
Community Archives - Turner Center for the Arts Scrapbook Collection

CA/007-02-008

2012-2013

Turner Center Binder 8 2012-2013

Turner Center for the Arts

For this and additional works see: [Vtext - Scholarly Texts and Research at Valdosta State University](#)

UUID: 9CFC1FF7-7773-4899-81B5-6172221C79F9

Recommended Citation:

Turner Center for the Arts. "Turner Center Binder 8 2012-2013." *Turner Center for the Arts Scrapbook Collection*, Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections, Valdosta, Georgia. <https://hdl.handle.net/10428/7101>

This item is part of the *Community Archives: Turner Center for the Arts Scrapbook Collection* at Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections. Physical and intellectual rights are reserved by the Turner Center. Physical materials were loaned to Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections for the purposes of digital preservation. The digital items here are part of an online collection only. If you have any questions or concerns contact archives@valdosta.edu

It's All About You



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Bill Shenton poses for a photo in the Price-Campbell Foundation Gallery at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts at 527 N. Patterson St.

Curator offers arts a helping hand

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — If you've been to the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts in the past four years, you have seen the quiet art of Bill Shenton.

Shenton is an artist — a graphic designer who creates logos and images for arts center events and publications, a painter and photographer as works in his office attest. Yet, it is as curator that Shenton's invisible artistic hand is most regularly felt as visitors walk through the arts center's galleries and enjoy the exhibits.

Since May 2009, Bill Shenton has been the man who hangs and arranges the Turner Center's exhibits.

Though he had little interest in ever designing newspaper or magazine layouts, his University of Georgia classes on these subjects have influenced his work as

'Hanging a show is an aspect of graphic design. You must consider color, shape, size, and scheme.'

Bill Shenton
Curator, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts

curator. He applies the ideas of page design to arranging paintings, drawings and photographs along the center's walls. "Hanging a show is an aspect of graphic design. You must consider color, shape, size, and scheme," Shenton says.

In preparing for exhibits, artists will bring their works, lean numerous canvases against the gallery walls and leave Shenton to hang their shows. Often, when the artist returns, they are surprised to discover that Shenton has discovered thematic qualities to their works which they had never realized but seem, oh so, obvious by the way in which the curator has chosen to arrange them.

Done right, a viewer rarely thinks of the curator while viewing an exhibit. As Shenton explains, the focus should be on the artist's work. Seeing numerous exhibits done right, it's easy to take for granted or even forget the careful work, concentration and consideration of the curator.

And that's the way it should be, Shenton says. "I'm really just a guy with a hammer ... the focus should always be on the artist and the art," Shenton says.

In initially applying for the position of the center's curator, Shenton viewed the job as simply being "a guy with a hammer," granted, one who also possesses a UGA graphic design degree. Then, family friends warned Shenton that such a job also has a political

ARTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

aspect in dealing with numerous artistic temperaments, but he likes artists and liked the challenge of working with various people to create and arrange dynamic shows for the center.

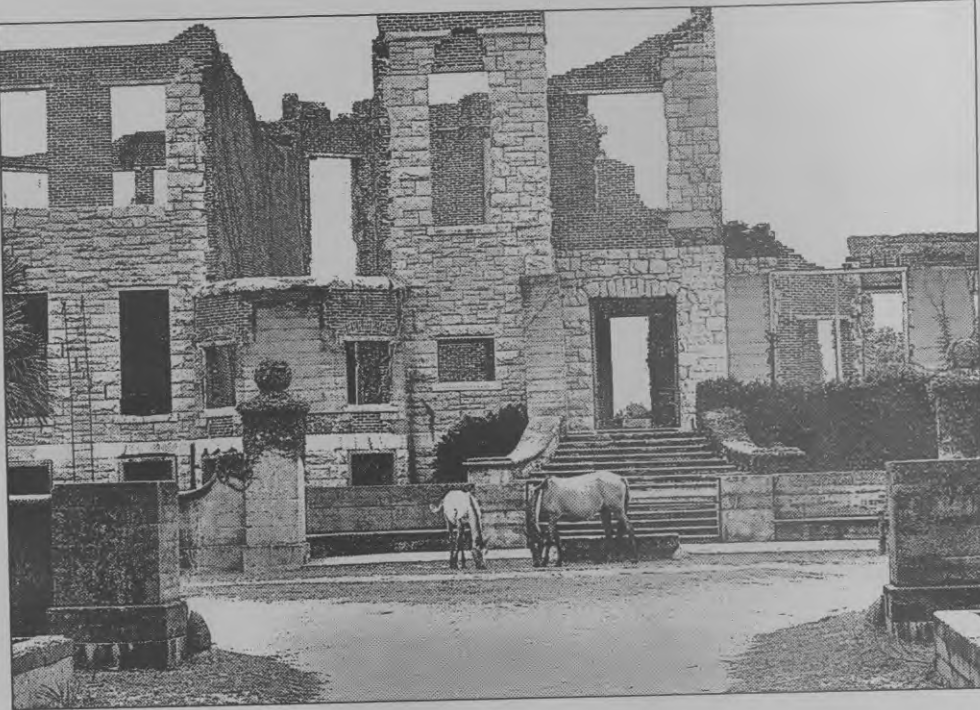
"I was confident in doing the job with what I learned in art school," he says, adding the most difficult aspect in the beginning months was standing in front of a few hundred people to introduce artists or announce juried show winners. Shenton has become more at ease with public speaking, saying, "They're in my church or oh my turf."

