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### **Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art Newsletter**

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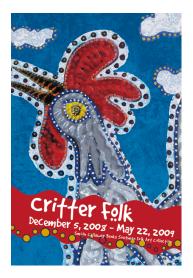
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# CRITTER FOLK OPENING DECEMBER 5, 2008 AT THE SMITH CALLAWAY BANKS SOUTHERN FOLK ART COLLECTION



The Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art is pleased to announce the opening of *Critter Folk* animal folk art for the young and young at heart! The opening reception is Friday, December 5 from 5:30-7:00 PM. *Critter Folk* will be on display through May 22, 2009. Designed for young audiences this exhibition will inspire all ages to enjoy the creative wonder of folk art!

The exhibition is drawn from works in the Smith Callaway Banks Southern Folk Art Collection at Georgia Southern University. It was curated by Professor Kathy Hubbard, MFA, PhD with Art Education Curriculum Research by Art Education Graduate Candidates Mary E. Bowen, Heather Brancato, Beth Love, Shona Pate, Kaye Rothenbuhler and Judy Ware.

It includes art works by two well-known Georgia folk artists, Miz Thang and Peter Loose. Miz Thang will conduct a workshop prior to the opening for elementary age children attending as part of the Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Department's after school program.

The children attending Miz Thang's workshop will use wood, beads, and paint to create a "Critter Birdhouse." The children's artwork will be displayed in the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art for the public and university to enjoy as a mini-exhibit of student work inspired by the exhibit through January 20, 2009.

Smith Callaway Banks' generous donation of his folk art collection to Georgia Southern University has created the opportunity to introduce folk art to children and adults alike through the use of critters, which are an important source of inspiration for many folk artists. Folk art is made by people who have not had formal art training but whose art styles and craftsmanship has been handed down over the generations. The traditions of folk art come from people living in our country's rural areas and folk artists often use animals as their subject matter. People of all ages are drawn to these sometimes scary, sometimes silly critters.

This exhibit is partially funded by grants from the Grassroots Art Program of Georgia and the Georgia Southern University Campus Life Enrichment Committee. Gallery Programming is also supported by Student Activity Fees; all events are free and open to the public. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Georgia Southern University will honor reasonable requests for accommodations. The Center for Art & Theatre is open Monday through Friday from 9 - 5 and by appointment. Docent tours are welcome and available upon request by calling (912) GSU-ARTS.

For more information on this exhibition and other gallery programming provided by the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art, visit http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/art/.



BETTY FOY SANDERS DEPARTMENT OF ART, GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

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phone: 912-GSU-ARTS . http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/art . Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm or by appointment