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Youth Art Month opens

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 2017 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 exhibits also include

the high school art competition.

"The 2017 Regional High School Art Competition will also debut in the Price-Campbell Foundation Gallery with 17 high schools, a record number, represented," said Cheryl Oliver, arts center executive director.

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. The annual exhibit offers an opportunity and a learning experience for these students who may continue pursuing art in the future, according to organizers.

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 impor-

tance of arts in schools.

The show is also a boon for the arts center. With scores of children's art being exhibited, the exhibit brings numerous relatives of the child artists who have never been to the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts previously.

Youth Art Month opens with a free, public opening reception, 2-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. The exhibit remains open through most of March.

Arts & Entertainment

MARCH 2017

• High School Competition

Youth Art Month, Spring Into Art art poster contest, East African Art, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Art from regional children and students in almost all of the center galleries. **Run dates:** Feb. 26 through March 22. **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.

• "Saturday Night Fever"

Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St. Final show in the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series 2016-17 season. The stage version based on the movie of the same name. The live show features the '70s disco and pop hits by the BeeGees, K.C. & The Sunshine Band, etc. **Synopsis:** "The iconic story of Tony — the kid from Brooklyn USA — who wants a better life, is back in an all-new production that shares Tony's love for dancing in spectacular new ways." **Run date:** March 20. **More information, reservations:** Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org.

• "Lion King Jr."

Valdosta High School Performing Arts Center, 3101 N. Forrest St. Little Actors Theatre presents the spring production — the live stage adaptation of the popular Disney animated movie. **Run dates:** March 3, 4, 5. **More information:** Contact director Diane Tovar, (229) 292-4742; or visit www.littleactorstheatrevaldosta.com.

• "South Pacific"

Auditorium, Lowndes High School, off Norman Drive. LHS Off-Broadway presents the Rodgers & Hammerstein musical based in the South Pacific during World War II. **Run dates:** March 9-11; March 16-18. **More information:** Email sheridorsett@lowndes.k12.ga.us.

• "The Last Night of Ballyhoo"

The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Theatre Guild Valdosta presents a comedy-drama by playwright Alfred Uhry. **Synopsis:** "ATLANTA, DECEMBER 1939: 'Gone with the Wind' is having its world premiere, and Hitler is invading Poland, but Atlanta's elitist German Jews are much more concerned with who is going to Ballyhoo, the social event of the season. Especially concerned is the Freitag family... The family gets pulled apart and then mended together with plenty of comedy, romance and revelations along the way. Events take several unexpected turns as the characters face where they come from and are forced to deal with who they really are." **Run dates:** March 30, 31, April 1, 2; April 6-8. **More information:** Call (229) 24-STAGE; or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com.

• "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"

Valdosta High School Performing Arts Center, 3101 N. Forrest St. Valdosta High School Theatre Arts presents the spring musical. The Tim Rice-Andrew Lloyd Webber musical is based on the biblical story of Joseph and his "coat of many colors." **Run dates:** 7 p.m., March 30, 31; 1 & 7 p.m., April 1. **More information:** Email ripina@gocats.org.

• "Legally Blonde Jr."

Valdosta High School Performing Arts Center, 3101 N. Forrest St. Valdosta Middle School Players present the popular musical. **Synopsis:** "Sorority star Elle Woods doesn't take 'no' for an answer. So when her boyfriend dumps her for someone 'serious,' Elle puts down the credit card, hits the books, and sets out to go where no Delta Nu has gone before: Harvard Law. Along the way, Elle proves that being true to yourself never goes out of style. Adapted from the hit movie of the same name, 'Legally Blonde The Musical' opened on Broadway in 2007 and received seven Tony Award nominations. The musical opened in London in 2010 and won three Olivier Awards, including best new musical." **Run dates:** March 16-17.

• "Prints and Textiles from Poland"

Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU art hosts international exhibit. **Run dates:** Feb. 13-March 3. **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.