He spends a great deal of time in the center, scheduling future exhibits, talking with artists, discussing art with the public, but in terms of preparing for a new round of four exhibits, he has little time. Within a matter of a few days, he must take down the old shows and hang the new ones.

"With my job, there are peaks and valleys," Shenton says.

"So much of what has to be done has to be accomplished in limited time. ... This job is high stress about 5 percent of the time."

Given the duties of being the center's curator, Bill Shenton seems to have



SUBMITTED PHOTO

In addition to arranging art exhibits, Bill Shenton is also an artist. Here is one of his photographs.

the perfect pedigree.

The son of Brother and Penny Shenton, Bill grew up in Valdosta. He attended city schools. He began considering art as a career choice while at Valdosta High School. He received instruction from teacher Pat Smith, who urged him to take classes from VHS art teacher Teresa Middleton.

Choosing to sit at the front of the class was an uncharacteristic move for Shenton, but he asked to sit in the desk next to Middleton's desk. He wanted to learn as much about art as possible and wanted his

teacher as close as possible to provide immediate critical review and support.

"Teresa Middleton is the art teacher who has had the biggest influence on me," Shenton says.

Graduating in 1998 from Valdosta High, Shenton continued his art studies at Valdosta State University. He entered VSU with two art scholarships.

He received one scholarship from the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, the organization which would five years later create the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Though he appreciated his VSU art instruction, Shenton wanted as many art choices as possible to consider. After 18 months, he enrolled in the UGA art program to specifically study and earn a degree in graphic design.

But Valdosta is home and he returned. He has been married to wife Anne for the past three years. In his off-time, Shenton enjoys the outdoors, fishing, camping.

Artistically, he takes photographs as his personal artistic endeavor. He still draws and occasionally paints.

For now, he mostly trains his artistic eye on creating graphic designs for the center and arranging attractive exhibits for other artists.

Will the arts center ever display the works of Bill Shenton?

He smiles and says, probably not, not while he is curator, but one day, he would like to see an exhibit of his works. One day, somewhere down the road, he plans to return to painting and other endeavors when it is time again to concentrate on his own art.

BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Curator Bill Shenton views artwork in the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Friday, May 17, 2013

*Redneck Night
at the
Chinese Restaurant*



*and other adventures
by
Dean Poling*

The Turner Center for the Arts
presents
A Snake Nation Press Book Signing
featuring

Dean Poling

and his new book

***Redneck Night
at the Chinese Restaurant***

Friday, May 17, at 5:30pm

at the Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.
with a select reading by the author at 6:30pm

This event is free and open to public. Refreshments will be served.
Contact the Turner Center for additional information:
229-247-ARTS or www.turnercenter.org



Opinion

I WHAT WE THINK

May: It's All About Arts

The Times' weekly It's All About You feature turns toward the arts for the month of May. South Georgia is rich in the arts.

Valdosta has its own orchestra — a rarity for a town this size. It also has numerous free, public concerts and recitals sponsored by Valdosta State University Music.

Valdosta hosts the state's official summer musical theatre with Peach State Summer Theatre — returning with three new shows starting in early June and running through mid July.

Valdosta has the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, which opens its galleries for area artists, while also introducing out-of-the-area artists to visitors. The arts center also sponsors the Presenter Series which brings nationally touring shows to Valdosta.

Valdosta has numerous theatre opportunities for area actors and audiences, of all ages: VSU Theatre & Dance, Theatre Guild Valdosta, Lowndes High School Off-Broadway, Valdosta High School Drama, Valdosta Middle School Players, Gingerbread Players, Little Actors Theatre.

VSU Dance and area dance studios present full productions and recitals, providing again opportunities for both performers and spectators.

The arts are a blessing to our region. And that's what It's All About You is about, too — sharing the region's blessings with our readers.

It's All About You stories run each Wednesday on The Times' front page through 2013. Each month has a selected theme.

So, join us for the five Wednesdays of May to see how the arts is all about you.



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Dr. Ronald Zaccari presents 11-year-old Alden Hester, a fifth grader from Berrien County, with the first-place award for the Student Spring into Art Invitation Design contest.



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

David Kaleb Foshee and Taylor Ruppel, both of Valdosta, received first and third place in the photography, digital and printmaking category. Not pictured is Jamie Harmon of Memphis who won second.

Spring Into Art winners

6C Sunday, April 21, 2013

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA -- If you attended the 26th Annual Spring Into Art's gala opening, and given the crowded galleries of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, it certainly seemed like almost the entire city did, you may not have had an opportunity to actually view the art because of all of the people.

The opening is often more about conversation and mingling rather than a look at the art. So, if you haven't already, take some time to re-visit the Spring Into Art show, or go for the first time. But prepare to spend some time.

This Spring Into Art features about 500 pieces, making it the largest of these exhibits ever. The idea behind Spring Into Art is that there are prize winners but every entrant has the opportunity to shine like a winner because all entries are exhibited.

This year's exhibit fills each gallery with Bill Shenton, arts center curator, saying, if he has to exhibit each painting, one almost stop the other, side by side, similar to the famed Louvre, he will do so to continue Spring Into Art's inclusive tradition.

On today's pages are some of the show's winners and some of the visitors who spent some time attending the April 8 gala. The winners are also listed below so visitors can travel to the center to compare



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Zachary Mickleboro of Tyrone won first place in the sculpture category with his piece, "Domesticated."

their favorites with those selected by the judges

Spring Into Art continues through June 8, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. More information: Call (229) 247-2787.

