ABAC Concert Band to Perform at District Two Honor Band Clinic

TIFTON – The Concert Band at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will perform a monumental work by Dr. Quincy Hilliard, noted African American band composer, at the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) District Two Honor Band Clinic in Norman Park on Feb. 20.

The Composer in Residence and the Heymann Endowed Professor of Music at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Hilliard will work with the ABAC Concert Band on his composition, “Requiem,” on the ABAC campus earlier in the day on Feb. 20. He will then conduct the ABAC band at the GMEA District Two Concert.

ABAC Concert Band Conductor Johnny Folsom said “Requeim” is a programmatic work based on the death of a civilization by an earthquake in 493 A.D. The music students of the ABAC music program will also have the privilege of hearing Hilliard lecture on the mechanics of composing music in two music theory classes while he is on campus. The GMEA District Two’s clinic consists of band directors and students from schools south of Columbus and west of I-75 in Georgia. The District includes Tift County which will participate by bringing auditioned
band members from grades 6-12 to perform in the Honor Band Clinic held annually in Norman Park.

Hilliard was commissioned by the GMEA band directors of District Two to compose a work for the 11th and 12th grade honor band that will honor one of District Two’s great band directors, the late Jesse Walker, who followed Eugene Wyles as the high school band director at Worth County High School. After he retired from Worth County, Wyles was the director of the Concert Band at ABAC until his death in 2007.

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