• Valdosta State University Art Student Competition

Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU art hosts an all-media juried competition open to all VSU art students. **Opening reception:** 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, March 20. **Run dates:** March 20 through mid April. **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.

• "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

Whitehead Auditorium, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU Theatre & Dance partners with the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra on the VSO's home turf to present William Shakespeare's magical tale set to the music of composer Felix Mendelssohn. **Run dates:** March 30 through April 2. **Reservations, more information:** Call (229) 333-5973; or visit www.valdosta.edu/comarts; or call VSU College of the Arts Outreach, (229) 333-2150; or visit www.valdostasympphony.org.

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Contact the Turner Center for tickets & info:
527 North Patterson Street, Valdosta, Georgia
229-247-ARTS(2787) / www.turnercenter.org

Presenter Series brings Broadway home

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts hopes Valdosta residents remember there's no place like home for the best in professional entertainment.

Next week, the arts center hosts the nationally touring production of "Saturday Night Fever," the season closer of the center's Presenter Series.

In recent months, Valdosta audiences have had the opportunity to see "The Aluminum Show" and "With Love from Broadway."

The Presenter Series regularly brings a touch of Broadway to Mathis City Auditorium.

For decades, the arts center has scheduled the Presenter Series shows.

The shows have become long-standing traditions with some families having kept the same seats year after year through their season tickets.

Others discover a full season they would like to see each year.

Some may love to see one or two shows while having no interest in the other productions.

"Saturday Night Fever" is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 20, at Mathis City Auditorium.

It is a live, stage adaptation of the 1977 movie of the same name. The story of a young man seeking a better life through disco music and the dance floor.

The man playing the main character – the character made famous by John Travolta – refers to the stage version as a play with music, a musical and a dance show.

We commend the arts center board and staff for its continued efforts in bring the Presenter Series to life each season.

The Valdosta Daily Times remains a proud sponsor of the Presenter Series.

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



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Matt Alfano and Tess Alves make iconic moves in the nationally touring production of 'Saturday Night Fever.' The show stops March 20 in Valdosta.

Saturday Night Fever

National tour hustles into town

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA - Matt Alfano grew up as a dancer so he understands the choreographed motivation of Tony Manero, the principal character of "Saturday Night Fever."

Alfano has spent the past several weeks, traveling the country, portraying the role made famous by John Travolta in the 1970s movie. "Saturday Night Fever" will play March 20 in Valdosta as part of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series.

At the time of this phone interview, Alfano and the "Saturday Night Fever" cast and crew were traveling to a performance in Omaha, Neb. It is Alfano's first national tour, though his resume is filled with characters and other shows.

He has performed on Broadway in "Jesus Christ Superstar." He has acted several seasons at the Stratford Festival in shows such as "A Chorus Line," "West Side Story," "Fiddler on the Roof." Other shows include "Shrek: The Musical," "Sweet Charity," "White Christmas," "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," etc.

As for "Saturday Night



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Matt Alfano dances with the company of the nationally touring production of 'Saturday Night Fever.' The show plays Mathis City Auditorium during its Valdosta stop.

SHOWTIME

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series hosts the nationally touring production of "Saturday Night Fever."

When: 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 20.

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

Optional pre-show dinner: An optional dinner is available, 6 p.m., March 20, at Mathis. Advanced reservations a must. Reservations for dinner must be made by March 16.

Tickets, more information: Call (229) 247-2787; visit www.turnercenter.org; or visit the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St.

Fever," Alfano said the script is "not as R-rated as the movie. Some content has been calmed down for a musical theatre story."

Alfano said his performance is informed by John Travolta's portrayal in the movie but is not ruled by it.

"It's impossible to completely re-do things that have to be done," he said. "I don't want to do an im-

personation of John Travolta doing a character. I do things differently but what has been done inspires within the subconscious to recreate what has to be done. But I have to find my own Tony."