SPRING INTO ART WINNERS

BEST IN SHOW: "Collector Believes Every Work of Art is a Missionary," Barbara Baker, Tallahassee, Fla.

PAINT/DRINK/INK: "Picture This," Cynthia W. Council, Valdosta (first place); "That Could Have

Been Us," Philip Bagrow, Columbia, S.C. (second place); "The Lady and the Pig," Dick Inman, Thomasville (third); "Great Granddad Jack Scott," Colleen Harris, Valdosta (fourth).

PHOTO/DIGITAL/PRINT: "Jungle Boy" David Kaleb Pashee, Valdosta (first place); "Ondine," Jamie Harmon, Memphis, Tenn. (second); "Clothes Print," Taylor Ruppel, Valdosta (third).

SCULPTURE: "Domesticated," Zachary Mickleboro, Tyrone (first place); "Midwest Industrial Com-

plex 2012 11.8," Michael T. Schmidt, Valdosta (second); "Martian Epiphany," Donald C. Penny (third).

CERAMIC/CRAFT/JEWELRY: "Japanese Flowering Apricot," Gary Hoskins, Valdosta (first place); Untitled II, Virginia Lowman, Hartsfield (second); Raku Vase, Walter Hobbs, Valdosta (third).

HONORABLE MENTIONS: Hank Fleck, Tallahassee; Suzanne Marcil, McAlpin; Nicole Rosseland, St. Marys; Michael T. Schmidt, Valdosta; Chris Shroyer, Valdosta; Travis D. Simmons, Valdosta; Jack Smith, Tifton; Mary O. Smith, Woodbine; Shelby Sweat, Waycross; Linda Wunder, Jekyll Island.

COLSON CALENDAR WINNERS: "Open for Business," Philip Bagrow, Columbia, S.C.; "Caro de Cuba," Guy Bryant, Valdosta; "Inheritance," Andra Chance, McAlpin, Fla.; "Long Legs," Rosemary S. Ferguson, Tallahassee, Fla.; "The Mission Trip," Harold Griner, Lake Butler, Fla.; "Thunderbirds," Paul Leavy, Valdosta; "A Foggy Day at Grand Bay," Gretchen B. McCoy, Valdosta; "Christmas in the Rockies," Joe Morgan, Valdosta; "Dogwood Bouquet," Ollene Osborne, Nashville, Ga.; "Cove Mooring," Don Pettigrew, Valdosta; "Marching into Battle," Sally Turner Quinn, Valdosta; "Flamingo Fascination," Jewelene B. Sweat, Waycross; "Rail Line By Davis Electric and Reames Construction," Todd Wessel, Valdosta.



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Cynthia W. Council of Valdosta and Dick Inman of Thomasville took home first and third, respectively, in the painting, drawing and mixed-media category. Not pictured are Philip Bagrow of Columbia, S.C. (second place) and Colleen Harris of Valdosta (fourth).



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

(from left to right) The first-, second- and third-place recipients in the sculpture category, Zachary Mickleboro of Tyrone, Michael T. Schmidt of Valdosta and Donald C. Penny of Hahira.



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Honorable mentions were presented to (from left to right) Nicole Rosseland of Saint Mary's, Mary O. Smith of Woodbine, Linda Wunder of Jekyll Island, Hank Fleck of Tallahassee, Fla., Suzanne Marcil of McAlpin, Fla., and Jack Smith of Tifton. Recipients not pictured are Shelby Sweat of Waycross, Michael T. Schmidt, Chris Shroyer and Travis D. Simmons of Valdosta.

At Season's End

The farewell shows of the 2012-2013 arts season

BY DEAN POLING

THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — This weekend, the 2012-2013 arts season begins to close shop in earnest.

The last performance of the season's last Valdosta State University Theatre & Dance production is today.

The last Valdosta Symphony Orchestra performance of the 2012-2013 season is next weekend.

Spring Into Art continues full bloom through May in the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts (see more images from this show inside this section).

The fifth Bel Canto concert is scheduled for this afternoon.

Valdosta State University Art has its final exhibit on display.

Valdosta Choral Guild presents its annual spring concert next weekend.

Lowndes High School Off-Broadway presents its last show this week.

Theatre Guild Valdosta presents its season closer the first week of May.

What follows is a run down of the shows that are left and a sneak peek at Peach State Summer Theatre's 2013 season coming in June.

Bel Canto, Park Avenue United Methodist Church, 100 E. Park Ave. For the fifth year, this concert of "beautiful singing" brings nationally and internationally known opera singers to Valdosta for a magnificent concert that raises money for area groups. This year's beneficiary is the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. Run date: 4 p.m. today, April 21.

Spring Into Art, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Approximately 500 works, the largest Spring Into Art in the show's 26-year history, fill all of the arts center galleries. Show continues through June 5. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6



PHOTO: SARAH ARNETT

Ashley Anderson, Jessica Mathis and Chance Wall are featured in the Valdosta State University Theatre & Dance Musical Theatre Showcase. The showcases end with choreographers today.

p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. Most opening receptions, however, are 5-7 p.m. Mondays on designated dates. Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org

"The Poisoned Apple," Lowndes High School Off Broadway, LHS, off Norman Drive. The high school drama group's show for children is described as a refreshing take on the Snow White storyline. Show runs 7 p.m., April 26; 3 p.m., April 28. Ticket; \$6. More information: Call (229) 245-2260.

