

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 2, 2008

Contact: Maiben Beard, 334-844-4903, maiben.beard@auburn.edu

AUBURN – The Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities proudly announces the addition of two new staff members, Dr. Barbara A. Baker and Maiben Beard. The center is the outreach office of the Auburn University College of Liberal Arts, and is dedicated to strengthening the bonds between the academic community, the arts and the general public through quality programs in schools, towns and communities around the state.

Dr. Baker will be joining the center as a research fellow and editor for Pebble Hill Books. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master of Arts from Auburn University before completing a doctorate in English from Auburn in 1999. Baker was most recently an associate professor in the Department of English at Tuskegee University. This past January, she organized a symposium sponsored by the center on author Albert Murray.

Baker will also be coordinating Life of the Mind, an AU College of Liberal Arts signature event designed to emphasize the importance of the humanities in the academic career of Auburn students'.

Maiben Beard, a native of LaFayette, AL, is the center's new outreach associate. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art History from Emory University and comes to Auburn from her position as manager of The Fire House Gallery, a non-profit art gallery in Louisville, GA, where she led various community outreach initiatives.

Beard will help coordinate the Center's many outreach programming offerings, including the Fourth Annual Alabama Book Festival to be held April 18, 2009 at Old Alabama Town in Montgomery, Alabama.

For more information on the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities and its programs, call 334-844-4946 or email cah@auburn.edu.

Pictures attached

--end--