**Did you know?**

Assistant Professor of Music Donna Gracey-Meck took part in a live blog for the inauguration events last week. Hosted by Movieland Now, the official blog of the American Film Institute’s Silsby-Mitchell Society, Georgia College music professors Ryan Moser, Jason Deaville, James Deaville, Naomi Graber, Katherine Lynn Meizel, and Eric Smidt, Ryan Blood Bolognag coordinated the event.

Beginning the evening of Thursday, Jan. 19, with “The Make America Great Again Velvet Collaberation” concert at the Lincoln Memorial—the live-bloggers shared their observations and insights. Their commentary appeared continually throughout Friday, Inauguration Day itself.

**Music performance: ‘After Dinner Music with Ryan and Kaju’**

An assorted mix of evening music from the 19th and 21st centuries, titled “After Dinner Music with Ryan and Kaju,” will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24, in the Max Noah Recital Hall. Like a dinner party, music will be fun, light and uplifting with unexpected twists and moments of intensity. Songs from the 1920s to today will be featured using trumpets, piano, vocals, bass, saxophone, guitar and djembe—a goblet-shaped hand drum made from animal skin and tuned with ropes that hand drum made from animal skin and tuned with ropes that originated in Western Africa. The concert acknowledges symphonic, film, ethnic, and popular composition, such as George Gershwin’s “Rhapsody in Blue,” Emi Hortensie’s “A Festival of Dollars,” from a Western film by Sergio Leone, and Argentina composer Astor Piazzolla’s “Café 1930,” written for flute and guitar.

For more information, please call 478-445-8289.

Students run anti-bullying program at local school

On a December Monday afternoon at John Milledge Academy (JMA), the halls were relatively empty except for the nearly 20 Georgia College students patiently waiting for the final bell.

“We get to talk to the kids and the more you talk to them, the more you see they look up to us,” said first-year pre-nursing major Chuck O’Neal. O’Neal is part of the GC1Y course that focused on societal influences on bullying. Sociology Lecturer Erin Viccaro has seen the class evolve in her three semesters teaching the course. In 2015, she was part of the ENSG Academy Cohort, which helped make the JMA program a reality.

“It is important for them to have hands-on application rather than sitting in a lecture or simply regurgitating what I was teaching them,” said Viccaro.

Previous classes came up with the idea to host an anti-bullying program in local schools. This semester was the first time at GC students partnered with JMA to run the program. Every month, GC students worked in small groups hosting various team-building activities after school. Activities ranged from charades to relay races to spurt races to spurt races to spurt races to spurt races to spurt races to spurt races to spurt races to spurt races to spurt races to spurt races to spurt races.

“It worked because the students in my class aren’t telling down to them,” said Viccaro. “They are seeing the best way to approach situations like these, which is to interact with them, talk to them—not at them. It’s also been beneficial because my students choose which activities to do, which gives them a chance to see what team building exercises will work for this age range.”

Lower School Assistant Courtney Hitchcock said she sees how JMA students react to the in-school Viccaro’s students with speed.

“I am to walk down the halls and see the excitement of the students as those college students start moving into them,” said Hitchcock. The goal of the project is to lessen the chances of bullying in school, while also building a peer culture where bullying is simply not acceptable. In total, Georgia College students mentored close to 80 JMA students through the program last fall.

Ashley Coker, first-year pre-nursing major, says this was her first time being introduced to subject such as societal influences on bullying.

“The class and experience working with the students has made me so much more aware of the influences that go into the act of bullying,” said Coker. “Before this class, I didn’t have much exposure to the subject.”

In the future, Viccaro hopes she sees more activities and eventually partner with other local schools to implement the after school program.

“We’ll have to take baby steps, but this has been a good experience that could be beneficial for other schools.”

**What’s going on in Bobcat Territory?**

**Prepared by Office of University Communications**

**Georgia College**

**GEORGIA’S PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY**

Prepared by Office of University Communications

Jan. 24, 2017

$80,000 grant continues to fund childhood obesity prevention efforts

Live Healthy Baldwin, a program of Georgia College’s Center for Health and Social Issues, recently received an $80,000 grant from the Healthcare Georgia Foundation. The grant will continue to fund the childhood obesity prevention efforts, which began in 2010.

“These funds will extend our efforts for another year in four key areas—the Silver Bicycle Friendly Community effort in the city, promotion of physical activity in local schools, the Safe Routes to School work with Baldwin County Schools and the Live Healthy in Faith initiative,” said Dr. Jim Lidstone, Center director.

Lidstone and others are working to achieve Silver Bicycle Friendly Community status for the City of Milledgeville. Currently, the city has the Bronze designation that has been extended through 2020.

The Safe Routes to School effort has kicked into high gear as sidewalks and trails are in progress to connect local schools located on Hwy 49 near Baldwin High School once an upcoming highway resurfacing project is completed by the Georgia Department of Transportation. The preliminary design is expected to be finished later this spring, according to the GC, Facilities Planning.

Live Healthy Baldwin’s focus is to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic in Baldwin County by 2020 through policy and environmental change aimed for physical activity and increasing access to healthy food. The organization was created in 2009 and funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the country’s largest foundation supporting improvement of the health and health care of all Americans until December 2013.

To learn more about the Live Healthy Baldwin program, visit

http://livehealthylbaldwin.weebly.com/