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From Page One

10A

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

ARTS: Musical program rolls over Beethoven

classical music lovers met to develop a program to provide additional music to the community.

Oliver suggested naming the program SCORE.

"It's not an acronym, but is so named because that's what a composer writes, and it's something a sports-minded community can relate to," Oliver said. "Don't we all like to score at whatever game we're playing?"

She said the support of classical music fits within the arts center mission "to promote and celebrate the arts in our area, so there was no hesitation to seize upon Dan's proposal, especially since it was accompanied by an offer to help fund the program."

The center applied and received a Vibrant Communities grant from the Georgia Council for the Arts to fund Gargiulo's performance.

The program is "supported in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly. GCA is a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts."

Last summer, the center held two

SHOWTIME

What: Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts SCORE program presents "Roll Over Beethoven" featuring internationally renowned pianist Julian Gargiulo.

When: 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

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

Ticket: \$20, general admission; \$30, reserved seating.

Children's show: 10:30 a.m. Saturday, same location. Admission: Free, but RSVP requested due to limited seating.

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

prelude concerts to the SCORE program. There was a classical guitar concert in August and "What Key Is That?" featuring music and a lecture by Valdosta State University musicians Lyle Indergaard and Jennifer Huang in September.

"Now it's time to kick off SCORE with a Big Bang," Oliver said.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Internationally renowned Steinway pianist Julian Gargiulo plays Saturday at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.



Art Walk

DOWNTOWN VALDOSTA

February 5th

5 p.m. 'till 8 p.m.

Combining the love of art and Historic Downtown Valdosta, it is our pleasure to invite you to Art Walk. We will also be featuring a wine tasting experience at participating Art Walk locations. Wrist bands for the wine experience are available at each location for \$20 per person with all proceeds going to Downtown beautification projects.

Come Downtown and experience art in the most special local wine shops Valdosta has to offer!

Sponsored by:



Arts center ready to SCORE this weekend

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts plans to SCORE with a new music program starting this weekend.

The “Roll Over Beethoven” concert features internationally renowned Steinway pianist Julian Gargiulo.

The show will include beloved classical music piano pieces presented in a witty style, according to the arts center.

Gargiulo performs in venues from Carnegie Hall to the Moscow Conservatory Hall in Russia to the Verona Philharmonic Hall in Italy to The Esplanade in Singapore to the Seymour Theatre

Centre in Australia.

Gargiulo was born in Italy, he has dual citizenship with his native country and the United States. He studied piano in Italy, Russia and the U.S.

His concert is the first official event of the arts center’s SCORE program.

Cheryl Oliver, the arts center executive director, said the idea for the program started last year.

Dan Coleman, Valdosta Symphony Orchestra board chairman, brought a proposal to the arts center, Oliver said. He hoped to sustain and grow area interest in classical music. Coleman, Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission President Gail Hobgood and other

See Arts on 10A



JENNIFER DANDRON | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Julian Gargiulo performed Chopin's 'Nocturne' Saturday at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Famed pianist plays free concert

BY JENNIFER DANDRON

jennifer.dandron@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — From Carnegie Hall to the Turner Center for the Arts in a two-week time span, internationally renowned Steinway pianist Julian Gargiulo has won over audiences everywhere, including children.

Gargiulo performed a free children's concert Saturday prior to his adult concert Saturday night, both at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

The artist engaged the audience with pieces from Chopin, Brahms, Bach, Beethoven and some origi-

nal pieces.

Gargiulo said he composed one piece, which he referred to as "The Puerto Rican Day Parade," after being detoured because of the parade several times on his walk home in New York.

"I was very frustrated, so when I got home I sat down at my piano and made this," he said.

He also explained that music doesn't always have a story behind it.

"Some music is just music with no story," he said. "Music is very particular because it doesn't necessarily represent something real in the world."

The children interacted with Gargiulo through charades and a trivia game on Beethoven.

Noting that many of the children in attendance also practiced piano, Gargiulo snuck in a quick vocabulary lesson, defining trills and glissando for the audience.

Gargiulo's performed his "Roll Over Beethoven" concert Saturday night.

Born in Italy of a New Yorker, Gargiulo maintains dual citizenship between Italy and the United States. He boasts an impressive resume, having studied the art of piano in Italy, Russia and the U.S.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Blessings of the Arts

World premiere, national show play Valdosta

A world premiere and a nationally touring act will be performed during the next few days in Valdosta.

