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Thursday, March 10, 2011

Opinion

WHAT WE THINK

Youth Art Month

If anyone has any doubts about the creative minds of today's young people, we steer such skeptics to the Youth Art Month exhibits on display at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

The Youth Art Exhibit features art work from students from kindergarten through eighth grade.

The Regional High School Competition features juried art from high school students from South Georgia and North Florida.

The Art Educators' Exhibit allows the region's art teachers to demonstrate that those who teach can also do. This exhibit features works by current regional art teachers and pieces by Valdosta State University art education students.

Annually, the arts center and Valdosta State University Art, in association with the National Art Ed-

ucation Association, present the Georgia Art Education Association's Youth Art Month. It is an opportunity to celebrate the arts as well as express the importance of arts in schools.

The show allows dozens of area elementary and middle-school students to participate in an exhibit shown in the professional setting of a gallery. It is a great opportunity and a learning experience for these students who may continue pursuing art in the future.

In this age of education cuts, when the arts often face the steepest cuts in school budgets, we would do well to remember it may be the most creative minds that save us.

This exhibit continues through March 30 at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

LIFESTYLE

Thursday, March 3, 2011 3A



DEAN POLING | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES
At 35 youngsters, 'The Big Bad Musical' features the Little Actors Theatre's largest cast. The show plays this weekend.

HOWL!

Little Actors Theatre presents 'the Big Bad Musical'

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — On a slip of paper, Diane Tovar has written the night's verdict. This paper will determine how the young Little Actors Theatre cast concludes Tuesday evening's rehearsal for "The Big Bad Musical: A Howling Courtroom Comedy."

Alden Walker, playing Judge Wise Old Woman, opens the paper. The verdict? A hung jury.

The cast falls into the lines for a hung jury. Had the verdict claimed the Big Bad Wolf guilty or not guilty, the youths would have adjusted to the proper lines.

"The Big Bad Musical" is a play with three different endings. Each performance, audience members will be selected to serve as a jury. These audience members will reach a verdict which decides how the show ends.

As the LAT director, Diane Tovar has her cast

ready for any of the three possible verdicts. In rehearsal, she ends the show with a different verdict each night. The cast doesn't know what's coming until Alden Walker reads that slip of paper.

The LAT show synopsis: "This smart and wickedly funny musical is great for actors and audiences of any age. The notorious Big Bad Wolf is being slapped with a class-action lawsuit by quirky storybook characters who want to get even: Little Red Riding Hood, her Grandmother, the Three Little Pigs and the Shepherd in charge of the Boy Who Cried Wolf. With Sydney Grimm as the commentator on live Court TV, the two greatest legal minds in the Enchanted Forest — the Evil Stepmother and the Fairy Godmother — clash in a trial that will be remembered forever after. As our wronged fairy tale characters testify, the wolf seems deserving of all that's coming. Yet, even though the

SHOWTIME

Little Actors Theatre presents "The Big Bad Musical!: A Howling Courtroom Comedy."

When: 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 5; 3 p.m. Sunday, March 6.

Where: Valdosta High School Performing Arts Center, 3101 N. Forrest St.

Tickets: \$5, advance; \$6, at the door.

More information: (229) 244-8282.

infamous Evil Stepmother resents doing pro-bono work on such an obviously futile defense, Mr. Wolf makes a good case for himself. Was he born a criminal, or made one?"

With 35 performers, this show marks the LAT's largest cast. Little Actors Theatre's motto is theatre for children by children. The cast's ages run from 6 to 14 years old.

Prepared for any ending to once upon a time, LAT hopes this show will be a howling success.

THE CAST: Brialisse Sayre, Lauren Lewis, Gracie Herring, Danielle Spivey, Joely Peterman,

Abby Cozart, Gabrielle (Brie) Collins, Kristopher Galeano, Camden Burrous, Nicholas Paoletti, Paxton Joiner, Alexandra Peeples, Parker Meadors, Abi Collins, Julia Criss, Kaitlyn Olbricht, Brittany McLeod, Emily Criss, Alden Walker, Catherine Albritton, Brianna Cuellar, Abigail Walker, Alexandra Sayre, Shelby Olbricht, Alijah Patterson, Maggie Esposito, Katie Copenhaver, Laci Copenhaver, Kristina Galeano, Michael Wardle, Hannah Wisenbaker, Gracie Wisenbaker, Miranda Dailey, Rebekah James, Amber Velasquez.



Paxton Joiner as the Big Bad Wolf joined by the Wolfettes, Alexandra Peeples, Parker Meadors, Abi Collins, Julia Criss, Kaitlyn Olbrecht, Brittany McLeod, in 'The Big, Bad Musical,' playing this weekend.