"Saturday Night Fever" is the story of a young man who hopes to escape the despair of his everyday life by conquering the disco

dance floor. The 1977 movie featured music by the Bee Gees. Both the movie and soundtrack remain iconic of the 1970s disco scene.

So do the dance moves. Alfano laughed at the mention that Travolta only had to get the dance moves right once for the film.

"Every night is live theatre so it's more about how we react to one another," he said.

Even as a trained dancer, the choreography is "still incredibly exhausting. The physicality of the moves; I'm lucky for the training in my past. It is still challenging."

So is the musical. "It has the Bee Gees music and newer songs are included," Alfano said. "The show is a play with music, a musical and a dance show."

BUSINESS *after hours*



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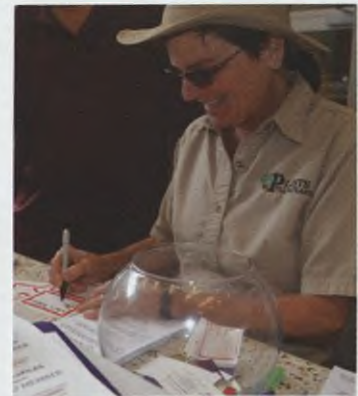
Our Chamber **Business After Hours** event offers our members a chance to kick back after work, socialize and network away from the pressures of the workplace. Business After Hours offers sponsors a chance to promote their businesses and take their message to other Chamber members in a relaxed atmosphere.

What's better than promoting your business and having fun at the same time?

If you would like to host a Business After Hours event, contact Leslie Harris at (229) 247-8100 ext. 231 or lharris@valdostachamber.com.

SOUTH GEORGIA MEDICAL CENTER

South Georgia Medical Center hosted a Business After Hours event on July 19, in their Professional Building. Guests were able to tour all floors, including the EPIC Suite on the third floor.



IN THE GAME SPORTS NETWORK

In the Game Sports Network hosted a Business After Hours event on August 18, to kickoff football season in style! In partnership with The Patterson, guests were able to float between and tour the two locations.



VALDOSTA ORTHOPEDIC ASSOCIATES

Valdosta Orthopedic Associates hosted a Business After Hours event on September 17. The huge facility was open for tours with the pleasant staff as tour guides. A record breaking 300+ guests filled the halls and lobbies, making for a fun-packed evening!



RAINWATER CONFERENCE CENTER

Rainwater Conference Center hosted a Business After Hours event on October 6, in conjunction with the 2016 PrimeTime Business Expo. Guests were welcomed by a “bouncer” at the door, and had to show their wristbands that they collected from the Chamber’s booth inside the Expo showroom. An 80’s club vibe filled the meeting room with neon up-lights and disco balls!



MEDIACOM BUSINESS @ TURNER CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Mediacom Business hosted the Business After Hours event in November. They partnered with Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, where the event was held. Guests had the opportunity to tour the facility, enjoy the artwork, and also hear from Mediacom Business on their expanding business in Valdosta.





DERREK VAUGHN | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Valdosta catches the 'Fever'

Hundreds of South Georgia residents caught the 'Fever' Monday night when the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series hosted 'Saturday Night Fever.' The professional, nationally touring show is based on the 1977 film of the same name starring John Travolta as a young man seeking escape as a disco dancer. The live stage performance was the final show for the 2016-17 Presenter Series season. The Valdosta Daily Times is a Presenter Series sponsor. Pictured above: Matt Alfano and Tess Alves make iconic moves in the nationally touring production of 'Saturday Night Fever.' The show played Monday night in Valdosta as part of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.



DERREK VAUGHN | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Saturday, March 1, 2014

www.twitter.com/TheVDT



Volume 112, Issue 113



YOU SHOULD BE DANCING! SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER

March 20 at Mathis City Auditorium

Tickets & information: 229-247-2787
527 N. Patterson St. / turnercenter.org



Celebrating Community • Reporting Facts • Demanding Accountability



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Spring Into Art Invitation Design Winner Jayden Williams, first grader at Highland Christian Academy shows his winning entry with his teacher, Amber Myers, and Cheryl Oliver, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts executive director. Spring Into Art opens April 10.

