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Georgia Southern University to Open Center for Art and Theatre on March 2

FEBRUARY 21, 2008

The visual and performing arts at Georgia Southern University and the surrounding region will enter a new era when the recently completed Center for Art and Theatre opens to the public on March 2. The Center includes a new Black Box Theatre with seating for up to 150 and three exhibition galleries, including a permanent gallery for the Betty Foy Sanders Georgia Artists Collection. The public is invited to an open house at the Center, located behind Hendricks Hall and adjacent to the Fine Arts Building, from noon-2 p.m. on Sunday, March 2.

‘This new facility brings the visual arts and theatre together in a way that will not only benefit Georgia Southern University, but will make a wonderful addition to the Statesboro community and our region,’ says Bruce Grube, president of Georgia Southern University.

Guests to the galleries and theatre will be greeted by a new public sculpture, *Ascend*, commissioned by Betty Foy Sanders, wife of former Georgia Governor Carl E. Sanders, and created by artist Marc Moulton. The Georgia Artists Collection, a gift that has been developed by Betty Foy Sanders since 1967, will be a primary feature of the new venue and will be located on the main floor. An adjoining sculpture garden, the first on the Georgia Southern University campus, will offer a fourth exhibition space for three-dimensional works of art.

Patricia Carter, chair of the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art said, ‘The galleries will be open to the public, allowing more people the opportunity to see the students’ work, the faculty’s expertise, and a variety of exhibitions that will be possible as we host visiting artists from around the world.’

Inaugural Gallery Exhibitions

The inaugural exhibition in the Center’s Contemporary Gallery will be *Romancing the Stones*, featuring recent work by arts advocate Betty Foy Sanders, a Statesboro native and namesake of Georgia Southern’s visual arts program. Sanders is a renowned artist who uses elements of the earth in her paintings: minerals, rocks, stones, and geodes, adding depth and texture. She served seven years on the board of the Georgia Council of the Arts and Humanities and received Georgia Southern University’s first doctorate in fine arts in 1997. The University renamed its fine arts department in her honor in 1999.

The University gallery will feature *Sacred Journey*, the work of Betty Foy Botts, daughter of Betty Foy Sanders and former Georgia Governor Carl Sanders. Botts expresses her love of color and texture with bold brush strokes that depict subject matter found in nature. Through her artistic talents, Botts has transposed her faith onto canvas as a reflection of her spirituality.

Georgia Southern University Black Box Theatre

'The new Black Box Theatre is a unique addition to our region and will be a simple and unadorned performance space that places an intimate focus on the playwright's story and the actors' interpretation,'" says Pam Bourland-Davis, chair of the Communication Arts program. 'Audiences attending performances at the new theatre will have an up close and personal experience with the performance as the flexible seating arrangements will be tailored to the individual performance.'

The first production planned for the new Black Box Theatre is William Shakespeare's epic tragedy, 'King Lear,'" Feb. 29-March 8. Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. except for the Feb. 29 inaugural performance, which begins at 8 p.m. King Lear will be portrayed by Georgia Southern University professor emeritus Mical Whitaker, an actor and director who is regionally recognized for his work in presenting 'Blessed Assurance,'" 'Black Nativity,'" and many other local productions.

Tickets for 'King Lear'" along with tickets for all future performances at the Black Box Theatre are available by contacting the Theatre's Box Office at 912-681-5379.

– See more at: <http://news.georgiasouthern.edu/pressrelease.php?id=1061#sthash.1pg2eDiZ.dpuf>

Women's History keynoter at Georgia Southern University focuses on human rights as a public health

FEBRUARY 21, 2008

Dabney Evans, executive director of the Emory University Institute of Human Rights, will be the keynote speaker for Women's History Month at Georgia Southern University. Her presentation on Tuesday, March 4 at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Hall of Nessmith-Lane Building is free of charge and open to the public.

