



Hilton Head Island
Bluffton and the Lowcountry



BY IVY LAMB

Art Comes Alive in Beaufort

The University of South Carolina Beaufort unveils an arts campus.

Small town warmth and a thriving arts scene, mixed with the Lowcountry's relaxed appeal, make Beaufort a jewel of the sea islands. What else could add to this cultural hotspot?

The University of South Carolina Beaufort's new Studio Art program, located on its Historic Beaufort campus.

Recently named one of the Top 25 Small Cities for Art, Beaufort is the ideal place for an arts-focused campus, and USCB is developing just that. In the past year, a nearly \$2 million renovation to the Beaufort campus has helped deliver the highest quality arts education and enrich the local community.

New studios for ceramics, printmaking, painting, drawing, and new media have opened. Next fall, USCB will begin offering on-campus housing on its beautiful waterfront campus for the first time. "This area is abso-

lutely seductive for artists," says artist-in-residence Phil Dunn. "It's inspiring and it really turns on the creative juices. The community here also understands the value and the economic impact of art. Every second store here is an art gallery."

With so many galleries and local artists, Beaufort is a place where students can get involved. USCB plans to offer internships and other opportunities to foster student interaction with the larger arts community. Residents have pledged \$218,000 in scholarship funds for students applying to the Studio Art program.

This new arts focus on the Historic Beaufort campus is a natural step for USCB, which offers a wealth of educational and cultural opportunities to the Lowcountry. USCB's Center for the Arts hosts art exhibits, theatrical events, concerts, and other performances. The Center for the Arts showcases new programming such as live HD broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera and old favorites like

PHOTOS BY UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA BEAUFORT

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Edward Arron's Festival Series of chamber music continue to delight audiences.

The University also gives back to the community through its Osher Life Long Learning Institute, a not-for-credit educational program for community members of any age and educational background. The OLLI program offers classes in art, philosophy, history, current events, political issues, religion, science, literature, languages, and many other subjects.

USCB brings together the depth of the arts culture of Beaufort with the student-focused approach of a small, liberal arts campus. Students find a welcoming community of like-minded individuals, small class sizes, and endless opportunities to showcase their art in and out of the classroom. With plans to expand course offerings and on-campus housing, USCB is committed to sharing the Lowcountry arts experience with



students and community members alike.

"Arts on our Historic Beaufort campus make sense," says Dr. Harvey Varnet, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. "What better place to study art than in the middle of a historic town full of natural beauty that is receiving national accolades for its rich arts culture?"



To find out more, call 843.521.4100 or log on to uscb.edu.