Student wins Spring Into Art contest

VALDOSTA — Jayden Williams, a Highland Christian Academy first-grader, won the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts' 2017 Invitation Design Contest.

His design, dubbed "Fred the Frog" by Nancy Zaccari, is used on the invitation and the tickets for the 30th Annual Spring Into Art gala scheduled for April 10.

Teacher Amber Myers said Jayden is also a cre-

ative writer.

Judges for the competition were Dr. Steve Lahr, the Rev. Peter Ingeman and Debi Davis. said Cheryl Oliver, Turner Center executive director.

Jayden will be recognized at the gala where he will receive a professionally framed gift of his original artwork and a certificate for a week-long summer art camp at the art center, according to a center press release.

Arts alive in Valdosta

BY DEAN POLING
dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — Arts often surprise newcomers to Valdosta.

They don't expect to find such an abundance. They don't expect to find two children's theatre organizations outside of the drama programs in the area school systems.

They don't expect to find a symphony orchestra. Few cities the size of Valdosta, as well as many cities larger than Valdosta, have a full-time, working orchestra. Yet, Valdosta has had one for more than two decades running.

They are often surprised to find a state-of-the-art arts center. The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts became a reality several years ago through the vision of the Turner family and the Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Commission.

They don't expect to find plays, concerts, art exhibits, etc., and if they do, they don't expect to find dozens of them, presented at the quality which they are produced here.

Yet, they do, and with each new discovery, and each new addition to the regional programs, the arts grow stronger.

What follows are the leading arts organizations in Valdosta-Lowndes County.

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts

Where: 527 N. Patterson St.

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.

Houses several rotating gallery spaces as well as two permanent collections. New exhibits open about every six to eight weeks.

Spring Into Art is the region's largest and most accessible art show; it opens each April.

The arts center also hosts art classes, culinary classes, musical and performance programs, literary readings and book signings, for all ages. The center is also a reception hall for many occasions.

Cheryl Oliver is the center executive director. Bill Shenton is the gallery director.

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

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series

The arts center also hosts an annual Presenter Series. The series brings three to four nationally touring professional acts to Valdosta. The acts include traveling music groups, national tours of Broadway musicals and plays, tribute shows, and more. The Presenter Series traditionally opens in the fall and closes by the following spring.

The Presenter Series shows are presented at Mathis City Auditorium.

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

Little Actors Theatre

Where: 1108 S. Patterson St.

The children's theatre organization has been promoting plays by children for more than a decade. LAT is headquartered in its 1108 S. Patterson St., location where auditions and rehearsals are held. Most shows are performed at Valdosta High School Performing Arts Center, 3101



Tom (played by Joshua Joyce) and Greg (Brady Whitehouse) watch as Sylvia (Autumn Denmark) responds to Tom's dog, Bowser, in the Valdosta State University Theatre & Dance production of 'Sylvia.' VSU Theatre produces several plays annually.

N. Forrest St. LAT produces two full productions each year, as well as a summer program, Christmas-time shows, and some other smaller productions. It has also competed in regional theatre competitions.

More information: Contact director Diane Tovar, (229) 292-4742; or visit www.littleactorstheatrevaldosta.com.

Theatre Guild Valdosta

Where: The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St.

The community theatre organization has been a staple of Downtown Valdosta for nearly three decades. It transformed a one-time movie theatre, which had long been used as a storage facility, into a downtown home for community theatre. Theatre Guild Valdosta presents a Main Stage season of four full-scale productions on an annual basis.

The more recent Stage Two presents a season of smaller productions, experimental shows, and platforms for the Golden Stagers troupe of veteran Guild members.

