



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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### Bridges Receives John Hunt Entrepreneur of the Year Award



Dallas Hunt, ABAC Alumnus and son of John Hunt, presented Dr. David Bridges with the John Hunt Entrepreneur of the Year Award last week at the Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce Banquet. This award recognizes Bridges for his contributions to the Tifton-Tift County community.

### Blood Drive Wednesday

The American Red Cross has an urgent need for type O- and B- blood donations. You can donate blood drive Wed. from 11-4 in the Nickelodeon.

### Wear Red Friday!

National Wear Red Day and Go Red For Women is FRIDAY! Wearing red on this day shows awareness to cardiovascular disease and stroke in women, honors those lost and celebrates those who have survived these terrible diseases. **Wear Red Friday!**

### Madame Butterfly Thursday

Giacomo Puccini's "Madame Butterfly" will be performed by the Peach State Opera Company on Thursday in Howard Aud. at 7 p.m. as a part of the "ABAC Presents!" series. Tickets for are \$15 each for adults and \$10 each for students under 18 years of age. Tickets will also be available at the door on the day of the event. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.artsconnection.ticketleap.com](http://www.artsconnection.ticketleap.com) or by phone at (229) 391-4895.

### Active Shooter Training Classes

The ABAC Police Department will host Active Shooter Training Classes twice this week. The class will show you how to respond when an active shooter is in your vicinity, what to do when law enforcement arrives on the scene and how to recognize signs of potential workplace violence. The classes are Tues. at 10 a.m. in the Student Courtroom and Wed. at 1 p.m. in Bowen Hall Room 100.

### Fitness 5K Saturday

Over 100 people participated in the annual Fitness 5K race and one-mile fun run Saturday at ABAC. The race was sponsored by the School of Human Sciences and United Way of South Central Georgia and raised roughly \$2,500. Thank you to all that participated and supported a great cause!



### Website Training Continues This Week

Training for ABAC's new website, which will launch February 3, will continue this week. Public Relations will be hosting training session for offices, staff and administrators over the next couple of days.



Those faculty who have not yet been trained on how to transfer their information from the old website to the new one will need to set up a time with Public Relations. To set up a time call 391-5055 or emailing Ashley Mock, [amock@abac.edu](mailto:amock@abac.edu) or Lindsey Roberts, [lroberts@abac.edu](mailto:lroberts@abac.edu).

Please remember that any content that you wish to keep from the old site needs to be transferred over or backed-up by February 1. Thank you for your continued cooperation!

### Weekend Sports Recap

#### Fillies Softball Start Season 1-2

The ABAC Fillies Softball team played hard all weekend ending with a 1-2 record. Friday against Indian River State College the Fillies lost in a close game, 3-4. Saturday they won 4-1 against Pasco Hernando Community College, go Fillies. They ended the weekend playing Saturday at 3:20 against Seminole State College with a final score of 9-0. Come out and support them during their next home game Feb. 9 at 1 and 3 p.m.!

#### Stallions Baseball 0-4

The opening weekend for the Stallions baseball team provided some good practice as they gear up for a solid season. The team, under the new direction of Coach Kilgore, played St. Johns River State College four times over the weekend. Scores from the four game series were 1-0, 3-2, 9-0 and 5-1. Cheer them on at the next home game Feb. 3 at 2!

# 'Dodd's Cosmos' Opens Friday at the Museum

The Gallery at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC will open a new exhibit, "Dodd's Cosmos", on Friday featuring the late Georgia artist Lamar Dodd. The exhibit will be on display for three months and will be open to the public from Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Wiregrass Farmers Market and the Hilton Garden Inn will host a 5:30 p.m. reception at the Museum on Feb. 1 for the event which will feature samples of locally grown appetizers and a special beverage made specifically for the event.

Irene Dodd, the artist's daughter, will host a gallery talk during the opening reception for the exhibit. She will talk about memories of her father, discuss the paintings in the exhibit, and answer questions about the artist and his work.

The never-before displayed art is from the personal collection of C.L. Morehead, Jr. Morehead is an ABAC graduate (Class of 1948) and was a personal friend of Dodd. Before his death in 1996, Dodd made sure that Morehead, whom he referred to as "the son I never had", acquired a large collection of his work, including a great number of Cosmos Series pieces. Morehead began collecting pieces of Dodd's work in 1988 and over the last 25 years has managed to assemble the largest known collection that includes nearly 800 oil paintings, pencil drawings, and watercolors.

The exhibit also features a letter from Dodd explaining one of the pieces from the Cosmos Series. Also included is the well-known piece "Crucified Sun", which hung in the Georgia Governor's Mansion and the Oval Office while on

loan to President Jimmy Carter. A rare artifact will also be available for viewing, Dodd's "mission jacket" displaying a number of space mission patches which commemorate each event that he witnessed during his tenure with the space program.

GMA Gallery Coordinator Polly Huff said Dodd is the most recognized artist of his generation from the state of Georgia. He lived his life as a passionate advocate for the arts and a skilled administrator. His most visible legacy is the Lamar Dodd School of Art at the University of Georgia.

Born in 1909 in Fairburn and raised in LaGrange, Dodd took classes at LaGrange Female College (later LaGrange College) when he was 12 years old. After a brief stay at the Georgia Institute of Technology, he taught art in rural Alabama before deciding to seek advanced training.

Dodd enrolled at the Art Students League in New York City and took private classes in association with the Ashcan School. He returned to the South in 1933 where he championed a "local art" that featured southern scenes, southern history, and southern people.

After being invited to Athens in 1937 and appointed to the faculty of the University of Georgia, Dodd consolidated all teaching of the visual arts into one department and even enrolled the first graduate students in a graduate program. The department grew quickly and, thanks to his efforts, is today one of the largest, most comprehensive art schools in the United States.

Invited by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to document humanity's conquest of space

as one of nine official artists in 1963, Dodd began work on a series of paintings that required him to adopt a vivid, expressionistic style. He was given a front row seat to several spacecraft launches, as well as a seat in Houston's Mission Control Room in 1969 to witness the moon landing of the Apollo 11. He also sketched while sitting under a gantry in the Vehicle Assemble Building at Cape Canaveral, an unprecedented access for an artist. The majority of his NASA works are currently housed at the Smithsonian.

Dodd worked to combine statements from astronauts and scientific information with his own perception and vision of space. He ended up creating pieces which depicted the aeronautic events, but also touched on the spiritual meaning of space exploration to him as an artist and for mankind in general.

Dodd spent 30 years working on his Cosmos Series after completing his work with NASA. Heavy layering of paint, curved horizon lines, and shiny layers of gold and silver leaf are all present in the Cosmos Series. Through these techniques Dodd created a spectacular collection of works depicting space and forever preserving his memories of this historical experience.

For more information on the new exhibit, interested persons can contact Huff at [phuff@abac.edu](mailto:phuff@abac.edu) or visit the Museum's web site at [www.abac.edu/museum](http://www.abac.edu/museum).



## ABAC Tennis 'Serving for a Cure' Raises \$600

The ABAC Men's and Women's Tennis raised \$600 for the ABAC Relay For Life team at this year's Serving for a Cure Tournament. Thank you to everyone that participated and helped! You really make a difference!

The FOCUS is an 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

28 Stefane Raulerson

February

2 Eun-Kyung You

3 Kimberly Keen

