Concert Features Vann Thornton Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Chapel

A “Seeing Music Through the Prism of Jazz” concert with “Vann Thornton and Friends” on Tuesday is the second installment of the First Tuesday Concert Series at ABAC.

The performance will take place in the ABAC Chapel of All Faiths at 7 p.m. There is no fee for this event. This program was designed specifically for ABAC’s rural studies majors.

The 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. She said there will be no fee for any of the First Tuesday Concerts this year as the ABAC School of Liberal Arts presents “a gift to the community.” Roe said that persons who want to support the First Tuesday concerts can make contributions to the ABAC Foundation and designate them for the First Tuesday Concert Series.

Vann Thornton, vocals and trumpet; Billy Thornton, bass; Kenyon Carter, tenor saxophone; Pauly Lentz, drums; and Scott Giddens on piano will perform an eclectic array of pieces for the second concert of the year.

Selections include the jazz staple “When I Fall In Love” by Victor Trellis; “Fields of Gold” by Sting; “The Look of Love” composed and sung by Burt Bacharach; and both Leonard Cohen and Jeff Buckley’s versions of “Hallelujah”. The performers will also play some more modern selections including “God Bless the Broken Road”, recently recorded by country artists Rascal Flatts and Carrie Underwood; “Smells Like Teen Spirit” written by Nirvana’s Kurt Cobain; and “I’m Not Afraid” by Marshall Mathers (a.k.a. Eminem).

Other First Tuesday events will be held on Feb. 1 with “A Night of Chamber Music” featuring the Marharlika Trio; March 1 with “A Night of Jazz” featuring the Valdosta State University Jazz Combo; and April 5 with “A Night of Broadway Music” featuring ABAC graduates and voice majors.

For more information on the First Tuesday series, contact Roe at (229) 391-4943.

Heritage Festival Saturday at Georgia Museum of Agriculture

Heritage Festival Saturday at Georgia Museum of Agriculture will host the first ever Georgia Heritage Festival on Saturday. 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 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 at 7 p.m. on the Wiregrass Opry stage. 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 Tourism 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.

For more information contact the ABAC Arts Connection at 229-391-4820.
Baldwin Players On Stage November 11 – 13 at ABAC

The Baldwin Players of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will present “No Exit”, a play by Jean-Paul Sartre, Nov. 11 – 13 at 7:30 p.m. in Conger Hall, Room 319. Tickets are free to faculty, staff, and students with ABAC ID. Tickets for the general public will be available at the door for $5 each.

Dr. John Galyean, Director of the Baldwin Players, said the cast for the production includes Dr. Brian Ray, a faculty member in the School of Liberal Arts and the advisor of the Honors Program at ABAC; Mary Porter, a sophomore animal science major from Jesup; Kati Jones, a sophomore English major from Dallas; and Austin Flanders, a junior from Nashville, majoring in early childhood education. Elizabeth Horton, a freshman animal science major from Gainesville, Fla., will serve as assistant director of the production.

“No Exit” takes place in an afterlife filled it seems by cowards—people who do not take responsibility for their previous transgressions on earth. The room in the play is populated by Cradeau, a pacifist journalist, Inez, a secretary and, as she describes herself, “one of ‘those’ women,” and Estelle, a terribly vacuous and vain social climber.

The three soon realize that each is the torturer for the other two in constant and infinite rotation. They are, in Sartrian terms, either “skunks” or “cowards”. They either rationalize their earthly mistakes away or conclude that they were destined to make mistakes and so did not act to correct those mistakes.

For more information on “No Exit”, contact Galyean at (229) 391-4960 or via e-mail at jgalyean@abac.edu.

Daugharty Enthralls ABAC Audience

Pulitzer Prize nominated author Janice Daugharty read from her new novel, “The Little Known,” at the annual Writers’ Harvest last week at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC. The Writers’ Harvest is an annual event sponsored by “Pegasus,” the ABAC literary magazine. Daugharty serves as writer-in-residence at ABAC. She was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in 1997 for her novel, “Earl in the Yellow Shirt.”

Fall Carnival Rescheduled For This Thursday at 6:30

The ABAC Fall Carnival has been rescheduled to Thursday from 6:30 - 10 p.m. at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture. The event is sponsored by ABAC Student Government Association (SGA). For more info, contact the SGA office at 229-391-5095.

ABAC Halloween Band

The Concert Band at ABAC dressed in Halloween costumes for its rehearsal on Friday. Director Woody Leonard (center, gangster outfit) said the costume day has become a tradition for the band, which is rehearsing for its fall concert on Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium. The King (James Lavender) and Queen (Lisa Braun) of Hearts won the top costume prize.
The Concert Choir at ABAC will perform a variety of choral music at the annual fall concert at 7 p.m. on Nov. 9 in Howard Auditorium.

The choir is made up of ABAC students from all over the southeastern region of the United States. The concert is open to anyone who would like to attend at no charge. The choir is under the direction of Dr. Susan Roe, associate professor of voice and director of choirs at ABAC.

The choir’s selections for the evening will begin with “The Star Spangled Banner” arranged by John Stafford Smith, followed by “He, Watching Over Israel” from Felix Mendelssohn’s oratorio, “Elijah”.

