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Take a look at
"Autumn at A-State."

“Get your brain tickled” First international student hosts solo art exhibition

REBECCA ROBINSON

SPORTS EDITOR

Youssef Sheroubi is the first international student to have a solo art exhibition in Jonesboro. Sheroubi’s exhibit “Going Both Directions at Once” will be hosted on Nov. 4. It will be open for public viewing 8-10 p.m. The one-day event will be held in downtown Jonesboro.

“It’s a lot of pride. I come from a line of artists,” Sheroubi said. “Both my parents are artists professionally. I’m just continuing a path that was made for me.”

Sheroubi is a Studio Art major. Sheroubi’s father is an architecture and fine arts graduate and his mother graduated in set and fashion design. Growing up for Sheroubi involved a lot of art.

“I grew up with more canvases in the house than plates,” Sheroubi said. “Like, the weekend for me was just my parents sitting down on the couch and painting or drawing and listening to music and ordering pizza. It was a different style of childhood that shaped my passion. Instead of feeling like (art) is a profession or a career, it’s more a path that was intended for me. It’s my purpose.”

Sheroubi got a lot of his inspiration from artists including Picasso and Egyptian artists. He also said he likes to draw inspiration from jazz music as well as just everyday life.

“I do art that is heavily inspired by the complexity of life and how everything around us has a variable of complexity to it that can not always be described with a basic style of art,” Sheroubi said. “My style is just going further than the specific



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUSSEF SHEROUBI

Youssef Sheroubi, a studio art major who spent eight years in Dubai before moving to the U.S., working on a painting.

formation of what we describe as complex. There is a lot of reception and influences from art history and current events that represent context to the art.”

The pandemic helped shape Sheroubi’s current art style, which will be featured in “Going Both Directions at Once”

“The pandemic is the main reason why this style of art that I’ve developed exists in the first place. If it wasn’t for the pandemic I wouldn’t have even discovered further things about my art and about myself that led up to this moment,” he said.

Before focusing on studio art, Sheroubi was interested in digital art,

photography and filmmaking.

“I figured out my true passion for studio art itself and painting in specific around three years ago when I first moved here and when I got taken away from the heavy and complex overwhelming lifestyle of the city I had because I lived in Dubai eight years before I got here,” Sheroubi said.

Featured in Sheroubi’s exhibit is his blue monochromatic series he has been working on.

“The blue monochromatic series is ironically derived from Picasso’s blue series. It’s all pure sadness.”

The exhibit will be held at 402 South Main St. with an opening

reception at 7- 8 p.m. Sheroubi invites people to go to the exhibit and “get your brain tickled.”

“In my show, I want people to think of the world as a bigger place than they think it is,” Sheroubi said. “I want them to think of all the variables and souls and creatures and organisms. You can think down to the molecules of what all is involved in our daily lives. It’s insane how it is all overlooked.”

One of the pieces planned to be in the exhibit took a year to make. “Almost every other day I put eight hours into it. Due to the pandemic, I had so much time on my hands.”

The Herald Celebrates 100 Years: A peek into the 2000s



A-STATE HERALD

STAFF REPORT

The very first edition of The Herald in 2000 featured a triumphant headline: “ASU Computer Systems Unaffected by Y2K Bug.” A-State spent \$30,000 ensuring the computer systems were “Y2K compliant.”

The 2000s were a major political period which affected The Herald. In some editions, the Opinion section had two pages to accommodate student voices. Several editions featured pages focused on presidential elections, such as Bush vs. Gore. The Nov. 7 edition of The Herald had “Do not forget to vote today!” printed at the bottom of the front page in bright blue.

Color was an inconsistent feature in The Herald at the time – sometimes front pages would be in full color, or have headlines in red or blue. One edition had a photo page in full color.

Many features of The Herald included a “Voicing Our Views” and “Voicing Your Views” section. The “Voicing Our Views” section was a long-standing Herald staple, and featured the collective opinion of the editorial staff on various issues written about in the paper. The latter was a feature which evolved into “Student Speak,” and featured the opinions of six students or faculty based on the topic the “Voicing Our Views” section covered.

