

## Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers

## South Arts announces screening partners

Auburn's Jule Collins  
Smith Museum of  
Fine Art participating

Special to the News

ATLANTA — South Arts has announced the 17 screening partners participating in the 2014-15 Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers.

Southern Circuit, the national's original regional tour of independent films and filmmakers, coordinates multi-week tours for invited filmmakers and their work. Filmmakers participate in community screenings and audience engagement activities. This season's screening partners include organizations in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

"Southern Circuit was developed to connect audiences with new, independent films that they normally wouldn't have an opportunity to experience," said Teresa Hollingsworth, senior program director at South Arts. "We send directors into communities for screenings and audience discussions about their work and the filmmaking process. It creates a deeper, richer, and more engaging film experience for audiences and for the artists."

**This season's screening partners include 12 returning sites from last season:**

» City of Hapeville Association of Trade & Tourism, Hapeville, Ga.

» Miramar Cultural Center, City of Miramar, Miramar, Fla.

» Clemson University, Clemson, S.C.

» Indie Memphis, Memphis, Tenn.

» Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, Auburn University, Auburn

» Mary B. Martin School of the Arts at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tenn.

» Madison-Morgan Cultural Center, Madison, Ga.

» Presbyterian College, Clinton, S.C.

» The Evelyn Burrow Museum at Wallace State Community College, Hanceville

» The Morris Museum of Art,

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## AUBURN

# DEDICATED DANCER



**ABOVE AND BELOW:** Zoe Holmes, 18, from Auburn, is competing in the Celtic Dancing U19 North American Championships. She trains at the Celtic Traditions School of Irish Dance in Opelika.

PHOTOS BY ALBERT CESARE/OPELIKA-AUBURN NEWS

## Holmes earns championship status as Celtic dancer

BY TONYA BALAAAM-REED  
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Zoe Holmes likes to work toward a goal.

The 18-year-old Auburn resident traveled to Montreal, Canada, this past weekend to compete in the 2014 North American Irish Dance Championships. In April, she competed in the World Championships in London.

"(Irish dance is) my favorite form of dance," Holmes said. "I think it's really pretty and elegant, as well as powerful."

There are six levels to Irish dance — Beginner to Open Champion — and each level has a different requirement. Dancers perform two at a time, and when a dancer reaches the third level, called Novice, the dancer can have a solo costume. The costume is custom-made to suit the dancer.

When a dancer reaches the fourth level, called Prizewinner, his or her teacher can send the dancer to the regional championship, called

Oireachtas. From there, dancers can qualify for the North American and World Championships.

Holmes started dancing when she was younger, but at the time it was Irish dancing and ballet. She decided to focus on Irish dancing.

"I saw Riverdance when I was younger. I had...a video tape that I would watch over and over because it was just so pretty," she said.

Holmes studies at Celtic Traditions School of Irish Dance in Opelika. Amanda Tucker Poole, who herself is an accomplished Irish dancer, is the owner and instructor and is accredited through the Irish Dance Commission in Dublin, Ireland, and the Irish Dance Teachers Association of North America and the Southern Region. The status allows her dancers to compete at feiseanna, the Gaelic word for "festival." Poole's studio is also affiliated with the prestigious Drake School of Irish Dance, based in Georgia.

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## Auburn Knights still swingin' 84 years later

### Reunion events are next weekend

Special to the News

The musical group of students who met on the campus of Alabama Polytechnic Institute in Auburn in September of 1930 didn't realize they were founding a band that would continue well past their lifetimes.

Their instrumental inventory included three saxophones, two trumpets, one trombone, a piano, a drum set, a tuba, a violin and a banjo. When the band began playing for campus functions that year, they called

themselves The Auburn Knights Orchestra.

Now, 84 years later, the band plays on. By playing Big Band music as Auburn Knights members, hundreds of Auburn students have enjoyed this unique musical experience and helped

fund their university expenses over more than eight decades.

For the 58th consecutive year, several hundred past and present Knights will return home for a weekend reunion. The public is invited to join them for an anniversary celebration Friday,

July 18, and Saturday, July 19, at the Marriott at Grand National in Opelika.

Nightly admission at the door is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. All proceeds support the current Auburn Knights Orchestra through equipment and music purchases and a competitive scholarship program.

Beginning at 7:30 p.m., each evening's event will feature hour-long concerts by different alumni bands playing the big band music of their era. Space will be available for dancing. Live recordings of the concerts will be available for advance purchase.

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### EVENT SCHEDULE

Friday, July 18

» 7:30 p.m.: '30s/'40s concert, "The Swing Years"

» 8:30 p.m.: '50s concert, "The Big Bands Live On"

» 9:30 p.m.: '60s concert, "The Big Bands Rock On"

» 10:30 p.m.: Big Band open sit-ins

Saturday, July 19

» 7:30 p.m.: '70s/'80s Concert, "Jazz Meets Rock Meets Latin"

» 8:30 p.m.: '90s/2000s Concert, "Swing Makes a Comeback"

» 9:30 p.m.: 2014 Auburn Knights, "Still Swinging After 84 Years"

» 10:30 p.m.: Big Band open sit-ins

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