ABAC Presented With Love Affair Fine Arts Festival Painting

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of Tifton’s Love Affair Fine Arts Festival, local artist Mary Ann Cox recently presented ABAC President David Bridges with a three-panel triptych of the festival.

Cox said the gift is a thank you for the many years of support ABAC has shown to the arts and the Love Affair Fine Arts Festival. “This is part of a continuing tradition that has always been a part of the Love Affair,” said Wayne Jones, Director of the ABAC Arts Connection. “We wanted something from the 30th Love Affair that would be a commemorative piece.”

The painting, designed and sketched by Cox prior to the anniversary of the event, was completed during the two-day festival held in May, 2010 at Fulwood Park. Love Affair artists and Tift County High School art students helped to paint the commemorative piece. The painting features the fun exhibits, activities, and performances the Love Affair event offers the community each year.

The panels together measure two and a half feet by 10 feet. The triptych will hang in the ABAC library until permanent art gallery space is created on the campus.

Enrollment Services staff, Public Relations staff and ABAC Ambassadors went to Irwin County High School on Nov. 9 to speak with all the seniors about attending Georgia’s State College of Choice! Pictured (l-r): Vickie King from Irwin County High, Zachary Miller, Ashley Williamson, Brooke Jernigan, Traci Bryan, Diane Tucker from Irwin County High, and Jason Hobbs.
ABAC Concert Band Performs Thursday At 7 p.m.

The 92-member Concert Band at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will present an evening of music on Thursday at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium on the campus of ABAC. This event is open to the public at no charge.

Director of Bands Woody Leonard serves as the conductor for the Concert Band. He said a variety of pieces will be performed, including a commissioned song dedicated to the memory of former ABAC Director of Bands Eugene Wyles.

“For All The Wyle Eternal” was commissioned by the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) District II Band Directors in memory of Wyles, a local music teacher for 47 years and director of the ABAC Concert Band from 1990 to 2006.

Leonard said Wyles was a brilliant educator, devoting his life to teaching numerous band students and guiding the careers of many young directors. This work, written by Troy University Director of Bands Ralph Ford, combines sparkling melodic subject matter, ranging from lively, playful moments to darker, minimalist ostinatos with numerous musical quotes from “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”, Wyles’ favorite hymn.

The evening begins with the “Star Spangled Banner”, followed by “Light Cavalry”, an orchestral overture written by Franz von Suppe in 1866 and later transcribed for band in 1922. Also on the program is “Urban Dances”, written by noted contemporary composer Erik Morales and based on rhythmic concepts inspired by and found in much of today’s popular music.

Next is one of Henry Fillmore’s most challenging marches, “The Circus Bee”.

First played in 1908, this march was the most difficult piece Fillmore had written at the time and eventually became one of his most popular publications. Sheri Wyles, band director at J. T. Reddick Middle School in Tifton and daughter of Eugene Wyles, will serve as guest conductor for the piece.

The band will also play Dwayne S. Milburn’s latest composition, “American Hymnsong Suite”. This multi-movement suite features his original treatment with a variety of innovative settings of three familiar hymns. “Mojaves Claves”, a Latin composition written by veteran arranger James Barnes, will conclude the program.

For more information, interested persons may contact Leonard at (229) 391-4944.
Thanks to Everyone who supported the ABAC Ambassadors! Don’t forget that Boston Butt pick-up will be Nov. 23 from 3-6 p.m. at Evans Hall. If you did not purchase a ticket yet and still wish to do so call Ashley Williamson at 391-5055.

Third Annual Chili Cook-Off Tonight
The Forestry-Wildlife Club and the Cattlemen’s Club at ABAC will host the Third Annual Chili Cook-Off tonight at 6 p.m. in the foyer of the Ag Sciences Building.

Tickets for all you can eat chili can be purchased in advance for $5 or at the door for $7. Club members will also be selling tickets and providing entry applications in front of the dining hall at lunchtime.

If you would like to enter a chili recipe for the competition, it will need to be either beef-based or wildlife-based. The entry fee is $2 per entry. A two-gallon pot of chili is the minimum requirement for entering.

For any information about ticket sales or entering your famous chili concoction, please e-mail Dr. Mary Ellen Hicks at mhicks@abac.edu.

ABAC’s Got Talent Friday Night
“ABAC’s Got Talent”, sponsored by the Campus Activity Board (CAB) and the Student Government Association (SGA), will showcase the talents of the students, staff, and faculty of the campus at 7 p.m. Friday in Howard Auditorium.

Participants can enter the program or be added to the program through a Penny War. Penny Wars involve voters depositing change into the jars of those performers who are a little more hesitant to showcase their skills. The winner of the Penny War will go on to perform in the main event, and all funds raised will benefit the SGA.

For more information on “ABAC’s Got Talent”, contact Amanda Urquhart at 391-5124 or Kris Liebegott at 391-5152.

Career Connections for Students on Tuesday
Thirty-five businesses will participate in the second annual Career Connections on Tuesday for students in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources at ABAC. The event will run from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Agricultural Sciences building.

The Career Connections job fair will feature a forum for employers to recruit future interns and employees and to communicate industry issues and opportunities to ABAC students. “Career Connections is not just for those graduating seniors at ABAC,” said Dr. Tim Marshall, Dean of the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources. “It will also serve as a place for students to network with employers and for employers to evaluate our students for possible job opportunities down the line. Internship opportunities will also be available for younger students within the school.”

For more information on the Career Connections event, interested persons can contact Marshall via e-mail at tmarshall@abac.edu.

Free Vaccines in Dining Hall Tuesday & Wednesday
The Office of Student Life and Housing and the Student Health Center are hosting the Tift County Health Department for a free vaccine clinic in the dining hall lobby on Tuesday and Wednesday from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. The free vaccines are open to Students, Faculty, Staff and Family Members of these groups. Tetanus/Pertussis, Meningitis, Gardisil and Pneumonia vaccines will be available.

Congratulations to Dr. Erin Campbell and Dr. Eric Cash on the birth of their son, Eliot Eric Cash, today at 6:25 a.m. He weighed 6 lbs, 15 oz. Both Erin and Eliot are doing great.

ABAC Campout for the Homeless
ABAC students built “homes” out of cardboard boxes and camped overnight on the lawn of ABAC Lakeside Friday night to benefit the Atlanta Children’s Shelter for homeless children. Students purchased boxes for $5 and duct tape for $3 with profits donated to the shelter.