Theatre Guild is also the umbrella organization for the children's theatre group Gingerbread Players.

More information: Call (229) 24-STAGE; or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com

Gingerbread Players Of Theatre Guild Valdosta

Where: The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Theatre Guild Valdosta produces two children's productions each season.

The shows are aimed at children's audiences and feature mostly child casts, though some productions also feature a mix of adult Guild members.

More information: Call (229) 24-STAGE; or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com.

Peach State Summer Theatre

Where: Sawyer Theatre, Valdosta State University Theatre, corner of Oak and Brookwood.

Within the umbrella of VSU Theatre, PSST! is a professional series of three Broadway-style musicals produced each summer.

The shows traditionally premiere one at a time before running in rotating repertory. PSST! casts are composed of actors and actresses auditioned in Southeast U.S. theatre conferences as well as selected VSU Theatre & Dance students and faculty.

PSST! is the official musical theatre program of



Rafiki (played by Harper Hall) raises the newborn Simba as parents Sarabi and Mufasa (Ashawna Martin, Rashad Davis) and Zazu (Gracin Carter) watch in Little Actors Theatre production of 'Lion King Jr.' LAT offers plays by children for children.

Georgia.

More information: Visit <https://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/arts/communication-arts/peach-state-summer-theatre>.

VSU Art

Where: Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, VSU Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood.

Valdosta State University art department hosts approximately eight art exhibits and receptions per season. The Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery displays works by regional artists.

It annually hosts the Valdosta National, a juried exhibit open to artists from across the nation. A VSU art faculty show is an annual event, featuring works by the university art instructors. Two annual shows present the works of the department's graduating seniors. And one exhibit has VSU students competing for juried selection into the show and top honors.

Gallery hours: The gallery is open Mondays through Fridays. Admission: Free.

Julie Bowland is the gallery director.

More information: Call (229) 333-5835; or visit www.valdosta.edu/art.

VSU Music

Where: Most concerts are held in Whitehead Auditorium, VSU Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood.

Valdosta State University music department hosts numerous student recitals and faculty recitals featuring numerous types of instruments, woodwind combos, brass combos, jazz combos, etc., as well as vocal performances. The majority of these often professional-level recitals and concerts are free and open to the public. There are dozens presented each year.

More information: Visit www.valdosta.edu/music/

VSU Theatre & Dance

Where: Sawyer Theatre and Lab Theatre, in the Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. Valdosta State Univer-

sity Theatre & Dance presents more than a half-a-dozen productions each season. The shows are intended to further the academic studies of its students, but the productions offer professional-level entertainment to the general public.

Shows include well-known and more recent dramas, comedies, musicals. A dance concert is part of each season. A children's show includes a tour of regional schools. A showcase concludes each season, alternating performances between dance and musical theatre.

In addition, the program includes fundraisers such as the long-running Cabaret dinner show; the Princess shows in conjunction with the Valdosta School of Ballet; Dancing with the Valdosta Stars in collaboration with VSU music department which features area celebrities dancing with area dance pros. These programs raise money for performance arts scholarships.

More information: Call (229) 333-5973; or visit www.valdosta.edu/comarts.

Valdosta Symphony Orchestra

Where: Whitehead Auditorium, VSU Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood.

Valdosta Symphony Orchestra includes the professional and student musicians of Valdosta State University, as well as community musicians from the surrounding region.

The VSO presents about a half-dozen concerts per season. Concerts include works by renowned classical music composers, more recent works and occasional world premieres.

The VSO hosts renowned national and international musicians. For the past few years, the VSO has provided live music to the decades-old tradition of "The Nutcracker" hosted by Dance Arts at Mathis City Auditorium.

Conductor: Howard Hsu. More information: Call VSU College of the Arts Outreach, (229) 333-2150; or visit www.valdosta-symphony.org



DERREK VAUGHN | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Creative Administrator Bill Shenton prepares the gallery for Spring Into Art.

