



ARTS GEORGIA  
STATE OF THE ARTS™

# STATE OF THE ARTS

Volume 1 Edition 2 Summer 2013



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*Shhhhhhhh ... Listen:  
Get your tickets NOW!!*

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## HEADWATERS: DIDJA HEAR?

LISA MOUNT, PRODUCER & DIRECTOR



*Community Story Performance July 10-21, 2013  
at the Sautee Nacoochee Center*

**W**hat happens when outside forces descend upon a mountain community already struggling to keep itself together? Or when the Feds arrive to change a region's way of life, 'cause it's the law? What happens when people can't hear, or simply refuse to hear one another because of their tradition of cussed independence? What happens when people really do listen?

Find out in July 2013, when Headwaters: Didja Hear? – the acclaimed community story performance created by and about the people of a goodly portion of beautiful Northeast Georgia – returns to the Sautee Nacoochee Center for 10 performances.

*cont'd. on page 4*

The Sautee Nacoochee Community Association presents

# HEADWATERS

## Didja Hear?

A community story performance in the historic SNCA gymnasium  
July 10 – 21, 2013

The Sautee Nacoochee Center  
283 Highway 255 North, Sautee Nacoochee, GA 30571  
(706) 878-3300  
www.snca.org  
Tickets \$6 - \$21

7th and Final Year!

Georgia Arts  
ART WORKS

Original artwork by Andy Slack

This program is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Georgia Council for the Arts, and Alternate ROOTS.





# ARTSGEORGIA: STATE OF THE ARTS

## SUMMER ARTS: *Keeping Cool*

The bright blue sky of a hot Georgia summer inspired this second issue with articles about an award-winning story play in the hills of north Georgia, an art town in the making at the foot of Stone Mountain, a new home in Macon where the music tradition is strong, and an artist-created environment in the piney woods for your summer vacation consideration. Attending Headwaters will delight you with the true stories of a small community, visiting the incubator artists in the Stone Mountain village shows what collaborative creativity can achieve, listening to the strings at the McDuffie Center in Macon soothes the spirit and St. EOM's Pasaquan is the stunning manifestation of an idiosyncratic soul. Your attendance, visits, ticket purchases, shopping and generous donations will benefit these and other Georgia arts programs if you include them in your summer plans. Enjoy and support the arts in Georgia this summer and throughout the year..

## **ArtsGeorgia Progress Report:**

### ADVOCACY

ArtsGeorgia was a National CoSponsor of the Americans for the Arts annual National Arts Advocacy Day. Arts advocates assembled from around the country were briefed on the important issues of arts and arts funding, were inspired by the Nancy Hanks Lecture, "Arts for Life" offered by YoYo Ma, and back grounded for visits to their congressional representatives to advocate for the arts. A highlight was the White House briefing for National CoSponsors which confirmed the success of former NEA Chair Rocco Landesman in

encouraging other federal agencies to embrace the arts.

ArtsGeorgia was a sponsor of the annual Arts Advocacy Day at the Georgia Capitol and released the new ArtsGeorgia Official Arts Advocacy Handbook – 2013 with free copies distributed to the artists, arts administrators and arts advocates participating in the event. The Handbook is a first for Georgia arts advocates and will be kept current with annual updates.

### COMMUNICATION

ArtsGeorgia began development of new communication options for the arts community in 2012. The first was the establishment of the Arts Communication Consortium (ACC) as a pilot program which unifies the collective strength and capacity of the arts community to amplify distribution of important news about the arts. The ACC uses the members' existing communication channels simultaneously for the distribution of news through metro Atlanta and statewide arts listserves, existing email programs and through existing social media networks. The founding members mutually agreed upon and released posts on the AFTA publication: Arts and Economic Prosperity IV; the launch of the GCA's new web site; SouthArts publication of its new report: Creative Industries in the South; and notice of the celebration of national Arts and Humanities Month in October. Any arts organization, whatever its size or mission, is invited to contact ArtsGeorgia if interested in participating in the Arts Communication Consortium. Email [artsga@artsgeorgia.net](mailto:artsga@artsgeorgia.net) for information about how the Consortium works, the protocols, and how you can participate.



