

An incredible journey from oppression to freedom comes to Atlanta stage.



» READ HER STORY SUNDAY IN LIVING & ARTS

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution Saturday, Nov. 2, 2013

D | LIVING

Baby boomers are flocking to careers in ministry, D4

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IN BRIEF

CLASSICAL MUSIC

World premiere of composition Sunday

When Frank Thomas heard a piece by Tarik O'Regan on the radio three years ago, the impressed Atlanta attorney had to pull to the I-85 shoulder to scribble the composer's name.

In an unlikely chain of events, Thomas got in touch with the London-born O'Regan, who resides in New York and Cambridge, England, and commissioned him to create a choral work honoring Ray and Beth Chenault, choir-masters and organists at All Saints' Episcopal Church. And so O'Regan's "Blessed Are They" will be given its

VISUAL ARTS



THINGS TO DO

TED event designed to spread fine ideas

TEDxPeachtree's fifth all-day gathering will feature 17 speakers.

By Jon Waterhouse
For the AJC

If you hear someone talking about spending time with

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Dear Abby D2 Puzzles D3
Comics D8 Television D3



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mark Twain among the latter. Assessing an Albert Bierstadt painting of the Yosemite Mountains in 1867, Twain snidely dismissed its atmospheric artifice as “so enchantingly beautiful that I am sorry the Creator hadn’t made it instead of him.”

Ouch. Though that might have made Bierstadt feel like he’d sat on a cactus, he was beloved by many for the sumptuous sweep and almost supernatural wonder he brought to the Western landscape. And though his embrace of the epic had fallen out of favor by his death in 1902, his works are again appreciated today, when many Americans feel far removed from purple mountain majesties in their day-to-day lives.

So the half of the audience that gets Western art should

have some extra gusto up in step with the opening of complementary fall exhibitions in Atlanta and Cartersville of riches from an important Western art museum in Cody, Wyo. Some from the other half might even be swayed.

“Today’s West: Contemporary Art From the Buffalo Bill Center of the West,” tracing Western art developments from 1960 to today, is early in its run at the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville. On Sunday, the High Muse-

Western art continued on D5

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See photos from “Today’s West” and “Go West” on our premium website for subscribers, MyAJC.com. Our website is designed for newspaper readers, exclusively for our subscribers.

EXHIBITS PREVIEW

“Go West: Art of the American Frontier From the Buffalo Bill Center of the West”

Opens Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Tuesdays–Saturdays (until 8 p.m. Thursdays), noon–5 p.m. Sundays. \$19.50; \$16.50, 65 and over and students; \$12, ages 6–17; free, 5 and younger. Through April 13. High Museum of Art, 1280 Peachtree St. N.E., Atlanta. 404-733-4200, www.high.org.

“Today’s West: Contemporary Art From the Buffalo Bill Center of the West”

10 a.m.–5 p.m. Tuesdays–Saturdays (until 8 p.m. Thursdays), 1–5 p.m. Sundays. Through April 13. \$10; 65 and over, \$8; students, \$7; free under age 12. Booth Western Art Museum, 501 Museum Drive, Cartersville. 770-387-1300, www.boothmuseum.org.

when it originated as a California-based conference bringing together a mixed bag of folks from the technology, entertainment and design worlds.

The nonprofit still holds its annual conference on the West Coast, but with a broader scope. The March 2014 conference will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia. More than 50 speakers from a variety of backgrounds will

TEDxPeachtree continued on D5

EVENT PREVIEW

TEDxPeachtree

9 a.m.–4 p.m. Friday. \$159 plus online processing fee. Buckhead Theatre, 3110 Roswell Road N.E., Atlanta. www.tedxpeachtree.com.

HEALTH

Aflac Center, Emory get \$10M sickle cell grant

They’ll be working on treatments for acute chest syndrome.

By Shelia M. Poole
spoole@ajc.com

It started out with a cold, then pneumonia crept into Madison Overstreet’s lungs.

Three years ago, Katrina Overstreet watched with growing concern as her daughter took longer to recover from her illness. Madison, now six, was diagnosed

with acute chest syndrome, a condition common among people with sickle cell disease.

She was at greater risk of developing the condition because of the sickle cell disease. With acute chest syndrome, the lungs can be damaged, causing them to fill with fluid and sometimes leads to respiratory failure.

Acute chest syndrome is “a fairly common problem and one of the most serious” for people with the inherited red blood cell disease, said Dr. Clinton H. Joiner, director of

hematology at the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and professor of pediatrics at Emory University’s School of Medicine.

“It’s one of the leading causes of death among adults with sickle cell disease.”

The center and Emory recently received nearly \$10 million in funds to continue research into sickle cell disease and to find a preventive treatment for the lung damage that can be deadly for

Sickle cell continued on D5



Katrina Overstreet shares a laugh while watching TV with daughter Madison, 6, who recently had a cold that led to acute chest syndrome, a condition that can lead to major lung damage and even death. [HYOSUB SHIN / HSHIN@AJC.COM](mailto:HYOSUB.SHIN@AJC.COM)

Disorder can easily cause death

Sickle cell

continued from D1

people with sickle cell disease.

