Coming to a former restaurant near you: Masquers Chinese Theater

Due to renovation of Jenkins Theater, home to AASU’s student theatre troupe the Masquers, the theatre program will present its 2007-08 season in the Armstrong Center space formerly occupied by the Beijing House Chinese Restaurant.

Recognizing the challenge of converting a dining room facility into two viable stage venues, the Masquers troupe has chosen to have some fun with the collision of the words “Chinese” and “Theater” by paying homage to one of the most well-known of movie houses, Hollywood Boulevard’s Grauman’s Chinese Theater, home to the famed celebrity walk of fame and countless A-list celebrity film openings.

Masquers Chinese Theater (MCT), the temporary home for the Masquers, will open in October with The Big Kahuna. In total, the Masquers will perform four fall semester productions in either the mainstage or black box venues to be located in the new MCT, followed by five more productions in the spring.

“Armstrong Red Carpet” events and the “Walk of Fame” will bring community attention to Masquers Chinese Theater and Armstrong Center throughout the year. Thanks to the generosity of the Student Government Association, all AASU faculty, staff, and students are admitted for free to Masquers productions.

Alumni Association Elects New Board Members

The AASU Alumni Association announces the election of seven community leaders to its board of directors. The board provides oversight of the alumni association, which serves some 25,000 alumni.

Emily Anne Dixon, Thomas A. Dorman, James E. Durrence, Georgia Edwards, Tamala R. Fulton, Linda Hilt Lamas, and Tonilynn Perrotta were elected to three-year terms.

Dixon is a relationship specialist in the Commercial Banking Department of Wachovia Bank.

Dorman is retired from the Chatham County Department of Family and Children Services after a 34-year career as a social worker.

Durrence served as a corrections officer for the Georgia Department of Corrections for 13 years.

Edwards retired from the Savannah-Chatham school system after 36 years as a teacher, where she was a gifted student specialist for 25 years.
USG strategic plan announced
The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met in August and has announced its strategic plan for 2007. To review the plan, go to www.usg.edu/regents/strategic/.

Anti-semitism report available

New Georgia voting I.D. law announced
Georgia law now requires registered voters to show one of six forms of photo identification when voting. This photo identification requirement applies to all September 18, 2007 special elections and all future elections. Citizens are not required to include any identification if they vote by absentee ballot.

The six forms of photo identification that can be used when voting in person are: a Georgia driver's license, even if expired; any valid state or federal government issued photo I.D., including a free voter I.D. card issued by the local county registrar; valid U.S. passport; valid employee photo I.D. from any branch, department, agency, or entity of the U.S. government, Georgia, or any county, municipality, board, authority, or other entity of this state; valid U.S. military photo I.D.; and valid tribal photo I.D.

Anyone who does not have one of these forms of identification is eligible to receive a free Georgia voter identification card. To receive this voter identification card, contact any Department of Driver Services office or county registrar’s office.

For more information, call 877.725.9797 or visit www.GaPhotoID.com.

Correction
Kam Lau, interim head of information technology, had his title shown incorrectly in an August eArmstrong headline.

Welcome Aboard
Daphne Burch, Procurement & Auxiliary Services
Mikah Green, Communicative Sciences & Disorders
Benjamin Hill, University Police
Sheila Johnson, College of Education
Samuel Lewis, Plant Operations

Fulton is an employee wellness coordinator for the Chatham County Human Resources and Services Department.

Perrotta has been a private school teacher since 2004. Starting with the 2007-2008 academic year, she will join West Chatham Elementary School teaching second grade.

Lamas is the executive director of Park Place Outreach, where she oversees an emergency shelter for runaways and homeless youth ages 11-18.

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Kudos

Faculty recognized
The following faculty members have been awarded tenure: Hassan Aziz, medical technology; Rhonda Bevis, respiratory therapy; Elizabeth Howells, languages, literature & philosophy; Kam Fui Lau, information technology; Delana Nivens, chemistry & physics; Jonathan Roberts, psychology; and Ana Torres, languages, literature & philosophy.

The following faculty members have been promoted to the rank of professor: Joseph Crosby, health sciences; Kevin Hampton, art, music & theatre; Carol Jamison, languages, literature & philosophy; and Hong Zhang, computer science.

The following faculty members have been promoted to the rank of associate professor: Jose de Arimateia da Cruz, criminal justice, social & political science; Elizabeth Howells, languages, literature & philosophy; Kam Fui Lau, information technology; and Ana Torres, languages, literature & philosophy.

The following faculty members have been promoted to the rank of assistant professor: Lee Braswell and Sharon Gilliard-Smith, both radiologic sciences.