The Valdosta Symphony Orchestra performs the world premiere of American composer James Charles Oliverio's "Trumpet Concerto No. 1: World House."

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series hosts the nationally touring Hit Men, featuring the former stars of Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons.

"The National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C., funded a proposal to create a symphonic Trumpet Concerto to honor the life's work of Dr. Martin Luther King," Oliverio said. "Of the five American orchestras that sent their support, Valdosta was chosen as the location for the world premiere this coming Saturday, Feb. 13."

Oliverio researched his concerto at King's alma mater, Morehouse College in Atlanta. As a result of his work, the MLK Papers Collection and the Morehouse College Music Department are part of the collaboration behind the world premiere.

Dr. Vicki Crawford, King Papers Collection director, will join Oliverio in visiting Valdosta this weekend. She will be in town to discuss "the unique collection of Dr. King's work, but also his values and the importance of his legacy in the 21st century," according to a statement.

Crawford and Oliverio will also discuss the civic and music collaboration behind the World House project. Following the Valdosta premiere, there are plans for the concerto to be performed throughout the nation.

Valdosta Symphony Orchestra presents the concert, 8 p.m. Saturday, Whitehead Auditorium, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. More information: Visit valdostasymphony.org.

The Presenter Series production of the Hit Men plays 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St. Reservations, tickets: contact the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St., (229) 247-2787, or visit www.turnercenter.org.

Audiences can expect to hear songs by Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons, Tommy James & the Shondells, Carly Simon, Cat Stevens, Elton John, Carole King, Jim Croce, etc.

Featuring members of the Four Seasons as well as the musicians who performed on the recordings of other stars, the Hit Men isn't just an oldies act, said Lee Shapiro, a member of the Hit Men. It's an authentic act.

"When you hear us perform these songs, you're hearing the actual people you hear on the original records," he said.

Valdosta-Lowndes County is fortunate to have both the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra and the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

There are many cities and regions larger than Valdosta-Lowndes County that have neither an orchestra nor an arts center.

Both the world premiere and the Hit Men are products of the blessings of having both in South Georgia.



WWW.THEHITMENLIVE.COM

The Hit Men play Feb. 16, Mathis City Auditorium, as part of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series.

The Hit Men target Valdosta

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — Lee Shapiro described his job as being the operator of a time machine.

Shapiro is a member of the Hit Men. The musical group features the “former stars of Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons.” The Hit Men plays Valdosta this month as part of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series.

Audiences can expect to hear songs by the Four Seasons, Tommy James & the Shondells, Carly Simon, Cat Stevens, Elton John, Carole King, Jim Croce, etc. Projections of images from past performances flash behind the group.

“When they come to a Hit Men show, it’s like time travel,” Shapiro said in a phone interview. “It is absolutely a double reunion. Not just for us playing on stage. But for

each of us and our relationship with the audience. We were all the same age then. We were just on different sides of the radio.”

Shapiro said he was little more than a kid, still a teenager, when he joined the Four Seasons. He’s now 62.

“When you’re a kid, it’s all about you,” Shapiro said of performing. “Now, it’s not about us at all. It’s about all of us. These songs meant something to people. The show now brings all of that back.”

Featuring members of the Four Seasons as well as the musicians who performed on the recordings of other stars, the Hit Men isn’t just an oldies act, Shapiro said. It’s an authentic act.

“When you hear us perform these songs, you’re hearing the actual people you hear on the original records,” he said.

See Hit Men on 11A

SHOWTIME

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series hosts the Hit Men.

When: 7:30 p.m., Feb. 16.

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

Reservations, tickets: contact the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St., (229) 247-2787, or visit www.turnercenter.org.

Presenter Series sponsors: The Valdosta Daily Times, Astro Exterminating, First State Bank & Trust; Georgia Power Company; Langdale Vallotton, LLP; Dr. Edward Fricker & Dr. James Sinnott families; Stifel; WALB.

Community Partners: Cowart Electric & Industrial Contractors, Fairway Outdoor Advertising, Holiday Inn & Conference Center, Wild Adventures.

HIT MEN: 'When they come to a Hit Men show, it's like time travel'

The group was involved with and performs songs such as "Oh What a Night," "Who Loves You," "Sherry," "Peace Train," "Crocodile Rock," "The Loco Motion," "Leroy Brown," "Mony Mony," etc.

