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# Community Archives - Turner Center for the Arts Scrapbook Collection

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2015-2022

## Turner Center Binder 12 2015-2022

Turner Center for the Arts

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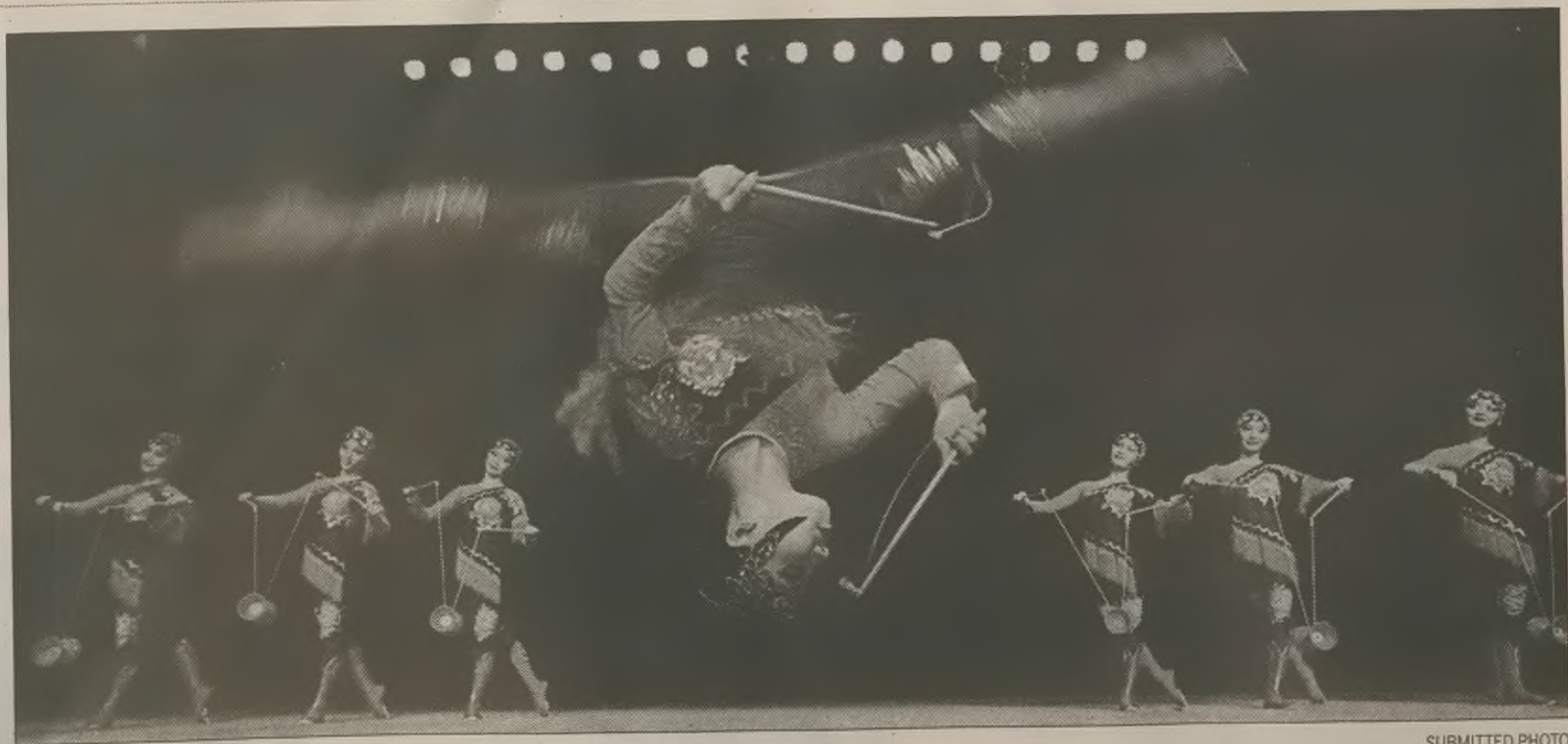
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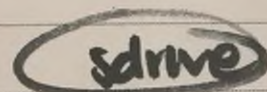
## Presenter Series preps for Shanghai Circus

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series presents 'New Shanghai Circus' this week. The show features non-stop action, colorful costumes, thrilling stunts, hoop diving, plate spinning, leaping and constant movement of trained acrobats from China in a full family-friendly show. 'New Shanghai Circus' is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Jan. 31, Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St. More information: Visit the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St., or call (229) 247-2787.

# Calendar & Events

6A

Thursday, January 17, 2019



www.valdostadailytimes.com

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR :** Submit events at [valdostadailytimes.com](http://valdostadailytimes.com) or email to [vdt.calendar@gafnews.com](mailto:vdt.calendar@gafnews.com)

To submit entries to the *Valdosta Daily Times* calendar, submit dates on our online calendar at [valdostadailytimes.com](http://valdostadailytimes.com), or send it to [vdt.calendar@gafnews.com](mailto:vdt.calendar@gafnews.com).

## 17 THURSDAY

**Valdosta Board** of Education's Finance Committee meeting: 12:30 p.m., Jan. 17, Superintendent's Office, 1204 Williams St.

**AARP Local Chapter #1129** meeting: 2 p.m., Jan. 17, Valdosta Senior Citizen Center, 1360 E. Park Ave. Officer Randall Hancock of the Valdosta Police Department will discuss elderly crime and other law enforcement issues.

highlights from Georges Bizet's "Carmen." The Youth Performance starts at 10 a.m., Jan. 18. There's also a 7:30 p.m., Jan. 19 and 3 p.m., Jan. 20 performance. Teachers may reserve free seats for the program by calling (229) 333-2150, and students can attend for free with a VSU ID. General admission is \$25, VSU faculty and staff and military is \$20 and children are \$5.

**Jen Anders:** Woodstack BBQ Tavern, 4038 N. Valdosta Road. Jen Anders is a local singer songwriter who calls herself a lover of music. Catch her tunes at Woodstack BBQ Tavern Jan. 18, and listen to live music there every weekend.

are accepted.

**At 3 p.m. Sunday,** Jan. 20, a commemoration program will be held at St. Paul A.M.E. Church, 419 S. Ashley St. Keynote speaker: The Rev. Ronnie Brinson, pastor, Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Sparks.

**Embrace Life:** 1:30 p.m., the Vision Church Valdosta, 2711 Bemiss Road. This church program helps single mothers know their worth. This group meets every Sunday for 11 weeks starting Jan. 20.

## 21 MONDAY

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY**

**Martin Luther King Jr.** Day of Celebration: 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Valdosta State Uni-

phone use is prohibited.

## 22 TUESDAY

**Valdosta Board** of Education meeting: 7 p.m., Pinevale Elementary, 930 Lake Park Road.

✓ **Simple. Basic.** Video 2.0. class: 6-8 p.m., Turner Center of the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. This class covers essential basics needed to create relevant and story-filled content so your videos are engaging, distraction-free and purposeful. DSLR cameras are required, and scholarships are available.

**Valdosta National 2019:** 6-7:30 p.m., VSU Fine Arts Building, 1500 N. Patterson St. This is an

Each additional round is \$3. There will be a small appetizer menu and wine cocktails or wine slushies available for purchase.

**Preschool Story Time:** 10:30 a.m. every Wednesday during the school year, Miller Lakeland Library, 18 S. Valdosta Road. Join in for stories, rhymes and activities that can help your little ones learn to love reading.

