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New Eagle Nation on Parade sculpture depicts 118-year history of the Howard family's lumber business

SEPTEMBER 9, 2016



Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art graduate students Courtney Ryan and Jessamy McManus unveil the latest Eagle in the Eagle Nation on Parade project at Howard Lumber and Hardware in Statesboro. The "Legacy of Lumber" Eagle is a tribute to the family's heritage and reflects the evolution of their business

On Sept. 9, an unveiling ceremony was held at Howard Lumber and Hardware on Gentilly Road in Statesboro for the newest addition to the Eagle Nation on Parade (ENOP) project.

The sculpture, commissioned by Arthur and Carol Howard, was designed by Georgia Southern University Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art graduate students Courtney Ryan, of Columbus, Georgia, and Jessamy McManus, of Lilburn, Georgia.

Four generations of Howards have worked in the lumber industry processing long leaf, yellow pines in Bulloch County since 1898. The "Legacy of Lumber" Eagle is a tribute to the family's heritage and reflects the evolution of their business — from a small, man-powered sawmill to a technologically advanced, full-line manufacturer and distributor of lumber products in the city of Statesboro.

"It was a pleasure working with Jessamy and Courtney on this project, and they were so easy to work with," said Arthur Howard. "The Eagle turned out fabulous, and Carol and I are so proud of it."

Ryan is a Master of Fine Arts student working in ceramics at Georgia Southern. She earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in sculpture and ceramics at Columbus State University. Currently, Ryan is working as a graduate teaching assistant instructing foundations-level two-dimensional design and three-dimensional design classes at Georgia Southern.

McManus is a Master of Fine Arts student studying painting at Georgia Southern where she also earned her Bachelor of Art in 2D Studio Art and currently is working as the gallery assistant at the Center for Art and Theatre.

"We are excited about the latest ENOP project designed by Courtney and Jessamy," said Robert Farber, chair of the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art. "Through collaboration, these two emerging artists have created a unique sculpture that successfully represents the long history of the Howard Lumber Company and the Howard family's involvement in the lumber industry in Bulloch County."

Eagle Nation On Parade is a public art project that salutes the University's traditions, celebrates the unity of campus and community, contributes to the economic vitality and quality of life in Statesboro while supporting student scholarships.

The Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art (BFSDoArt) at Georgia Southern University is committed to offering quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs that prepare students to become professional artists, designers, art historians, and industry leaders. The BFSDoArt is recognized as an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). For more information, visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu/art](https://www.GeorgiaSouthern.edu/art).

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) is the largest of the eight colleges that make up Georgia Southern University, and it plays a central role in every student's core of knowledge. CLASS, also described as the University's College of the Creative Mind, prepares students to achieve academic excellence, develop their analytical skills, enhance their creativity and embrace their responsibilities as citizens of their communities, their nations and the world. CLASS offers more than 20 undergraduate degrees and several interdisciplinary minors from its 11 departments and five

academic centers. CLASS offers eight master's degrees, two graduate certificates and one doctoral degree. For more information, visit class.georgiasouthern.edu.

Georgia Southern's Business Innovation Group opens Innovation Incubator and FabLab

SEPTEMBER 9, 2016



Area businesses and entrepreneurs now have access to office and meeting spaces, computers and software, 3-D printers and other tools through the [Georgia Southern University Business Innovation Group's](#) Innovation Incubator and Fabrication Laboratory (FabLab) located in downtown Statesboro at the University's City Campus.

A grand opening celebration was held today for the new facility in downtown Statesboro, where guest speakers included State Rep. Jan Tankersley, R-Brooklet, Statesboro Mayor Jan Moore, University President Jaimie Hebert, Ph.D., and Statesboro City Councilman Phil Boyum.

"These resources are available to anyone — from a person with a home-based business idea from Candler County, to the existing businesses or forward-thinking students here in Statesboro, to the thriving and growing businesses and individuals in the Savannah area and the entire Coastal region," said Hebert. "All of this makes BIG a useful and vital place to plant, nurture and harvest the entrepreneurial spirit. That entrepreneurial spirit — that idea of taking your own idea and with support and resources, growing it into something larger than it would have been — is exactly the same kind of spirit, the same kind of culture that exemplifies Georgia Southern."

The event also featured tours of the facility and demonstrations of different machinery and programs offered in the makerspace and incubator.

"The idea that this is now in place demonstrates for rural America, anything is possible. The services you'd normally find in larger urban areas or at institutions like Georgia Tech are now right here in Statesboro and at Georgia Southern," said Dominique Halaby, director of the Business Innovation Group. "Just in the FabLab component, we have 3-D printing of various types so anyone can come in and manufacture anything that they can imagine, but we also have laser cutters, woodworking equipment and lots of other tools that you might not have in your house but you can have access to right here in this space."

The space provides many benefits to entrepreneurs and small businesses in the region that may not have access to designated office space. In addition to providing access to meeting rooms, shared office equipment including printers, wireless networks and other business tools, the FabLab and Innovation Incubator is also a place for those creative thinkers and innovators to seek business advisement, coaching and leadership assessment, business consulting and technical assistance, training classes and much more.

"As we open our doors, we are changing the entrepreneurial ecosystem for the region and initiating opportunities for all innovators, creators, thinkers and dreamers to turn their ideas into reality," said Suzanne Hallman, business advisor for Business Innovation Group.

The Innovation Incubator and FabLab is a joint venture between Georgia Southern University, the Downtown Statesboro Development Authority, City of Statesboro, Statesboro Arts Council and the Economic Development Administration, and is associated with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)-established Global FabLab Network. The incubator is designed to create sustainable jobs, increase the number of local businesses and improve and diversify the economic drivers in coastal Georgia.