"Cliffhanger," The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Theatre Guild Valdosta presents this show. A college department head wants to force a philosophy

professor into retirement, pushing the mild-mannered professor to the point of violence. Variety described the show's mix of comedy and mystery as combining "the warmth and humor of 'On Golden Pond' with almost as many plot twists as 'Deathtrap.'" Run dates: 7:30 p.m., May 9, 10, 11; 3 p.m., May 12; 7:30 p.m., May 16, 17, 18. More information: Call (229) 24-STAGE; or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com The cast: Patti Cook, Quentin McKennon, Mary Helen Taylor, Andrew Thomas, Sommers Coleman.

Spring Senior Exhibition. Valdosta State University Fine Art Gallery, VSU Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. Graduating seniors showcase their artworks in this exhibit that opened last weekend. The show continues through April 29.

Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday. More information: 333-5835; www.valdosta.edu/art

Valdosta State University Music presents its final series of concerts, recitals and more in the coming days. These music events are free and open to the public. They will be held in Whitehead Auditorium, VSU Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood; except where noted. More information: Visit www.valdosta.edu/music/

— 7:30 p.m. April 21: Pan Am Ensemble pays tribute to "Brazilian singer-songwriter and representative of the Tropicalia movement, Caetano Veloso; our first-ever set of music from a group north of the border, the Canadian trio, the Wailin' Jennys; a couple of tunes from the repertoire of the Fleet Fox-

dents in the ensemble."

— 7:30 p.m., April 24, Student Chamber Showcase. This concert features VSU vocalists, string, woodwind and brass instrumentalists. "Some of our very best students are performing on this concert, and there will be a ton of variety," said Dr. Elizabeth Goode. The performance is scheduled to include "everything from a trombone ensemble to a string quartet to a soprano duo to a single tenor with guitar accompaniment," according to VSU.

— 7:30 p.m., April 26, The Spotlighters. This jazz ensemble has spent the semester specializing in "collegiate a cappella arrangements of popular hits," said director Paul Neal. "They have a 'beat-boxer' who literally serves as the rhythm section while the rest sing. It is done completely with their voices. They have arranged many of them by themselves. They have done extremely well."

— 3 p.m., April 28, Saxophone Studio Recital.

— 6 p.m., April 29, South Georgia String Project.

— 3 p.m., May 5, Student Recital, Claudia Encinas.

Emerging Artists Showcase, Sawyer Theatre, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. Run date: This VSU Theatre & Dance show plays its final date, 3 p.m. today, April 21, featuring several dance students presenting performances of their original choreography. More information: Call (229) 333-5973; or visit www.valdosta.edu/comarts

"Virtuosity," Whitehead Auditorium, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. Run date: 8 p.m., April 27. Valdosta

es, an ever-popular band from the Northwestern United States; three 'new' arrangements of mine representing 'old guard' Argentine tango; and we're rounding it out with three pieces that attempt to capture what happens when mariachi groups are given on-the-spot requests that fall out of their usual sphere," said Dr. M. Brent Williams who directs this concert.

— 7:30 p.m., April 22, VSU Choirs Concert, Concert Choir Spotlighters & Chamber Singers, Park Avenue United Methodist Church.

— 7:30 p.m. April 23, Concert Band. Featuring 63 members, this band plays two concerts every spring semester, said Eric E. Bradshaw, conductor and director. "The program includes a wide variety of band music and several short solos from stu-

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Attending the Spring into Art reception was a delightful way to spend an evening. The event was well organized, everyone was congenial, the food was delicious and the artwork was outstanding. My sincere gratitude goes out to **everyone** who had a role in bringing the show and reception so beautifully.

PHOTOSCAPE



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Spring into Art

Attendees take in some of the 500 pieces of artwork on display for this year's Spring into Art Exhibition.

Bel Canto returns next week to Valdosta

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA – To commemorate its fifth year in South Georgia, Bel Canto's organizers are bringing 75 classically trained musicians to perform the concert's "beautiful singing."

In addition to presenting artists who have performed for the New York opera and venues across the nation and around the world, Bel Canto will also present its proceeds for the benefit of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, according to organizers.

This year's scheduled performers are soprano Stella Zambalis, mezzo soprano Carol Sparrow, tenor Randolph Locke, baritone Michael Corvino, and accompanist Michael Shane Wittenburg.

The group will perform Broadway show tunes and operatic arias.

Zambalis is in many ways the voice that inspired the Valdostans to bring Bel Canto to South Georgia. A nationally acclaimed soprano, Zambalis has performed throughout the world. Nationally, she made her big debut as a finalist in the San Francisco Opera auditions and as a winner of the Metropolitan Opera auditions. She has performed some of opera's best-known roles and is a regular at the Metropolitan Opera and the New York City Opera, among others. She has also originated roles in new operas from the likes of

Philip Glass and Robert Moran.

"I have been blessed with a wonderful career," Zambalis told The Times in a past interview. "Now, I'm in the part of my life where I can still sing but I'm becoming more involved in direction (and other behind-the-scenes activities, judging, etc.). If I reach a point where I cannot sing then I will shut my mouth."

Though she has tried to work more as a coordinator for the past couple of Bel Canto shows in Valdosta, her fans here request she performs when she travels to South Georgia.

She has been involved in all five Valdosta Bel Canto performances.

Sparrow is a North Carolina native who studied music at the University of North Carolina, but the mezzo soprano's voice has taken her far. She had performed with the New York Opera under Beverly Sills for three seasons. Singing more than 15 leading roles, Sparrow performed in numerous television performances including "Live from Lincoln Center." She has also performed leading soprano roles throughout the U.S.