There was also an ASU-TV program guide in many editions of The Herald, along with a segment where a photo of a random location on campus was posted and students would guess

where the photo was taken.

A-State also went through many changes and additions in this time period: the Student Union began construction, students were given new student IDs, Sodexo (at the time called Sodhexo-Marriott) began adding new food options to the Wigwam Dining Hall, card swipe access systems were installed in the dorms, College/ Collegiate Park Apartments (referred to interchangeably) were constructed, Freshman Year Experience classes were instituted, a wireless network was implemented and new vending machines were installed in the Education and Communications Building. One week, a \$0.25 fee for additional copies of The Herald were stolen the week prior.

The edition published on Sept. 17, which was the next paper after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, focused on the fears of international students, a “Walk for Understanding” event and a candlelight vigil for victims of the attacks. The opinion page featured a column by The Herald staff titled “Unite For Humanity.”

The late 2000s found A-State in the process of choosing a new mascot. In late 2007, the 12 possible mascots submitted by students included the Red Dragons, the Ridge Runners, the Black Wolves, the Mallards, the As, and the Red Wolves. By early 2008, the list was narrowed down to the A-Train, the Ridge Riders and the Red Wolves. On Jan. 30, 2008, the Red Wolf was voted as the official mascot of A-State by the mascot committee.

A-State professor wants students to pursue their dreams and be financially sound

JONATHAN SCHAUFLE

NEWS EDITOR

“My goal is very simple, I want students to follow their passion,” Dr. Phillip Tew, who holds many different titles in and outside of A-State, said.

Tew is a professor who wears many different hats. He is currently the associate professor of finance, director for student recruitment, retention and engagement for the college of business, the director of the Scarlet 2 Black (S2B) program and the director for the center for economic education and financial literacy.

Prior to coming to A-State, Tew graduated high school from Russellville. He then went to the University of Mississippi and gained an undergraduate degree in finance, banking, and general business. He then gained a master’s degree in business administration and a law degree as well.

Tew then went to work for a group called Hope Federal Credit Union. While working there, he and his wife moved back to Oxford, Mississippi where he gained a master’s degree in TACS and a doctoral degree in finance. After interviewing all around the country, he ended up around two hours from where he was getting his doctorate and in the hometown of where his wife graduated high school in Jonesboro.

Tew teaches 22 different classes. The classroom, however, is nowhere near where Tew’s work stops. S2B is a financial literacy program for first year students and is headed by Tew and his team of students. This program meets with every single freshman on campus, through their first-year experience class, and teaches them about financial literacy. Topics covered include budgeting, loans, credit and how to make sound financial decisions in general.

“When students are under financial stress, they make much worse decisions. That’s kind of why I went into this. It is an area I feel passionate about.” Tew said.

The associate professor has lived in three different states – Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana.

“Pretty much if you look at any list, the bottom three states are going to be those and it comes back to poverty,” he said. “These are three states that have allowed me to get where I am, so I would like to be able to go back and help.”

Tew recently received a \$70,000 grant from the Arkansas Biosciences Institute (ABI) and is using this money to fund an after-school program titled “Improving the Health and Economic Outcomes for Arkansas Children.”

ABI’s focus is improving the health of Arkansans. Tew has taken this idea and money and turned it into an



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARKANSAS STATE

Dr. Phillip Tew

after-school program where students first through sixth grade from the Jonesboro public school and the Brookland public school districts create their own healthy food cart.

“They’re learning how to budget and how to look at needs vs. wants. But, they’re also learning how to make healthy food decisions, portions and what is a more healthy food plan.” Tew said.

The University of Mississippi graduate has hired five students to run this program and go out and interact with the students. They do things such as play games and help them learn by interacting with them. By the end of the spring semester, Tew hopes to be able to have the students involved in the program come onto the A-State campus and sell their healthy food items and keep any profits themselves. The program does not

stop there. Tew hopes to keep expanding it and continue the education with the students. It will be a two-year project and will host summer camps as well. The camps will be held not just in Jonesboro but in three more locations: West Memphis, Forrest City or Blytheville.

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TEW, 4A