



THIS WEEK

Laretta Hannon isn't happy with the 'Happy' song.

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Northside Neighbor

Abernathy Arts Center presents 'pin-up!' exhibit

By Bobby Tedder
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Community artists — come one, come all styles — are again being celebrated by the Fulton County Arts and Culture's Abernathy Arts Center.

The Sandy Springs venue's sixth annual non-curated arts show, "pin-up!," is set to run Friday through July 11.

Open to artists of all ages, the project has a simple mantra: 'If you can pin it, you can submit it.'

"The idea behind this show is that we wanted to create a fun event that would be open to anyone and everyone in the community," said department spokeswoman Joanna Strickland. "It is a great experience to walk into a gallery and see your artwork on the wall."

The drop-off period — each prospective contributor is limited to three submissions — ends Friday at 5 p.m. An opening reception is scheduled the same day, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Organizers are billing the exhibit as a great opportunity for participating artists to showcase their work and for collectors to purchase artwork at very reasonable prices.

"Pin-up!" has drawn on average between 75 and 85 contributing artists annually for the last few years. Their wares represent a cross section of disciplines.

"There will be work

in watercolor, oil, pastels, screen printings, photography, and always a few surprises mixed in ... glass, clay and fiber arts," said Strickland. "The uniqueness of this show is that the novice can participate as well as the established artist."

Young emerging artists, those ages 17 and under, will have a wall all to themselves at the center's gallery.

In addition to pin-up guidelines (no more than four push pins), other stipulations for submissions mandate that the work be 18x24 or smaller, extend from the wall no more than 5 inches and be unframed and unmated.

The buzz generated by the showcase is now palpable, organizers said.

"The excitement of this show is that it keeps growing all week long as we have participants drop by every day, Tuesday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.," said Strickland. "The opening reception Friday evening is a great time to stop in, browse, view all the artwork — there is always something for everyone — and find that something special to add to your collection at a reasonable price."

"And we hope that this year we can inspire even more people in the community to get involved."

The Abernathy Arts Center is located at 254 Johnson Ferry Road in Sandy Springs.

Information:

www.fultonarts.org

Vinings Club closing after 27 years

By Everett Catts
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After more than a quarter century in business, the Vinings Club is closing.

The club, which opened in 1987, is shutting its doors Monday. Founding member Bruce Cook, one of 871 members, said he received a letter Thursday saying the club was closing due to financial reasons. Located in the Overlook III building, the club offers a fitness center and spa, a dining room and meeting and event space. Owned and operated by Club Management Enterprises LLC, it has hosted special events, including weddings.

"There are new owners taking over and they're putting several thousands of dollars of renovations in," Cook said Sunday. "I don't know if they wanted

the Vinings Club to upgrade or use the Vinings Club space for their office space to rent. I think it's a mistake for the Overlook management's part to close the Vinings Club without a substitute..."

"I think they should contact an organization like the Ritz-Carlton that could take over ownership or management of the club. My question is did Overlook management do this? Are they only concerned with the bottom line of putting in offices? It would show they don't understand how significant the Vinings Club is to the community. It's a sense of family community that's going to be lost and the end of an era."

Joanne Robblee, the incoming president of the Rotary Club of Vinings, which meets at the club for lunch each Wednesday, said Friday she received

a phone call Thursday from Director of Events Stevie Rabun, who said it was closing. "We're very disappointed," Robblee said of the closing. "We ... have had a wonderful relationship with them over the years. It's a bit of a shock. ... "We're scrambling to find a new home but these people we've worked with, they're going to lose their jobs on June 30. We're feeling very much for them. It's a tough time."

Cook said the Vinings Club has about 40 employees and he is reaching out to them and to similar businesses nearby to help them get jobs.

Phone and email messages to Vinings Club Managing Director Harold Drennon Friday and Monday seeking comment on the club's closing and the building owner's plans for the club space were not returned at press time.



From left, High Museum of Art curator of photography Brett Abbott talks with Barbara Bullock-Wilson and Lynne Harrington-Bullock, daughters of the late photographer Wynn Bullock.