Turner Center Springs Into Art

BY DESIREE CARVER

desiree.carver@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA - The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts is observing the 30th year of its popular Spring Into Art exhibit.

"Spring Into Art provides a huge canvas for regional artists to exhibit

their works, a prime opportunity for art patrons to view and purchase original art and a chance for sponsors to broadcast their value to the community and their support of the arts," said Cheryl Oliver, Turner Center executive director.

Two-hundred-and-twenty artists entered 404 works

into the 2017 exhibit. Judges will pick 50 works to be recognized and 13 cash prizes will be awarded, including a \$1,000 prize for best in show.

Oliver said 30-year anniversaries are traditionally symbolized with a pearl and Spring Into Art is no exception. Ladies are encouraged to wear pearls

and tickets will be entered into a drawing for a pearl necklace, courtesy of Steel's Jewelry.

The exhibit will open with a gala reception, 6-9 p.m. Monday, April 10. The show will continue through June 7. Tickets are \$45.

For more information, visit turnercenter.org or call (229) 247-2787.



DERREK VAUGHN | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Kay Cromartie of Thomasville was awarded best in show for her watercolor, 'Disconnected,' Monday during the opening of the 2017 Spring Into Art.

Valdosta 'springs' into art

BY DANIEL DEMERSSEMAN

daniel.demersseman@gafinews.com

VALDOSTA — Valdosta and Lowndes County artists shined, capturing prizes during the opening Monday of the 30th Annual Spring Into Art exhibition at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

But a Thomasville artist won the show's top prize.

The winner of the stand-alone category for best in show won \$1,000. Best in Show winner Kay Cromartie from Thomasville won with her watercolor, "Disconnected."

The exhibit presents 404 artworks by 220 artists. Works competed in four categories: painting; drawing/printmaking/mixed media; digital arts/photography; sculpture/ceramics/jewelry/crafts.

Travis D. Simmons of Valdosta won first place in painting for his piece, "Malleus Maleficarum," made with graphite, oil and charcoal. Fay Bridges Hyatt of Valdosta won second place in painting for her watercolor, "Please Don't Touch." Sarah Reynolds of Lake Park rounded out third place in painting with her acrylic work, "Untitled II."

In the drawing/printmaking/mixed media category, Kalina Winska of Valdosta won first place with her mixed-media work "Atmospheric Gaze #2." Craig Hawkins of Valdosta won second place for his charcoal piece, "He Stepped Down When We Could Not Step Up." Third place went to Jane Kattrell of Tampa, Fla. for her mixed-media piece, "Smells Like Alternative Happiness."



DERREK VAUGHN | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Jayden Williams, a first grader at Highland Christian Academy, was the invitation design contest winner and was presented with a framed portrait of his art during the opening Monday evening of the 30th Annual Spring Into Art.

In digital arts/photography, Anastasia Mills won first place for her photograph, "Memory Serves. Second place went to Steven Heddon of Valdosta for his photography work "Young Men, NYC." Third place went to Grady D. Whitfield from Valdosta for his photography work titled "Us Kissing Cousins."

In the sculpture/ceramics/jewelry/crafts category, first place went to Casey Cole Corbin of Nashville for "Despair," made with plaster, paint, epoxy resin and wooden canvas. Second place went to Walter Hobbs of Valdosta for his Raku-fired ceramic piece, "Lige." George King Jr. of Valdosta won third place for his metal work, "Peanut."

Ticket holders were entered into a

drawing for a pearl necklace, courtesy of Steel's Jewelry. Suelynn Scheib won the necklace.

The Spring into Art exhibit is an annual event with a \$40 registration fee for a single artwork and \$60 for two works. The exhibit allows up to two works per artist.

The exhibit will run through June 7 at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sunday and Monday with the exception of opening reception dates.

Admission is free during normal gallery hours.

For more information, call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Round of Applause

Here's another round of applause for individuals and organizations doing great things in the community.