*Robert Lynch President of Americans for the Arts and Bill Gignilliat President/CEO of ArtsGeorgia*

ArtsGeorgia's second initiative was the publication of this newsletter. The decision was made to print a newsletter for distribution to the state arts community, media outlets and to our elected officials as the best way to tell the story of the arts, to emphasize the arts' significant contribution to the state's economy and to celebrate the intrinsic value that the arts offer to our citizens and communities. The newsletter highlights the people who create, administer and produce a wide array of arts programs, focuses on the programs that have succeeded and State of the Arts publishes news that many might not otherwise hear about. State of the Arts shares the gains, the pains and the challenges that the arts community faces every day.

To complement the printed newsletter, ArtsGeorgia announces the July 2013 launch of our new e-newsletter *State of the Arts – Special Edition*. The e-newsletter will be available and free on the ArtsGeorgia website. *State of the Arts – Special Edition* will be devoted to breaking news, arts education and matters of arts advocacy. Check the ArtsGeorgia website for the free *State of the Arts – Special Edition*. The first issue is scheduled for publication July 1, 2013.

*cont'd on page 6*



# STONE MOUNTAIN USES THE ARTS AS AN ECONOMIC GENERATOR

## DAVID THOMAS

*Artistic Director of SMart, Inc. and President and Artistic Director of ART Station*

**T**he Stone Mountain Arts Incubator Program (SMart, Inc.) is an award-winning Micro Enterprise project located in the historic Village of Stone Mountain, Georgia. This quaint, turn-of-the-century town, only minutes from downtown Atlanta, retains its nostalgic charm and historic character and has become an arts destination. The Stone Mountain Arts Incubator is powered and managed by the ART Station Contemporary Arts Center and Theatre Company in Stone Mountain Village. The ART Station is a nonprofit professional arts center with a 28 year history of producing professional theatre, operating five art galleries and producing arts educational and outreach programs throughout Metro Atlanta.

SMart, Inc., consisting of four art galleries and seven arts studios, is Georgia's only Micro Enterprise Program using the arts as a tool for economic revitalization. The program generates and nurtures a creative economy in the Village of Stone Mountain by providing low cost studio and gallery spaces where artists can create, sell and exhibit their art work. The City pays 95% of the rent associated with the studios and galleries and pays 100% of all utilities and insurance. In turn, the artists pay 30% commission on the sale of their art work to the City in order to create a fund to perpetuate the program. The City benefits by having colorful, exciting businesses downtown. It also reaps the rewards of having visitors who come to the studios and galleries and discover the other businesses in the charming, historic small town.

Artists are selected for the SMart, Inc. program by a competitive process. All artists are working in their studios from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., Wed. through Sat., allowing visitors to not only enjoy the work exhibited in the galleries, but also to watch the artists creating in paint, clay, textiles, fused and stained glass, blown glass, iron, copper and collage. The art work reflects the varied approaches of the artists; some is functional, while some is strictly decorative.

Galleries and studios are located at Center Town Gallery A and B, North Town Gallery, East Town Gallery and the five art galleries at the "mother ship" location at ART Station. SMart, Inc. is funded by the U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development as part of the Economic Development Program and is sponsored by the DeKalb Co. Community Development Dept. under the guidance of the DeKalb Co. CEO and the DeKalb Co. Commission and by the City of Stone Mountain through the guidance of the Mayor, City Management and the City Council of the City of Stone Mountain, GA.