Staff / Samantha M. Shal

VISION QUEST

High exhibit showcases photographer's work

By Bobby Tedder
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If there is such a thing as a forward-thinking retrospective, "Wynn Bullock: Revelations" is it.

The first major exhibition of the late photographer's work in 40 years will occupy the entire second floor of the Anne Cox Chambers wing at the High Museum of Art in Midtown through January.

Between now and then, the gallery walls there are poised to greet patrons with an illuminating spectrum of Bullock's signature portraiture of the material and metaphysical.

"He's always using the camera to show us the world in a way we can't see it with our own eyes," said curator Brett Abbott.

Abbott, tasked with heading up the photography and collections arms at the High, was instrumental in bringing the showcase to fruition. The universal acclaim of Bullock's output — noted for his visually symphonic eye and artisan's skill — easily made this a coup worth pursuing. Being given the blessings of his family effectively sealed the deal.

Daughters Barbara Bullock-Wilson and Lynne Harrington-Bullock were part of a contingent of the famed lensman's survivors to make the trek from California last week to celebrate "Revelations." Bullock died there in 1975.

The 60-something sisters regaled members of the media with intimate details of their father's works. They would know better than most, considering his use of them as models since they were toddlers — with several of those snapshots adorning the walls at the High.

Perhaps none are more famous, or controversial, than the elder Bullock's

"Child in Forest" gelatin silver print from 1951, which features a 6-year-old unclothed Barbara lying prostrate in the center of the woodland tapestry he happened upon during a family vacation. "He did things to disrupt your reading of the natural world, to shake you out of complacency," she said.

The father's experimental instincts are further laid bare in intermittent exposures and negative prints.

All seem to emote — as Bullock-Wilson put it — his grasp of the pervasiveness and importance of energy, movement and light.

Bullock's endeavor to capture the latter in its many forms makes up the exhibit's color light abstraction segment. "A lot of people think black-and-white [photos] are all our father ever did," said Harrington-Bullock. "But, from 1959 to '65, he worked almost exclusively in color ... and created this body of work that I think is phenomenal."

In parting, Bullock's next of kin offered this summation of his rendering of art: "We believe that Dad's work is transformative — it can open you up and change your life," Bullock-Wilson said.

IF YOU GO:

- **What:** "Wynn Bullock: Revelations"
- **When:** through Jan. 18
- **Where:** The High Museum of Art, 1280 Peachtree St., Midtown
- **Tickets:** \$12 to \$19.50
- **Information:** www.high.org



Staff / Samantha M. Shal

Abernathy Arts Center office administrator Joanna Strickland hangs examples of art that could be entered into the pin-up show, meaning it is no larger than 18 by 24 inches, unframed, unmated and able to be attached to the wall using no more than four push pins.

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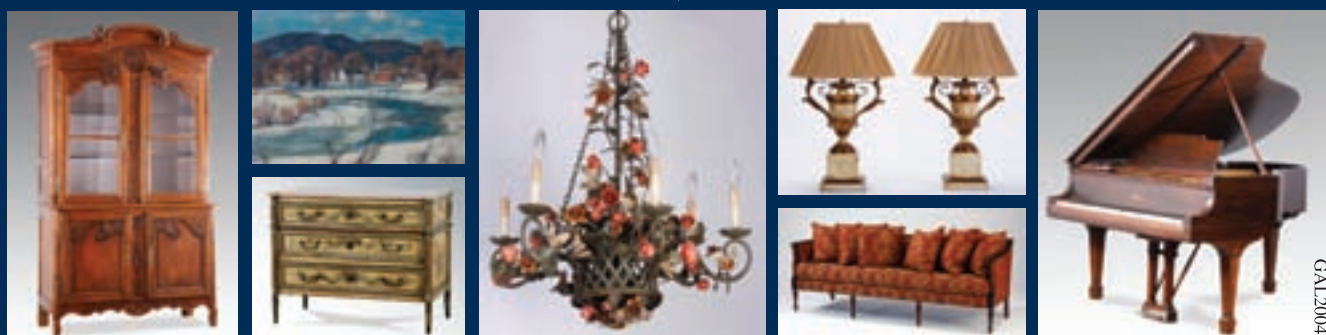


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