The Lowndes County 911 Center was full of colorful characters Tuesday as the dispatchers became superheroes for the day, a theme that's part of a week-long celebration of 911 operators. Lowndes County Clerk Paige Dukes said dispatchers, just like superheroes, save lives every day, which is why National Public Safety Telecommunications Week is set aside to honor their work. "It's easy to recall police, fire and EMS when someone mentions public safety; however, 911 doesn't always come to mind," Dukes said. "National Public Safety Telecommunications Week provides the perfect opportunity to remember that without 911 dispatchers 'directing traffic,' the public safety response system as we know it does not work."

The Children's Advocacy Center officially broke ground Wednesday on its new facility, located on Skipper Bridge Road. The new facility, which kicked off its capital campaign last year, will be 4,200 square feet, doubling the size of its current location. Through monetary donations, land donated by the Vallotton family, a donation from the Langdale Foundation and a community block grant, construction is officially underway, according to organizers. The groundbreaking Wednesday took place after ground had already been broken, which Paige Dukes, CAC board chair, used as a metaphor for what the CAC does. "It makes the point because the CAC steps in when something is broken," Dukes said. "No one person here today is more important than the other. Everyone has stepped up without hesitation."

A duathlon race in Berrien County will honor a young man who literally gave of himself to help others. The Eighth Annual Tyler Carter Memorial Duathlon will start at 11 a.m., April 29, at 101 Exum St., with the first leg, a 2.3-mile run, followed by an 18.5-mile bicycle race, topped by another 2.3-mile run, according to organizers. For Laurie Carter, the pain of her son's death was followed by the knowledge that, thanks to his foresight, others would find new life. "We never really talked about it, but when he got his driver's license, he said he wanted to become an organ donor," she said.

Valdosta and Lowndes County artists shined in capturing prizes during the opening Monday of the 30th Annual Spring Into Art exhibition at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. But a Thomasville artist won the show's top prize. The winner of the stand-alone category for best in show won \$1,000. Best in Show winner Kay Cromartie from Thomasville won with her watercolor, "Disconnect-ed." The exhibit presents 404 artworks by 220 artists. Works competed in four categories: painting; drawing/printmaking/mixed media; digital arts/photography; sculpture/ceramics/jewelry/crafts.

Arts Entertainment

APRIL 2017

• The 30th Annual Spring Into Art

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. The largest and most inclusive art exhibit in the region. Opens April 10 with a gala reception. Show runs through June 7. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and most Mondays. **Admission:** Free; note: there is a charge for the Spring Into Art opening reception. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787; or visit turnercenter.org.

• “The Last Night of Ballyhoo”

The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Theatre Guild Valdosta presents a comedy-drama by playwright Alfred Uhry. **Synopsis:** “ATLANTA, DECEMBER 1939: ‘Gone with the Wind’ is having its world premiere, and Hitler is invading Poland, but Atlanta’s elitist German Jews are much more concerned with who is going to Ballyhoo, the social event of the season. Especially concerned is the Freitag family. ... The family gets pulled apart and then mended together with plenty of comedy, romance and revelations along the way. Events take several unexpected turns as the characters face where they come from and are forced to deal with who they really are.”

Run dates: The show continues April 1, 2; April 6-8. **More information:** Call (229) 24-STAGE; or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com.

• Valdosta State University Art Student Competition

Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU art hosts an all-media juried competition open to all VSU art students. **Run dates:** March 20 through mid April. **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.

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Arts & CULTURE

Spring INTO ART

Pottery by Michael Galindo,
Valdosta

Photo by Sarah Kathryn Garland

Tradition says the Pearl is the symbol of 30-year celebrations. Indisputably, the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts is the cultural pearl of South Georgia. "Spring Into Art" 2017 is proclaimed the year of the Pearl as it marks the 30th anniversary of the areas most prestigious art happening.