The success of the musical "Jersey Boys," which is based on the hits and lives of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, inspired some of the past members to return to the stage to sing the old songs.

Yet, even with the talents behind these hits, and the "Jersey Boys" allure, the Hit Men had a tough time getting gigs at first.

Shapiro recalled an early Hit Men date in New York City. The venue would only let the group play on a Monday night before Christmas.

The audience was small but one viewer saw the group's potential. He became the business manager for the Hit Men. The shows increased. The group now travels across the nation.

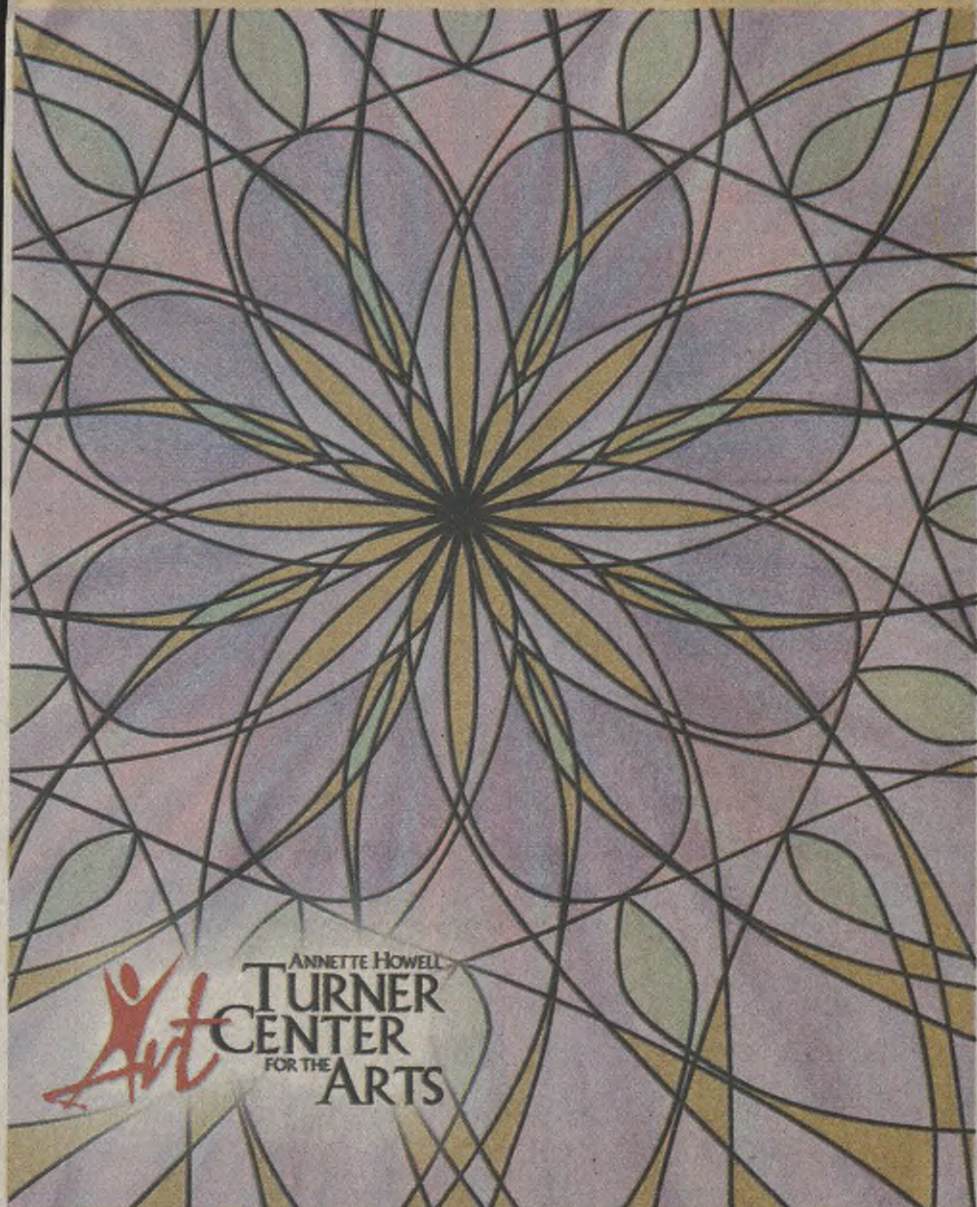
Each night, no matter the town, the Hit Men step onto the stage and enter a time machine taking them back to the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s.