Mark Newell, history, has been featured in the Savannah Morning News and on Georgia Public Radio for the archaeology research that he and his students conducted on the lockkeeper’s house at the Savannah-Ogeechee Canal.

Workers sift through debris at Savannah-Ogeechee Canal.

The following employees have won Staff Advisory Council fall 2007 textbook scholarships: Amy Carter, student affairs; Barry Davis, plant operations; James Harn, registrar/admissions; Jennifer Incorvaia, CIS; Tiffany Land, university police; Pamela Maglulo, registrar/admissions; Jennifer O’Dell, CIS; Joseph Peny, university police; Cammie Ramos, CIS; Michael Snowden, minority affairs; Kelly Tippy, student affairs; and Kelly Woodruff, student affairs. Proceeds for the scholarships come from annual donations made by AASU staff members.

Jane H. McHaney, College of Education, presented “Assessment of Advanced Candidates: A Performance Assessment System” at the summer national Association of Teacher Educators conference in July in Milwaukee, WI.

She also participated in the Board of Regents Education Dean’s retreat at Lake Blackshear in July.
Michael Toma, economics, has been named the grant evaluator for the Ford Foundation grant awarded to Savannah’s Step-Up poverty reduction initiative. The $140,000 grant funds activity, designed to improve employer-based programs for low-wage employees runs though July 2008.

Pamela Sears, art, music & theatre, participated in the Society of American Fight Directors’ National Stage Combat Workshop in July. The organization promotes safety and excellence in the art of theatrical violence. After three weeks of training and juried performances, she received the “Best Female Actor/Combattant” award.


Olavi Arens, history, presented a paper, “State Power and Legitimacy in Estonia, 1917-1920,” at the 7th Conference on Baltic Studies in Europe at Luneberg, Germany. Two of his former AASU students now studying in Europe, Jonathan L’Hommedieu and Matthew Adams, also presented papers at the meeting.

Wayne Johnson, engineering studies, was co-author of a paper, “Soil Adherence Using a Mechanical Chamber and Interface to Control Environmental and Contact Conditions,” accepted for presentation at the 17th Annual Meeting of the International Society of Exposure Analysis in Durham, NC. His co-authors were Alesia Ferguson, Sherie Coleman, Zoran Bursac, and Deborah Biddle, all from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock. The mechanical chamber in the title is used in research and was designed, constructed, and tested by Johnson and former engineering studies students Patrick Hager, Aristide Sanou, and Daniel Shenoda.

Johnson also served on a National Science Foundation panel to evaluate institutional proposals for the Scholarship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) program in Arlington, VA in April 2007.

Jonathan Roberts, psychology, and students L.O. Long, K.N. Hinton, and S.O. Breitenbach, presented a poster, “Relations Among Finger Length Ratios, Mental Rotation Task Performance, and Self-perceived Masculinity/Femininity,” at the annual conference of the Association for Psychological Science in Washington, D.C.

Roberts and John Kraft, psychology, also presented “Online Text in Introductory Psychology Class Leads to an Increase in Quitters” and “Ratemyprofessor.com: Should We Give it a Chili Pepper for Accuracy?”

Cameron Coates, engineering studies, presented his paper, “Optimum Sensor Position for Inverse Load Recovery on a Composite Plate,” at the 2007 International Conference on Advances and Trends in Engineering Materials and Applications (ATEMA) held in Montreal, Canada in August.

Richard Wallace, chemistry & physics, presented “Phytochemical Analysis and Characterization” during an educators workshop at Fort Valley State University in July. At the same workshop, Wallace delivered “Edible & Ornamental Banana Research In Georgia.” The event was part of a U.S. Department of Agriculture-funded project between Fort Valley State, Clemson University, Armstrong Atlantic, and the Wayne State University Cancer Institute.
Also in July, Wallace spoke to the Coastal Master Gardeners Association on “Banana Research In Georgia: Where Have We Been, Where Are We Now and Where Are We Going?” at the Bamboo Farm & Coastal Garden.

Greg Knofczynski, mathematics, presented “Engaging Students in Elementary Statistics” at the 2007 Joint Statistical Meeting in Salt Lake City. The paper will be published in the conference proceedings. Paul Hadavas and Lorrie Hoffman, both mathematics, were co-authors.

Jose de Arimateia da Cruz, political science; Becky K. da Cruz, criminal justice; and Corrie Hammers, social science and women studies, have published “HIV/AIDS: The Pandemic Hits the Sleeping Giant,” in *International Social Science Review*.

Jose and Becky da Cruz have published “Treatment of Drug Offenders in the Criminal Justice System: Analyzing Correlations of Gender” in the *Law Enforcement Executive Forum 2007*.

Felix G. Hamza-Lup, computer science, will serve as a reviewer on the program committee of the International Symposium on Visual Computing that will be held in Lake Tahoe, CA this November.