Sparrow is married to her fellow Bel Canto performing partner, Randolph Locke.

Locke's work keeps him singing and traveling around the globe. Not only as a performer but as a teacher, stage director and clinician. The tenor has sung with opera compa-

nies in Italy, Greece, Finland, Stuttgart, Hong Kong, Honolulu, Mexico City, Puerto Rico, Ottawa, Edmonton, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Houston, Boston, Atlanta, Santa Fe and Sarasota.

Corvino is considered one of the nation's leading baritones, especially performing the works of Verdi.

He has performed Verdi's works more than 200 times, leading The New York Times to praise one Verdi performance as "splendid."

Corvino has been a regular with the New York City Opera. He has performed throughout the nation, as well as Europe and Asia.

Wittenburg has been called a "real virtuoso." The pianist has served in varying capacities as a performer, accompanist, assistant conductor and vocal coach for opera companies in Nashville, Orlando, Sarasota and the Bronx Opera.

Wittenburg has often worked with Zambalis and concert violinist Livia Sohn.

Wright and Betsy Turner, Archie and Lee Griffin, and Joe Glenn and Marie Smith of Valdosta saw Bel Canto performed at its regular home in The Highlands Country Club in North Carolina. The local group saw Bel Canto twice. The first time, they commented that Bel Canto should come to Valdosta. The second time, they acted.

Now, for the fifth year, Bel Canto, which means "beautiful singing," brings just that to Valdosta.

In addition to the concert, an optional after-show dinner/reception at the Valdosta Country Club is also available.

SHOWTIME

Bel Canto performs to the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

When: 4 p.m. Sunday, April 21.

Where: Park Avenue United Methodist Church, 100 E. Park Ave.

More Information: Call the arts center (252) 247-2787 or

http://www.turnercenter.org/; or make a reservation online by calling the Valdosta Country Club, (229) 242-3700.

6A Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Submissions are subject to editing and publication is not guaranteed.

Editor's Note: In 2013, Wednesdays will be rave-only days. Thank you to our readers for your support.

I would like to submit a rave for Dr. Ron Reagin and his office staff. Everyone always greets me by name, the service is prompt, and everyone is very kind there. Great work!

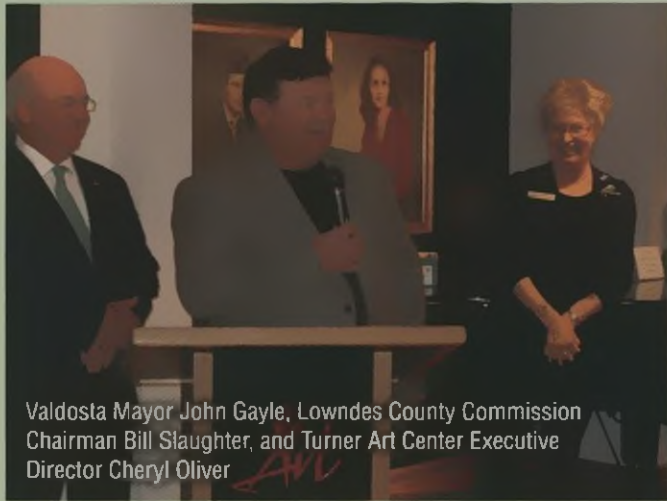
Thank you, thank you, thank you to the considerate and kind Lowndes County Sheriff's deputy who paid to put \$10 of gas in my car when I did not have my wallet at the gas station this afternoon. I am so thankful and will pass on the kindness!

Way to go, Open Bible Warriors! You defeated a great ball club, the Appling Eagle team, 4-1.

Tuesday night the Valdosta Police department responded to our office for a possible break-in in progress. I just want to praise the officers who responded. They arrived quickly and did a fantastic, professional job of checking to make sure everything was secure.

Attending the Spring into Art reception was a delightful way to spend an evening. The event was well organized, everyone was congenial, the food was delicious and the artwork was outstanding. My sincere gratitude goes out to everyone who had a role in bringing the show and reception so beautifully.

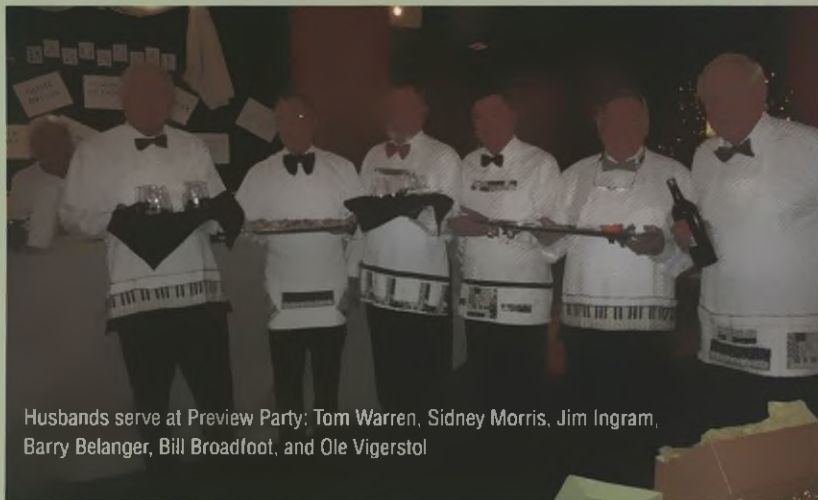
BARGANZA



Valdosta Mayor John Gayle, Lowndes County Commission Chairman Bill Slaughter, and Turner Art Center Executive Director Cheryl Oliver



Valdosta Symphony Guild members and volunteers get ready for Barganza, the Guild's Upscale Resale fundraiser.