"It's like déjà vu," Shapiro said.

The 29th annual

Spring Into Art

exhibition



ANNETTE HOWELL
TURNER
CENTER
FOR THE
ARTS

Gold Vein by Lynde Young

April 11 - June 8, 2016

Opening Night Gala: Monday, April 11, 6pm - 9pm

Spring Into Art provides an annual opportunity for visual artists working in most two & three-dimensional mediums to exhibit recently created works and compete for \$5,000 in awards. Artist entry forms with complete rules and guidelines are available at the Turner Center for the Arts or online at www.turnercenter.org. Deadline for artist entry is March 16. A catered cocktail buffet will be served at the opening night Gala. Tickets to the Gala are \$45 each. Open to free public viewing starting April 12.

www.turnercenter.org / 527 North Patterson Street, Valdosta / 229-247-2787



Arts & Entertainment

FEBRUARY 2016

• The Drawproject

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Several artists draw to raise money for Valdosta State University art student scholarships. Run dates: Show concludes Feb. 24. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org.

• Photography exhibit on loan from the Japan Foundation

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Photography panels by Kazuyoshi Miyoshi from Japan Foundation, New York. Run dates: Show concludes Feb. 24. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org.

• 2015 Fall Art Exploration

Roberta George Children's Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Art from Boys & Girls program. Run dates: Show concludes Feb. 24. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org.

• Youth Art Month

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Exhibits feature art from area schools, kindergarten through 12th grade. Run

dates: Show opens Feb. 29 and runs through March 25. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org.

• The Hitmen

Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St. The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series concludes the 2015-16 season with a concert group featuring "former stars of Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons," according to promotional notes. Audiences can expect to hear songs by Tommy James & the Shondells, Carly Simon, Cat Stevens, Elton John, Carole King, Jim Croce, etc., said Joanna Nijem and Nancy Warren, Presenter Series co-chairs. The Hit Men features former members of these acts, according to promotional materials. The group performs songs such as "Oh What a Night," "Who Loves You," "Sherry," "Peace Train," "Crocodile Rock," "The Loco Motion," "Leroy Leroy Brown." Run date: 7:30 p.m., Feb. 16. More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org.

• "A Murder is Announced,"

The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Theatre Guild Valdosta Main Stage presents playwright Leslie Darbon's stage adaptation of Agatha Christie's novel. Synopsis: "The 'Announcement' is in the local paper, stating time and place of a murder to occur in Miss Blacklock's early Victorian house. However, the victim is not one of the several occupants, temporary and permanent, but an unexpected and unknown visitor. What follows is a classic Agatha Christie puzzle of mixed motives, concealed identities, a

second death, and a determined inspector grimly following the twists and turns." Run dates: 7:30 p.m., Feb. 4-6; 3 p.m., Feb. 7; 7:30 p.m., Feb. 11-13. More information: Call (229) 24-STAGE; or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com.

• "Dearly Beloved,"

The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Theatre Guild Valdosta Stage 2 presents this play based on the novel by Anne Morrow Lindbergh. Synopsis: "Dearly Beloved" is a collection of thoughts of individuals attending a wedding. These include friends and family as well as members of the wedding party. Some selections will be happy, some cynical, and many will be conflicted. Something like real marriages and life in general. The thoughts of the mother of the bride, the father of the bride, an uncle, the soon to be mother-in-law, an aunt, a friend of the groom, and the bride and groom themselves all give different looks at marriage." Run dates: Feb. 19-21. More information: Call (229) 24-STAGE; or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com.

• Valdosta National 2016:

All-Media Juried Competition

Dedo-Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU Art presents the annual exhibit invites arts from across the nation to present works for a juried competition. Run dates: Jan. 19-Feb. 5. Gallery hours: 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays. Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 333-5835; or visit www.valdosta.edu/art

Involved in mysteries

Have you ever been involved in a mystery?

Small or large, mysteries are part and parcel of everyday life. Some mysteries are just little inconveniences and so small, such as lost keys and papers, that they are hardly worth mentioning. We search our cars and pockets and eventually find what we're looking for.

I say prayers while I search: first to St. Anthony, the patron saint of lost things: "Dear St. Anthony I pray, bring it back without delay."