## UPCOMING

✓ **An Artistic** Exploration with Julie Skinner: various times, Jan. 26, Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. In this monthly class, children will explore the unlim-

ited possibilities in art. Morning class is for ages 5-7 from 10 a.m.-noon. Afternoon class is for ages 8-12 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Both classes have a \$15 fee. All supplies are included, but space is limited.

**Annual African American Artists' FESTIVAL:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 2, Southside Library, 527 Griffin Ave. Hosted by the Southside Library Boosters, Inc., there will be artist displays, music, food, vendors and other entertainment. This event is free and open to the public. If you would like to participate in the program, please call (229) 253-8313 or (229) 460-9019.

1/16/19

1/16/19

SAMP

# DrawProject

## Exhibit funds art scholarships

BY AMANDA M. USHER  
amanda.usher@gaffnews.com



VALDOSTA — Competition between art enthusiasts was lively Monday evening during the 2019 DrawProject.

The DrawProject is an annual fundraiser held at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, and it raises scholarship money for Valdosta State University art students.

Opening night raised \$6,000, and organizers said there's potential to raise \$1,600 more throughout the show.

VSU President Dr. Richard Carvajal was the auctioneer for the evening as art lovers participated in a live bid following a silent auction.

Mary VanLandingham, a recent art graduate and fine arts painter, is a former recipient of DrawProject funds, she said.

VanLandingham submitted one painting, "Everyday is Saturday," to the DrawProject for bidding.

"Everyday is Saturday" is a scene of a dilapidated boat sitting along a river in Steinhatchee, Fla.

"I really wanted to participate so that I could give back whenever I was supported during my college years," she said.

She said it felt amazing to be

valdostadailytimes.com; see 'DrawProject'

awarded a scholarship through DrawProject.

"I think it's so important to support our young artists, and every little bit counts," she said. "It also gives a boost of confidence to know that these people believe in you and it makes you motivated to continue on."

Among the crowd at Turner was Beth Butler, an art graduate of then Valdosta State College.

Butler said she believes the DrawProject has a big impact on students.

"There's a lot of supporters of the arts here, and it's a wonderful opportunity for the students," she said. "It's a wonderful opportunity for them to show their work."

Butler studied under artist and former educator Irene Dodd while at Valdosta State. Dodd debuted her collection, "Top of Norway to Cape Horn," during the reception Monday.

Dodd has 37 pieces in Turner's Josette's Gallery, which consist

See DrawProject on 7A



AMANDA M. USHER | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Artist Mary VanLandingham sells her painting, 'Everyday is Saturday,' during the 2019 DrawProject held Monday at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.



AMANDA M. USHER | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Curator Bill Shenton assists with auctioning art pieces during the 2019 DrawProject held at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Monday evening.

## Inmate dies in Lowndes jail

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — A Lowndes County Jail inmate died Thursday afternoon, according to the Lowndes County Sheriff's Office.

William Theodore Reynolds, 63, of Valdosta died Thursday, Lowndes County Sheriff Ashley Paulk said Friday morning.

Reynolds was jailed Wednesday, Jan. 2, on a probation violation, the sheriff said.

"He was in the general population and he said he had chest pains to other inmates," Paulk said, but he didn't mention having chest pains to authorities.

He was in a cell block with other inmates when he collapsed; authorities responded by performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation, the sheriff said.

The body was sent to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Crime Lab and preliminary autopsy reports indicate he died of natural causes, Paulk said.

## House election slated for Feb. 12

BY TERRY RICHARDS

terry.richards@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — A special election to fill a South Georgia seat in the state House of Representatives will be held Feb. 12, according to the Georgia Secretary of State's office.

The election is to fill the seat for House District 176, which was vacated by Jason Shaw. The district is made up of portions of Atkinson, Lanier, Lowndes and Ware counties.

Shaw, who had held the post for eight years, recently left to take up a position with the Public Service Commission.

Qualifying began Friday, ends Tuesday, and is being handled at Elections Division of the Office of Secretary of State, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, West Tower, Suite 802,

### MORE INFO

Monday, Jan. 14, is the last day to register to vote for all persons who are not registered.

Atlanta, Ga., 30334 and the South Georgia Office, 238 East 2nd St., Tifton, Ga., 31794.

A runoff, if needed, will be held March 12, according to the secretary of state's office.

At least one person has already expressed interest in Shaw's seat. Lanier County businessman Franklin Patten, owner of Southern Financial Systems, Computer Design and co-owner of Patten Blackberry Farms, said in November he would seek the position as a Republican.

Monday, Jan. 14, is the last day to register to vote for all persons who are not registered.

## DA doesn't support change of venue in Grinstead death case

BY TERRY RICHARDS

terry.richards@gafnews.com

OCILLA — The district attorney in the murder case involving the death of Tara Grinstead does not support a defense motion to change the trial's venue, according to a letter obtained by The Valdosta Daily Times.

The letter, by District Attorney C. Paul Bowden of the Tifton Judicial Circuit, was sent to Superior Court Judge Bill

Reinhardt Dec. 19, 2018. A copy of the letter was provided to The Times by the Irwin County court clerk's office.

Grinstead vanished in October 2005. For nearly a dozen years, she was considered missing; the search for the teacher and former beauty queen gained national attention.

In February 2017, Ryan Duke was arrested and charged with Grinstead's

See Grinstead on 6A

## Arts Halftime



FILE PHOTO: NEW SHANGHAI CIRCUS

New Shanghai Circus is scheduled to return to Valdosta this month as part of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series.

## Arts season returns with big shows

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — The 2018-19 arts season is halfway concluded but there's still plenty of shows, plays, concerts and exhibits in the coming weeks and months.

Following the hiatus for the holidays, the arts season returns.

### 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.

There are also numerous art classes and other events in the coming weeks.

More information: Call (229) 247-2787 or visit [www.turnercenter.org](http://www.turnercenter.org).

### EXHIBITS

— Drawproject, Irene Dodd and David Boyd exhibits are scheduled to open with a public reception, 5-7 p.m., Jan. 14 then run for several weeks. Drawproject is an auction for art that raises money for student art scholar-



FILE PHOTO: BOBBY LACEY

Maestro Howard Hsu leads Valdosta Symphony Orchestra in concerts this spring.

ships. Run dates: Through mid-February.

— "Roll Over, Beethoven," concert by internationally renowned pianist Julian Gargiulo. Run date: 7:30 p.m., Jan. 26. Part of the SCORE Concert Series.

— Youth Art Month, featuring works by students throughout the region. Opens with a free, public reception, 2-4:30 p.m., Feb. 24. Run dates: Feb. 24 through March 23.

— Spring Into Art: The area's largest and most inclusive art show traditionally opens early to mid-April and runs for several weeks. Features hundreds of works by hundreds of artists. Opens with a reception, 6-9 p.m., April 8.

Run dates: April 8 through June 5.

### PRESENTER SERIES

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts regularly hosts three nationally touring shows that will stop in Valdosta as part of the annual Presenter Series. The shows will be performed at Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St. More information: Visit the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St., or call (229) 247-2787.

### SHOWS

— "New Shanghai Circus." The show features non-stop action, colorful costumes, thrilling stunts, hoop diving, plate spin-

ning, leaping and constant movement of trained acrobats from China in a full family-friendly show. The show is back by popular demand ... again. "New Shanghai Circus" was featured in a Presenter Series several years ago and proved a popular show. Run date: Jan. 31.