Husbands serve at Preview Party; Tom Warren, Sidney Morris, Jim Ingram, Barry Belanger, Bill Broadfoot, and Ole Vigerstol



The Barganza Committee: Guild President Virginia Vigerstol, Sharon Morris, Jessica Newman, Jeani Synard, Dee Broadfoot, and Marian Belanger

Youth Art Month and Regional Art Competition

One thousand teachers, students, family members, and friends came to the Turner Center for the Arts for the annual art show and competition. K-12 elementary, middle, school students and high school students from eleven schools in South Georgia/North Florida showed their work. This is quite possibly the most well-attended and certainly the most colorful exhibition hosted by the Turner Center throughout the year. Youth Art Month emphasizes the value of art education for all children and encourages public support for quality art programs.



Audrey Hilton, Valdosta High School art student was named Best in Show in this year's competition. This picture shows her surrounded by family and her art teacher. L-R: Jerry and Jo Hilton, grandparents, Gloria Gracia, aunt, Janette Hilton, her mother, Audrey, and Teresa Middleton, Audrey's art teacher at VHS.

A Decade of Art

*Turner Center celebrates
10 years this month*

photo by Brandon Powers

by DEAN POLING

Legend claims the old First State Bank & Trust's downtown headquarters looked more like an art gallery than a bank. The comparison seems reasonable. For years, the bank's lobby served as the showcase for the annual Spring Into Art exhibits.

Of course, the legend became fact 10 years ago when the one-time bank building officially transformed into the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Since opening in April 2003, with that year's Spring Into Art show, the Turner Center has hosted dozens of art exhibits and performances, led numerous children's and adult art classes, and served as a meeting place

for various organizations' functions and events.

This month, the arts center hosts the 26th Annual Spring Into Art, which is still the region's largest and most inclusive art exhibit. The center provides exhibit space for every work entered in the show. Judges select the exhibit's prize winners and the Colson Printing Company chooses about a dozen works for its next year's calendar.

Throughout this year, the center has celebrated this anniversary by marking all of its events with a special 10-year anniversary logo created by Bill Shenton, the Turner Center's curator. Executive Director Cheryl Oliver says the entire year has been dedicated to a specific fundraising drive to pay off the



center's remaining \$90,000 mortgage debt.

The center's board has asked donors to donate \$2,013 for the year 2013 to pay the mortgage, Oliver says. Though a 12-month push, the fundraising drive had already reached 71 percent of its goal at the time of this interview in mid-March.

"It's a hard time to ask for donations," Oliver says. "We're not providing food. We're not providing shelter. But what we do provide is food for the spirit."

By the end of the year, the center will host a gala for the \$2,013/2013

donors. This event will also celebrate the past Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission board chairpeople since the Turner Center opened in 2003.

Though the center has an endowment fund, started with the 2003 opening, paying off the mortgage will open new opportunities for the center in the future. Led by board President Archie Waldron, the center is in the process of strategic planning and is developing a business plan for the coming years, Oliver says. She describes Waldron as “a visionary who sees the long-term picture” for the arts center.

Even though many people said the former bank looked like an art gallery, it still required extensive remodeling more than a decade ago to transform it into the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. Still, after 10 years, and given the original building is a few decades old, the center is an aging structure requiring diligent maintenance and care, Oliver says. With the mortgage paid, these aging issues can be more readily addressed in the future.

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts started with this building, featuring several dedicated galleries, retaining the bank vault for storing valuable art, and upper floors for arts classes and rental space for other organizations (the area Red Cross spent several

years on the upper floors), but the center’s mission started several years ago, with the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission.

For many years, LVAC kept its offices in a small building near VSU. The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center featured a multi-purpose room/gallery, a secondary gallery, etc. The old center was a whirlwind hub of creative activity and expression.

In the early 2000s, First State Bank began moving its headquarters from downtown to the current location at a corner of Perimeter and Bemiss roads.

Former state Sen. Loyce Turner, who had ties with the bank, and the Turner family donated more than a half-million dollars toward LVAC purchasing the downtown building from First State. The addition of other contributions led to the purchase, refurbishing the bank building into an actual series of art galleries, and a foundation for its operation.

The center is named for Annette Howell Turner, Sen. Turner’s late wife who was a woman who greatly supported local arts. Her portrait remains prominently displayed in the center. During the 2013 Spring Into Arts gala, Sen. Turner and his family will be honored for their commitment to the center.



Artist Zachary Mickleboro and his girlfriend, Melissa Decell, look over a variety of ceramic pottery and jewelry on display at the Spring Into Art 2012 exhibit.



Artist Lee Schert with Julie Van Ham looking over the wide variety of art on display for the Spring Into Art 2012.



The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts was filled with art of all types for the 2012 Spring Into Art.

The 26th Annual Spring Into Art 2013

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

Opening gala, 6-9 p.m., April 8

Tickets: \$45. Runs April 8 through June 5.

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

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts

presents

The 26th Annual

Spring Into Art

2013



527 N. Patterson St. Valdosta
www.turnercenter.org
229-247-ARTS(2787)

Artist entry forms are available at the Turner Center for the Arts or online at www.turnercenter.org and are due by March 20, 2013. A catered cocktail buffet will be served at the opening night Gala, April 8 from 6 - 9pm. Tickets to the Gala are \$45 each.