The next piece, “A Red, Red, Rose” by James Mulholland, will be sung by the tenors and basses of the concert choir accompanied by Marjorie Fix, accompanist for all the choirs. The sopranos and altos will follow, singing David Downes’ “The Blessing”.

The ABAC Chamber Singers will then perform David Child’s “The Moon Is Distant From Sea” and “Music When Soft Voices Die” by Sherri Porterfield. They will be followed by the ABAC Jazz Choir which will perform “Something’s Gotta Give” by Johnny Mercer, arranged by Jay Althouse, and “I’ve Got You Under My Skin” by Cole Porter, arranged by Kirby Shaw.

Two spirituals, “Ain’t Got Time To Die” by Hall Johnson, and “Ezekiel Saw The Wheel”, arranged by William Dawson, will conclude the evening’s performance.

For more information, interested persons can contact Roe at (229) 391-4943.

ABAC Birthdays
1  William Moore
1  Cynthia Hall
2  Gina Wilson
6  Patricia Willis
7  Kathy Moreno
7  Deborah Drummonds

ABAC Ambassadors Selling Boston Butts $25
Tickets can be purchased from an Ambassador or by contacting Ashley Williamson at 391-5057. Pick-up will be Nov. 23 from 3-6 p.m.
Please support the Ambassadors!

Soccer Fillies Win Historic Match
ABAC defeated South Georgia College 2-1 in state playoff soccer action last Tuesday at the ABAC Soccer Field. The victory for Coach Jimmy Ballenger’s team marked the first ever state soccer playoff game on the ABAC campus and the first state playoff win ever for the Fillies. ABAC lost 4-0 to top-seeded Georgia Perimeter in the second round Friday. ABAC wound up 15-7 on the season, the most wins in the history of the Fillies’ soccer program.

‘Pegasus’ Stories Needed
“Pegasus”, the ABAC literary magazine, is looking for submissions of poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, art, and photography from students, faculty, and staff for the spring 2011 issue.

The magazine has streamlined the submission process by adopting Submishmash, a submission manager database package. Writers and artists can submit work at http://pegasus.submishmash.com/Submit.

“Pegasus” 2011 will have two new features that include a book review section and an interview section.

For more information on submissions for the 2011 “Pegasus”, contact Jeff Newberry at 391-4972.
Ashley Williamson and Miss ABAC, Savannah Brown, appeared on the FOX 31 morning show on Thursday to talk about Stallion Day.

ABAC Selects 18 For Ambassadors’ Program for 2010-2011

Eighteen students at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College have been selected to participate in one of the most prestigious organizations on campus, the ABAC Ambassadors.

Students serving as Ambassadors include Brandi Bishop, a sophomore agriculture education major from Zebulon; Savannah Brown, a sophomore optometry major from Wray; Amanda Gay, a freshman chemistry major from Lincolnton; Keaton Griner, a freshman agricultural transfer major from Moultrie; John Grist, a senior turfgrass and golf course management major from Rabun Gap; Paxton Gordon, a freshman business administration major from Moultrie; and Bernard Green, a sophomore business administration major from Tifton.

Other Ambassadors include Laurel Higginbotham, a sophomore pre-dentistry major from Baxley; Jason Hobbs, a freshman agricultural and biological engineering major from Columbus; Brooke Justice, a freshman business administration major from Tifton; Jessica Kalina, a junior veterinary medicine major from Griffin; and Felicia Matias, a sophomore social work/Christian counseling major from Pearson.

Other Ambassadors are Zachary Miller, a freshman engineering major from Ocilla; Mallory Moore, a freshman undeclared major from Tifton; Mollie Roberts, a freshman communications major from Enigma; Katie Thigpen, a sophomore agriculture communications major from Folkston; Thomas Turcotte, a junior veterinary medicine major from Ranger; and Kevin Vantrees, a freshman sports and golf turf management major from Douglasville.

Green serves as president; Grist is vice-president; Turcotte is secretary; and Brown serves as treasurer of the ABAC Ambassadors. Higginbotham serves as parliamentarian, and Thigpen is the historian.

Through a process involving application, letters of recommendation, and interviews, college administrators choose students whom they believe to be motivated and who show leadership potential to serve as Ambassadors.

The Ambassadors assist the offices of public relations and admissions, representing and promoting the college at a variety of community and college events. They work to maintain positive relationships between students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the community.

To continue in the organization, students must maintain at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale and commit at least 35 hours per semester to their service as Ambassadors.

Ambassador advisors are Director of Public Relations Mike Chason, Executive Administrative Assistant to the President Pam Leonard, Public Relations Assistant Ashley Williamson, and Director of Student Enrollment Services Donna Webb.

ABAC Turfgrass and Golf Course Management Students Attend GGCSA

John Layton (second from the left) and Dr. Alec Kowalewski (far right) accompanied nine ABAC Turfgrass and Golf Course Management students to the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents’ Association meetings Oct. 24-26 at Stone Mountain. The ABAC students had the opportunity to visit and network with area golf course superintendents and green industry professionals. Dr. Eddie Seagle, ABAC Professor Emeritus (far left) and Anthony Williams (center), ABAC alumnus and current Superintendent of the Year, are pictured with the students at the conference.

ABAC Family

Ashley Williamson and Miss ABAC, Savannah Brown, appeared on the FOX 31 morning show on Thursday to talk about Stallion Day.