— "With Love from Broadway." Another show that is back by popular demand. Two years ago, the first production of "With Love from Broadway" was created specifically for the Presenter Series. New York casting director Stephen DeAngelis has since pre-

See Arts on 6A

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts

18  
19

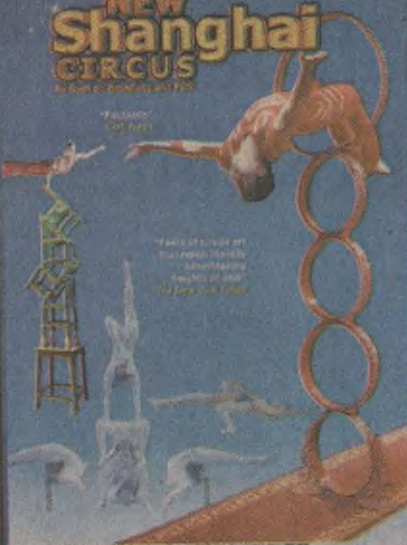
SEASON

# PRESENTER SERIES

"The New  
Shanghai Circus is Providing  
entertainment in abundance"  
-The New York Times

## NEW Shanghai CIRCUS

Presented by  
The Arts



"Acts of circus art  
that reach heights  
of astonishing  
beauty of skill."  
-The New York Times

third six week run on Broadway!

## WITH LOVE FROM BROADWAY

Celebrate Valentine's  
Day with five of  
Broadway's finest  
vocalists, accompanied  
by the original Square  
Orchestra, as they re-  
create some of the most  
celebrated  
contemporary  
and classic  
romantic hits  
of all time.



New Shanghai Circus  
January 31, 2019

With Love From Broadway  
February 14, 2019

527 N. Patterson St.  
Valdosta, Georgia

229-247-2787  
turnercenter.org

Tickets also available online at Eventbrite

Sunday Jan  
6, 2019

Celebrating Community • Reporting

Salvive!  
du

# Calendar & Events

8A

Thursday, January 3, 2019

www.valdostadailytimes.com

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR Submit events at valdostadailytimes.com or email to vdt.calendar@gafnews.com

### 4 FRIDAY

**The Lowndes County School Board** meeting, 7:30 a.m. Jan. 4, at 7:30 a.m. board office, 1592 Norman Drive. Meeting is to discuss and vote on the LHS Construction Plans.

**Karaoke Fridays**, 9:45 p.m.-2 a.m., Mikki's, 402 A Northside Drive. Every Friday, come to Mikki's for karaoke with one of the largest collections in town. You must be 21 or older with valid ID.

**Winter Night Paint** Event at Cottonwood Market Boutique, 123 N. Ashley St., 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Tickets available. Paint an 11x14 canvas step-by-step. No art skill needed. All materials will be provided, you provide your favorite beverage, dinner, snacks or munchies. Ages 18+.

### 5 SATURDAY

**Nashville VFW** holds dance, Saturdays, DJ from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Band breaks with requests. Gene Turner Band plays country plus favorites 8 p.m. - 1 a.m.

### 8 MONDAY

**Beginners Square** Dancing Class, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Senior Center, 1360 E. Park Ave. Caller: George Lavender. or

more information, call (229) 259-5469.

### 10 WEDNESDAY

**Reverend Hylton** at the Bleu Pub, 116 W. Hill Ave., Jan. 10, 8-10 p.m. Reverend Hylton has toured the nation with songs of heartbreak, addiction, traveling and life experiences.

**NARFE Chapter 1044** meeting, 12:30 p.m. Jan 10, The Egg and I restaurant. Guest speaker will be a trip planner who has planned several trips for the senior center.

### UPCOMING

**Adult Pottery Workshop**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Jan. 12, Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Held the second Saturday of every month, attend this adult pottery workshop lead by Julie Barnes Smith. This is for ages 15 and older, and the fee is \$25.

**South Georgia Regional Library Board** meeting 1 p.m. Jan. 15, Willis L. Miller Library on 2906 Julia Dr.

**Groundhog Gravy**, Jan. 16 at Bleu Pub, 116 W. Hill Avenue, 7 p.m.

**Simple. Basic.** Video 2.0. class at Turner Center of the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St., Jan. 22, 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Tickets available.

Class covers essential basics needed to create relevant and story-filled content so your videos are engaging, distraction-free and purposeful. DSLR cameras required. Scholarships available.

**An Artistic Exploration** with Julie Skinner, Jan. 26, at Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. In this monthly class children will explore the unlimited possibilities in art. Morning class is for ages 5-7 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Afternoon class is for ages 8-12 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Both classes have a \$15 fee. All supplies included, space is limited. Advanced payment requires. To register, please call or visit the center.

**Hospice Half Marathon** presented by Hospice of South Georgia's Advisory Board in memory of former patient Dewwey Copeland, Feb. 9, 7 a.m.-10:30 a.m. at Georgia Christian School, 4359 Dasher Road. Please register by going to RunningInTheUSA.com. All proceeds benefit patient care at Hospice of South Georgia and their care center, the Langdale Hospice House.

**Sean K. Preston & The Loaded Pistols**, Feb. 9, 10 p.m., Ashley Street Station, 607 Baytree Rd, Suite A. Raucous honkytonk, dirty blues, roudhouse rock 'n' roll and tear jerking country balladry on tour to support

their new album.

**Blackeyed Katy** Reunion Show, Feb. 16, Doors at 9:30 p.m. at Lucky's Moonrakers, 1903 Baytree Place. The band is getting back together for one show due to popular demand. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

**Live Trivia Night**, 7-9 p.m. every Tuesday, Mellow Mushroom, 1526 Baytree Road. Bring a team — it's free to play.

**Wine Wednesday**, 5-10 p.m. every Wednesday, Steel Magnolias Restaurant, 132 N. Patterson St. Enjoy half-price bottles of wine.

**Preschool Story Time**, 11:15 a.m. Wednesdays, Salter Hahira Library, 220 E. Main St., Hahira. Stories, finger plays, puppets, and activities that will help little ones learn to love reading. Suitable for children birth - 3 1/2 years. Call 229-794-3063.

**Preschool Story Time**, 11:30 a.m. every Wednesday, Johnston Lakes Library, 720 Lakes Blvd., Lake Park.

**Preschool Story Time** at 10:30 a.m. every Wednesday during the school year, Miller Lakeland Library, 18 S. Valdosta Road. Join in for stories, rhymes and activities which can help your little ones learn to love reading.

**Karaoke on Demand**, Wednes-

day-Saturday, Rum Runner Sports Bar 3988 N. Valdosta Road.

**Baytree Fellowship AA** meetings, 5:30 p.m. Mondays through Friday, 7 p.m. Thursdays; 5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.; 7 p.m. Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays, 200 S. Lee St. Monday - Fridays and Sundays are open discussion AA meetings; Saturdays will be an AA speaker meeting; All of the meetings are non-smoking and wheelchair accessible.

**Celebrate Recovery Meeting**. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for fellowship and meeting begins at 6:30 p.m., every Thursday, Azalea City Church of God College Building, 247 St Augustine Road. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-based 12 step recovery program based on the beatitudes. It's for all life's habits, hurts and hang-ups.