Spring Into Art is an annual exhibition that invites visual artists working in most 2 and 3-dimensional mediums to exhibit two works and compete for over \$5,000 in awards. Find complete guidelines and rules at www.turnercenter.org. Spring Into Art will be on display from April 8 - June 5, 2013, and will be open to free public viewing starting April 9.

© 2013 Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. All rights reserved. "Spring Into Art" by D. Arthur Howell.

SPRING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Bagrow, Columbia, S.C. (second place); "The Lady and the Pig," Dick Inman, Thomasville (third); "Great Granddad Jack Scott," Colleen Harris, Valdosta (fourth).

PHOTO/DIGITAL/PRINT: "Jungle Boy," David Kaleb Foshee, Valdosta (first place); "Ondine," Jamie Harmon, Memphis, Tenn. (second); "Clothes Print," Taylor Ruppel, Valdosta (third).

SCULPTURE: "Domesticated," Zachary Mickleboro, Tyrone (first place); "Midwest Industrial Complex 2012 11.8," Michael T. Schmidt, Valdosta (second); "Martian Epiphany,"

Donald C. Penny (third). **CERAMIC/CRAFT/JEWELRY:** "Japanese Flowering Apricot," Gary Hoskins, Valdosta (first place); Untitled II, Virginia Lowman, Hartsfield (second); Raku Vase, Walter Hobbs, Valdosta (third).

HONORABLE MENTIONS: Hank Fleck, Tallahassee; Suzanne Marcil, McAlpin; Nicole Rosseland, St. Marys; Michael T. Schmidt, Valdosta; Chris Shroyer, Valdosta; Travis D. Simmons, Valdosta; Jack Smith, Tifton; Mary O. Smith, Woodbine; Shelby Sweat, Waycross; Linda Wunder, Jekyll Island.

COLSON CALENDAR WINNERS: "Open for Business," Philip Bagrow, Columbia, S.C.; "Caro de Cu-

ba," Guy Bryant, Valdosta; "Inheritance," Anda Chance, McAlpin, Fla.; "Long Legs," Rosemary S. Ferguson, Tallahassee, Fla.; "The Mission Trip," Harold Griner, Lake Butler Fla.; "Thunderbirds," Paul Leavy, Valdosta; "A Foggy Day at Grand Bay," Gretchen B. McCoy, Valdosta; "Christmas in the Rockies," Joe Morgan, Valdosta; "Dogwood Bouquet," Ollene Osborne, Nashville, Ga.; "Cove Mooring," Don Pettigrew, Valdosta; "Marching Into Battle," Sally Turner Querin, Valdosta; "Flamingo Fascination," Jewelene B. Sweat, Waycross; "Rail Line By Davis Electric and Reames Construction," Todd Wessel, Valdosta.



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Artist Kathy Cox of Waycross examines a painting by Cynthia W. Council of Valdosta, who won first place in the Painting, Drawing and Mixed Media category.



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Attendees filled the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Monday evening to view the artwork on display during the opening of the 26th annual Spring into Art exhibition.

A familiar face wins Best in Show

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Perhaps, it's the way the judges eye her sculpted figures, or maybe it's the way her sculpted figures eye the judges, but Tallahassee, Fla., artist Barbara Balzer keeps winning top awards at the annual Spring Into Arts exhibits.

On Monday evening, Balzer's "Collector/Believes Every Work of Art is a Missionary" won the 2013 Spring Into Art top honor: Best in Show.

Quite a feat given it is the largest Spring Into Art in the exhibit's half-century history with approximately 500 pieces submitted and the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts' staff finding places to exhibit each and every work.

The gala opening also marked the 10-year anniversary of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts with tributes to the family of Loyce Turner and the late Annette Howell Turner. The center opened in 2003 with that year's Spring Into Art.

Spring Into Art is the region's most inclusive exhibit — every registered piece of work is exhibited to be judged, to be viewed, to possibly be purchased, to be considered for the annual Colson Calendar which publishes 13 pieces from



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Barbara Balzer of Tallahassee, Fla., won Best in Show for Spring Into Art 2013 with her clay sculpture titled 'Collector/Believes Every Work of Art is a Missionary.'

each Spring Into Art.

But it is also a show with awards and cash prizes. Balzer has come to know such honors well. For example, she has won first place in the Spring Into Art sculpture category multiple times, including such wins last year, 2008, and 2006. Her work also garnered her the

Best in Show award for Valdosta State University Art's Valdosta National 2011 exhibit.

While many Valdosta art patrons may not know Balzer if they were to meet her on the street or in the Turner Center, her ceramic busts are immediately recognizable to regional art patrons. They touch upon an ancient imagery of the human race and human face, with touches of the harlequin and the Elizabethan.

In many ways, Balzer's work seems an almost three-dimensional expression of the pinched classicism of Pablo Picasso's canvases from his Blue Period. All with an almost eerie animation that her figures' eyes are following you and that anyone of them might blink, wink, sniff, or speak. There is something discomfortably familiar about Balzer's ceramic figures and something terribly fascinating.

With hundreds of works on display, there is something for everyone in Spring Into Art. The show continues exhibiting through June 5, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

SPRING INTO ART WINNERS

BEST IN SHOW: "Collector/Believes Every Work of Art is a Missionary," Barbara Balzer, Tallahassee, Fla.

PAINT/DRAW/MIX: "Picture This," Cynthia W. Council, Valdosta (first place), "That Could Have Been Us," Philip

Life



Artwork is waiting to be arranged for the Monday opening of the 26th Spring into Art exhibition.

BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

'THE BIGGEST SHOW EVER'

Region's most inclusive exhibit, Spring Into Art continues to grow

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — As artist car-pools from Tallahassee, Fla., St. Simons, and other out-of-town locales, with one artist carrying the works of three, four or more artists from a respective city, arrive last weekend at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, curator Bill Shenton begins the process of inventorying the art works, and more importantly, gauging where he might display them for the 2013 Spring Into Art.

Even before the works arrive, Shenton knows basically what to expect. Registration ended a couple of weeks earlier. He knows where the works are coming from. He knows the expected ratio of works: More than 300 works in the painting/drawing category; more than 100 photography entries; the rest expected to fall within the sculpture and ceramics/jewelry/crafts categories.

Shenton knows this year's 26th Annual Spring Into Art is the "biggest one ever."

Two-hundred-and-sixty-four artists have registered nearly 510 pieces which will fill the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts galleries nearly from top to bottom. Patrons should expect an eyeful of art and an elbow-room-only gathering of artists and supporters when Spring Into Art opens Monday evening with the annual reception gala.

Though out-of-town artists were making the trek during The Times' visit the week before last, Shenton says this Spring Into Art features many regular participating Valdosta-area artists as well as several new registered regional artists. With dozens of more works registered for this year's Spring Into Art, it's no wonder that Shenton eyes the gallery walls carefully, but he would have it no other way. He does not plan to be the gallery curator who stifles the all-inclusive tradition of Spring Into Art.

The annual exhibit has become the region's largest art show. A show that includes every submitted work. Yes, there are thousands of dollars of cash prizes offered in four categories. Yes, Colson Printing Company selects 13 pieces from the hundreds submitted to grace the pages of its annual calendar.

But everything, every piece of art registered and entered that follows the exhibit's guidelines, is displayed. And while a work



Curator Bill Shenton examines a painting as he prepares the artwork to be displayed during the exhibition.

BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

may not win a prize or find a spot in the Colson Calendar, it still has the opportunity to shine. It still has the opportunity to gain attention for the artists as well as money. Last year, Shenton says, 60-70 pieces were purchased during Spring Into Art.

So, Shenton and the center have no plans to curb any enthusiasm for Spring Into Art. If it keeps growing, there may come a time when there are too many entries for display, but about 510 pieces is not that number.

Shenton mentions the famed art galleries of The Louvre with masterpieces stacked and exhibited from floor to ceiling with a mere half-inch between each

frame. If Spring Into Art receives more entries, Shenton will use The Louvre example, if he must, to accommodate all of the artwork.

Meanwhile, on this day from nearly a week and a half ago, works keep arriving from as close as Valdosta and Hahira and as far away as Memphis, Chicago and New York, all under Bill Shenton's watchful gaze, with one eye on checking off submitted art from his registration list and another to the gallery walls deciding where he might place each new arrival.

For additional photos, please see page 6C.

SPRING INTO ART

The 26th Annual Spring Into Art

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

Opening Reception Gala: 6-9 p.m. Monday, April 8. Ticket: \$45.

Show's public run dates: April 9 through June 5. Admission: Free.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays.

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

Spring Into Art

The 26th Annual Spring Into Art

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

Opening Reception Gala: 6-9 p.m. Monday, April 8. Ticket: \$45.

Show's public run dates: April 9 through June 5. Admission: Free.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays.

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



BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES
Many examples of three dimensional art are on display this year, filling the Howard gallery, such as this piece by Valdosta State professor Hollis Barnett.



Annette Howell Turner Center Curator Bill Shenton looks over some of the nearly 500 pieces of artwork submitted for this year's Spring Into Art Exhibition.

BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Thumbs up

THUMBS UP: To Lowndes County officials and the demolition crews for the great job on the Courthouse Annex. The demolition work was done in a very neat and organized manner, the materials were all separated for recycling, and the new lawn looks very nice. The building's removal has also allowed for a more attractive look to the downtown area.

THUMBS UP: To the Turner Center for the Arts on the annual Spring into Arts exhibit which begins with the opening reception Monday night. The Turner Center is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, and the Spring into Arts exhibit is the largest they've ever had, spanning all six galleries. An incredible vision for the community, an incredible venue and a celebration of the artistic local talent. Thank you to all those who work and volunteer at the Arts Center for continuing to grow and enhance the arts in Valdosta.

THUMBS UP: To the City of Valdosta for hosting today's electronics recycling event in the parking area in front of City Hall. Computers, keyboards, monitors, old cell phones and all manner of equipment parts are recyclable and best kept out of the landfill. Televisions are expensive to recycle, so if you take one to today's event, there is a \$10 fee, but otherwise, it's all free. And volunteers are manning the site so that you don't even have to get out of your car!

THUMBS UP: To Mark Whatley, for his exhibition of courage and perseverance. The life lessons you have taught your children and others are invaluable, as you've worked so hard to learn to walk again following your horrific crash when your bicycle was run over by a motorist. Your story is inspiring and a lesson to all that not only can obstacles be overcome, but that attitude and determination are the driving forces behind anything worthwhile in life.

Artwork with an 'animal' theme is prepped for display.

6C Sunday, April 7, 2013





Valdosta Mayor John Gayle poses with a few of the winners named last year in the Fourth Annual Valdosta People's Choice Photo Contest at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. The city is now taking entries for the fifth contest.

FILE PHOTO: DEAN POLING | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES