Newell Scholar fills gaps between Eastern, Western music

Dr. Erron Kelley is the spring 2023 Martha Danell Newell Visiting Scholar. Thanks to an endowment from Georgia College & State University alumna Martha Danell Newell, experts in the arts, humanities and social and physical sciences have been visiting campus for over a decade.
Kelley is the embodiment of scholarship and the interdisciplinary nature of Georgia College’s liberal arts mission.

Born and raised in Turkey, she developed a love for the piano early on. Transfused by the piano of a sound community coming from a neighbor’s apartment, Kelley would listen for hours through the walls of her family’s home.

She also began teaching when she was very young. She taught private lessons with her neighbor while studying violin.

Early on, it became clear she was a gifted pianist. She took three years’ worth of lessons in one year. “I was always in the music room and practiced just watching and listening and not, and I had that passion in me, somehow.”

She got her MBA at the University of West Georgia, and she still celebrates the next semester, she says.

Today, she has performed across Europe and the United States, written books and contributed to various Turkish music journals, the national newspaper Stara and the public broadcast channel TRT.

She says her extensive resume and list of accomplishments are the result of taking opportunities as they arise.

“Nothing was planned,” Kelley said. “So, that’s what I would say to those (Georgia College) students. You should pursue your passions, dreams, and you should expand your horizons. Explore things and ask questions about them and see that nothing is wrong.”

That idea — exploring and questioning topics, seeing that nothing is separate and everything is interconnected — is the basis of Kelley’s class this semester, “East meets West.”

Her course focuses on the back-and-forth relationship of the music in the Ottoman Empire and the countries that once formed the Ottoman Empire, Europe, and the Middle East.

The interaction of music and history is not exclusive to her course. A lifelong learner with a wide range of academic interests, Kelley became fascinated with the music in music history during her time at the University of West Georgia.

Bobcat CALENDAR

Visit georgia-gsu.edu/events

Tuesday

27
7-9 p.m. UGA Top Ten from the States at Jaxx, Downtown Athens.

Wednesday

28
1-2 p.m. Talk about music and Migration by Lamine Tanor Diop in Paddack Traditions.

27 p.m. UGAThumbnail production “We Will Rock You In Russell Auditorium.”

Thursday

29
7-9 p.m. UGAThumbnail production “We Will Rock You In Russell Auditorium.”

29 p.m. UGAThumbnail production “We Will Rock You In Russell Auditorium.”

Friday

15
7-9 p.m. UGAThumbnail production “We Will Rock You In Russell Auditorium.”

Saturday

2
7-9 p.m. UGAThumbnail production “We Will Rock You In Russell Auditorium.”

Chemistry professor publishes new study on plastics

Dr. Sade Fayokun, chair of Georgia College & State University’s Department of Chemistry, Physics & Mathematics, has led a new peer-reviewed publication with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Fayokun was one of 15 scholars from several universities across the United States who collaborated on “Microplastics: Challenges, toxicity, spectroscopic and real-time monitoring methods.” The paper discusses the global representation (MP) pollution problem, causing by increasing amounts of single-use plastics and the conflicting ways we dispose of garbage and recycle used waste.

Microplastics have negatively impacted the ecosystem and public health, the government stated.

plastics releases in high concentrations for a variety of purposes worldwide due to “their low cost, recyclability, lightweight, low density, flexibility, high strength, and durability.”

The article goes in-depth survey of current literatures about the toxicity and challenges of microplastics and looks into methods for detecting them, such as spectroscopic and real- time satellite imagery, conventional aerial vehicles and aquatic drone technology.

In recent years, molecular spectroscopic methods, like Near Infrared (NIR), Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR), Raman and fluorescence spectroscopy for characterizing microplastics gained interest because of their fast results, low cost, accuracy and portability. The collaborative paper discusses all these approaches, along with machine learning, micro-hyper spectral imaging and chemometrics, as well as challenges and recommendations for dealing with microplastics in the future.

Did you know?

Starting in May, a travel program about the beauty of Georgia—created by Georgia College & State University’s Professor of Instructional Technology G CON—will be available for more than 55 million people nationally on the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) channel.

The show, “New Eyes,” followed two young people as Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB) films a group’s second season. It was filled with the natural丐kudos and excellence of a Georgia—mating dramatic scenery like a floating sand diller against a fiery-orange sunset and a pathway strewn with trees draped in Spanish moss.

The show is produced and featured by GPB. It will be shown across the state of Georgia. It will be explored beyond the boundaries of Georgia with episodes of great scenic sites from across the U.S. and will also feature American and European destinations.

Hamilton named to state board

The United States Composting Council (USCC) recently approved the nearly formal Georgia Composting Council (GCC) with Georgia College & State University’s Chief Sustainability Officer Lee Hamilton serving as a founding member and treasurer.

“Georgia is the 16th state in the nation to have a composting council,” USCC Chair and Executive Director Pat DeFazio said. “GCC represents the next generation of passionate, creative leaders and problem-solvers — in this case, the next generation of composters.”

The goal of the United States Composting Council (USCC) is to promote composting and recycling for all people and the environment. These communities are central for healthy soils, clean air and water, a regenerative society.

The new State chapter, the Georgia Composting Council (GCC), is dedicated to increasing the use and production of compost in Georgia.

Hamilton was appointed by the Georgia Recycling Council, which she also serves, to serve on the GCC board as its first vice chair. In her new role, Hamilton will help support development of composting within the state, ensure quality control and training, and provide public education and legislative advocacy.

The GCC is currently recruiting board members and anyone interested in serving on committees.

This Week

Prepared by the Office of University Communications

Feb. 27, 2024