And when that prayer fails, I fall back on St. Jude, the patron saint of lost causes. Believe me, I know those prayers will or won't be answered, according to how diligently I search. Some of my friends even have taken up those little prayers when they lose their property.

Years ago, Dorothy Carter Pearlman would call me at the art center, asking, "What's that prayer, Roberta, you say in order to find stuff?" I'd tell her. One time, she swore she'd left some papers on my messy desk, and if I'd just look carefully, I'd find them. I looked, but no papers. Then, a lady down at City Hall called and said, "Dorothy left her papers here, and I accidentally put them in a drawer. Would you please say you found them on your desk?" Well, I just couldn't after Dorothy had told me how messy my desk was.

On Jan. 27, at the Turner Art Center, going in to teach yoga, I lugged a huge black bag of Snake Nation manuscripts out of my car, so heavy I could barely carry it. I placed it behind the reception desk, telling the docent that someone would be down in the morning to pick it up.

I have to say, although now I can hardly believe it myself, as the bag leaned against the desk, I thought the words "red truck." Full blown, the image came back because some 20 years earlier, I'd placed a bag of manuscripts in the cab of a red truck. My friend and fellow Snake editor, Janice Daugharty, and I often exchanged the stories and poems sent in by writers, and that day she

told me to put the bag in a red truck parked in front of a grocery store. There was only one red truck, and without hesitation I left the bag — never to see it again.

Well, that night the black bag also disappeared.

On Thursday morning, Catherine Pendelton was down at the art center "around 10ish" and found no bag. I went and searched, no bag. On Sunday, I crawled through the blue dumpsters behind the art center and the one behind the building next door, just in case.

On Tuesday, I returned to the art center with a fine-toothed comb. Everyone cooperated, although looking askance when I threatened strip searches. Which goes to show how desperate one can get over a small mystery.

Finally, a week later, the black bag turned up, and the explanation was simple: the bag had been mistaken for another similar one. I wish all mysteries were that easy to explain.

But what about the big mysteries, the ones that confound and haunt individuals, families, sometimes bedevil whole generations for centuries?

Those incidents are the ones that take adjustments that are almost impossible to make. You watch those stories on television all the time: a child is abducted, never to be seen again, a young person dies under mysterious circumstances, another young person takes his or her life, a seemingly new virus infects entire groups, young and old.

Being human, we search for explanations, reasons, and, often, someone or something to blame.

Many years ago, I sat on a grand jury, which decided on a case here in Valdosta where a man died. The jury, as directed, was half white and half Afri-

can-American. We were shown a film and the case was unanimously dismissed.

The film couldn't be released because it was part of the grand jury evidence. Later, it was hard to hold my tongue when one side or the other would be absolutely sure of what had occurred and who was responsible.

Of course, death is the big mystery.

On Sundays, when I read the obituaries to Wilby Coleman, we marvel at the deaths of young people while we sit, two Ancient Mariners, still hanging on. More and more often, I see that everything around us is a mystery, that the more we learn through science and through faith strengthens that sense of the unknown.

How do we face the deaths of the people we love? How will we face our own deaths when the time comes?

Will we accept the mystery that brings us into this world and also takes us out in a timely or untimely fashion? More often than not, the time is not one of our choosing. We search desperately for reasons and often we just have to bow down to the inevitable: some things cannot be explained at least not until we stand before the final judge.

My father had a quote from Oliver Wendell Holmes that I love and he often repeated,

And if I should live to be
The last leaf upon the tree
In the spring,
Let them smile, as I do now,
At the old forsaken bough
To which I cling.

Parked on the side of the road to let a hearse and all the lighted cars pass, the beginning or the ending of a poem — I'm not sure which — came to me.

Someday soon, they will carry an urn of your ashes out to a grave site and file away what remains among the head stones.



**ROBERTA
GEORGE**

Roberta George is a resident of Valdosta.



ends Presenter Series with a punch



by **DEAN POLING**

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts ends the 2015-16 Presenter Series with a hit. The Hit Men.

The concert group features the "former stars of Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons," according to promotional notes.

Audiences can expect to hear songs by Tommy James & the Shondells, Carly Simon, Cat Stevens, Elton John, Carole King, Jim Croce, etc., said Joanna Nijem and Nancy Warren, Presenter Series co-chairs.

