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Arts & Humanities News

Georgia Southern University

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Music department to host VOICE workshop

March 7, 2012

The Department of Music at Georgia Southern University and the V.O.I.C.E. Experience Foundation will present The VOICE Workshop — a series of concerts and public master classes featuring 20 of America's rising opera stars as they learn from opera superstars Sherrill Milnes and Diana Soviero, March 10-16 in Savannah and Statesboro.

VE, a nonprofit organization, stands for Vocal and Operatic Intensive Creative Experience. It was founded in 2001 by husband and wife team, Sherrill Milnes and Maria Zouves.

Nurturing their commitment to developmental programming for classical singers, their workshops bring educators and performers of the highest level in the theatrical and operatic world to our singers and allow them to share their knowledge through master classes, private coaching, presentations, one-on-one consultations, lectures and performances. Programs for 2012 include events in New York, Chicago, Florida and now in Savannah and Statesboro.

Event Schedule:

Master Classes with Sherrill Milnes

- Saturday March 10 @ 7:30 p.m. Carter Recital Hall, Georgia Southern University
- Sunday March 11 @ 2:00 p.m. Christ Church, 28 Bull Street, Savannah

Master Class with Diana Soviero

- Tuesday March 13 @ 7:30 p.m. Carter Recital Hall, Georgia Southern University

Meet Sherrill Milnes

- Wednesday March 14 @ 5:00 p.m. Regal Savannah Stadium 10, 1132 Shawnee Street, Savannah

Beautiful Voices: a Concert of Opera, Song, and More*

- Thursday March 15 @ 7:30 p.m. Christ Church, 28 Bull Street, Savannah
- Friday March 16 @ 7:30 p.m. Carter Recital Hall, Georgia Southern University

*Local singers are invited to join in! To participate, email info.voicexp@gmail.com to receive a .PDF of the scores. Print them out and attend one of the mandatory rehearsals: Sunday March 11 at 4:30 p.m. at Christ Church, 28 Bull Street in Savannah, or Monday March 12 at 5 p.m. in Georgia Southern’s Foy Music Building.

Donations accepted at the door. First-come, first-served seating.

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Writing and Linguistics students awarded at annual competition

March 7, 2012

The Department of Writing and Linguistics at Georgia Southern University took many top honors at this year’s Roy F. Powell Awards for Creative Writing.

In poetry, Naima Ozier won for “Sacred,” “Sunbathing,” and “(Venus, Horatius, and Aeneas).” Kyera Swint was the runner-up for this category.

The winner in fiction was Michael Chestnut for his short story “Last Call.” Runners-up were James Morton and Chad Sanderson.

Kayla Whaley won the creative nonfiction category for “More ThanGreen,” and Jackson Sharpe was the runner-up.

The winners will receive a cash award of $100.00, a framed award certificate, and recognition at the University’s Honors Day ceremonies on April 4. In addition, their work will be published in Miscellany, the campus literary arts magazine. The winning manuscripts were chosen from a large number of excellent submissions, according to faculty judges Emma Bolden (poetry), Laura Valeri (fiction), and Mary Marwitz (creative nonfiction).

Naima Ozier, a senior writing and linguistics major from Stone Mountain, Ga., cites Pablo Neruda and Toni Morrison as literary influences. The judge noted that Ozier’s poetry “swells and sings, carrying the reader through the lines of the poem and landing them carefully ashore.”

Michael Chestnut, from Savannah, Ga., is a freshman psychology major. He cites Stephen King, Ayn Rand, and George R.R. Martin as influences. The judge stated that what made Chestnut’s story stand out was “the imaginative premise and the surprising connections of physical sensations and memories. This was a fresh and original story, written with a strong sense of detail.”

Kayla Whaley, a first year graduate student studying public administration, is from Marietta, Ga. Her literary influences include John Green, Laini Taylor, Mary Karr, and Neil Gaiman. About Whaley’s essay, the judge wrote: “Whaley speaks in a clear voice about unrequited love — a difficult topic to pull off well, but she does it with restraint and delicate emotion.”

For more information, please contact Eric Nelson at 478-5566.