For IMMEDIATE Release

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Scholarships Primary Goal of ABAC Event on March 4

TIFTON – Wayne Jones can’t wait for all the glitz and glamour of An Evening for ABAC when the highly anticipated Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College event unfolds at 6 p.m. on March 4.

The ABAC Arts Connection Director, whose duties include the coordination of the event, said this year’s extravaganza will include a cocktail reception, silent auction, live auction, dinner, dancing, and entertainment provided by The Fabulous Equinox Orchestra. But for Jones, the real payoff to all his preparation is seeing the community turn out in record numbers to raise funds for ABAC student scholarships.

“Last year’s contribution was the second-highest amount of money raised in the history of the scholarship event,” Jones said. “We want to continue to grow those numbers.”

During the past five years, the student scholarship fundraiser has resulted in over $200,000 in scholarship funds for ABAC students including $62,000 in 2015 when performer Katie Deal sold out the Gressette Gymnasium venue. As a result, this year’s night to remember has been moved to the University of Georgia Tifton Campus Conference Center.
Jones said sponsors are always the key to making the event a financial success for the ABAC student scholarship program. A President’s Club sponsorship for $10,000 funds four ABAC scholarships; a Titanium level sponsorship of $7,500 funds three scholarships; a Platinum level sponsorship for $5,000 funds two ABAC scholarships; and a Gold sponsorship for $2,500 funds one ABAC scholarship.

Sponsors already on board include Sodexo and Georgia Crown Distributing Company at the Titanium level; Synovus Trust Company-First Community Bank of Tifton and Southeastern Credit Union at the Platinum level, and AT&T Georgia, Captain D’s/Checkers, Chick-Fil-A of Tifton, Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Day, a Foundation Trustee, Hilton Garden Inn of Tifton, Mauldin and Jenkins, Bob McLendon Farms, Needmore Properties, South Georgia Banking Company, WALB-TV, AgGeorgia, Georgia Farm Bureau, and Mobley Gin at the Gold level.

Jeremy Davis and Clay Johnson lead The Fabulous Equinox Orchestra, which includes 17 members in a big band setting. Modeled after the style of legendary entertainers led by Frank Sinatra, Davis and Johnson put their own stamp on the Great American Songbook that includes a bit of Motown, Ray Charles, Johnny Cash, Elvis, and others.

An Evening for ABAC tickets are $125 for singles, $225 for couples, and $1,250 for a reserved table which seats eight persons. A portion of the ticket price is tax deductible. For tickets, call (229) 391-4895 or visit the web site at www.abac.edu/aneveningforabac.

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