**Valdosta Al-Anon** meetings, noon, Mondays, 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, First Christian Church; 1905 N. Patterson St. (corner of Alden Avenue and Patterson). Al-Anon is for families and friends of alcoholics who have been affected by alcoholism. Group members share their experience, strength and hope. Enter through the back door. For more information, call Cindy, 794-9405 or Martha, 247-0764.

# Film Festival to kick off at Georgia Beer Company

VALDOSTA — The South Georgia Film Festival will open its third annual event with a community-wide bash.

The festival opens 6-10 p.m. Friday, March 1, at Georgia Beer Company in Downtown Valdosta, college officials said.

"Like filmmaking, Georgia Beer Company is both art and industry," said Jason Brown, festival director and associate professor of mass media at Valdosta State University. "We want to partner with the best of what's happening, and to us, that means great people like Chris Jones and Jack Martin at Georgia Beer Company, Valdosta State alumni who have made something and brought it back to our community."

"This will be the first large event at the brewery upon opening," Jones said. "Thanks to Valdosta State University, Jason Brown and the South Georgia Film Festival for putting together this awesome event."

The brewery is scheduled to open in coming weeks.

Miss Kate's Deep South Tours and Valdosta Main Street have joined the effort and are working to make the most of the 2019 South Georgia Film Festival kickoff event by inviting restaurants and other organizations to showcase the food and fun available locally, university officials said.

"They plan to fill the space behind Georgia Beer Company's 100-year-old revitalized brick building at 109 S. Briggs St. with these vendors and introduce visiting filmmakers to all that makes Valdosta an exciting place to live, work and create," university

## MORE INFO

Visit <http://southgeorgiafilm.com/> or contact Jason Brown, (229) 219-1298 or [jasonbrown@valdosta.edu](mailto:jasonbrown@valdosta.edu), to learn more about the South Georgia Film Festival.

officials said.

Admission to the kickoff event is \$10 and includes a collectors glass and a free beer or soft drink. Admission is free for people holding an all-access VIP pass or a festival pass, both of which are available for purchase at [SouthGeorgiaFilm.com](http://SouthGeorgiaFilm.com).

All-access VIP pass holders will have access to a special VIP section inside the brewery "to see how the magic happens," Jones said.

Collectors glasses will be available for purchase at the event.

Having recently started its first large batch, Georgia Beer Company is a start-up brewery producing craft beer in Valdosta. The brewery expects to be open to the public in the first quarter of 2019 and plans to distribute kegs and cans through grocery stores, package stores, bars, restaurants and other licensed retailers, university officials said.

Patrons will be able to purchase pints on-site in the tap room, they said.

Entering its third year, the South Georgia Film Festival continues to connect with partners in the Valdosta community, including Valdosta State University, Georgia Power, Wild Adventures Theme Park, the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, Valdosta Main Street, The Valdosta Daily Times, Miss Kate's Deep South

Tours, Talk 92.1 and Fusion Marketing.

With a focus on entrepreneurship through filmmaking, "the festival continues to promote the regional film industry with panelists discussing both the craft and industrial impact of film for local businesses," officials said.

The 2019 festival has already secured panelists Brandi Nicole Payne of Seed & Spark to discuss Crowdfunding, producer Tara Ansley and actor Ian Anderson, along with many others not yet announced.

The South Georgia Film Festival received more than 450 submissions worldwide in 2018. The 2019 festival will include feature and short films during a three-day period at two locations on the Valdosta State University campus.

Along with screenings from national and international filmmakers, the festival will host a scholarship competition, sponsored by VSU's Office of Admissions, for high school and college filmmakers interested in attending Valdosta State, university officials said.

Passes to the festival are available. The all-access VIP pass, which includes a T-shirt and access to the upcoming Georgia Production Partnership meeting Feb. 28 is \$100. The festival pass, which offers access to all screenings, panels and daily events, is \$40. A day pass is available for \$15.

Visit <http://southgeorgiafilm.com/> or contact Jason Brown, (229) 219-1298 or [jasonbrown@valdosta.edu](mailto:jasonbrown@valdosta.edu), to learn more about the South Georgia Film Festival.

6/18/19



# City reopens new auditorium question



THOMAS LYNN | THE VALDOSTA DAILYTIMES

Mayor John Gayle asked a room full of officials if Valdosta needs a new performing arts center, where should it be located and how much should the city spend?

BY THOMAS LYNN  
tom.lynn@gaffnews.com

VALDOSTA — After seven years, the question of whether Valdosta is ready for a performing arts center is back on the table.

That's the question Mayor John Gayle posed to a room full of city officials inside Mathis City Auditorium earlier this week.

"Your charge here today is to answer these questions," Gayle said. "Does Valdosta need a performing arts center? Where should it be located? And how much should we spend?"

The next hour and a half was filled with a flurry of ideas and possibilities, ranging from building a new, state-of-the-art building somewhere in the city

## VIDEO ONLINE

[valdostadailytimes.com](http://valdostadailytimes.com); see 'City reopens new auditorium question'

to selling Five Points to pay for improvements to long-time venue Mathis City Auditorium.

The decision to build an auditorium, as well as a library, at Five Points was presented to voters in the form of a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax back in 2012. Voters rejected the tax then by a slim margin.

Now the performing arts center committee is meeting to come up with ideas for what the city should do next and if a new auditorium should be added to the upcoming SPLOST project list for residents to vote on.

City Manager Mark Barber

said the last facility, which would have been located at Five Points, would have cost about \$30 million. The price did not include the daily operation costs once the facility was completed.

Barber said Mathis, 2300 N. Ashley St., operates at a loss month after month.

"These types of facilities don't make money," Barber said. "They weren't designed to make money."

Mathis, according to officials at the meeting, is about 60 years old. It houses a 1,192-seat auditorium and a 5,000-square-foot multi-purpose room.

Both spaces are available for rent and accommodate a variety of events, including local plays, dance performances, choral

See Auditorium on 8A

## AUDITORIUM

presentations, popular concerts and public meetings.

Semantha Mathews, executive director for the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, said Mathis does not have the capabilities of accommodating some of the larger nationally touring productions hosted by the center's Presenter Series. So, Valdosta is passed over for some concerts, art shows and Tony Award-winning plays, she said.

A performing arts center would be much more detailed than Mathis and would include rafters, lighting, changing rooms and more seating.

Some members of the committee asked if the city should spend money on updating Mathis. Head of project SPLOST

Councilman Tim ... roll said the city could sell Five Points, which could make the city about \$8 million, and use the money to bring Mathis into the 21st century.

Before moving ahead with anything, Councilman Joseph "Sonny" Vickers said the city should look into the current condition of Mathis and whether it could handle new additions.

Vickers, along with Mayor Pro-Tem Sandra Tooley, raised concerns about keeping Mathis and a new facility affordable. If updating Mathis raises the cost of renting the facility, some members of the community might not be able to use the facility.

The committee failed to reach any clear decision. The committee agreed with Vickers that an assessment of Mathis, both partial and full, should be done before moving forward.

1/12/19

1/11/19

# Calendar marks a year in art

**BY DEAN POLING**

dean.poling@gaffnews.com

VALDOSTA — It may be Jan. 11 but it's not too late for a new year with the 2019 Colson Calendar.

It features works from 13 local and regional artists selected from entries in the 2018 Spring Into Art show at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Colson has been making art selections for its calendar during the annual Spring Into Art exhibits for several years. In addition to the show's awarding prizes, being chosen for the calendar has become a prestigious honor for participating artists.