DEAN POLING | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Sunday, February 27, 2011

LIFE

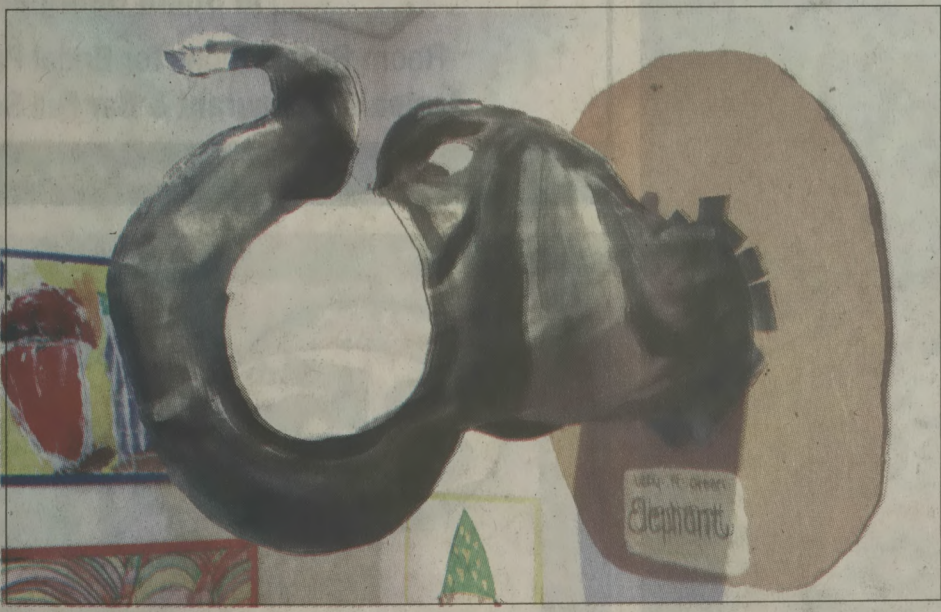
valdostadailytimes.com



Artist Lenley Gross.



Artist Hailee Hathcock.



'Elephant,' artist Libby R. Green.

Youth Visions

Valwood School students shine in center show

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — From a mounted elephant head to a pop-up 3-D effect for hands passing a basketball, Valwood School has a vibrant art display.

Displayed in the Roberta George Children's Gallery of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, several young Valwood students have created a wide range of works to attract viewers' eyes of all ages.

The arts center has long supported children's and youth art. The Roberta George Children's Gallery is dedicated to works by youngsters.

With each new exhibit rotation, this gallery typically features art work by students from various regional elementary and middle schools. It also regularly displays works by youngsters in art programs at the arts center and other area organizations.

This dedication allows area children to visit and view their creations in a true gallery setting. It allows other young visitors the opportunity to believe that one day their works could be hanging on these same walls.

GALLERY

Valwood School art is on display along with Danielle Harmon: Retrospective; the Fifth Annual Drawproject; Robert Radin's "This Beautiful World"; East African Art Collection; Fine European Porcelain Collection.

Where: Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

Run dates: Shows conclude this week, March 2.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays (with exception of opening receptions).

Admission: Free.

More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org



PHOTO: WINDWOOD THEATRICALS

John Adkison as Harold Hill in Windwood Theatricals' 'The Music Man.' The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series hosts the nationally touring production tonight in Valdosta

Area students perform in tonight's 'Music Man'

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Five South Georgia students will join the professional, touring cast of "The Music Man" during this evening's performance.

William Matney of Valwood Middle School, Bobby Goddard of Valdosta Middle School, Jamahri Johnson of Valdosta High School, and Ethan Parker and Dexter Holiday, both of Lowndes High School, will perform in the show hosted by the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series.

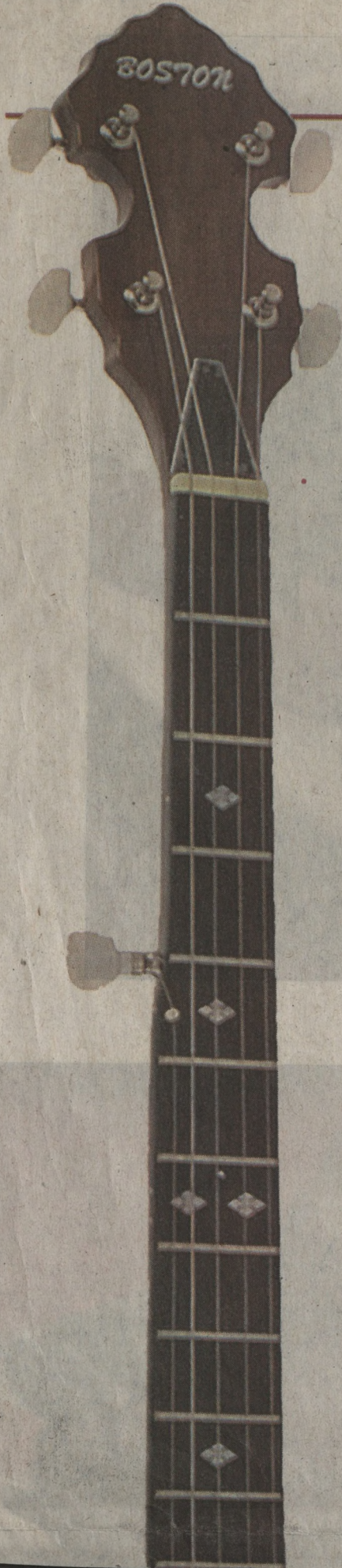
These students will report to the show's stage manager at Mathis City Auditorium this afternoon to "be put through their paces," says Nancy War-