The program has been awarded the "Most Creative Economic Development Program in Metro- Atlanta" by the Atlanta Regional Commission; the "Trend Setter Award" by Georgia Trend Magazine; the "STart Award" by the Georgia Arts Network; the "Creative Economy Award" by the Georgia Municipal Association and a \$50,000 Place Making Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Information regarding SMart, Inc.: ART Station at [www.artstation.org](http://www.artstation.org) or 770.469.1105



CENTER TOWN GALLERIES



EAST TOWN GALLERY



NORTH TOWN GALLERY





# PASAQUAN: SUCCESS IN THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

## FRED C. FUSSELL

*Artist, photographer, writer and exhibits curator whose work focuses on the American South*

Nearly thirty years have passed since Eddie Owens Martin of Buena Vista, GA, an artist who called himself St. EOM, died by his own hand. That was in April of 1986. St. EOM left behind one of the most amazing visionary art environments ever created — a four acre phantasmagoria of concrete and color that he dubbed Pasaquan, a place “where the past, the present, and the future all come together.”

Since then, a small group of dedicated Georgians — members of The Pasaquan Preservation Society, Inc., a nonprofit organization — have worked to keep Pasaquan and the substantial collection of artwork by St. EOM from falling into ruin. In the early years of their efforts, things looked relatively bright and promising. They applied for and received funding assistance from a variety of sources: The National Endowment for the Arts, The Georgia Council for the Arts, The Mildred



Miller Fort Foundation, The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The Flint Electric Membership Corporation, and others, including significant personal contributions and numerous individual memberships. In return, the Society generously shared the work of St. EOM by gifting important examples of his work to a number of American art museums including the National Museum of American Art, The American Folk Art Museum, The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Hunter Museum in Chattanooga, The Albany (GA) Museum of Art, and the High Museum of Art in

Atlanta. An exhibition of St. EOM’s art was circulated nationally by the Southern Arts Federation. His biography, written by Georgia native Tom Patterson and titled *St. EOM in the Land of Pasaquan*, was published by The Jargon Society.

Pasaquan was successfully listed on The National Register of Historic Places in America and was listed among the Places in Peril in Georgia by The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation. But now, despite past successes, things at Pasaquan are literally not very bright. Colorfully painted exterior surfaces of concrete and wood have faded and cracked. Several interior elements have fallen prey to dry rot and insect damage. Funding isn’t available to support a staff for daily operations, so public visits are limited to only one day a month. Despite the best efforts of Pasaquan’s supporters and the members of the board of the Pasaquan Preservation Society, time and effort have not yielded adequate funding to embark on a complete and professional restoration of the site and the related collection of artwork.





Yet there is hope. A recent grant has allowed for the creation of a comprehensive and professionally drawn preservation plan for the site. The Society continues to repair building rooftops and maintain the surrounding grounds with the help and contributions of volunteers. The majority of the related collection of art by St. EOM, several thousand pieces, is now securely protected at an offsite climate-controlled facility located in Columbus. But, there's much more work to be done. With every passing day little bits and pieces of this artistic treasure continue to fade away, compounding future restoration problems. If this unique example of Georgia art is to be saved for the future, right now is the time to do it. Pasaquan needs your help to continue our history of success in the preservation of this unique artist environment.

### ***Pasaquan 2013 Season Opens!***

Pasaquan is open for the 2013 season. Y'all come! Bring your cameras, your friends, your picnic! Admission is \$5 per person, kids under age 6 admitted free. Hours are 10 AM to 4 PM. Open days for 2013: July 6, Aug 3, Sept 7, Oct 5, Nov 2 & 3. (That's the first Saturday of each month, April through Nov., plus add a Sunday to the November date).

In Nov., Artists for Pasaquan DAY will change to Artists for Pasaquan WEEKEND. Scheduled for Sat. and Sun., Nov. 3 and 4, the new and expanded Artists for Pasaquan event will include tours of Pasaquan, musical performances, food and an art show and sale featuring the works of many different artists. To arrange for a private tour, phone 229.649.9444. The charge is \$100 for 1 - 20 guests. If your group has more than 20, the fee will be \$100 plus \$5 for each person above 20.