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

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

The calendar also features works from out-of-town artists who participate in Spring Into Art.

The calendar is representation of the two-dimensional art, both paintings and photographs, that appeared in the Spring Into Art show.

The 2019 artists are Janice K. Smith, cover; Marcia A. Flatau of Valdosta, January; Steven S.



RON THOMSON IS THE FEATURED ARTIST FOR MAY IN THE 2019 COLSON CALENDAR.

Walker of Hahira, February; Uni Rago of Valdosta, March; Brandon Blane McMillan of Hahira, April; Ron Thomson of Thomasville, May; Ellen Dewar of Valdosta, June; Jeanne Cowart

of Valdosta, July; Nancy Fazio of Ocala, Fla., August; Susan Harris Tyler of Hahira, September; Tina Corbett of High Springs, Fla., October; Bill Malone of Valdosta, November; Casey Cole Corbin of

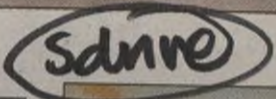
Nashville, December

The 2019 Colson Calendar is available at Colson Printing Company and the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.



ART BY DAVID BOYD.

1/13/19



# Draw!

## Drawproject among new Turner exhibits

BY DEAN POLING

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### MORE INFO

Call (229) 247-2787 or visit [turnercenter.org](http://turnercenter.org).

VALDOSTA — Drawproject is a chance to see numerous pieces of art by several area artists, an opportunity to own a piece of art at a relatively low price, and financially help art students' education.

The Drawproject exhibit and auction returns Monday evening, Jan. 14, to the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Created by former arts center curator Jamie Harmon, the Drawproject has continued since his departure several years ago.

Organizers seek donation drawings for an auction to fund two scholarships benefiting Valdosta State University art students.

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Scholarship is awarded annually to support a VSU junior art, design or art education major for meritorious production in the classroom and a commitment to service within the community.

The arts center presents scholarships to two VSU art and design students.

The Danielle B. Harmon Student Merit Scholarship recognizes departmental majors for superior classroom performance.

Through the years, several students have received the Turner Center scholarship and students have annually received the Harmon award.

The Drawproject is as simple as its name.

It asks artists to share drawings, all drawn on the same paper; however, the term "drawing" can be used loosely.

As Jamie Harmon said

in the past, "There were no rules or definition of what a 'drawing' is ... only their interpretation."

Artists can define their interpretation of a drawing.

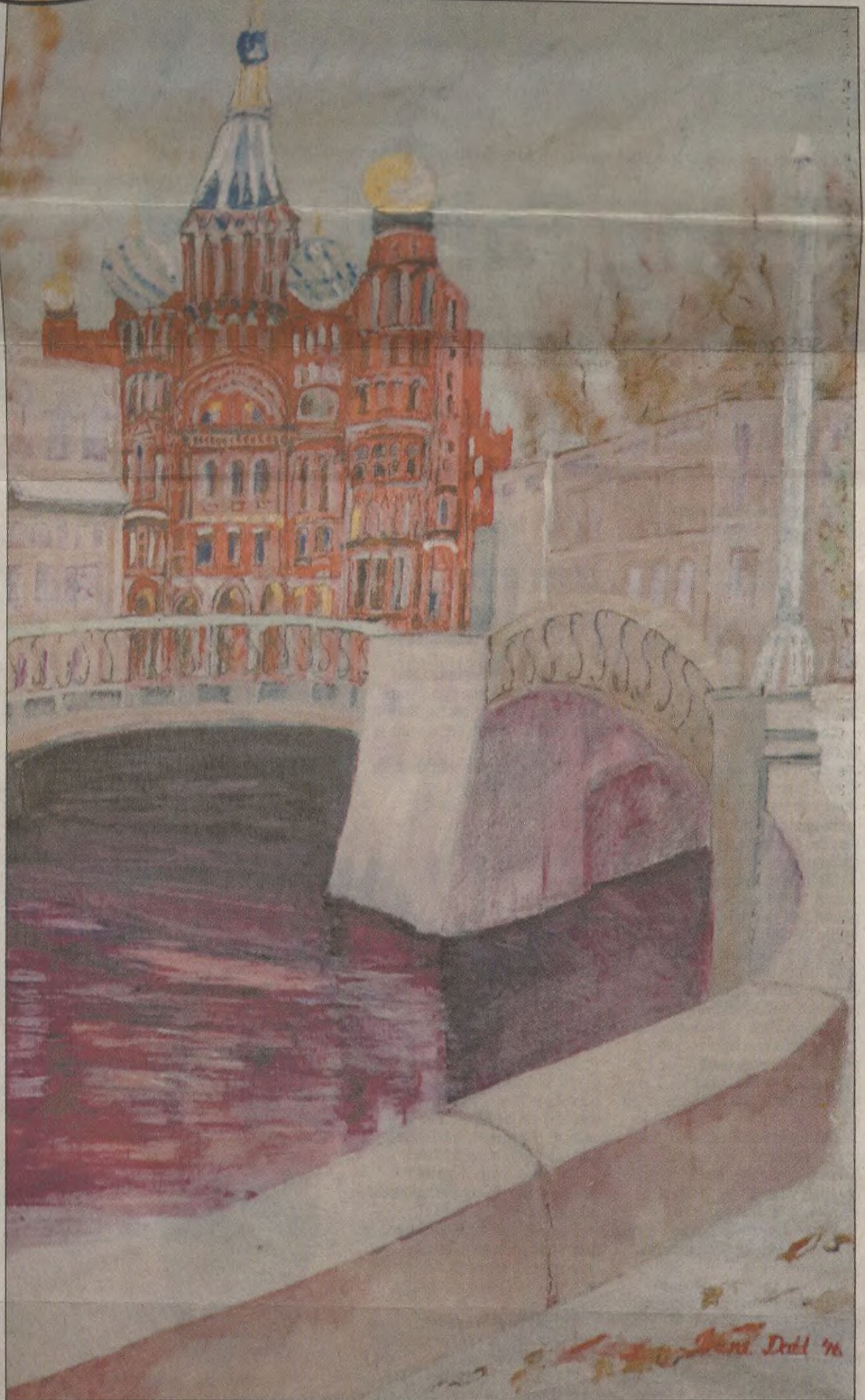
In the past, drawings have ranged from realism to cartoons, from scribbles to detailed pointillism, from stark black-and-white to gradients of grays to color. One year, an artist even transposed a photograph onto the paper.

Drawproject is one of the new exhibits opening Monday at the arts center. It will be in the Sallie & Harmon Boyette Gallery.

Other exhibits include the paintings of Irene Dodd, a Valdosta artist and retired VSU art professor; in Josette's Gallery, and Southern Impressions" by David Boyd, a plein-air artist from Newnan, in the Price-Campbell & Mittiga galleries, said Bill Shenton, center artistic administrator.

Roberta George, a Valdosta author, will have a book signing for her new novel, "The Day's Heat."

The free, public opening reception is scheduled for 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 14, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. The exhibits run through Feb. 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 (with the exception of scheduled receptions). Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit [turnercenter.org](http://turnercenter.org).



'CASTLE,' ARTIST IRENE DODD.

**DODD:** Exhibit will open with a free, public reception Monday, Jan. 14.

ing Bible classes," she said. "And it inspires my painting. Then when I'm painting I'm inspired to teach. I gain inspiration from both of them."

