

# Newsroom

May 21, 2018

Georgia Southern University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/newsroom>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "Newsroom" (2018). *Newsroom*. 1496.  
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/newsroom/1496>

This article is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of Strategic Communications & Marketing at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Newsroom by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu).

# Georgia Southern Museum closed Summer 2018 for renovations

MAY 21, 2018



This summer Georgia Southern University's Museum will be temporarily closed to the public due to structural repairs that need to be made and essential exhibit maintenance. The administrative offices will remain open for business throughout the summer during the renovation process.

"The Museum's historic home, the Rosenwald Building, built as the school's first library in 1938, requires the replacement of the ceilings and other work to be completed in both major galleries," said Georgia Southern Museum Director Brent Tharp. "Even the 78-million-year-old fossil the Mosasaur, who has greeted visitors since he was first installed in 1987, must move. The staff is very excited that this renovation will also provide the museum with the unprecedented opportunity to design and install all new permanent exhibits on the natural and cultural history of Georgia's coastal plain and establish a new era for the Georgia Southern University Museum."

In the meantime, the Museum has three off-site exhibits that are open to the public in Statesboro.

- ***Beyond Property: SLAVERY in Coastal Plain Georgia, 1650-1865*** will be on display until mid-April 2019 in the "Museum on Main" exhibit hall, located at the **Statesboro Convention and Visitors Bureau** at 222 South Main Street.
- Explore the rich 100+ historical and transformative years of Georgia Southern at ***The Presley Exhibition: An Inspiring Past, A Promising Future*** permanently displayed in the atrium of **Nessmith-Lane Center** at 847 Plant Drive.

- ***Bulloch County's Military Heritage Exhibit*** at the **Bulloch County Annex**, located at 115 North Main Street. This exhibit provides insight into the roles Bulloch County residents played in the major U.S. military engagements.

The University will announce an official re-opening date for the fall when the work is closer to completion.

The Georgia Southern Museum, which is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, supports the University's mission of teaching, research and service, specifically through unique collections, exhibits and educational outreach. The Museum is one of the area's most popular attractions for tourists, University guests and children of all ages. Each year, the Museum attracts tens of thousands of visitors to view exhibits including artifacts from Camp Lawton, a Civil War Prisoner of War camp, the Mosasaur, the Vogtle Whale, a 40-million-year-old whale named for Georgia Power's Plant Vogtle where it was discovered, and more. In addition to attracting tourists, the Museum is also a popular destination for school field trips from surrounding counties.

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research institution founded in 1906, offers 141 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](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu).

# Savannah family loans reproduction of iconic William Trego painting to Georgia Southern University

MAY 21, 2018



*(L-R) Elizabeth M. Davis, Sarah M. Davis and retired judge Lamar W. Davis, Jr. at the May 1 unveiling of the reproduction of "March to Valley Forge" by William Trego.*

Georgia Southern University's Armstrong Campus is now home to a reproduction of the iconic 1883 painting "The March to Valley Forge" by William Trego. The family of the late Lamar W. Davis Sr., and his wife Mary C. Davis is generously allowing the University to display this painting in the History Department located in Hawes Hall.

Lamar Davis Sr., was a former Professor of Accounting at Armstrong College (1948-1976), a practicing CPA in the firm he founded (1954-1991) and a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps. Lamar and Mary, whose ancestors Fendal Whitworth and Robert Walker served as Patriot Militiamen in South Carolina and Pennsylvania during the Revolutionary War, loved history and instilled that love in all their family.

"The department is delighted to have one of Trego's most famous works and iconic historical paintings," Christopher Hendricks, Ph.D., interim History Department chair, said.

The painting is on loan by retired judge Lamar W. Davis Jr., and his wife Sarah M. Davis (Armstrong State University '70,'84).

"My father loved the students and loved teaching," said Davis. "My hope is that as students pass by the painting it will encourage and inspire them to keep moving forward."

An unveiling of the painting was held in Hawes Hall on May 1 as a thank you and recognition to the Davis family.

The "March to Valley Forge" reproduction is available for public viewing during normal University hours.

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research institution founded in 1906, offers 141 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](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu).

# Georgia Southern duo spark conversation at TEDx Savannah 2018

MAY 21, 2018



*Instructor of Communication Karla Jennings, left, and 2018 magna cum laude psychology graduate Tina Nelson*

On May 11, two Georgia Southern University Armstrong Campus community members shared “Ideas Worth Spreading,” at TEDx Savannah 2018, an all-day, immersive networking event held at the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center.

Instructor of Communication Karla Jennings and recent *magna cum laude* psychology graduate Tina Nelson ('18) were both selected, along with 13 other featured speakers, to interpret this year’s TEDx Savannah theme “Legacy by Design,” with the intention of sparking discussion at the sold-out gathering.

[Jennings explored the various reasons humans fear speaking in front of an audience](#) and shared ways to help overcome that fear. She drew on the power of research-backed inoculation messages, or pre-emptive messages designed to prepare individuals for possible challenges.

“How can we change the way we think about and respond to the fear of public speaking?” she asked the crowd, the iconic red block TEDx letters illuminated just behind her. “The key is in designing a response to fear. Inoculation messages can reframe our response to fear of public speaking.”

Nelson, a high-school dropout and mother at 16 who returned to pursue a formal education at age 40, [shared her personal story](#) of overcoming an intense fear of rats while working as a Georgia Southern research assistant, and how her new-found closeness to the animals changed the way she sees human behavior.

"As humans, even the most nurturing and animal-loving of us think of ourselves as being pretty high on the evolutionary ladder, and in a lot of ways we are," she stated. "But one of the things I learned about working with rats is that our higher-order thinking and consciousness puts a greater burden of caring for others on us. Can you imagine what it would be like to not be able to communicate with the only other living species you interact with?"

Specifically, she was referring to Rizzo, a rat she cared for in the lab, who employs body language and behavioral cues to communicate.

"How this translates to us as humans interacting with each other, that's the lesson that Rizzo and his brothers taught me," Nelson said. "When humans interact or respond to each other we respond to situations from our own perspective. The lesson for me was in acknowledging that Rizzo's awareness comes from a different experience than mine. What I learned is that we could reach deeper within ourselves than our spoken or written language."

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research institution founded in 1906, offers 141 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](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu).