Chipola to begin new Performing Arts Center

The new Chipola College Center for the Arts moved one step closer to curtain time Tuesday when the Chipola District Board of Trustees selected the construction firm of Allstate/Southland of Tallahassee to design and build the new $16 million center.

According to Joan Stadsklev, Director of Fine and Performing Arts, the project will indeed be a “center” for the arts for the college community and beyond.

The theatre within the center will seat around 650 with a balcony, and will include dressing rooms, a scene shop and costume shop. An art gallery and reception area is planned, along with a small concession area. The most intriguing feature of the new complex is a “black box” theater especially audiences of 100 or less.

The project will house Chipola’s entire Fine and Performing Arts Department with teaching studios, a recital hall, recording studios and offices.

“This inclusive project will offer strong educational opportunities, facilities, and state-of-the-art equipment in theatre, music, visual art, and the graphic arts,” said Stadsklev.

“The public will enjoy the fine and performing artistic work of our students in theatre, music, and art. The space also will provide a strong artistic venue for the annual Artist Series and visiting art exhibits. Audience members and art patrons will truly enjoy an aesthetically pleasing and total artistic experience from the moment they enter the center grounds through the final curtain.”

Chipola Capital Projects and Contracts Administrator Louy Harris reported that groundbreaking for the 56,000 square foot center is set for November with an estimated 600 days for completion.

Chipola to defend national title

The Chipola Indians begin defense of their national baseball title, Saturday, May 24, at 2 p.m. (CST) in Grand Junction, CO.

The Indians will face Connors State (OK), the winner of the South Central District. The tournament runs May 24-31.

All Chipola games will be broadcast on WJAQ-100.9, and are available at www.chipola.edu. Tournament information is available at www.jucogj.org.

The Indians successfully defended their Florida state baseball title with a 6-0 win over Manatee CC in the 2008 championship on May 13 in Winter Haven. Chipola’s back-to-back state championships were the first since Central Florida CC won consecutive titles in 1997 and 1998.

The Indians won five straight games in the tournament including a 10-2 win over Pensacola in seven innings on May 12, a 13-9 win over Manatee on May 11, an 8-7 win over St. Petersburg on May 10, and an 11-3 win over Seminole on May 8.

Coach Jeff Johnson was named FCCAA Coach of the Year for 2008. In 12 seasons at the helm, Coach Johnson’s Indians have made it to the state tournament nine times with five appearances in the title game. Chipola won the 2008 state tourney and captured the school’s first-ever national tourney last season.

Seven Indians were named to the FCCAA All Tournament Team including Carlos Moncrief, who was named Most Valuable Player in the tournament. Moncrief swatted a three-run homer in the state championship game and had eight RBI’s and 11 hits in the tournament. Chipola’s other All-Tourney selections are: Marc Bourgeois, Daniel Jones, Einar Atencio, Edmond Sparks, Ryan Chaffee and Matt Jackson.
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“This is what’s known as a “design-build” project which brings an architect and contractor together to complete the project from conception to completion within the budget.”

Theater Director Charles Sirmon says, “This is the culmination of five years of planning and dreaming. The larger theater will enable us to stage musicals and accommodate large crowds. The size of the theater will also enhance our educational theater outreach program so that more students will be able to enjoy theater.”

“I’m very excited about the black box theater which will give students the opportunity to work on a smaller stage and produce their own work.” Sirmon says the technical side of theater also will be greatly enhanced with state-of-the-art systems for rigging, hanging, lighting and set construction facilities.

The college has enlisted the services of Theatre Consultant Robert Lorelli of New York to assist with the project.

President Dr. Gene Prough, said, “This will be a showplace for the performing arts in the Panhandle of Florida. We want to thank Rep. Marti Coley and the rest of our legislative delegation for supporting this project for our students and community.”

The Chipola Theater is a busy place with an estimated 10,000 visitors per year. In addition to three annual college theater productions, the theater also is home to four annual artist series events and other performances for thousands of area school children.

Chipola announces summer art classes

Chipola offer Introduction to Drawing (ART 1300C) and The Purpose of Art (ARH 1000) during Summer Session II.

Introduction to Drawing will meet Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30-9 p.m., June 24 to July 31, in the art studio of the McLendon Fine Arts Building.

The course will provide basic drawing skills with emphasis on perspective, media, technique, and style. No drawing experience is required. Cost is $215 plus the cost of supplies.

The Purpose of Art (ARH 1000) will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 24 through July 31, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. The three-hour course is an investigation into the origin and development of the visual arts as an expressive mode of man, individually and collectively. Cost is $215 plus textbook.

Both courses will be taught by adjunct art instructor Kelly Boehmer. While both are college credit courses, either may be taken by non-degree seeking students. Application deadline is June 5.

For information, call Joan Stadsklev at 850-718-2301 or email stadsklevj@chipola.edu

Corrections courses set

Application deadlines are June 3 and 5 for Chipola College’s next Basic Corrections courses.

A day class is scheduled to begin June 4. The course meets from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

The evening class begins June 10 and will meet from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Applicants must be at least 19 years of age, be of good moral character, possess a valid driver’s license, earn a passing score on the Florida Basic Abilities Test (FBAT) and meet FDLE requirements. Students are encouraged to apply early due to the extensive application process. Application deadline is June 3 for the day class and June 5 for the night class.

For information, call (850) 718-2394.

Summer Programs set at Chipola

Chipola will offer programs for all ages this summer.

Chipola Baseball Coach Jeff Johnson will offer several camps. A Baseball Skills Camp for ages 8-12 will meet June 2-5. Cost is $75. A Young Pitchers Camp for ages 8-12 will meet June 9-10. Cost is $100. A Pitching Camp for ages 13-18 will meet June 11-12. Cost is $100. A Young Hitters Camp for ages 8-12 will meet June 16-17. Cost is $100. A Hitting Camp for ages 13-18 will meet June 18-19. Cost is $100. All baseball camps meet from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 718-2237.

Chipola Softball Coach Belinda Hendrix will offer Softball camps. Softball Skills Camps for ages 5-12 will meet June 25-26, from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is $100. Softball Skills Camps for ages 13 and up will meet June 25-26, from 2 to 5 p.m. Cost is $100. Softball Night Camp will meet June 9, 16 and 23, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Cost is $20 per night. For information, contact Coach Hendrix at 718-2358.

Chipola Women’s Basketball coach David Lane will offer an Individual Camp for Middle and High School Students, June 2 and 4, from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Cost is $90. Call 718-2423.

Swimming lessons will be offered for ages four and up. Lessons are based on a combination of nationally-recognized methods. The following sessions are scheduled: Session 1: June 2-12; Session 2: June 16-26; Session 3: July 14-24; and Session 4: Aug. 4-14. Classes are available at 9 a.m., 10 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. Sessions are Monday through Thursday for two weeks of 45-minute lessons. Cost is $45 and pre-registration is required, with a $5 late registration fee. An Adult class will meet June 30-July 3, 10 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. Cost is $40. Infant and Preschool Swimming lessons for children 3 and under will meet July 7-10 and July 28-31 with classes available at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Cost is $30. For information, call pool manager Rance Massengill at 718-2473.

Summer Programs set at Chipola—continued

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

27-May Nancy Johnson
29-May Lou Cleveland
29-May Rebecca Davis
1-Jun Rance Massengill
1-Jun Vicki Mathis
1-Jun Lindsay Roach
2008 JUCO BASEBALL TOURNAMENT BRACKET