The Hit Men features former members of these acts, according to promotional materials.

The group performs songs such as "Oh What a Night," "Who Loves

You," "Sherry," "Peace Train," "Crocodile Rock," "The Loco Motion," "Leroy Brown," "Mony Mony," etc.

The Hit Men includes Gerry Polci, who was the lead vocal on the Four Seasons' hit, "Oh What a Night."

With a scheduled February date, The Hit Men will conclude the Presenter Series season.

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts has organized a Presenter Series season of nationally touring professional shows for decades.

All shows are at Mathis City Auditorium.

Earlier 2015-16 Presenter Series shows were "Flashdance: The Musical" and the family Christmas show "The Toy Shoppe." **VS**

> Presenter Series sponsors:

The Valdosta Daily Times, Astro Exterminating, First State Bank & Trust; Georgia Power Company; Langdale Vallotton, LLP; Dr. Edward Fricker & Dr. James Sinnott families; Stifel; WALB.

> Community Partners:

Cowart Electric & Industrial Contractors, Fairway Outdoor Advertising, Holiday Inn & Conference Center, Wild Adventures.

The Hitmen play **Feb. 16, Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St.** To order tickets, contact the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St., (229) 247-2787, or visit www.turnercenter.org.

Lifestyles

www.valdostadailytimes.com

Sunday, February 28, 2016

11C



FILE PHOTO | ANNETTE HOWELL TURNER CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts opens the 2016 Youth Art Month with a reception Sunday afternoon.

Center opens Youth Art Month

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — Colorful images, powerful messages, stunning compositions dominate the Youth Art Month exhibition at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Throughout the center's galleries hang dozens of watercolors, drawings,

paintings, inks, photographs, mixed-medium, acrylic, chalk, pencil and crayon creations by students from numerous local and regional schools.

The 2016 Youth Art Month includes works from South Georgia and North Florida high schools and several regional elementary and middle schools.

The works exhibit the

talents of the children and their talented teachers who share the art experience through the many school systems in the region.

The show also 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.

Annually, the arts center and Valdosta State University Art, in association with the National Art Education Association, present 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 is also a boon for the arts center. With scores of children's art being exhibited, this exhibit brings numerous relatives of the child artists who have never been to the An-

nette Howell Turner Center for the Arts previously.

Youth Art Month opens with a free, public opening reception, 2-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. The exhibit remains open through March 23.

The Valdosta Daily Times
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2016 PROGRESS



American
Red Cross

Community Heroes

Nominate your Community Hero!

Lifestyles

8C

Sunday, March 13, 2016

www.valdostadailytimes.com



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pinevale hosts Career Day

Pinevale Elementary School held its annual Career Day activities recently. Speakers from throughout South Georgia shared their career stories with the kindergarten through fifth-grade students. Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Executive Director Cheryl Oliver, center, was one of the speakers at Pinevale's Career Day. She is pictured with Jakia Miley, Travion Harris, Kamarion Dawson, Tamyra Barnes, Kayla Wakefield, and Anthony Lebron.



Youth Art Month

A picture's worth a thousand words, a winning title

ASHLYN WEST
LHS Staff

VALDOSTA — The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts held the opening reception of Youth Art Month Sunday, Feb. 28.

Featured in the reception was the Youth Art Exhibit and Regional High School competition.

One side of the gallery was set up for the Youth Art Exhibit, which included student work from area schools K-8, while the other side held the regional high school competition.

Viewers could see the work of young artists that are just beginning to enter the world of

the arts, then transition into the work of high school students who have grown in their knowledge and translation of the arts.

The competition incorporated work from 10 high schools in the region including Lowndes High.

There were multiple pieces and varieties of art, including drawings, paintings, ceramics and photography.

Towards the end of the event, judges observed each piece in the competition.

After the judges discussed, titles were announced and ribbons were hung.

"VSU Professors were the ones that judged, so I think they noticed when someone was doing

something more advanced or unusual," said Sherry Bennett, art teacher.

"I believe originality is important, and that they were definitely looking for something original."

Lowndes High School's Ashlyn Harris, Sarah Lee and Ramiro Santillan each were chosen as honorable mentions, and Taylor Elliott received the title for Best in Show.

"It's really exciting to know that I was chosen because although I didn't go, Mrs. Dorsey [art teacher] said there was a lot of really good work," said Harris.

