform “Rabbit Hole” Nov. 10-12

“Rabbit Hole”, the Baldwin Players’ upcoming fall production at ABAC, will take place Nov. 10-12 at 7:30 p.m. on the third floor of Conger Hall, Room 319. Tickets for the production are free to faculty, staff, and students with ABAC ID. The general public can purchase tickets at the door for $5.

“Rabbit Hole” is a play that deals with the variety of ways family members cope with loss, grief, and healing. Written by David Lindsay-Abaire, “Rabbit Hole” was the recipient of the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and was nominated for four Tony Awards in 2006, garnering Cynthia Nixon the Tony in the Best Actress – Play category. It received its first full production in New York in 2006, and it has also been produced by regional theatres in cities such as Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Baldwin Players of ABAC Perform “Rabbit Hole” Nov. 10-12

The cast for “Rabbit Hole” include Laura Cerone, a pre-nursing major from Bainbridge; Kaitlin Croft, a student at Tift County High School; Mauricio Soto, a medicine major from Wray; Michelle North, an early childhood education major from Tifton; and Cory Rogers, an engineering major from Enigma. Noelle Stuart, an agribusiness and agricultural communication major from Coolidge, is assistant director/stage manager for the production.

The play contains strong language and adult situations. It is not recommended for children.

For more information on “Rabbit Hole”, interested persons can contact Coates at 229-391-4942.

ABAC Hosts Another Successful Family Weekend

Over 350 ABAC students and families enjoyed a weekend of fun and entertainment at ABAC Oct 7-8. Students and their families had the opportunity to see a soccer game, enjoy movie on the shore of Lake Baldwin and explore the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village operated by ABAC.

Additional Employee Benefit Classes Added

If you missed the Employee Benefit Communication meetings last week, Human Resources has added two classes. Tuesday at 2 p.m. and Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Student Center Courtroom on the third floor of the Branch Student Center. Please go to the following link to register for the session that best fits your schedule www.abac.edu/hr/openenrollment. Open Enrollment will run through Nov. 17.
ABAC 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 3, 2012 at ABAC. Nominations are due by Dec. 1, 2011.

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 the Alumni Association at alumni@abac.edu no later than Dec. 1.

Nominations should provide specific details about the person being nominated. Nominations may be made by alumni, friends, family members, or ABAC faculty and staff.

For more information about the nomination process, contact the Alumni Office at (229) 391-4900 or via e-mail at alumni@abac.edu.

ABAC Fall Carnival Gets Faculty and Students in the Halloween Spirit

Kathy Moreno, ABAC faculty member, and her husband, Dr. Ray Moreno, got in the Halloween spirit Thursday night at the annual ABAC fall carnival. ABAC clubs and organizations hosted the carnival with games like pumpkin bowling, face painting, bobbing for apples and other great activities.

Visit the Exhibits at the Museum

“Jimmy Carter: Georgia’s Native Son” and “Mules & Presidents: The Folk Pottery of Huey and Anne Wheeler” are running simultaneously at the museum. The pottery exhibit will remain open until Jan. 7, 2012, and the Carter exhibit will be at the Museum until April, 2012. Exhibit hours are from 9-4:30 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday.

ABAC Spirit Night at Chick-fil-a

Come one come all to ABAC spirit night at Chick-fil-a on Thursday from 5-8 p.m.

Everyone is invited to enjoy a tasty meal at the Tifton Chick-fil-a served by the wonderful ABAC Ambassadors. Part of that night’s earnings will support the ABAC Ambassadors*

*Don’t forget to sign or stamp the back of the receipt with “ABAC Ambassadors” in order for the group to receive their portion of the sales.

ABAC 4-Year Fair

November 8, 3-6 p.m. in Bowen 100
Learn about the ABAC bachelor degree opportunities

Learn about the ABAC bachelor degree opportunities at the ABAC 4-Year Fair on November 8, 2011 from 3-6 p.m. in Bowen 100.

ABAC Spirit Night at Chick-fil-a

Come one come all to ABAC spirit night at Chick-fil-a on Thursday from 5-8 p.m.

Everyone is invited to enjoy a tasty meal at the Tifton Chick-fil-a served by the wonderful ABAC Ambassadors. Part of that night’s earnings will support the ABAC Ambassadors.

*Don’t forget to sign or stamp the back of the receipt with “ABAC Ambassadors” in order for the group to receive their portion of the sales.

ABAC 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 3, 2012 at ABAC. Nominations are due by Dec. 1, 2011.

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 the Alumni Association at alumni@abac.edu no later than Dec. 1.

Nominations should provide specific details about the person being nominated. Nominations may be made by alumni, friends, family members, or ABAC faculty and staff.

For more information about the nomination process, contact the Alumni Office at (229) 391-4900 or via e-mail at alumni@abac.edu.
Dr. David Bridges gave a wrap-up of the Sunbelt Expo and an update on ABAC to the Moultrie Rotary Club on Oct. 25.

Dr. David Bridges presented the Economic Impact of ABAC to the Tifton Rotary Club on Oct. 26.

Mike Chason gave an update on ABAC to the Ashburn Rotary Club on Oct. 20.

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

Please submit any information by Thursday at noon to Ashley Williamson at awilliamson@abac.edu for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

ABAC Birthdays

24 Esthela Lopez

Pirkle Retires After 21 Years at ABAC

Bam Pirkle (left) shares an ABAC memory with Nancy Anthony at her retirement reception. Pirkle retired on Friday after 21 years at the college. She was the administrative associate in the human resources office.

Liebegott Hopes to Break Guinness Record Nov. 9

On Nov. 9, ABAC hopes to set a new record that will put the college on the map once more by breaking the Guinness Book of World Records for playing the largest game of hide and seek. The idea came from ABAC’s Director of Student Activities, Kris Liebegott.

“This is something that I have always wanted to do,” said Liebegott. “When I accepted the position here, I ran it by some of the students and they were really receptive to the idea of attempting the largest game of hide and seek. The idea just brainstormed into fruition.”

The current record is 245 people held by a Queen of Angels Catholic School in Roswell. The game at ABAC will be played on 12.7 acres for an hour.

Those who would like to help make history can sign up at 8 p.m. in the center of The Meadows on the campus of ABAC and the game will begin at 9 p.m. All ABAC students, faculty, and staff are welcome to participate. People under 18 years of age must have parental consent.

For more information about this event, contact Kris Liebegott at (229)

ABAC Coffee Corner Now Open

The ABAC coffee corner opened today at 8 a.m. You can now get your caffeine fix on the ABAC campus with options of cappuccino, coffee, and snacks. The coffee corner is located on the second floor of the J. Lamar Branch student center. Hours are Monday-Friday 8 a.m.—2 p.m.