



PHOTO, 4B  
The return of Pride Prom to A-State

## Senior art students present their artwork in “Soup” and “Salad” exhibition

JERRY DON BURTON

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

The senior art exhibition comprises diverse artwork from six Arkansas State University seniors.

The 2023 senior art exhibitions, titled “Soup” and “Salad,” opened April 13. The senior art exhibition runs until April 28 in the Bradbury Art Museum at A-State.

The exhibition comprises art from six seniors graduating A-State this spring. Admission to the opening reception and exhibition is free.

Youssef Sheroubi, a studio arts senior from Cairo, Egypt, is one of six artists featured in the exhibition.

Sheroubi said the exhibition title captures the diversity of the art in the exhibition.

“Each person has their own thing and it’s so different,” Sheroubi said. “When you put it all together it feels like a soup or salad.”

Cassie Watson, a senior from Jonesboro with a double major in studio art and interdisciplinary studies, said everyone in the exhibition is showcasing something different.

The senior art exhibition features Watson’s photography series, titled “Sonder.”

Watson said it’s very interesting to see how wildly divergent art can be shown in the same area.

Christian Adams, a studio

art senior from Mountain View, Arkansas, said the exhibition is a test of artistry, knowledge and preparedness, and that an artist’s performance at the exhibition is a good way to determine if they could thrive as a professional artist.

She added she took pride in her work for the exhibition.

“I also like the shock factor of when I actually create something really good,” Adams said. “And I get to see the viewer’s reaction—and they’re just stunned or enraptured or repulsed by it, I just love that.”

Adams creates mixed-media art, working with a variety of materials including clay, fibers and magazine cut-outs to create horror art. Adams said the theme of her art in the exhibition is the societal impact of toxic, idealized Western beauty standards.

She said she takes a nightmarish approach in her art and explores the monstrous standards that beauty corporations promote, and that she wants viewers to think about their perceptions of reality and how they view themselves and others.

Loretta Lyon, a psychology senior minoring in art from Melbourne, Arkansas, said her art is heavily influenced by abnormal and social psychology.

Lyon’s interest in unique and taboo groups led her to focus on the furry subculture in her art. She said the goal of her art



PHOTO COURTESY OF JERRY DON BURTON | SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

Students examining art pieces in the 2023 senior art exhibition “Soup.” There was another exhibit, called “Salad.”

in the exhibition is to help the public understand, relate and see the humanity within a group that is different from them.

Salem Newton, a studio art senior from Kennett, Missouri, entered acrylic paintings on canvas and hardboard in the exhibition. Newton said their art presents a personal style, combining elements of surrealism and expressionism.

A. Skylar Evans, a studio arts senior with an emphasis in photography from Austin, Arkansas, created photographs through a process using silver gelatin. The silver gelatin

process produces black-and-white photographs that are resistant to deterioration.

Evans said they utilize the silver gelatin process to create sharp photographs with depth and tone.

Rachel Boillot, an assistant professor of photography at A-State, said she’s excited to see photography play a bigger role in the senior art exhibition. Boillot said before

A-State hired her, the art department had a vacancy for a photography professor, and that this led to fewer students presenting photography

to the senior exhibitions.

Boillot said Evans and Watson, students in her photography courses, worked on the artwork they’re showcasing in the exhibition for over a year.

She said a great amount of work goes into creating a solid, professional presentation for the exhibition.

Watson said she created one of the only installations for the exhibition. She said, instead of framing her photos and showcasing them on a wall, she created a reading nook.

CONTINUED:  
SENIOR ART, 4A

### Create@AState presentations begin

Create@State presentations will take place on the third floor of the Reng Student Union. Colleges A schedule is online.

### Fall 2023 IFC

### fraternity

### recruitment week

### registration is live

Are you a current student interested in membership in an A-State Interfraternity Council fraternity? If so, join us in fall 2023 for IFC Fraternity Recruitment Week. Registration is now live and the comprehensive schedule is posted online.

### Sign up for Volunteer

### A-State’s Campus-

### Wide Service Day

Volunteer A-State is excited for our 2023 Make A Statement Week Campus-Wide Service Day. We have multiple service opportunities on Wednesday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., for all A-State students to participate in throughout the day. Sign up for a shift online.

### BRIEFS COURTESY OF THE DAILY DIGEST

### THIS WEEK IN THE HERALD:

### OPINION, 2A

- The Social Media Safety Act is a long time coming
- Disney should return to hand-drawn animation

### NEWS, 3A

- GSA closes out semester with Pride Prom
- Campus Crime

### NEWS, 4A

- Finals week is coming up

### SPORTS, 1B

- Red Wolves bowling finishes as national runner-ups
- Women’s golf places third in Sun Belt Conference championship

### A & E, 2B

- Concert review: Judah and the Lion
- Concert review: 100 Gecs

### LIFE, 3B

- Keep calm with Kara: Finals
- This week’s Pop Pick

## Timothy and Rebecca Oliver to leave Arkansas State University

RACHEL RUDD

NEWS EDITOR

Timothy Oliver, Ph.D., director of bands, and Rebecca Oliver, director of the Honors College, are leaving Arkansas State University for the University of Mississippi, effective July 1. They have worked at A-State for 16 years.

Dr. Oliver will be the new director of bands at Ole Miss, while Oliver, his wife of nearly 26 years, said she doesn’t know what the change holds for her yet.

The couple said they have received lots of support over the past few days after the announcement.

“The outpouring of love and affection and encouragement and support has just been absolutely overwhelming,” Oliver said. “The number of emails that we both received and the comments and things on social media, they’re just people saying thank you.”

Dr. Oliver earned his doctorate in conducting and music education from Florida State University. Oliver has a master’s in counseling from Truman State University

in Kirksville, Missouri.

Both have had long careers in higher education. When Dr. Oliver started his doctorate in music education at Florida State University, Oliver worked there full time. They then worked at the University of Kansas.

The two worked at the University of Kansas, before moving to Temple University in Philadelphia. It was here that Oliver got her start in honors college programs.

After four years at Temple, Dr. Oliver was named director of bands at A-State in 2007 and Oliver was named director of student services and honors in 2008. She became the director of the Honors College in 2010.

Dr. Oliver makes \$93,533 at A-State. Oliver makes \$82,125.

Dr. Oliver said the music field is a collaborative environment, so he is looking forward to getting to have that same environment with Ole Miss students.

Their son, Benjamin Oliver, is a junior at Ole Miss. Oliver said she is looking forward to spending more time with him. Their daughter, Gwendolyn Oliver, is a junior at the



PHOTO COURTESY OF REBECCA OLIVER

Rebecca Oliver with honors students during the 2022 Honors Brainsy Break to Chicago.

Arkansas School for Math, Science and Arts in Hot Springs and will remain there.

Dr. Oliver said the thing he has enjoyed most during his time at A-State has been watching his students grow.

“Some of them start out as music majors and they choose other things, or vice versa, as

they start out as other things and become musicians, but just watching students follow their passions, follow their dreams, helping in a small way to be able for them to facilitate achieving their goals, that’s something that’s been really gratifying,”

the band director said. Oliver said she’s enjoyed

the conversations she and her staff have had with students.

“The moments that I think I’ll really, really cherish are things like the Honors Study Abroad experiences and Honors Brainsy Break,” she said.

CONTINUED:  
OLIVER, 4A