*(Contributions to Pasaquan are tax exempt and are much appreciated. All monies go toward the maintenance and preservation of this unique artist environment.)*

<http://www.pasaquan.blogspot.com/>  
<http://www.facebook.com/ArtistsforPasaquan?fref=ts>



*cont'd from front page*

### ***Headwaters Didja Hear?***

This marvelously entertaining play was a hit with audiences during its premiere production in the summer of 2012. The script, songs, movements and puppetry have been revised and refined for this final episode in the Headwaters series, concluding a seven-year adventure of local volunteer

performers portraying life in a place that's still a little bit wild.

Performances are Wed. through Sat. at 8 pm and Sundays at 2 pm, July 10-21, 2013. The production takes place in the Historic Gymnasium at the Sautee Nacoochee Center, 283 Georgia Highway 255. The Sautee Nacoochee Center, including the Folk Pottery Museum and the Center Gallery, will be open to welcome visitors to the region's finest cultural campus. Tickets & Information at <http://www.snca.org> or 706.878.3300.





**MAKING THE MARK:**

# MERCER'S MCDUFFIE CENTER PUTS MACON ON THE MAP

*With World Renowned Strings Program and a New Home*

**J. CINDY HILL**

*Art Marketing Mercer University Marketing Coordinator Grand Opera House*

When he was growing up in Macon, violinist Robert McDuffie had to travel to Atlanta, Aspen and New York to train with the best teachers. It was then that the idea of a world-class strings program in his hometown began to take form. A mere seven years since it opened, Mercer University's Robert McDuffie Center for Strings has earned its place as one of the top strings programs in the world. With the national strings solo grand prize winning student in one of the coveted 26 student slots, distinguished faculty artists being featured in music festivals around the globe, an upcoming nationally televised concert, and a move to a new home, the Center for Strings has joined the ranks of Otis Redding, Little Richard, and the Allman Brothers Band, as an important part of Macon's music heritage.

Founded as a special institute within Mercer's Townsend School of Music, the Center draws some of the top strings students in the world with spots for 12 violinists, six violists, six cellists, and two double bassists at any given time. The distinguished faculty artists are at the top of their field, performing, collaborating, and recording with the finest orchestras, string ensembles and conductors around the world.

The Center combines an intensive conservatory experience with the practicality of a business-oriented curriculum for a new hybrid approach to music education.

"Like teaching, music has always balanced tradition and innovation," said McDuffie. "I play new music by Philip Glass on a violin made in 1735. Our students switch effortlessly from practicing Bach and Mozart to learning about what they'll need to succeed in an increasingly wired world."

"A Grand Mercer Christmas" will share the Center with an audience across America this holiday season. Mercer, Emmy® Award-winner Brandenburg Productions and Georgia Public Broadcasting teamed up to produce the one-hour television special that will be aired by PBS stations across the nation during the 2013 holiday season. Recorded on location at the historic Grand Opera House in Macon, the program features classical Christmas selections and showcases exclusive new arrangements by noted Boston Pops arranger Randol Bass and Grammy© Award-winner Matt Catingub. The 45-voice Mercer Singers, conducted by Dr. Stanley Roberts, and the McDuffie Center for Strings Ensemble are complemented with selections performed by Center director, Amy Schwartz Moretti, and McDuffie, who also hosts the program.



*Photo credit: Stephanie Ann Shadden*

*Center founder Robert McDuffie and director Amy Schwartz Moretti with Center students re-creating an iconic Allman Brothers Band album cover photo at Bell House, the new home of the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings.*

Among the student performers in the special are violinist Shin Jung Lee and cellists Riana Anthony and SiHao He, who were selected from string students from throughout the country to fill 3 of 15 slots in the prestigious American String Teachers Association (ASTA) competition. Mr. He was awarded the grand prize at the competition finals that were held at Merkin Hall in New York City's Kauffman Center in April.

"For string musicians, winning the grand prize at ASTA is like winning the Heisman Trophy or the NCAA tournament," said Schwartz Moretti who serves as the Caroline Paul King Violin Chair at Mercer.