Viewers can see the results of Dodd's artistic inspiration with her latest exhibit opening Monday, Jan. 14, in Josette's Gallery at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

The exhibit includes 37 paintings, she said. The majority of the paintings were created in the past few years. Though some are older works. Mostly acrylics. Some oils. A watercolor here, there.

"I pick pieces I like for a show even if they don't match the theme," she said.

Two pieces that likely won't match the theme are works from her NASA series inspired by a visit to Cape Canaveral several years ago. The show will include

an oil of Skylab and a watercolor of Apollo 17.

About a year ago, the Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum accepted "We Have Lift Off," another Apollo 17 painting from her NASA series. Drs. Dennis and Patricia Marks had purchased the piece several years ago and later sent it to the Smithsonian for possible inclusion in the national collection, Dodd said.

The majority of the show includes more recent paintings of villages, landscapes, waterfalls, and wildlife in the Arctic and Antarctic.

A sneak peek at some of the new paintings reveals a looser style for her current projects. Frenetic and kinetic canvases filled with bold shapes and colors.

The canvases also allow her to draw within the paintings.

"I like to draw," Dodd said. "A

lot of artists don't like to draw but I do."

She said an artist must always seek new ways to paint, new styles to convey images.

"You've got to grow," she said. "I can't imagine doing the same things I've already done."

As she said in an artistic statement for a past exhibit: "It's never finished. If you painted the perfect painting, why continue? There are times to continue with a certain work and a time to stop, but the painting is never absolutely finished. New experiences, past experiences, your attitude on a given day, they are all reflected and each painting is only a fragment representing a larger statement."

Painting and being an artist is always a work in progress.

She has been an artistic work in progress almost since birth.

Irene Dodd is the daughter of

famed artist Lamar Dodd, who founded the University of Georgia art program.

She has headlined nearly 100 solo exhibits, ranging from Valdosta shows to exhibitions throughout the United States and Europe. Her work is included in the permanent collections of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, the High Museum of Atlanta, the University of Georgia, etc.

She taught at Valdosta State as an art faculty member from 1967 through 2002.

So, the painting is never finished. Never.

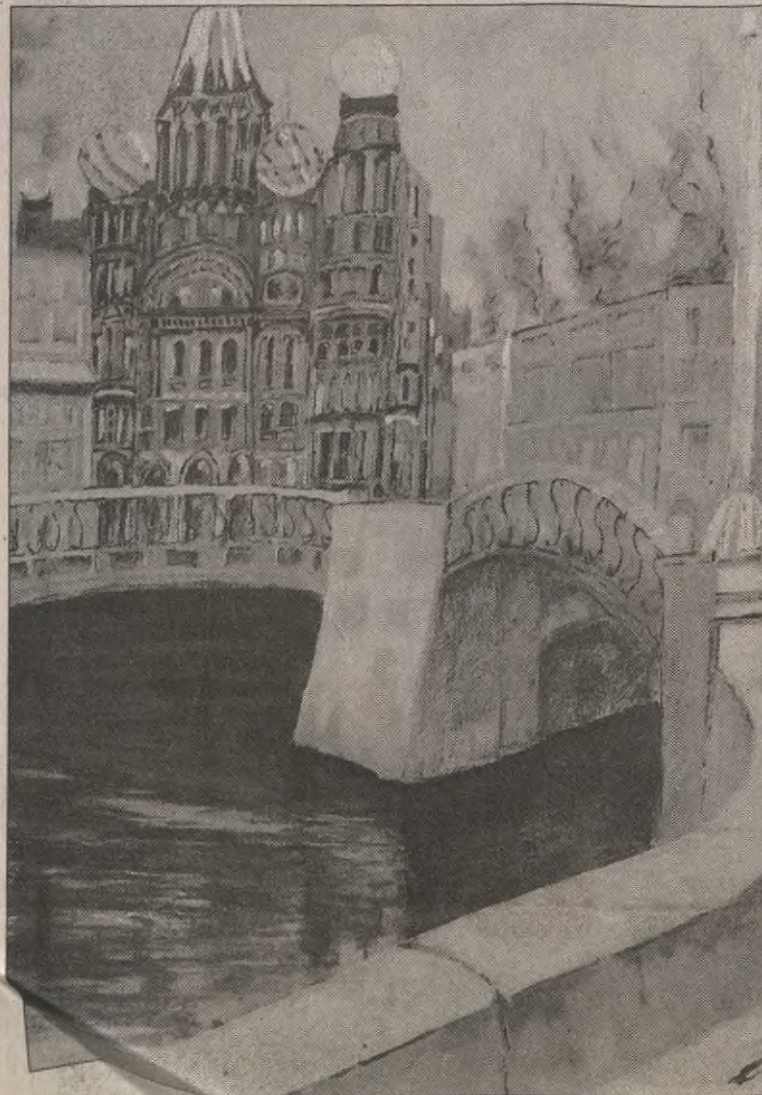
Painting may change; it may become something else; one canvas is completed, then another and another, but the painting never ends.

Not for an artist, she said. Not for Irene Dodd. Though being retired from the

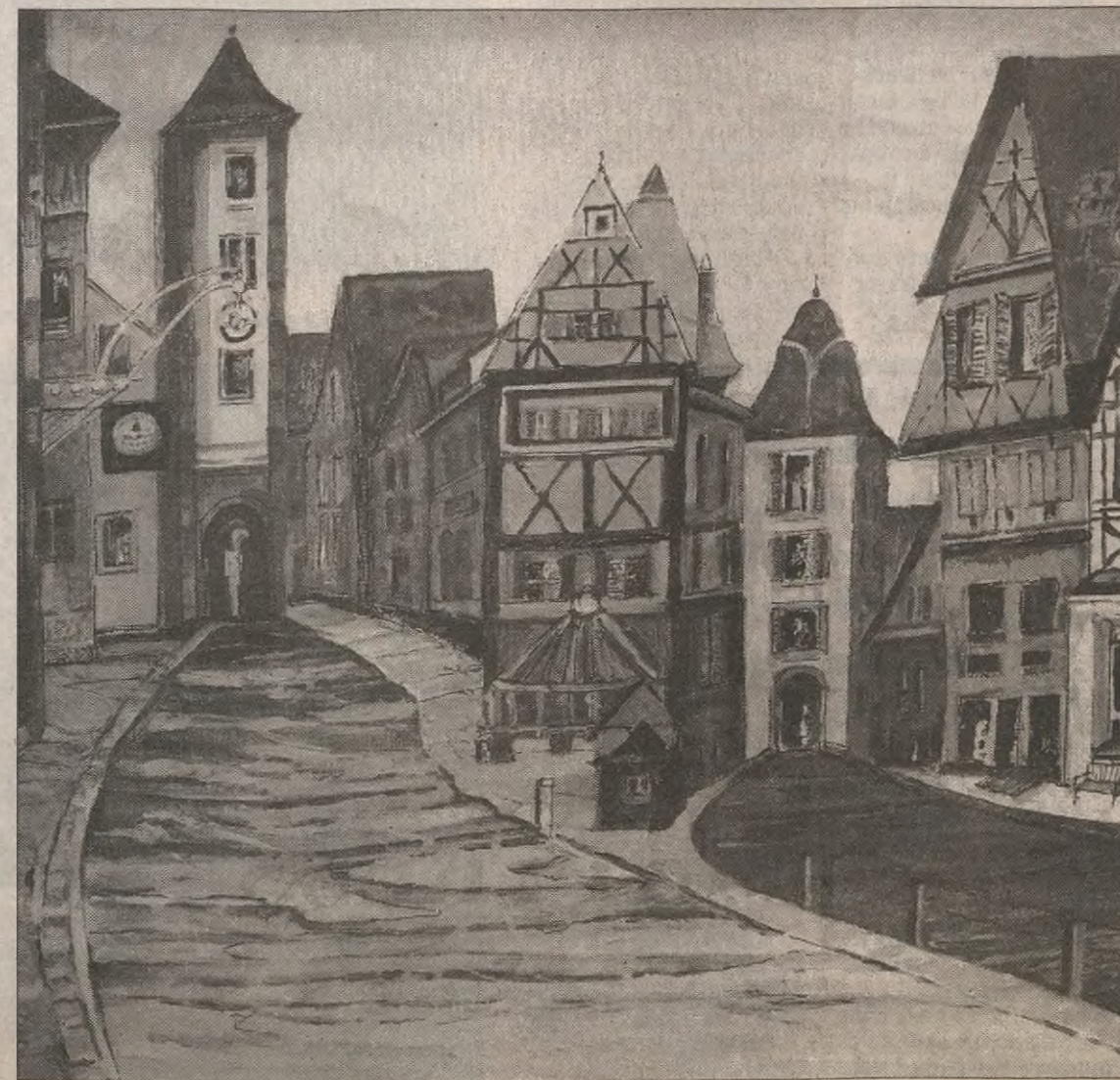
VSU art faculty means she can paint when she wants.