The annual event originated at First State Bank (see article in Valdosta Magazine's Spring 2016 issue) in the same location that now houses the Turner Center. "Spring Into Art" provides a huge canvas for regional artists to exhibit their works, a prime opportunity for art patrons to view and purchase original art, and a chance for sponsors to broadcast their value to the community and their support of the arts.

Beginning with the Gala on April 10, the 2017 "Spring Into Art" exhibit will live up to its reputation as an exquisite jewel. The Center will gleam with captivating artwork inside and out. Don't miss this year's exhibit!



Mayor John Gayle and County Commission Chair Bill Slaughter always enjoy the Spring Into Art Gala and exhibit.

IF YOU GO...

Dates: Spring Into Art Exhibit
April 11 – June 8

Times: Tues – Thurs
(10:00 am – 6 pm);
Fri – Sat
(10:00 am – 4:00 pm);
Sun – Mon (closed)

Venue: The Turner Center for the
Arts – 527 N. Patterson St.
- Valdosta

Admission: Free -
Open to the public

For More Information:
[turnercenter.org /](http://turnercenter.org/)
229-247-2787

The Turner Center offers free tours to individuals or groups, large or small including school field trips, camps, church groups, clubs, and after school programs. Contact the Turner Center to schedule your tour at 229-247-ARTS (2787)

SPRING INTO ART WINNERS

Spring Into Art award winners from Valdosta announced at the Spring Into Art Gala on Monday, April 10, and on display at The Turner Arts Center through June 8.

PAINTING

1st	Travis D. Simmons	Malleus Maleficarum	Graphite, Oil, Charcoal
2nd	Fay Hyatt	Please Don't Touch	Watercolor

DRAWING, PRINTMAKING, MIXED MEDIA

1st	Kalina Winska	Atmospheric Gaze #2	Graphite & ink on Yupo Paper
2nd	Craig Hawkins	He Stepped Down When We Could Not Step Up	Charcoal

PHOTOGRAPHY, DIGITAL ARTS

1st	Anastacia Mills	Memory Serves	Photography
2nd	Steven Heddon	Young Men, NYC	Photography
3rd	Grady D. Whitfield	Us Kissing Cousins	Photography

SCULPTURE, CERAMICS, JEWELRY, CRAFTS

2nd	Walter Hobbs	Lige	Raku fired Ceramics
3rd	George King Jr.	Peanut	Metal

HONORABLE MENTION

Michael Galindo	Secret	Ceramics
Jared Ziegenbein	Vessel No. 3	Porcelain
Lauren Jenkins	Swept Away	Giclee Print
Sally Turner Querin	Iceland Blue	Photography
Christian-luc Maurer	Driftwood Surrealism	Driftwood, Air Plants
Brenda Anderson	Katie's Alley	Oil

MERIT AWARD

J. Stephen Lahr	A Short History of Memory	Acrylic
Thara W. Lingefelt	Lotus Blossom Jar/Vase	Clay
Ron Borders	Chair	Metal
Jenu Thomas-Richardson	Untitled II	Photography
Travis D. Simmons	Iconoclast	Graphite, Oil, Charcoal
Hollis Barnett	The Fall of Icarus	Bronze, Alabaster, Wood
Karin Murray	Keeper of Time	Mixed Media
Lauren Jenkins	My Own Worst Enemy	Giclee Print
Deborah Bailey Raines	Riding the Kelpie	Paint
Anastacia Mills	Apathy to Self-Beautification	Mixed Media
Laura Yale	Covington's	Photoshop/Sketchup
Ron Borders	Inca	Ceramics
Joanne Hurley	Reprieve	Mixed Media
Steven Heddon	Server - The Standard Plaza, Manhattan	Photography
Julie Bowland	River Sketch	Aqueous/ Mixed Media
Clyde Edwards	Into	Oil
Cosima Flumerfelt	Sleeping Thoughts	Yarn, Feathers, Beads

Artwork by Annette Crosby, Valdosta