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## United States Navy Band to perform on Georgia Southern's Armstrong Campus on Feb. 28

February 4, 2020



*Photo courtesy of U.S. Navy. Musicians from the U.S. Navy Band perform at Constitution Hall during their annual holiday concert performance in Washington, D.C.*

The United States Navy Band, the 2019 recipient of the National Medal of Arts, will perform on Georgia Southern University's Armstrong Campus on Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

Savannah is one of 20 cities in six states to host a performance during the Navy Band's 2020 tour, which features the Concert Band, recognized as one of the finest wind ensembles in the world. This year the band is joined by the Navy's official chorus, the Sea Chanters, and popular music group, the Cruisers. The ensembles expand to include music ranging from the traditional wind band collection to Broadway showstoppers, rhythm and blues, pop and patriotic favorites.

One of the U.S. Navy Band's primary responsibilities involve touring the country where the band's key performing units embark each year on concert tours throughout specified regions of the country. This allows the band to reach out to audiences in areas of the country that do not have opportunities to see the Navy's musical ensembles on a regular basis. The concerts are family friendly events, providing entertainment for veterans, families, individuals and those interested in joining the Navy.

“For many years, Navy bands have been where it matters, when it matters, just like the rest of our Navy,” said Capt. Kenneth Collins, U.S. Navy Band’s commanding officer. “Today, we have sailors performing around the world, improving relations with our allies abroad as well as telling the Navy’s story here at home.”

Reserve tickets by calling (912) 344-2801, or by contacting [armstrongboxoffice@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:armstrongboxoffice@georgiasouthern.edu).

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/R2 institution founded in 1906, offers 141 degree programs serving more than 26,000 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 students to provide free income tax preparation for community](#)

February 4, 2020

Georgia Southern senior Alyssa Morgan is looking forward to tax season this year.

As a student in the School of Accountancy in the Parker College of Business, Morgan will gain hands-on experience with tax preparation as she and her peers offer free tax prep and e-file services to residents in Statesboro and surrounding communities through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

“Being a part of the VITA Program will give me an opportunity to receive real-world, hands-on experience preparing income tax returns,” Morgan said. “It will also help me further develop my soft skills and add more certifications to my résumé. I look forward to working with clients and other volunteers this tax season and learning more about tax law.”

Free tax preparation and e-file services are offered to taxpayers with a household income of \$60,000 or less. The VITA site at Georgia Southern can prepare tax year 2019 federal and Georgia (full-year resident) individual income tax returns.

“This is a win-win situation for the community and accounting students,” said Gloria Stuart, CPA, lecturer in the School of Accountancy. “Community members will receive free tax preparation services provided by IRS-certified volunteers, and all tax returns will be reviewed for accuracy before they’re e-filed. Accounting students will gain real-world tax preparation experience. The students will be able to apply the concepts

learned in the classroom to real tax situations, improve their communication skills, and use professional tax preparation software.”

All accounting students and faculty volunteering in the VITA program have completed training and passed the IRS VITA certification exams with a score of 80% or higher. Tax returns will be prepared using professional tax software provided by the IRS. All prepared tax returns will be reviewed for accuracy before they're e-filed and will go through a quality review process as required by the IRS VITA program standards.

The Georgia Southern VITA site is located in downtown Statesboro at the Parker College of Business City Center location on 58 East Main Street. Tax preparation is available from 1 to 4 p.m. on Mondays and from 3 to 6 p.m. on Wednesdays through April 6.

Five Saturday sessions will be available on Feb. 8, Feb. 22, March 7, March 28 and April 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. No sessions will be held the week of the University's spring break which is March 16 through 20.

Tax preparation services are offered on a walk-in basis, first come, first served. It is recommended to arrive as early as possible due to the limited number of taxpayers that can be served during each session.