“It is always meaningful to be acknowledged like this by fellow musicians who are aware of the work and dedication necessary to achieve a great performance, but it is even more so because our program is only six years old.”

This fall the Center begins its seventh year at Bell House, a renovated home several blocks away from Mercer’s campus. “In the tradition of such great urban conservatories as Curtis and Peabody, the Center is proud to bring one of Macon’s most distinguished buildings back to life,” said McDuffie. “The Bell House is known worldwide for being on the cover of the first Allman Brothers album, but that was simply the cap on more than a century of its existence,” said McDuffie. “The next century will bring even more music as some of the world’s finest young string players pass through its doors.”

“We’ve already shown we can compete – literally – with other schools,” McDuffie added. “Now with a home of our own we can continue to help build our community, not just for Center, but for Mercer, Macon, and music lovers everywhere.”

For more information about the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings visit [www.Mercer.edu/McDuffie](http://www.Mercer.edu/McDuffie) or call 478.301.2748.

## ROBERT MCDUFFIE

### CENTER FOR STRINGS

TOWNSEND SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
MERCER UNIVERSITY

AMY SCHWARTZ MORETTI, Director

**“With the music profession shifting at such a rapid pace, conservatories owe it to their students to provide a comprehensive music and business-oriented curriculum that will prepare the entrepreneurial musician for the real world. This is the reason I started the McDuffie Center for Strings.”**

– Robert McDuffie



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- an unparalleled faculty of distinguished artists
- punctuated by regular opportunities to study with and perform beside leading artists on international music scene today
- enriched partnerships with the prestigious Rome Chamber Music Festival, Aspen Music Festival, Brevard Music Festival and New World Symphony in Miami

(Above) Center founder Robert McDuffie and director Amy Schwartz Moretti with Center students re-creating an iconic Allman Brothers Band album cover photo at Bell House, the new home of the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings. (Right) Center finalists in the 2013 American String Teachers Association solo competition, including winner, Shiao He (center). (Below) Moretti instructs a Center student.



**Distinguished Faculty Artists**

Robert McDuffie, Founder, Renowned Concert Violinist  
Amy Schwartz Moretti, Director, Concert Violinist  
David Halen, violin, Concertmaster of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra  
Lawrence Dutton, viola, Emerson String Quartet  
Rebecca Albers, viola, Assistant Principal of the Minnesota Orchestra  
Julie Albers, cello, Soloist and Chamber Musician  
Hans Jorgen Jensen, cello, Renowned Pedagogue  
Rachel Calin, double bass, Soloist and Chamber Musician  
Kurt Muroki, double bass, Soloist and Chamber Musician  
Elizabeth Pridgen, Concert Pianist  
Ward Stare, Renowned International Conductor

Auditions March 23, 2014





[music.mercer.edu/mcduffie](http://music.mercer.edu/mcduffie)

(478) 301-2748 / [crowe\\_pa@mercer.edu](mailto:crowe_pa@mercer.edu)

Mercer University is an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

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**RESOURCES**

ArtsGeorgia has received praise from the beginning for our web site’s content: news-calendars-publications-listserves-public awareness initiative-advocacy tools-directories, and we encourage you to visit and explore the website. Beyond the resources on the website, ArtsGeorgia is publishing a series of handbooks beginning with the first ever ArtsGeorgia Official Arts

Advocacy Handbook-2013 and a new ArtsGeorgia Community Arts Agency Arts Administrator’s Policy Handbook.

**BILL GIGNILLIAT**  
President & CEO, ArtsGeorgia



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<http://artsgeorgia.net/wp/artsgeorgia-newsletter/>



**ARTSGEORGIA**  
STATE OF THE ARTS™

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*ArtsGeorgia works to support the arts by providing resources for Georgia's arts and cultural community to raise awareness, strengthen advocacy, facilitate communication, build capacity and develop policy. ArtsGeorgia is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit statewide arts service corporation. Donations are tax-deductible and are important financial support for ArtsGeorgia's programs, publications and the free resources provided on our website for the Georgia arts community.*