

Performing arts center receives funding

Press Release
BC News Bureau

Brevard College is pleased to announce completion of funding for Phase I of construction for the Paul Porter Performing Arts Center. Construction on Phase I will proceed as soon as the contractor has submitted the necessary construction documents to the Transylvania County Inspection Department and received a go-ahead from local officials. The project has previously been approved by the Brevard Planning Board.

Phase I of the project, consisting of the foundation, steel, roofing, masonry, electrical, plumbing and mechanical work, will begin this month and is projected to be completed by August 1997. Phase II to finish and equip the building and landscape the grounds will follow as fundraising for Phase II of the campaign is completed.

The new Center will become the flagship for the College's long respected programs in the performing arts, just as the college emerges as a senior college. Brevard College has one of the largest full time faculties in music of any private college or university in the South. For the past 30 years, the A.F.A degree program has been fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music, making Brevard one of only a handful of junior college programs so accredited in the nation. Plans for the new baccalaureate programs in music have been approved by N.A.S.M, and the 4-year programs in music and art, as well as environmental studies, have received full accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The new center embodies Brevard College's strong tradition and its commitment to excellence in education and performance.



This marker stands in the place where the future Paul Porter Performing Arts Center will be located. (Photo by G. Spitzer)

The concert hall in the Center, designed in consultation with an internationally known consultant, is intended to be a superlative acoustical performance space for music, as fine as any in the nation. Other performance venues in the Center will include a

performance and teaching playhouse for the College's theater studies program, an entrance pavilion suitable for small chamber performances, and a large outdoor amphitheater.

All in all, the Center will extend dramatically Brevard College's already

extensive range of performance and teaching opportunities for the faculty, students, and the community of Brevard and Transylvania County. The College is planning an inaugural season of musical, dance, and theatrical performances for the year 1998-99. An invitation has been extended to the Brevard Chamber Orchestra to make the Center its permanent home.

Other ensembles, such as the professional Britten Choir from Atlanta and the Dehler Quartet from the Staatskappell Orchestra of Weimar, Germany (recently appearing at the College as Musica Europa) have been invited to return as residents or visitors over the years ahead. The College has recently launched a curricular program in sacred music that will also be housed in the new facility.



Alumni come home to BC

Rhonda L. Parker
Editor

The BC campus brought back fond memories for the alumni as they walked the grounds last month. Brevard College hosted its annual Homecoming celebration on October 11 and 12.

The alumni from the classes of 1946, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1981, 1986, and 1991 convened upon the BC campus to host their reunions with a golf outing, an art exhibition, and a live band, The Jumpstarts. President Bertrand hosted a special dinner in honor of the alumni from the classes of 1935-45 on Friday evening.

The 1996 Homecoming Court was presented on Saturday. The winners were: Queen, Tonya Lawson; King, Juan Rodriguez; Princess, Leigh Anne Johnson; Prince, Auggie Perez.

Court members included: Lawanda McDowell, Rally Antonitti, Donna Pimental, Christy Stevens, Elin Brask, Melissa Jones, Patricia Wilson, Sherod Segars, Rob Gillespie, Austin Ortiz, Phillip Holland, Thomas Howard, William Dickey, and Paul Zinke.

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