

Night of the Arts celebrates Black creativity and expression

IBUKI HINOHARA

PHOTO EDITOR

As part of Arkansas State University's Black History Month celebrations, the Multicultural Center hosted "Night of the Arts," an event dedicated to showcasing Black artistic expression.

Held on campus, the evening brought together students, performers and community members to celebrate creativity through singing, dancing, spoken word and visual arts.

The event was inspired by the 2024 Black History Month theme "African Americans and the Arts" and aimed to provide a platform for artists to share their talents.

Trinity Haynes, Education Program Coordinator at the Multicultural Center, said

the event emphasized the significance of recognizing Black artistry in campus spaces.

"We loved the idea of providing a platform for our community and students to showcase their talents," Haynes said. "Because of its success, we decided to bring it back this year, expanding our reach further into both the campus and the Jonesboro community."

For Haynes and event organizers, the goal was to highlight the deep historical roots of Black artistry. From music and dance to poetry and painting, each art form carries the legacy of African American culture.

"It's important to showcase Black art in these spaces because it encourages individuals to embrace and

share their talents. There is so much history embedded in the skills, creativity, and unique flair that stem from African American culture," Haynes said.

While the event was a celebration for many, it was also an opportunity for others to learn. Priya Duty, a first-year nursing major from Punjab, India, said she attended the event out of curiosity about Black history and culture.

"I am very curious to know about the culture and the significance of Black History Month," Duty said.

Her experience reflects the event's broader impact, not only honoring Black artistry, but also educating and fostering connections across cultures.

CONTINUED:
ARTS, 4A



Performers dancing at "Night of the Arts." Jamie Taylor, one of the dancers, said dancing is deeply rooted in Black culture and is something that can be shared with anyone.

Photo by Ibuki Hinohara | Photo Editor

Women's Leadership Center hosts Galentine's event

ALLIE CARSON

STAFF WRITER

To kick off February, the Women's Leadership Center held a Galentine's event filled with food and activities for those interested in the WLC.

An idea coined by the early 2010s show, "Parks and Recreation," Galentine's is a day to celebrate the love of platonic friendships, typically between women.

Roshawntae Boone, an Arkansas State University alum and mentor for the WLC, said that Galentine's is all about girl power and hanging out with friends.

"Galentine's is about women coming together and empowering each other, having fun, whether you're cooking or playing games," Boone said. "So I felt like that was super important to have it on campus with so many types of students in this program."

Tianna Matthews, WLC vice president and second-

year graduate student in the occupational therapy doctoral program from West Memphis, Arkansas said Galentine's is an important event to have because it's a day for friends to hang out and show appreciation for each other.

Matthews said the event helps the members and leaders involved become more confident and connect with one another.

Boone said they wanted to host an event where everyone in the program could come back and get to know each other.

"With the program, we focus on professional development, building and networking relationships," Boone said. "We kind of wanted to do something where the interns come back, let their hair down, relax and get to know the mentors and each other on a personal level."

The event featured a buffet of food, cake and strawberry lemonade for refreshments, two icebreakers and some rounds of bingo with prizes and board

games to round out the afternoon.

Lauren Maness, a junior international business and marketing major from Marion, Arkansas, said she joined the WLC because she had the opportunity to go to their conference the previous year and felt inspired and wanted to stay around the people in the program.

"I knew it'd be a fun event and I wanted to get out there and meet new people while experiencing a good place," Maness said.

Maness won a round of bingo at the event, but she said she most enjoyed making connections and building her network.

Maness said her favorite part of the WLC is the people she gets to talk to.

"So many amazing people, especially mentors, who have already been in my place and have already experienced some sort of work in Jonesboro or other places," Maness said. "It's just great to hear from them."



Members and leaders of the Women's Leadership Center gather at the Galentines event.

Photo by Allie Carson | Staff Writer

Social Work Organization collects Jeans for Teens

BENJAMIN MCDOWELL

STAFF WRITER

The Arkansas State Social Work Organization hosted Jean for Teens Tuesday in the student union, allowing A-State students to collect jeans, sweatpants and leggings for local students in need.

Grace Benedict, a senior social work major from Salem, Arkansas is the event coordinator for the Social Work Organization and A-State Association of Black Social Workers. She said she felt this donation would be huge in helping the community.

"We're collecting Jeans for the teenagers at Annie Camp Junior High School. If you have any jeans or new jeans that don't fit, then we'll take them and we'll give them to the children so they can have something to wear," Benedict said.

Benedict said she wanted the event to fill the needs of the children in a smaller community.



Photo by Benjamin McDowell | Staff Writer

Members of the Social Work Club talk to student about collecting donations.

Paris Thompson, a junior social work major from North Little Rock, is the secretary for the Social Work Organization. She said giving jeans is very manageable.

"If you have any jeans or new jeans that don't fit, then we'll take them and we'll give them to the children so they can have something to wear," Thompson said. "Sometimes they just

need some new clothes."

Thompson said the Social Work Organization is expected to positively impact recipients by reducing self-image issues related to appearance and providing them with trendier clothes.

CONTINUED:
JEANS, 4A

CAMPUS CRIME

JERRY DON BURTON

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Feb. 2 | 5:50 p.m.

Officer Caleb Lawson was dispatched to 113 Dean Street for a report of a parking lot accident.

Lawson made contact with the victim and suspect.

The suspect said she was parking in a parking space when the front passenger side bumper of her vehicle hit the drivers side rear bumper of the other vehicle.

The victim was not at her vehicle at the time of the incident.

Both individuals provided their information.

Both vehicles sustained minor damage.

The suspect completed a statement and photos were taken of the damage.

Feb. 1 | 8:24 p.m.

Officer Haylee Chambers witnessed the arrestee walking down Dean Street

towards the student union. he continued to resist.

Chambers advised officer Robert Kary about the arrestee walking down Dean Street and to keep an eye out for him if he entered the union.

Upon Chambers' arrival, Kary had the arrestee in handcuffs and was arguing with Kary. Chambers spoke with the arrestee and told him he was criminally banned on Jan. 28 and was told not to return to campus unless he was retrieving mail from the post office.

He then started arguing with Chambers stating he was told by an officer he was allowed on campus.

When Chambers told Kary to place the arrestee in the back of the patrol unit, he began to resist and attempted to flee.

The arrestee was then taken to the ground where officers were able to gain control of him. The officers attempted to get him on his feet while

The arrestee had to be carried to the unit due to his level of resistance.

Once at the patrol unit, the officers attempted to place the arrestee into the back of the unit and he became combative, refusing to get into the back of the unit.

Control was gained on the arrestee and officers were able to place him into the back of the unit.

Once the door was finally shut, the arrestee proceeded to kick the driver side rear window, causing it to shatter.

The Jonesboro Police Department then arrived on scene and helped gain further control of the arrestee and put him into the back of their patrol unit.

CONTINUED:
CAMPUS CRIME, 4A