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Key Notes: The Newsletter of the Department of Music

Georgia Southern University

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“To stay competitive, we must modernize our music offerings,” said Steven A. Harper, chair of the Department of Music. “We also must maintain a robust presence in Savannah. We think we can do both by capitalizing on our faculty’s expertise and on Savannah’s existing music industry infrastructure.”

Harper said the vision for the future of the program is that the traditional music degrees (including music education and performance) would likely be centered at the Statesboro campus and music industry would be the main focus at the Armstrong campus. “However,” he noted, “students on the Armstrong campus (music majors and non-music majors alike) would still be able to participate in a variety of music activities, including traditional ensembles.

The proposed new direction for the Bachelor of Arts in Music degree would likely include two concentrations: a versatile general liberal arts concentration (which is currently available on both the Statesboro and Armstrong campuses) and a music industry concentration. The music industry concentration would be fully available only on the Armstrong
The Georgia Southern Symphony String Camerata, under the baton of Dr. Steven Elisha, enjoyed several outreach performances during the Holiday Season. On November 23, the String Camerata performed orchestra classics and Holiday Favorites at the historic Pal Theatre, built in 1927 in downtown Vidalia. The orchestra was given a standing ovation and everyone enjoyed the Christmas “sing-a-long” concluding the concert.
By invitation of the Georgia Governor's Mansion, the String Camerata performed a Holiday Concert, as part of the Mansion's "Holiday Tours" on December 4. The enthusiastic audience enjoyed a program of light classics and Christmas favorites, as well as a featured selection performed by the Magnolia String Quartet. As members of the orchestra and "ambassadors" of the String Program at Georgia Southern, the quartet members, directed by Dr. Larisa Elisha, include Benjamin Cork, violin, Julie Mallet, violin, Amanda Zhang, viola, and Brant Harlacher, cello.
The Southern Quartet provided entertainment for Christmas at Midtown on December 13. This annual event was hosted by Big Boy Cookies and featured a number of vendors, entertainment, and Santa Claus!
Here are some candid shots from another great fall semester GSUSWE Secondary School performance tour.

This year's tour included stops at Screven County High School, Savannah Arts Academy, Richmond Hill High School, and Wayne County High School. And, just for fun and a little artistic enlightenment, even included a morning stop at the Jepson Center for the Arts in Savannah.

It's always great to play for and interact with instrumental music educators and music students in our region!
"The Southern Pride Marching Band traveled to Orlando to support the football team at the 2019 Cure Bowl on December 21. Activities included some time at Universal Studios, the band banquet at Dave and Buster's, and a Battle of the Bands at Universal City Walk. The kids had a great time and represented themselves, the department, and the University extremely well. Hail Southern!"
Coastal Saxophone Day
29 February 2020 - 9 AM - 6 PM
Statesboro Campus of Georgia Southern University

Guest Artists
Sue McKenzie, saxophone
Scottish Saxophone Ensemble
D’Addario - Yanagisawa Artist
Colin McKenzie, conductor

Southern Saxophones Showcase
Guest Artist Recital
Saxophone Repair Specialist
Creative Improvisation Clinic
Exhibits
Saxophone Ensemble

$45 Registration includes lunch, t-shirt
Open to saxophonists grade 8 - adult

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Registration deadline February 1
Register at https://tinyurl.com/vboxyro

Sponsors & Exhibitors

Register now for the second Coastal Saxophone Day. The event will include a number of exhibitors, on-site saxophone repair, performances by the students and ensembles from the saxophone studio, and clinics and a performance by guest artist Sue McKenzie from Scotland. We are also excited to welcome our former Associate Director of Bands Dr. Colin McKenzie as the conductor of our saxophone ensemble. The event is open to saxophonists from grade 8 through adult. Go to https://tinyurl.com/vboxyro to register. Further information on Facebook at Southern Saxophones.
The Carol A. Carter Recital Hall is located in the Foy Building on the Statesboro Campus. The Fine Arts Auditorium is located in the Fine Arts Building on the Armstrong Campus. The Performing Arts Center is located on Plant Dr. on the Statesboro Campus.

For a complete schedule of Upcoming Events in the Department, visit http://cah.georgiasouthern.edu/music/ and click on "Concerts/Events."