QUICK INFO

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series presents the professional, nationally touring production of "The Music Man," 7:30 p.m. today, Feb. 22, Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St. Ticket: \$45. More information: Visit the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St.; or call (229) 247-2787.


ren, a Presenter Series committee member. "They will learn how to march, where to stand, and be fitted for costumes."

The students will be part of the boy band at the show's finale.



Aubrey Atwater and Elwood Donnelly return for the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts' A Genuine American Hootenanny this week.

PHOTO: MARY AKYLAS HARMAN



Hootenanny

Folk couple finds a home where they play and stay

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — How did a South Georgia arts center form a beneficial relationship with two Rhode Island musicians?

Music.

For the second time, Aubrey Atwater and Elwood Donnelly will play A Genuine American Hootenanny at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. The Rhode Island musical couple first played Valdosta in 2009.

As for a more specific answer to what brought the couple to South Georgia in the first place, one need look no further than long-time arts center supporters and one-time Great Hahira Pick-In founders Wilby and Gloria Coleman of Valdosta.

A few years ago, Atwater-Donnelly played a dulcimer festival at North Florida's Stephen Foster State Park. The Colemans attended the show. They liked what they heard. Upon meeting the Rhode Island musicians, the Colemans liked them, too.

With the help of Atwater-Donnelly, the Colemans thought it might be fun to organize a hootenanny at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. A hootenanny is a casual get-together centered around live folk music.

Atwater-Donnelly know their folk. They've been playing it together for more than 23 years and playing music separately even longer.

In a phone interview, Atwater shares how she and Donnelly met.

Many moons ago, she played the Stone Soup Coffee House in Providence, R.I. Donnelly watched in the audience. He enjoyed the show but believed she was a touring musician simply playing a gig before moving onto another town.

Wrong assumption. Atwater lived in Rhode Island. A couple weeks later, she returned to the coffee house. She was not playing this time, but Donnelly remembered her. They met. Though he was a single father of three children, then 13, 10, and 9, they developed a personal relationship and a professional musical relationship. They married two years later.

The couple has become attuned to balancing various aspects of their shared lives. Though their work is creative, Atwater says she and Donnelly have both

been blessed with business sense, allowing them to make a living as musicians even in the current economy.

"We both happen to have good heads for business," Atwater says. "In this economy, we have had to work more to make less, but we're still paying our bills, going out to eat, going to the movies."

Atwater is a committed list maker. These lists reveal the diversity of her days. A list may include laundry, write a song, book a gig, hammer down details of living arrangements for another show, play a show, take a walk.

"It's important for us to have a good time and be able to make a living," she says. "We blend the business, creative and spiritual together to live a healthy life."

This diversity finds its way into their performances and music.

Atwater plays guitar, dulcimer, banjo, tin whistle, and mandolin; she sings, too. Donnelly plays guitar, harmonica, and small percussion.

In terms of their folk roots, they find inspiration from various influences. Atwater has described their music as "primarily traditional American with Celtic, European, Native American and African roots. The songs are story songs (ballads), gospel songs, work songs, love songs ... and most of them are very old, the authors unknown."

They delve into ancient rhythms reflecting the movements of people, the rhythms of migration reflecting the American story of new people coming to our shores, each population bringing something of their past homes to this new one.

Atwater and Donnelly keep on the move. They regularly travel to gigs. Often, they stay with people living in towns where they perform; on the 2009 Valdosta trip, they stayed with the Colemans.

Which is how this Rhode Island couple often find themselves at home no matter where they play then stay.

A Genuine American Hootenanny

Folk music and dance featuring Aubrey Atwater and Elwood Donnelly.

