The ABAC Jazz Band will perform at this year’s ‘Evening for ABAC’ on March 1. The evening will also include a tour of the newly-remodeled Tift Hall and a fireworks display celebrating the rededication of ABAC’s front campus.

ABAC Jazz Band to Perform at ‘Evening for ABAC’ on March 1

TIFTON – The annual “Evening for ABAC” scholarship fundraiser at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College on March 1 will feature a performance by the ABAC Jazz Band, an
exclusive tour of the newly-remodeled Tift Hall, and reserved seating for the fireworks display celebrating the rededication of ABAC’s front campus.

Advance tickets are available for the performance and dinner for $100 a person or $180 a couple. Reserved tables for eight persons in Gressette Gym are $1,250. A portion of the ticket price is tax deductible. Tickets for the performance only are $45 a person or $80 a couple. Proceeds from this event go to support ABAC student scholarships. Reservations can be made by calling the ABAC Foundation at (229) 391-4895.

The evening begins with a dinner at 6 p.m. in Gressette Gymnasium and a performance of jazz, ragtime, and Dixieland selections by the ABAC Jazz Band.

The ABAC Jazz Band has given numerous performances throughout the Southeastern United States, Mexico, and Europe. The ensemble has taken three European tours where it performed at two of the most prestigious jazz festivals in the world, the Montreux in Switzerland and the North Sea in Amsterdam. The group also performed at the opening of the Tour de France in London, England.

The ABAC musicians have also performed for two of the most celebrated events in Georgia, the opening of the Olympic Games in Atlanta and the Governor’s Arts Awards Ceremony. The jazz band performed at two World Fairs in Knoxville, Tenn., and New Orleans, La. The group was featured at the 2004 New Orleans Heritage and Jazz Festival, the 2005 Pensacola Jazz Festival and the 2006 Cocoa Beach Jazz Festival. The band took top honors at both the Florida State University and Valdosta State University Jazz Festivals.

After dinner and the entertainment, guests will tour the newly-renovated Tift Hall, one of the 1908 original buildings at ABAC. The tour of Tift Hall will include the History Room, an area where guests can view artifacts from ABAC’s past, and the George Thornewell Smith
Parlor, named for the ABAC alumnus who is the only person to win contested elections to all three branches of Georgia government. The evening will conclude with special seating to watch the fireworks show that will close the rededication events on the front of campus.

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