Each of their entries was original and demonstrated strong

craftsmanship.

The effort put into their work was clearly exhibited in the artwork.

"I think I was chosen [as honorable mention] because of my professionalism. I did it mine on a canvas, and it was a still life making it a classical type of style. Then I added my own color scheme and unique twist to it," said Santillan.

Elliott, named Best in Show, was very modest about her work, but her peers that also entered in the show spoke highly of her work believing that it indeed deserved the win.

"I get why they chose Elliott for best in show because she did

something that set it apart from everything else, and they could already tell that it was repetition just looking at it. The motif was repeated, but it was still different. She showed the principles and elements of art, and it all worked together. It had a really great composition," said Santillan.

The Youth Art Exhibit at the Turner Center for the Arts will be up until March 23, so anyone may come by to view pieces from the show as well as the rest of the artwork from the exhibits.

The Turner Center for the Arts is open Tuesday through Thursday 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kylie Mathis at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts's Youth Art Month exhibit.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Hunter Vocke attended the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Youth Art Month exhibit.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kristina Galeano attended the opening reception of Youth Art Month.

Lifestyles

6C

Sunday, March 13, 2016

www.valdostadailytimes.com



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Eric Micklon, 9, a third-grade student at Pine Grove Elementary School, poses with his self-portrait at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

MARVIN T. SMITH | SUBMITTED PHOTO
Michael Schmidt, Valdosta State University art department head, congratulates Abigail Stallings, first place winner, Aimee Blanton, third place winner, and Amanda Lacefield, second place winner during the Regional High School Art Competition reception.



Celebrations & Lifestyles

www.valdostadailytimes.com

Sunday, March 13, 2016

5C



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Regional High School Art Competition Best of Show winner Taylor Elliott, a Lowndes High School student, meets Bill Shenton, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts curator, and Michael Schmidt, Valdosta State University art department head.

Winners named in student art contest

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gaffnews.com

VALDOSTA — Several youngsters won awards recently during the Regional High School Art Competition component of Youth Art Month.

The exhibit continues featuring works by hundreds of regional children, youths and students. Many participating artists and their families attended the opening reception at the Annette How-

ell Turner Center for the Arts.

Award winners are:

BEST IN SHOW

Taylor Elliott, Lowndes High School junior.

FIRST PLACE

Abigail Stallings, homeschooled junior.

SECOND PLACE

Amanda Lacefield, Hamilton County High School sophomore.

THIRD PLACE

Aimee Blanton, Thomas County Central High School senior.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Rachel Mathis, Berrien County High School senior.

Esther Vazquez, Brooks County High School senior.

Alicia Day, Coffee County High School senior.

Nicole Keene, Highland Christian Academy junior.

Ashlyn Harrison, Lowndes

High School senior.

Ramiro Santillan, Lowndes High School junior.

Sarah Lee, Lowndes High School junior.

Sophie Anderson, Thomas County Central High School senior (two honorable mentions)

Anna Ma, Valwood School senior.

Adia Haynes, Valdosta High School senior.

Anna Rowe, Valdosta High School junior.

The Youth Art Month exhibits continue in the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St., through March. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. More information: Call (229) 247-2787, or visit www.turnercenter.org.

MORE PHOTOS ON 6C



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Victoria Dinkins, a Dewar Elementary second-grader, won the Spring Into Art Invitation Design Competition. Tori's design was selected, from a record number of entries, by an independent panel of three judges, and is used for Spring Into Art invitations and tickets, according to the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. Tori is the daughter of Tony and Terri Dinkins of Naylor. Her art teacher is Carlin Morrison, a first-year elementary school art teacher and former coordinator of the Turner Center's Art Explorations Program. Cheryl Oliver, arts center executive director, Dr. Steve Lahr, LVAC board member and education committee chair; Tori Dinkins; Terri Dinkins and Carlin Morrison display the winning art.

Breathing new life into Spring Into Art

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — Walking through a sneak peek of the 29th Annual Spring Into Art, Artistic Administrator Bill Shenton summed it up with a simple statement.

"The show has room to breathe," Shenton said.

Shenton has breathing room, too. By Thursday afternoon of last week, the show's 388 artworks by 211 artists were mostly mounted.

The judges — Thomas M. Crowther of Augusta University art department and Hope Hilton, an Athens curator and artist — visited Saturday to select the pieces receiv-

ing the top awards for the show.