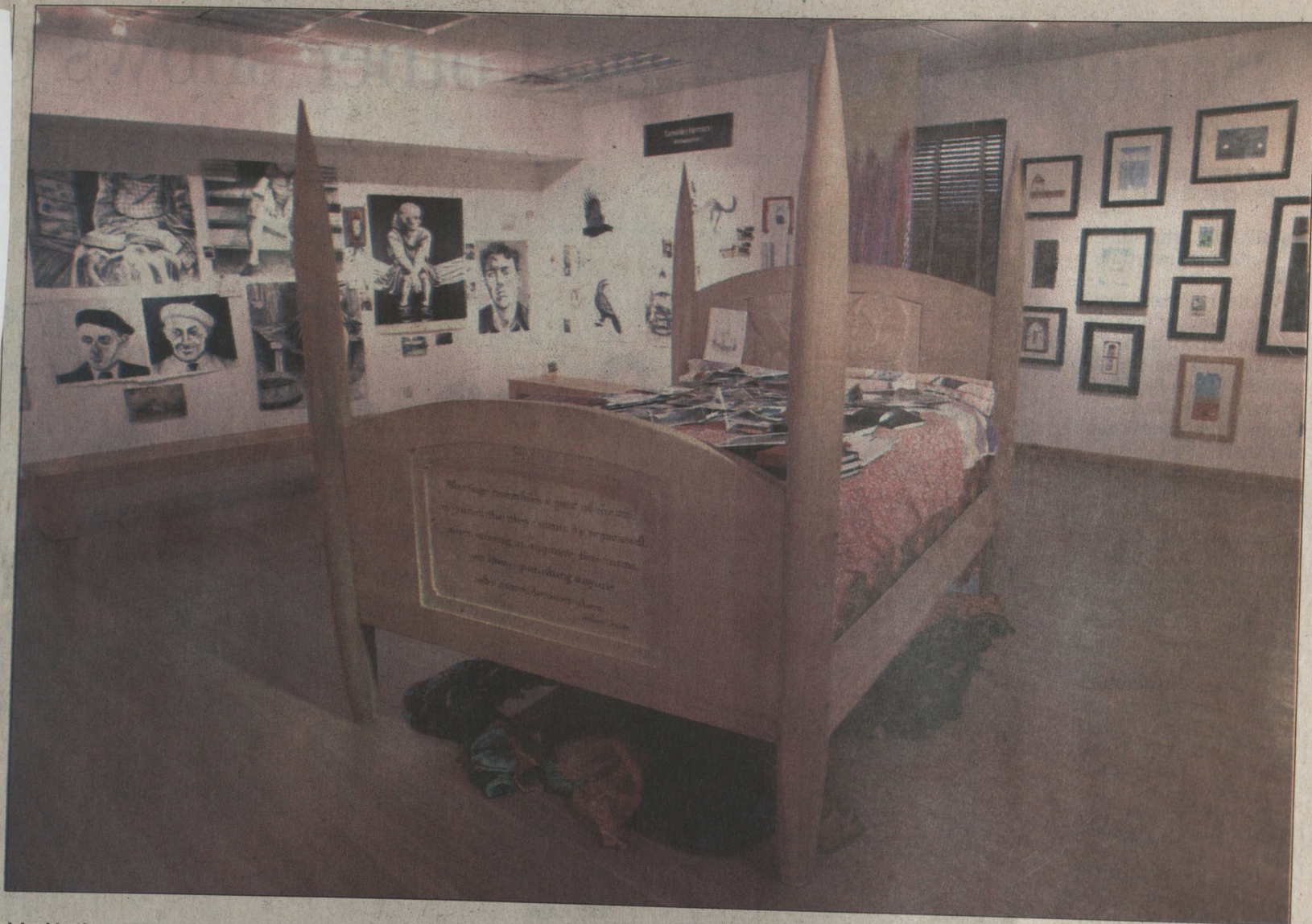
When: Friday, Feb. 25; barbecue dinner, 6 p.m.; concert, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

Dinner & show tickets: \$30 per person; \$55 per couple; \$10, kids under 10. Tickets available at the arts center.

Show ticket: \$20.

More information: Call (229) 247-2787.



A bed in the middle of the gallery is full of photos, journals, and other mementos of Danielle Harmon's life.

PAUL LEAVY | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES



A series of Danielle Harmon's charcoal drawings on display.



A drawing of a bird and a key by artist Danielle Harmon.

PAUL LEAVY | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES



One of Danielle Harmon's sketches on display in the gallery.

A LIFE REVISITED

Arts center hosts Danielle Harmon: Retrospective

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Danielle Harmon left evidence of her vision of the world. Luckily, we can share that evidence during a current retrospective of her life's work showing at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

A Valdosta State University art professor, Harmon passed away last summer following a short battle with cancer.

Following her death, VSU Art instituted a scholarship named for her. Proceeds raised from the annual Drawproject exhibit will be given in Danielle Harmon's name to deserving VSU Art students.

It is no coincidence that the Drawproject is also on exhibit at the same time as Danielle Harmon's show at the arts center. Jamie Harmon, Danielle's husband, founded the Drawproject. He returned last month to Valdosta to mount both the Drawproject and Danielle's exhibits.

The retrospective reveals Danielle Harmon's love for life. A recurring theme in her work is a flying creature soaring despite the ballast threatening to weigh it down.

Now, these works seem to express the spirit's struggle to free itself from the material world.

In the middle of the exhibit sits a bed filled with photos, journals and mementos from Danielle Harmon's life.

"For me, making art is akin to writing short stories," Danielle Harmon said several years ago. "They are almost always autobiographical in nature, but I like to use images, such as birds to symbolize myself. Taking the human element out allows viewers to create their own narratives based on the images in each work."

This show reminds viewers that Danielle Harmon's story ended far too soon at the age of 42, but it was a story well told.

A life well lived.

GALLERY

Danielle Harmon: Retrospective is on display along with the Fifth Annual Drawproject; Robert Radin's "This Beautiful World"; Valwood School art; East African Art Collection; Fine European Porcelain Collection.

Where: Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

Run dates: Shows run through March 2.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays (with exception of opening receptions).

Admission: Free.

More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org



Photography by artist Robert Radin.



Photography by artist Robert Radin.

This Beautiful World

Center hosts photographer's world views

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Robert Radin's photography offers windows to the world.

On exhibit at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, Radin's photos are vibrant reflections of the world's people and cultures.

"I am now in my 80s, and have traveled the earth many times around and for many reasons," Radin says in an artistic statement. "I find myself looking at boxes containing 8,000 pictures that have given me many insights, many joys, and many reasons for looking further into life."

From these many photographs, Radin selected 65 to send to the arts center.

Radin notes that he has no formal training in photography, but he has apparently been invested with a curiosity and a passion to capture intriguing images. And the artistic equivalent to a wandering eye. A man unafraid to look and appreciate what he sees then translate his visual experience into photographs for others to view.

"We are all photographers for our consciousness is imbedded in pictures," Radin notes. "Our eyes take pictures for us continually without end, in numbers too many to count. The ones we treasure most and label as good photography are those that reach down and touch us most deeply, where they fill a need for expression or awaken an image that was alive but asleep."

While he has taken photographs around the globe, his exhibits have filled galleries throughout the United States. His photos shows include exhibits in Boston, Mass., Los Angeles, as well as Alabama, Oregon and other sites in California. His work has also been published in books and magazines.

In working with photographs, Radin not only hopes to present captivating visuals, but spark a connection between the viewer and the subject no matter how far apart their worlds may seem.

"Humanity has much in common and I would believe that what held me in its magic, will find a like place in the feelings of other people," Radin notes. "They might not see exactly what I saw, but they will feel what I felt."

GALLERY

Robert Radin's "This Beautiful World."

Where: Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

Run dates: Shows run through March 2.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays (with exception of opening receptions).

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valdostadailytimes.com

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Photography by artist Robert Radin.



Photography by artist Robert Radin.

valdostadailytimes.com

Friday, January 21, 2011



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Aluminum Wrap!

These ladies at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts are ready to sell some tickets to 'The Aluminum Show,' presented as part of the Presenter Series, 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 23, Mathis City Auditorium. Pictured are (front) Amy Miller, Joanna Nijem, Martha Douglas, Cheryl Oliver; (back) Nancy Warren, Nancy Smith, Linda Facile, Gail Hobgood, Tracey Timmons. Call 247-2787 for tickets to this one-of-a-kind, 'blow-your-mind,' family-friendly production.

Opinion

WHAT WE THINK

Arts are alive and well

South Georgia's arts community has returned in force this past week and continues in the weeks to come.

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts opened the Fifth Annual Drawproject along with other exhibits. The Drawproject raised money for Valdosta State University Art student scholarships.

This week, VSU Art returns to gallery showings with its annual Valdosta National exhibit, a juried competition that brings works from artists across the United States to Valdosta.

Last week, VSU Music hosted the comic opera "Too Many Sopranos," a funny performance filled with beautiful voices.

Approximately 70 Lowndes High School Off-Broadway students lifted their voices for the annual song-and-dance revue, "5, 6, 7, 8." LHS students create and direct this popular production.

While Lowndes High presented one of its largest casts ever, Theatre Guild Valdosta returns this week with one of its smallest casts. Two actors play the entire population of the fictional town of Tuna, Texas, in "Greater Tuna," opening Thursday night at The Dosta Playhouse.

Those who enjoy small casts also had the opportunity to watch the two-person musical, "The Last Five Years," a bonus production presented this past weekend on the stage of VSU's Sawyer Theatre.

This coming Sunday, VSU Theatre & Dance students take the stage to raise money for scholarships with the annual Cabaret dinner and show. More VSU Theatre & Dance scholarship money will be raised later that week with the return of VSU and Valdosta School of Ballet's "Sleeping Beauty."

This past week, Wild Adventures announced three additional acts, Blake Shelton, Josh Turner, and Skillet, to its concert season for the coming year. VSU's Office of Social Equity booked Peter Yarrow of Peter, Paul and Mary for a concert last week.

Next Sunday, the arts center's Presenter Series hosts the eclectic, energetic Aluminum Show, a professional, touring act traveling the U.S.

These are just the arts events that have just concluded or are right around the corner. Plenty more are on the way, reminding us that Valdosta-Lowndes County is blessed with a wide array of cultural and entertainment opportunities.

And to that, we say, Bravo.

Life

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MPresenter Series hosts
'The Aluminum Show'

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Even the producer of "The Aluminum Show" has difficulty specifically explaining the production.

"It's a show full of imagination, of funny things, of stunning visuals, great music," says producer David Azulay. "It is everything you can expect from a show but it is unexpected."

Next weekend, the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series hosts "The Aluminum Show" in Valdosta. Presenter Series committee members Gail Hobgood and Nancy Warren have described "The Aluminum Show" as a cross between the Blue Man Group and "Stomp."

While Azulay likes being compared to such successful shows, he says "The Aluminum Show" is a unique experience unlike any other show.

Created and developed in Israel, "The Aluminum Show" has performed in nations around the world. In creating a United States tour, the production team hired American dancers, acrobats and gymnasts. These U.S. performers traveled to Israel to rehearse the show.

With performers wearing aluminum tubes and other apparatus, rehearsals are unlike those for other shows. Performers learn their moves and choreography while adapting to the use of the aluminum pieces. Since they cannot see through the aluminum pieces, performers must look up, through the holes in the tubes. They must judge their location on the stage without being able to see the stage, only the ceiling, lights, sets and catwalks above.

For the U.S. tour, the production team created a show specifically for Americans, Azulay says.

Other productions of "The Aluminum Show" rely on pure spectacle to keep audience's interest, sort of a non-stop circus of energy using aluminum, movement, lights and sound.

The American version coming to Valdosta loses none of this dynamic energy, but it frames the spectacle in a story.

"The American audience loves a story," Azulay says, "something to connect to."

The producer explains the plot as the birth of a young aluminum tube. The audience follows this tube as it meets other aluminum characters and finds its way in the world.

"If you look for the story, you will find it," Azulay says. "But if you are not interested in the story, there is still plenty to see and experience."

He says it is exciting to see audiences unexpectedly form a connection with these metal tubes.

"People come to this show and they don't expect to get connected to these tubes when they see them," Azulay says. "But the way the dancers move humanizes the aluminum. They capture something in them. They see the aluminum sad and happy, and audiences are surprised when they become a part of this emotion."

SHOWTIME

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series presents "The Aluminum Show."

When: 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 23.

Where: Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St.

Ticket: \$45.

Reservations, more information: Visit the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St.; call, (229) 247-2787; or see the website www.turnercenter.org

CristoFouri

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Christmas Song.

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ANNETTE HOWELL TURNER
Center For The Arts
CELEBRATING THE ART IN LIFE

2A Thursday, January 13, 2011

PHOTOSCAPE



PAUL LEAVY | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

2011 Drawproject art exhibit opens

Valdosta State University students Brooke Rinnik, left, and Elsie Miles look over a drawing displayed at the 2011 Drawproject during the show opening at the Annette Howell Tuner Center for the Arts Monday.

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PHOTOSCAPE



JONATHAN M. CHICK | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Drawing the line

Josh Jones works on a drawing for Drawproject, a fund-raiser for the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Scholarship and the Valdosta State University Art Department Danielle B Harmon Student Merit Scholarship.

THE
ALUMINUM
SHOW



Sunday, January 23rd, 2pm
Mathis City Auditorium

For tickets and info, visit
The Turner Center for the Arts
527 N. Patterson St.
www.turnercenter.org
229-247-ARTS (2787)


ANNETTE HOWELL TURNER
Center For The Arts



Art by Monika Lidman.

DRAW!

Fifth Drawproject brings founder home

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — For four years, the Drawproject has helped Valdosta State University art students with scholarships. Now, it will do so by paying homage to the family that created the fundraising exhibit.

Jamie Harmon, the Drawproject's originator, has returned to Valdosta for the show. During his former tenure as the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts gallery curator, he created the Drawproject to raise money for VSU art scholarships and for the arts center.

