



Savannah Winds at World-Famous Festival

Loyal patrons and fans flocked to the Lucas Theater to take in the Savannah Winds' debut performance at the Savannah Music Festival. The highlight of the American Band Classics evening was internationally renowned composer Philip Sparke's *A Savannah Symphony*, which was commissioned to mark Armstrong's 75th anniversary. Approximately 630 people attended and over \$3,400 was raised to send more than 100 students to the event.

Armstrong Hosts Georgia Science Bowl, Sponsored by Siemens Industry, Inc.

Siemens Industry, Inc., the global powerhouse in electronics and electrical engineering, sponsored the 2012 Georgia Science Bowl. The event was coordinated by Armstrong Atlantic State University physics professor Donna Mullenax and hosted on the Armstrong campus.

"Thanks to Siemens, the best scientific minds in Georgia's schools came to Armstrong to compete in a rigorous, academic atmosphere," Mullenax said. "The industry support had a huge impact on this competition."

The annual high school science bowl featured subregional and state-level competitions at Armstrong before students headed to the National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C.

Opening the Doors to Reading

In February, the College of Education kicked off the Teens for Literacy program at East Broad K-8 School with a pep rally dedicated to all things reading.

Teens for Literacy is a partnership between East Broad and Armstrong, aimed at promoting literacy for inner city children. The program, funded through a grant received by Armstrong assistant professor Jaime Berry and instructor Allen Berger, empowers East Broad's student leaders to help them strategize and develop novel ideas to inspire other students to read.

"We are so excited to launch this new program," Berry said. "Promoting literacy in middle and elementary schools lays a solid educational foundation for their future. We have an opportunity here to make a great difference in the lives of these children."

Several members of the community attended the launch of the program, including John Hobe, department head of childhood and exceptional student education, professors Berry and Berger, as well as several Armstrong volunteers. In addition, Christy Divine, foundation manager of Live Oak Public Libraries, came with her counterpart and library mascot Twigs, and "Lil G" of E93 radio entertained the young crowd along with a DJ.

"With this program, we are teaching our students that reading is not just an academic task, but something they should enjoy," said Amber Swain, East Broad teacher and coordinator of Teens for Literacy. "We want to help the kids increase their reading scores, and we can do that by promoting self worth, showing them that they can read and by making it fun."

Campus Changes Expand Services and Accessibility

Gamble Hall was built in 1965 as one of the original buildings on Armstrong's campus. Now the aging building will receive a facelift, as renovations are set to begin in summer 2012. The project's focus will be to bring the building into full code compliance, upgrade systems, modernize the interior and provide better technology for today's learning processes. The anticipated completion date is summer 2013.

In addition, Lane Library is expanding this spring and Information Technology Services (ITS) is moving across campus. This two-phase project will first renovate suites at the Armstrong Center for use as the new consolidated campus data center. Once phase one is completed this spring, the current ITS facility, located across from Lane Library, will be vacated and phase two will begin. The ITS facility will be repurposed as a 13,083 square foot satellite addition to Lane Library.

"The proximity of the ITS building to the Student Union and Lane Library makes it a perfect location for the new Learning Commons area that will allow an extension of both space and library services," said Vice President for Business and Finance David Carson. "With these projects, we are better serving our students and providing them with facilities that will enhance their learning experiences on campus."

Further renovations at the Armstrong Center will include classrooms and office space for Armstrong's ROTC program.