Which means she rarely ever rises at 4 a.m. to paint any more. "Only if I want to," Dodd said, "and I haven't wanted to in quite a long time."

Dodd's art, along with the 2019 Drawproject and David Boyd's art, will be on exhibit starting with a free, public reception 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 14, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. The exhibits run through Feb. 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 (with the exception of scheduled receptions). Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit turnercenter.org. Author Roberta George will also sign her book, "The Day's Heat."



A CASTLE SCENE PAINTED BY IRENE DODD.



A VILLAGE SCENE PAINTED BY IRENE DODD.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Irene Dodd opens a new exhibit Monday at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

## *Dodd's life an artistic canvas*

**BY DEAN POLING**

[dean.poling@gafnews.com](mailto:dean.poling@gafnews.com)

VALDOSTA — Passion is the key to Irene Dodd's art.

Passion lives in the brushstrokes on her canvases.

Passion fuels the energy that keeps her painting for decades.

From the late 1960s until her retirement as a Valdosta State University

art professor in the early 2000s, Dodd rose at 4 a.m. nearly each workday so she could paint before teaching her classes.

She doesn't have to rise that early in retirement but she still paints. And she teaches non-denominational Bible classes at her house. She said she loves doing both things.

"I'm inspired by teach-

**See Dodd on 8A**

1/12/19

# The arts are back

Regional arts return this week in a big way.

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts opened new exhibits, featuring the Drawproject, Irene Dodd and David Boyd, Monday evening.

Valdosta State University Opera presents a concert performance of Georges Bizet's "Carmen" this weekend.

Lowndes High School Off-Broadway's production of Disney's "The Little Mermaid" opens this week.

Valdosta Symphony Guild's Tunes for Tots is scheduled for Saturday morning at VSU.

VSU Theatre & Dance and Valdosta School of Ballet's "Sleeping Beauty," which raises money for theatre and dance scholarships, plays next weekend in Mathis City Auditorium.

Valdosta National 2019, all-media juried competition, opens as part of the VSU Art & Design season next week.

The New Shanghai Circus returns as part of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series at the end of the month.

Theatre Guild Valdosta's performance of the play "The Game's Afoot" opens at the end of the month and continues into February.

Valdosta arts are back!

At times, folks take them for granted but their absence during the recent holiday season was noticeable.

The return of the arts is a welcome one.

It reminds us of how many talented people live in South Georgia and how much enjoyment and enlightenment they provide.

The listed shows are only the beginning.

There are plenty more shows, plays, concerts and exhibits scheduled for the coming weeks and months of 2019.

We urge people to see these shows, to show your support for the creative endeavors of our neighbors and for the talents of artistic visitors to South Georgia.

The opportunities extend past just attending arts events.

There are opportunities for the public, for you, to participate in plays, concerts, film festivals, art exhibits, writing groups, etc., right here, right now.

# Turner Center director resigning

BY KIMBERLY CANNON

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VALDOSTA — Following about 10 years of leadership, the executive director of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts is resigning.

Cheryl Oliver took on the position of executive director in July 2008, four months after she was hired as interim director. She said she anticipates working at the Turner Center through April.

Oliver said she realized her time to leave the art center was nearing about

a year ago, as she recognized that nothing lasts forever.

"While I think that what I've been able to give the center and what the center has been able to give me has been enriching beyond my imagination, I also realize that maybe it's time for a change, for



CHERYL  
OLIVER

See Resigning on 6A

me personally, and it will be good for the center," she said. "Always, I think, an infusion of new blood is a good thing for an organization: new energy, new vision."

After the Turner Center received the Governor's Award for the Arts and Humanities in fall 2017, she said the statewide recognition cemented her decision that her time to resign was near, as she wanted to leave *the center in the best shape possible.*

She said she still has conflicted emotions regarding her departure. But she said she hopes to continue being involved in the Turner Center after she leaves.

"I can unequivocally say that it's been a gratifying, rewarding experience for me," she said.

During her tenure, she said she believes the staff and volunteers at the Turner Center have increased the level of service to the community and expanded the art center's outreach. She said the staff has worked to change the perception of the Turner Center as an elite place to an understanding the center is all inclusive.

"My primary objective back then was to open the doors of this art center to everyone and help people understand that it is a community art center, and it is for every segment of the population," Oliver said. "I think we have been really successful in achieving that goal."

She said most of her memories from the Turner Center involve the people she's met: the staff, volun-

teers, leaders on the board of directors and the children, particularly the Boys and Girls Club students.

"It is so rewarding to see the looks on those children's faces when they realize that we appreciate their efforts toward creating art, and then we realize the value of what we're giving them is the experience of creativity and creative expression," she said.

Through Oliver's time, *she said the center relieved its debt following a debt-elimination campaign in 2013, and the center currently has an endowment fund of nearly \$1.5 million.*

For the future executive director, Oliver said he or she will do more than just fill her shoes.

"The person who gains this position will bring their own shoes, and they'll make their own tracks," she said.

She said the future executive director will have signed on for an enriching experience.

"You will find in this place a creative outlet," she said as a message to whoever will take on her position. "You will find challenges. You will find friendships, and you will find experiences that will make your life more meaningful."

She said people interested in the executive director position have through Feb. 16 to submit their resume.

Visit [turnercenter.org/career-opportunities/](http://turnercenter.org/career-opportunities/) to view information regarding the position.

The Turner Center is located at 527 N. Patterson St. and may be reached at (229) 247-2787.



Desiree Carver | The Valdosta Daily Times The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts opened its new art park Saturday at the annual ARToberfest.



Valdosta  
mag  
NOV 2018



## RON ZACCARI'S FINE ART FILLS TURNER CENTER GALLERIES

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JESSICA GANUS

The Turner Center for the Arts hosted the fine arts collection of Ron Zaccari in a Gallery Opening Reception on Monday, September 17, marking the first time that a solo artist has been featured in all five rotating galleries at the Turner Center.