Hamza-Lup co-authored "Web 3D & Virtual Reality-based applications for simulation and e-Learning" with Veronica Stefan, Valahia University, Targoviste, Romania. The paper was presented at the 2007 International Conference on Virtual Learning.

Hamza-Lup has participated with colleagues from Clayton State University and Georgia Southern University in the development of a new online course in human computer interaction for the Georgia WebBSIT program. The course is available online in fall 2007.

**Calendar**

**September 3**
Labor Day (university closed)

**September 6**
Art, music & theatre presents April Mattson, clarinetist, in graduation recital, 2:30 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium. Admission is free. For more information call 927.5381.

AASU Gospel Choir Back to School Concert, 6 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium. For more information call Lottie Scott at 921.2394 or Lottie.Scott@armstrong.edu.

**September 7**
Faculty Forum, noon, Solms Hall 110
AASU Gospel Choir Back to School Concert, 6 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium. For more information call Lottie Scott at 921.2394 or Lottie.Scott@armstrong.edu.

**September 8**
AASU Gospel Choir Back to School Concert, 7 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium. For more information call Lottie Scott at 921.2394 or Lottie.Scott@armstrong.edu.

**September 10**
Faculty Meeting, 12:10 p.m., University Hall 156

**September 10-October 4**
Art, music & theatre presents an art faculty exhibition, Fine Arts Gallery, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., weekdays. Admission is free. For more information call 927.5381.
September 14
Art, music & theatre invites the general public to a gallery reception for the art faculty exhibition, 6 p.m., Fine Arts Gallery. Admission is free. For more information call 927.5381.

September 23-24
Art, music & theatre hosts the 9th Annual Southeastern Choral Arts Festival, 7:30 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium. General admission is $12. For more information call 927.5381.

September 24-28
Latino Heritage Week
For more information call 921.7337.

September 24
Chef Juan Manuel Rodriguez y Bustamante prepares paella, 11:45 a.m., Shearouse Plaza
Latin dance lessons, noon, Shearouse Plaza

September 25
Pedro Almodovar's Academy Award-nominated film, Volver, 7 p.m., Compass Point Clubhouse

September 26
Fiesta Day! Live music, dancing crafts and free food samples, 11:45 a.m., Shearouse Plaza

September 27
Hispanic Flamenco Ballet, 7 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium. Free and open to the public

September 27-30
Masquers kick off its season with a dinner theatre presentation of Always... Patsy Cline, MCC Cafeteria Theater. 7:30 p.m. (3 p.m. on 9/30). Tickets are $10 in advance; $12 at the door; $8 for AASU faculty and staff; and free to AASU students. For more information call 927.5381.

September 28
Latino Quiz Bowl, noon, Memorial College Center cafeteria

AASU in the News
The following are some of the top stories appearing in print and broadcast media in August. For more details on these and other stories, contact Francisco Duque in university relations at 961.3173 or Francisco.Duque@armstrong.edu.

8/1 Nan Davis has been named director of Recreation and Wellness at AASU.
  -Savannah Herald
  Also, Savannah Tribune

8/9 The Rotary Club of Savannah has welcomed AASU international student Ruth Murphy to the Georgia Rotary Student Program.
  -Savannah Morning News

8/11 Students move into campus housing in preparation for start of classes.
  -Savannah Morning News
Also, WTOC-TV, 8/10, 8/13; WJCL-TV, 8/10; WTGS-TV, 8/11
8/12 Members of the men's and women's tennis teams were honored with the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Scholar-Athlete award.
-Savannah Morning News

8/16 Thomas Z. Jones interviewed about the start of a new school year.
-WBMQ 630 AM News Talk

8/27 Rochelle Lee is interviewed on the success of the nuclear medicine program.
-WTGS-TV

**University System Electronic News Sources**
Take advantage of the range of informational publications published online by the University System of Georgia (USG).

- For news of both the university system office and individual campuses, read the monthly System Supplement: [www.usg.edu/pubs/sys_supp/](http://www.usg.edu/pubs/sys_supp/).
- Value Added–USG Serves Georgia focuses on how the university system and its campuses are serving Georgia and local communities. To read this monthly publication, go to: [www.usg.edu/pubs/value/](http://www.usg.edu/pubs/value/).
- Linkages reports news of the university system and provides hot links to related source materials: [www.usg.edu/linkages/](http://www.usg.edu/linkages/).

**The submission deadline for the October issue of**

*eArmstrong*

**is September 17.**

Please send submissions to AASU.news@armstrong.edu.

*For more information contact Barry Ostrow in the Office of University Relations at 927.5223 or Barry.Ostrow@armstrong.edu.*