Evan's lecture, 'Without Discrimination: Upholding the Human Rights of Women & Immigrants,'" will be unique in that she proposes universal human rights as a public health issue. Evans has worked extensively promoting human rights within the public health arena. Such work includes serving as Medical Education in Cooperation with Cuba (MEDICC) coordinator and collaborating with the World Health Organization's (WHO) Department of Ethics, Trade, Human Rights and Health Law.

Immediately following the lecture, Evans will lead a discussion workshop personally organized around the human rights and health concerns of Georgia Southern University faculty and students.

"Sometimes it might not be obvious to students why they need to be concerned about human rights,'" says Director of the Women's and Gender Studies Department, Dr. Lori Amy. 'A lot of us can think that there's nothing we can do about it. Evans' research shows us that, in fact, there are things we can do, and, moreover, it costs us more to not do address the human rights and health of our world population than it costs to address them.'

Evans' lecture is sponsored by the Campus Life Enrichment Committee (CLEC), the Women's and Gender Studies Program, Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, and the Center for International Studies.

"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" at Performing Arts Center on March 14

FEBRUARY 21, 2008

A classic play by one of America's greatest playwrights is coming to the Performing Arts Center (PAC) at Georgia Southern University.

The Montana Repertory Theatre will present 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' at the PAC on Friday, March 14, at 7:30 p.m.

Written by the legendary Tennessee Williams, the play is about vital and vibrant characters who are trapped in a repressive society that fosters a lack of communication, leading to unavoidable unbearable loneliness.

Tickets for 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' are \$30 per person for the general public. Georgia Southern faculty, staff and students will receive a \$5 discount for each ticket.

In addition, if any tickets are available 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the performance, any Georgia Southern student with a valid University I.D. can purchase one ticket for \$10.

The Montana Repertory Theatre is one of the oldest and most respected touring companies in the country. It features actors, directors and designers with prestigious credits, including Broadway, off-Broadway, national tours of Broadway shows, and major regional theatre.

'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' is the third Williams composition to be performed by the Montana Repertory Company, which previously staged national tours of 'The Glass Menagerie' and 'A Streetcar Named Desire.'

The winner of the 1955 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' contains themes that still resonate today: the emerging power of women, the fear of openness in personal matters, and the mendacity of the powerful.

The PAC is located on the Georgia Southern campus at the corner of Chandler Road and Plant Drive. The box office is open every Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. The box office is also open one hour prior to the start of each performance.

To purchase tickets or obtain additional information, call (912) 486-7999 or toll free (866) PAC-ARTS, or visit the PAC Web site at <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/pac> .

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University, offers more than 120 degree programs serving nearly 17,000 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. The University, one of Georgia's largest, is a top choice of Georgia's HOPE scholars and is recognized for its student-centered approach to education. Visit: www.georgiasouthern.edu .

Georgia Southern University offers business leadership course in Savannah

FEBRUARY 21, 2008

Georgia Southern University is offering a non-credit business leadership course at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah.

'Leadership Skills for the Front-Line Manager' will be held on every Tuesday from March 4 through April 29, except for March 18. Each session will run from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

The 32-hour course will train managers, supervisors and other administrative personnel with leadership responsibilities. Each class will focus on a particular topic, such as communication among employees, legal concerns for supervisors, handling conflict and criticism, and effective methods of coaching employees.

Co-sponsored by Georgia Southern University's College of Business Administration and the Continuing Education Center, the course is designed for managers and supervisors from such varying fields as manufacturing, distribution, hospitality, transportation, health care and government.

The registration fee is \$600 per participant, with a corporate discount rate of \$550 per person for four or more people from the same organization. The deadline is Friday, Feb. 29. To sign up, visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/supervisor.html> or call (912) 681-5551.

For more information on any of the business and career development programs offered by Georgia Southern University, contact program specialist J. Marie Lutz at seminars@georgiasouthern.edu or (912) 871-1763.

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