"Faces. Vases. Places. A Retrospective" showcased Zaccari's art work from 1968 to 2018 and included numerous works from private collections in the Northeastern and Southeastern United States.

Zaccari is esteemed for his professional career as a public school art teacher, art professor and higher education administrator, including presidential appointments at West

Liberty State University, West Virginian and Valdosta State University. He has juried prestigious art competitions throughout his career and has received numerous awards from juried exhibitions.

After a Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma diagnosis and hiatus, Zaccari testified that the work completed over the past two years "saved my life".

For more information on the upcoming gallery opening or other services offered by the Turner Center for the Arts, please call 229-247-2787 or visit [turnercenter.org](http://turnercenter.org).



1. Lawrence Toby, Claire Dollar, Ray Chitty, Peggy Chitty
2. Ron Zaccari, Current VSU President Dr. Richard A. Carvajal
3. Ron Zaccari, Gail & John Jokerst
4. Ron & Nancy Zaccari, Kay & Rick Zaccari
5. Cary & Farrar Brown, Lee & Justin Smothers
6. Miguel & Crystal Vicente
7. Gelana Goddard, Raquel Goddard, Bob Goddard, Ingrid & Loyce Turner, Nell Roquemore
8. Steven Heddon, Rebekah Odell-Matheson, Ron Zaccari, Scott James, Betsy Backe
9. Ron Zaccari, Mike Backe, Avery, Betsy Backe
10. Mike Shobe, Mala Vallotton, Lee and Justin Smothers, Gail and Walter Hobgood, Angie Crawford, Betsy Backe, daughter Avery Thacker, Michael Backe.
11. Turner Center Board and staff members: (front row) Helen Tucker, Mala Vallotton, Jeani Synyard, Sementha Mathews, Nancy Warren, Kaitlyn Redish, Stefani Carroll. (back row) Jane Burgsteiner, Sunni Pike, Tina Folsom, Bill Shenton, Annette Crosby, Betsy Backe, Gail Hobgood, Bob Goddard, Al Turner.

## Turner, VSU accept art submissions

BY AMANDA M. USHER

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VALDOSTA — Submissions are currently being accepted for the annual DrawProject exhibition and fundraising auction.

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, in partnership with Valdosta State University, is welcoming all artists to

donate creations, according to organizers.

Funding from the auction will assist Valdosta State University art students through scholarships, said Bill Shenton, Turner Center curator.

Entry deadline is 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20. Submissions can be received by Turner or VSU Department of Art and Design office.

Works must be created on 15-inch by 22-inch sized paper and can include mediums such as paintings, printmaking and traditional drawing. Turner will provide free paper.

Organizers are accepting up to 60 unframed art pieces. Entries must have a name, address and title.

Turner Center hosts a reception 5-7:30 p.m. Mon-

day, Jan. 14, where there will be a silent auction for guests to bid on the works. There will be a live auction for pieces that reach a bid of \$150.

Shenton said recipients of the DrawProject scholarships have advanced to become professional working artists. "The history of the DrawProject has proven to have a huge impact on Val-

### MORE INFO

More information: [valdosta.edu/art](http://valdosta.edu/art), [turnercenter.org](http://turnercenter.org). Questions can be answered by Shenton at (229) 247-2787 or [bshenton@turnercenter.org](mailto:bshenton@turnercenter.org).

dosta State's art students," Shenton said. "We're sure the assistance they received from the DrawProject helped guide them into a career in the art field."

Works will remain on

exhibit through Feb. 20. More information: [valdosta.edu/art](http://valdosta.edu/art), [turnercenter.org](http://turnercenter.org). Questions can be answered by Shenton at (229) 247-2787 or [bshenton@turnercenter.org](mailto:bshenton@turnercenter.org).

# All Present!

## Circus, choir, Broadway top new Presenter Series

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — A working pub, a circus and a Broadway revue.

Three things one can expect from the 2018-19 Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series?

The arts center, and its support organization, Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, has put together a Presenter Series of nationally touring, professional shows for more than 50 years.

Presenter Series fans can look forward to three visiting productions in the coming months, said Nancy Warren, who co-chairs the Presenter Series committee with Tina Folsom, and Sementha Mathews, arts center executive director.

The shows are “The Choir of Man,” “New Shanghai Circus” and “With Love from Broadway,” they said. “Shanghai Circus” and “Broadway” are shows that have been presented in past Presenter Series seasons.

Patrons can purchase discounted early season tickets now through Sept. 17 for \$100, for three shows.

Starting Sept. 18, season tickets will be \$135,



CHRIS CANN PHOTOGRAPHY

The 2018-19 Presenter Series opens with the national tour of ‘The Choir of Man.’

according to the arts center.

Individual show tickets will be \$50 each and will be available closer to show dates.

An optional pre-show dinner will be offered at 6 p.m. prior to each show at Mathis City Auditorium, with advanced reservations required, according to organizers.

All three shows are

scheduled for Thursday evenings, Warren said.

### THE SEASON

– “The Choir of Man” plays Oct. 11. The show puts a working pub on the stage of Mathis City Auditorium, Warren said. The basic idea behind this Broadway show is some British pubs have traditions of dart teams or football teams but this

one has the tradition of a singing choir. The men of the pub sing traditional pub songs along with more contemporary tunes by Paul Simon, Adele, Queen, Guns ‘N Roses, Sia, etc.

– “New Shanghai Circus” plays Jan. 31. The show features non-stop action, colorful costumes, thrilling stunts, hoop diving, plate spinning, leap-

ing and constant movement of trained acrobats from China in a full family-friendly show. The show is back by popular demand ... again. “New Shanghai Circus” was featured in a Presenter Series several years ago and proved a popular show. Five years ago, the show was booked to return but

See Series on 10A

## SERIES

had to cancel the Valdosta stop on the day of the performance. Warren said that will not happen again. The "New Shanghai Circus" will be here at the end of January, she said.

"With Love from Broadway" plays Feb. 14. Another show that is back by popular demand. Two years ago, the first production of "With Love from Broadway" was created specifically for the Presenter Series, Warren said. New York casting director Stephen DeAngelis has since presented similar revue-style shows featuring Broadway stars in other locations, Warren said. Accompanied by pianist Eugene Gwordz, DeAngelis selects five vocalists who have performed on Broadway. They are Rona Figueroa, Wade Preston, Lana Gordon, Alton Fitzgerald White, Jon Peterson. If the stars are cast in a Broadway show, the list of scheduled performers may change, Warren said.

All three Presenter Series shows will play at Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St.

Presenter Series season sponsors are Astro Exterminating, Stifel Investment Services, Langdale Vallotton Attorneys at Law, Synovus, Dr. Edward Fricker family, O'Steen Volkswagen & Subaru Valdosta, WALB, The Valdosta Daily Times.

Community partners are Cowart Electric & Industrial Contractors, Fair-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**New Shanghai Circus is scheduled to return as part of the 2018-19 Presenter Series.**

## MORE INFO

More information: Visit the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St., call (229) 247-2787; or visit [turnercenter.org](http://turnercenter.org).

way Outdoor Advertising, Holiday Inn & Conference Center, Valdosta Magazine, Wild Adventures Theme Park.

More information: Visit the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St., call (229) 247-2787; or visit [turnercenter.org](http://turnercenter.org).