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Festival of Trees to Make Christmas Brighter for Families in Need

SEPTEMBER 24, 2008



**GEORGIA
SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY**

The Statesboro/Bulloch County community can get an early start on its holiday spirit, and make Christmas brighter for less-fortunate families in the area.

Individuals and companies throughout Southeast Georgia are invited to participate in Georgia Southern University's first Festival of Trees, a fund-raising and friend-raising event set for Nov. 17-22 in the Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building.

"I have high hopes that the community will pull together during the Festival of Trees and help underwrite much-needed toys for the children in our community," said Tina Greenhaw, a Christmas in the Boro community

representative. "In the past we have had a difficult time getting enough toys to fill the demand."

Area businesses and individuals are invited to submit decorated trees, with proceeds going to Christmas in the Boro and Bulloch. Christmas in the Boro and Bulloch is a joint effort by the Statesboro Police Department, Bulloch County Sheriff's Department, Wal-Mart and Toys for Tots to give toys as Christmas gifts to less-fortunate children.

For a \$100 donation, any company or person can present a uniquely-decorated tree for display throughout the week. For a \$50 donation, decorated trees can be submitted for the raffle drawing on Saturday, Nov. 22. All trees must be seven to seven-and-a-half feet tall.

In addition to the concourse of decorated trees, the Festival will feature a gingerbread village, a visit from Santa, storytelling by local librarians, and a hand-selected commercial exhibit area. The exhibit will be open each afternoon and all day on Saturday. For information or to enter a display item, contact Kelly Pye at (912) 478-7977 or visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted>.

– See more at: <http://news.georgiasouthern.edu/pressrelease.phpid=1708#sthash.7qm1zKo1.dpuf>