Emory and the Aflac center were strong contenders for the grants because, in part, it already treats a significant number of patients with acute chest syndrome such as Madison.

"We know that when they come down with a cold, a bad cough or congestion, we really need to pay close attention," said Overstreet, whose son, Landon, also has sickle cell disease. Overstreet doesn't think there was lasting damage.

The National Heart Lung and Blood Institute awarded the five-year grant to Emory and the Aflac Cancer Center of Children's to provide critical

FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT SICKLE CELL DISEASE

There are several types of sickle cell disease. The most common are: sickle cell anemia, Sickle-Hemoglobin C Disease, Sickle Beta-Plus Thalassemia and Sickle Beta-Zero Thalassemia.

When both parents have the sickle cell trait, they have a one-in-four chance of having a child with sickle cell disease with each pregnancy. An estimated 100,000 people have sickle cell disease in the U.S.; 3 million carry the sickle cell trait

SICKLE CELL DISEASE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

research to find a treatment for acute chest syndrome.

Sickle cell disease is so named because sometimes the red blood cells become hard and crescent shaped and have difficulty passing through small blood vessels, which can lead to painful episodes and organ damage.

In Georgia, an estimated 7,300 people have sickle cell disease. In the United States, it's most prevalent among African-Americans. However, globally, it may also affect people of Central and West African, Middle Eastern, Indian and Mediterranean descent.

"Anything that's going to

help clients with sickle cell disease is a plus for the community," said Jackie George, a certified counselor at the Sickle Cell Foundation of Georgia.

Overstreet's son has never developed the syndrome, but she is always watchful.

She and her husband, both teachers, carry the sickle cell trait. Their children were diagnosed two weeks after their births.

Overstreet knew even then what could lay ahead. A cousin and an uncle both had sickle cell disease. Her uncle died in his 20s. Her cousin was in and out of the hospital and often in pain. "I was kind of afraid



Katrina Overstreet's two children have sickle cell disease and are at risk of acute chest syndrome. Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University will be working on a treatment. HYOSUB SHIN / HSHIN@AJC.COM

that they (her children) would go through the same thing. My mom comforted me. She said that was a long time ago and that there's been a lot of re-

search and it's not as bad as it used to be. Research is always good. Even the research they did in the early 2000s has been beneficial to my kids."

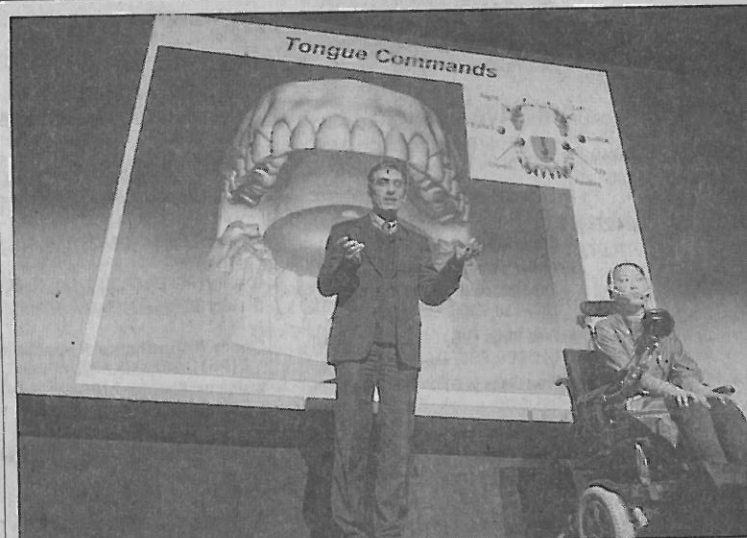
Attendees expect to be inspired

TEDxPeachtree

continued from D1

explore a wealth of topics, and organizers sprinkle the event with music, comedy and other performances. Other offshoot events are now in place, including the TEDActive conference.

By 2009 the TED organiza-



Maysam Ghovanloo, a Georgia Tech professor, presents his talk "The Tongue: A New Human Computer Interface" at TEDxPeachtree 2012.

members.

"We curate speakers on the potential of how important their idea is and the potential that the idea could have to change the world, the way we live, behave or interact with each other as a community or a society," Chew said. "We take it very seriously."

That seriousness pays off. Primatologist Frans de Waal, an Emory professor and director of the Living Links Center at the Yerkes National Primate Center, spoke about moral behavior in primates at TEDxPeachtree in 2011. The lecture proved so popular, Chew said, that it's one of the 25 most-watched videos on TED.com — out of more than 30,000 TEDx

er-songwriter Michelle Malone. Other speakers include acclaimed portrait artist Rossin; Mark Riedl, an assistant professor in the Georgia Tech School of Interactive Computing and director of the Entertainment Intelligence Lab; and media personality Lisa Earle McLeod.

"Out of the 17 speakers, only three are from out of state," Chew said. "It's all about showcasing the most promising, the most ambitious, the most inspiring ideas coming out of folks from the state of Georgia."

TEDxPeachtree events typically sell out. If all goes as planned, the organizers hope to deliver these ideas more than once a year. Chew said