Almost everything was ready for the big opening night Monday.

Even with nearly 400 pieces, the art galleries of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts seem breezy compared to past Spring Into Art exhibits.

Two years ago, Shenton had to find gallery space for 538 pieces. Paintings and photographs, drawings and more were stacked from floor to ceiling on the walls.

Last year, the arts center adjusted the registration fee and offered artists a choice between registering one piece or two artworks. The new

GALLERY

What: The 29th Annual Spring Into Art exhibit.

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

Opening reception: 6-9 p.m. Monday, April 11, arts center. Ticket: \$45.

Run dates: April 11 through June 8.

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 reception dates).

Admission: Free, during normal gallery hours.

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

See Art on 10A

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts presents
the 29th annual

Spring Into Art

exhibition



Gold Vein by Lynde Young

April 11 - June 8, 2016

Opening Night Gala: Monday, April 11, 6pm - 9pm

Spring Into Art provides an annual opportunity for visual artists working in most two & three-dimensional mediums to exhibit recently created works and compete for \$5,000 in awards. Artist entry forms with complete rules and guidelines are available at the Turner Center for the Arts or online at www.turnercenter.org. Deadline for artist entry is March 16. A catered cocktail buffet will be served at the opening night Gala. Tickets to the Gala are \$45 each. Open to free public viewing starting April 12.

www.turnercenter.org / 527 North Patterson Street, Valdosta / 229-247-2787

Youth Art Month opening reception

photos by **TERRY RICHARDS**

Hundreds of young artists and their families toured the opening reception of Youth Art Month last month, showcasing a dizzying array of youthful expression.

The reception at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts exhibited art from area schools from kindergarten through eighth grade. There were also juried selections from South Georgia and North Florida high schools as part of a regional competition.

Valdosta Mayor John Gayle and Lowndes County Commission Chairman Bill Slaughter were on the scene, issuing a joint proclamation naming March Youth Art Month.

The exhibit ran through March 23. The arts center is located at 527 N. Patterson St. More information: Call (229) 247-2787.





Arts & Entertainment

APRIL 2016

• Spring Into Art

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. The 28th Annual Spring Into Art sees the return of the most inclusive art exhibit in South Georgia. The arts center opens all of its galleries for this exhibit, which features works by hundreds of local and regional artists. All registered works are exhibited. Prizes awarded to top picks. Thirteen pieces will also be selected for the 2017 Colson Calendar. The show runs April 11-June 8. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 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 Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood"

The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Gingerbread Players of Theatre Guild Valdosta presents this children's show by playwright Mary Lynn Dobson. Synopsis: "It sure is hard to be humble when you're a swashbuckling, egocentric superhero. But our gallant guy-in-green tries his best as he swaggers through 'The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood,' a frantically funny, Monty Pythonesque retelling of the classic. This time around, the legendary legend, in his never-ending quest to aid the needy, encounters a lovely damsel-in-distress (oddly obsessed with skin conditions); an ever-scheming sheriff who would rather bowl a strike than hit a bull's-eye; a gold-hoarding, bad-

guy monarch wannabe; and a good-natured 'Town's Guy' who manages to make his way into every scene, whether he belongs there or not. Combine them with an expandable band of spoon-wielding Merry Men whose collective IQs equal six, and you've got an irreverent jaunt through Sherwood Forest ..." Run dates: April 8-10, 15-17. More information: Call (229) 24-STAGE; or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com.

• VSU Art Student Competition: All-Media Juried Competition

Dido Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU Art presents the annual show invites VSU students to present artworks for judging and inclusion in the exhibit. Run dates: March 21-April 8. Gallery hours: The gallery is open Mondays through Fridays. Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 333-5835; or visit www.valdosta.edu/art.

• Spring Senior Exhibition

Dido Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU Art presents a show featuring the spring graduates from the university art department. Seniors exhibit what they have learned during their time with VSU Art. Run dates: April 17-May 2. The exhibit opens with a free, public reception, 1-3 p.m., April 17. Gallery hours: The gallery is open Mondays through Fridays. Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 333-5835; or visit www.valdosta.edu/art.

• Dancing with the Valdosta Stars

Valdosta State University Student Union. VSU Theatre & Dance and VSU Music partner for this popular event which has raised tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships



2015 Spring into Art opening reception. Photo by The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts