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Women in the Arts Symposium at the Armstrong Campus

March 19, 2018

SAVANNAH, Ga.—As part of Women’s Empowerment Month, the art, music and theatre programs at the Georgia Southern University Armstrong Campus will host the annual Women in the Arts Symposium on Thursday, March 22, in the Student Union, ballroom C from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Assistant Professor of Music Emily Grundstad-Hall, DMA, and Art Lecturer Mia Merlin, MFA, will co-chair the symposium which will focus on responding to current socio-political movements as they relate specifically to women. The symposium will feature student presentations and a faculty panel discussion on the same topic.

“Women in the Arts is important because it is an opportunity to bring awareness to and celebrate the work of women artists, who sometimes get overlooked as compared to their male counterparts,” said Grundstad-Hall. “I appreciate this platform celebrating women during Women’s Empowerment Month.”

A new addition to the symposium, the panel discussion featuring faculty from the Art, Music and Theatre programs, will begin at 9 a.m. Faculty will present relevant art projects in which they have participated or created and allow for discussion and interaction with the audience.

Assistant Professor of Music at Salem College in North Carolina, Amy Zigler, Ph.D., will present a guest lecture at 10 a.m.

Four art students, Patrice Jackson, June Ford, Sarah Jones and Darian Merritt, will present their pieces beginning at 11 a.m. Jackson will present “Art of Nature;” Ford will present “Healing My Childhood through Art;” Jones will present “The Impact of Sexism and Sexual Assault, and the Fight for Justice;” Merritt will present “The Female Nude.”

“This year’s symposium is particularly exciting as our students respond in personal, raw and moving ways to the current political climate,” said Merlin. “Our presenters are feeling emboldened to speak their truths and express them through art, which inspires us and brings us all together as a community.”

The symposium is free and open to the public.

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research institution founded in 1906, offers 142 degree programs serving more than 27,000 students through nine colleges on three campuses in Statesboro, Savannah, Hinesville and online instruction. A leader in higher education in southeast Georgia, the University provides a diverse student population with expert faculty, world-class scholarship and hands-on learning opportunities. Georgia Southern creates lifelong learners who serve as responsible scholars, leaders and stewards in their communities. Visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu.

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New Media/Tech Artist Ashley Zelinskie to speak at Georgia Southern University

March 19, 2018



Ashley Zelinskie, US Hexahedron, laser cut aluminum, 5x5x5 ft, 2012

This sculpture was commissioned by the U.S. State Department's Art in Embassies program for the U.S. consulate in Saudi Arabia.

STATESBORO, Ga.—The Georgia Southern University Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art (BFSDoArt) will host new media/technology artist, Ashley Zelinskie, on the Statesboro Campus, March 22 at 5 p.m. in Arts Building, room 2071.

Zelinskie will discuss her artistic process and the meaning behind her artwork. Zelinskie's work explores a variety of media, from sculpture to computer programs, while incorporating repetitive patterns, recursive structures and computer code, to better pass the story of mankind and human culture into the future so that it may be interpreted by machines.

"Ashley Zelinskie's work is compelling across a number of scales," said BFSDoArt Gallery Director Jason Hoelscher. "For one thing, the idea of reconfiguring art—among the most human of endeavors—into modes of experience understandable by some machine intelligence of the future is immediately interesting and strange. The fact that her high-tech experimentation with 3D printers and advanced software emerges from her experience with older, hands-on forms like glasswork, is interesting

too, suggesting an interesting balance. Given her range of professional experience, from managing an artist's studio, showing her work internationally and working on projects with NASA, I look forward to hearing what she has to share with our students.”

Beginning at Rhode Island School of Design, Zelinskie earned a degree in glass, and began to explore the topics of mathematics and computers in her artwork. Since then, Zelinskie's artwork has been featured in numerous exhibitions from San Francisco to Amsterdam. Although Zelinskie aims for her artwork to be admired by both humans and computers, it is meant for the future.

Zelinskie's visit to Georgia Southern University is made possible by a generous grant from the Campus Life Enrichment Committee.

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