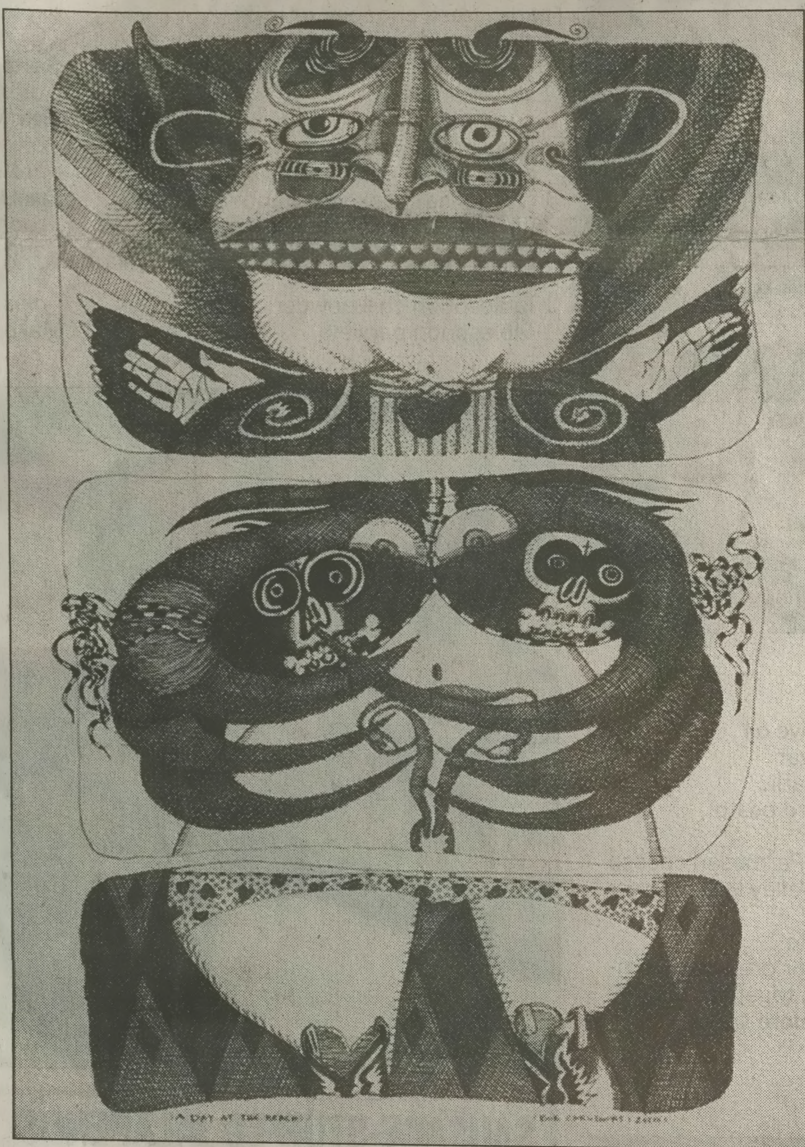
He understood the center's needs from his job at the time. He understood the importance of art student scholarships from wife Danielle's faculty position with VSU Art.

During the past four shows, Drawproject has raised thousands of dollars for art student scholarships. Jamie Harmon remained committed to Drawproject despite this past summer's tragedy.

Danielle Harmon was diagnosed with cancer. She underwent treatment. She did not make it. Danielle passed away.



Art by Brad Finson.



'A Day at the Beach,' artist Bob Caruthers.



Art by Blake Pearce.

"We know how much Danielle was committed to her students," A. Blake Pearce, VSU Art department head, said last year. "The faculty will long remember Danielle and so will the students here now. But our students have a generation of four or five years and then it is a new generation of students who will not know her."

While those future students may not know Danielle Barrier Harmon, they will benefit from a scholarship in her name. Drawproject proceeds will now help fund the Danielle B. Harmon Student Merit Scholarship, Pearce says.

And while Jamie Harmon has moved away, the VSU Art faculty is committed to keeping the Drawproject going.

Monday's Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts opening will also feature a retrospective of Danielle Harmon's work.

As for the Drawproject, the meaning is in the name ... loosely.

As Jamie Harmon has said in the past: "There were no rules or definition of what a 'Drawing' is ... only their interpretation."

In the past, drawings have ranged from realistic to cartoons, from scribbles to detailed pointillism, from stark black-and-white to gradients of grays to color. During the exhibit's opening, patrons may place starting bids of \$50 on works. And the bidding begins. For works not auctioned opening night, people may purchase them for \$50 during the exhibit's run.

GALLERY

The Drawproject opens in the Sallie and Harmon Boyette Gallery.

Where: Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

Opening reception: A free, public reception, 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10.

Run dates: Shows run Monday evening through March 2.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays (with exception of opening receptions).

Admission: Free.

More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turner-center.org

Azalea Festival seeks vendors

VALDOSTA — The 11th Annual Valdosta-Lowndes Azalea Festival is looking for arts-and-craft and commercial vendors to set up booths for the event scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, March 12 and 13 in Drexel Park.