Certain tax situations are out of scope with the VITA program. At this time, the VITA site at Georgia Southern is unable to prepare returns for military or international students due to the additional certifications required to service these taxpayers under the VITA program. These services may be added in the future. For more information about the VITA program and a list of items to bring, please visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu/parker/vita](https://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/parker/vita).

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## Armstrong Campus hosts annual ‘High School Congressional Exhibition’

February 4, 2020



Georgia Southern University’s Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art will host the annual Congressional Art Competition for high school students in Georgia’s 1st Congressional District. Works in “An Artistic Discovery” will be displayed on the Armstrong Campus in the Fine Arts Gallery. The exhibition will run on weekdays Feb. 10-23 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a closing reception on Feb. 23 at 2 p.m. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

“The Armstrong Gallery has hosted the ‘High School Congressional’ for many years now and is always an exciting exhibition to put on,” said Raymond Gaddy, gallery director. “The work being produced by these students is always high quality that not only expresses their talent, but also the strength of the art programs, and the quality of the art teachers in the region as well.”

The Congressional Art Competition is a nationwide high school visual art contest, held every year in which each U.S. House representatives recognize gifted high school artists. Winners are eligible to receive a cash award as well as the prestigious U.S. District Congressional Award. In addition, the winning entries from each district will be displayed in the Cannon Tunnel that connects the Cannon House Office Building to the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

For more information, visit

[https://calendar.georgiasouthern.edu/event/congressional\\_high\\_school\\_exhibition\\_9036#.XjI3JhNKhhG](https://calendar.georgiasouthern.edu/event/congressional_high_school_exhibition_9036#.XjI3JhNKhhG).

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# Georgia Southern students host first annual Coastal Georgia Reverse Science Fair

February 4, 2020

The Coastal Georgia Younger Chemists Committee (YCC), led by Georgia Southern University senior chemistry major Chelsea Miller, will host the first annual Coastal Georgia Reverse Science Fair on April 11 at the Southwest Chatham Library in Savannah. The reverse science fair is a research symposium for local graduate and undergraduate researchers where visiting high school students will judge their presentations.

The YCC, which is a subcommittee of the American Chemical Society, facilitates networking and interactions between younger chemists and those in their fields. Miller said she wanted to broaden the scope for the event by inviting all undergraduate and graduate STEM researchers to the fair.

“YCC chapters empower younger chemists to participate in programs that advance chemistry and enhance their professional development,” she said. “This event is the first of its kind in the area and will offer many opportunities to the attendees and participants.”

Miller got the idea for a reverse science fair from an academic article she found while researching ways to bring high school and university researchers together. The study in the article found that 70% to 80% of the high school students who participated in the reverse science fair increased their understanding of the scientific process, including effectively communicating their projects, developing an original research question, representing data in different ways and drawing conclusions from data.

“I am passionate about getting students inspired about science by exposing them to the diverse STEM pathways,” Miller said. “Reading this paper was confirmation for me that we could provide a whole new outlet for our community to learn science.”

Miller, who has worked as a lab assistant and teacher’s assistant within the Georgia Southern Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, said the faculty on the Armstrong Campus have given her many opportunities to gain experience.

“Working as a lab assistant allowed me to work under pressure because the students’ results relied on my work,” she said. “I had to provide work that could be trusted so the students could get results in their labs. As a teacher’s assistant, I had to learn how to consistently adjust my approach to help others understand, and I acquired a lot of organizational planning skills.”

The science fair will award first, second and third place prizes, and the winning research group will have a feature article written about them in *inChemistry* magazine. There will also be free educational and professional development workshops held by the Oglethorpe Astronomical Association, Society of Women Engineers and the Foram Sustainable Aquaponics Research Center, among others.

Abstracts for the fair are due March 1. For more information, visit [www.cgyc.org/information/reverse-science-fair](http://www.cgyc.org/information/reverse-science-fair). To view the article that inspired the event, visit [pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.jchemed.6b00111](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.jchemed.6b00111)

Tags: [College of Science and Mathematics](#), [Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry](#)