"Vendors from the Northeast and Midwest are already scheduled to be with us but we want to make sure local vendors have a spot in the park as well," says Grant Brown, festival director. "Vendors are encouraged to sell hand-crafted items of all kinds including fabric creations, glass, woodworking, metal signs and posters, children's toys, CDs, candles, beauty products, gift items, etc. People are allowed to sell just about anything except garage sale-type items.

The cost of a booth space for the two-day event is \$75, if received before Feb. 1, or \$85 after that date. No applications will be accepted after March 1.

Brown also notes that food vendors for the festival have already been chosen and no more will be accepted.

Non-profit organizations are encouraged to participate in the Azalea Festival. Many civic organizations, agencies and church groups have taken this opportunity to promote their services by distributing literature, offering give-aways or sponsoring raffles. The cost of a booth space for non-profits is \$30 before Feb. 1 but \$85 after this date.

The Azalea Festival is a popular event with the charge of bringing our

community together to celebrate the beauty of spring in our area.

Attendance often tops 20,000 during the weekend as people of all ages are attracted to Drexel Park across from Valdosta State University to enjoy live bands, the delicious food at the Food Court, children's activities in the KidZone, motorcycles inside a huge metal globe, Frisbee chasing K9s, racing pigs, strolling entertainers, the Humane Society pet con-

test, and all types of vendors.

This is the 11th year of the Azalea Festival which is organized by more than 100 community volunteers.

For additional information regarding the Azalea Festival and to download an arts-and-crafts or commercial application, visit www.azaleafestival.com; or contact the festival director, Grant Brown, by e-mail azaleafestivalvaldosta@mchsi.com; or call (229) 269-9381.

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FROM PAGE ONE

COUNCIL: Sesquicentennial Committee honored

FROM PAGE ONE

Christian Leadership Conference, asked each councilmember individually their stand on the construction of the biomass facility. Councilmembers did not have to answer based on city policy.

"This is the only place that I have ever been where a citizen was not allowed to ask a public question of the people they choose to represent them," Rose stated.

"It would take a very long time and it would just be open banter, whereas with good decorum and diplomacy the concern is lodged to the council and the council is able to meet with you, instead of what looks like to be a bandstand," Valdosta Mayor John Fretti said. "I don't think you agree with it, but I think that's the reason for the policy."

Brad Lofton, executive director for Lowndes County Industrial Authority came to speak in favor of the biomass construction. He cited a substantial number of organizations that have supported the recently approved biomass plant in Gainesville, Fla., including the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Department of



JONATHAN M. CHICK | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

The Sesquicentennial Committee was recognized for its work at the Valdosta City Council Meeting Thursday.

A New Year in Art



'Beach House,' artist Don Pettigrew, Valdosta (March).



'Ashley Matinee,' artist Jerry Hyatt, Valdosta (February).

Colson Calendar 2011 features fine art

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Colson Printing Calendar 2011 is available. It features works from 13 local and regional artists selected from entries in the 2010 Spring Into Art show several months ago at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Colson has been making selections for its calendars during the annual Spring Into Art exhibits since 1992. In addition to the show awarding prizes, being chosen for the calendar has become a prestigious honor for participating artists.

Calendar judges selected 13 works this year, one for the cover and one for each month.

Some of the artists' names and styles should be familiar to area art patrons because the artists are either from here or have participated in numerous local shows.

The 2011 Colson Calendar artists are "Bait N Switch," artist Marsha Pokorny, Lee, Fla. (cover); "Target Acquired," artist Deanna Wheeler, Pinetta, Fla. (January); "Ashley Matinee," artist Jerry Hyatt, Valdosta (February); "Beach House," artist Don Pettigrew, Valdosta (March); "Rembrandt Tulips," artist Toby Smith, Douglas (April); "Sunset Sail," artist Mary Ann Saylor, Douglas (May); "French Sea Scouts," artist Mary Ann Cox, Tifton (June); "Beachcombers II," artist Pat Christian, Waverly Hall (July); "Window in Anna Capri," artist Earle McKey, Valdosta (August); "Simonized," artist David Retterbush, Valdosta (September); "Speed of Light," artist Rani Garner, Buena Vista (October), "The Farm," artist Wally Reichert, Lake City, Fla. (November); "The Rabbit," artist Jane Simpson, Moultrie (December).

This year's calendar is another exquisite collection and a fine representation of the two-dimensional art that appeared in the 2010 Spring Into Art show at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Some of the artists' names and styles should be familiar to area art patrons because the artists are either from here or have participated in numerous local shows.

CALENDAR

The 2011 Colson Calendar

Where: Available at Colson Printing Company, the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

Cost: The calendar is free.