

## December 14, 2011

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### Campus Highlights

#### [Saturday's graduation ceremonies to be streamed live](#)

At least 800 of the 2,200 graduates will participate in UAB's fall commencement ceremony at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17 in Bartow Arena. George Howard, Dr.PH., former chair of the UAB Department of Biostatistics, will be presented with the 2011 President's Medal during the ceremony. See it streamed live at [www.uab.edu/commencement](http://www.uab.edu/commencement).

#### [Commencement marks student's transition from dark past to bright future](#)

At 16 years old, Chernel Bizzell was living on the streets and using drugs. But even in her darkest hour she never lost sight of her dream. Now, 19 years later, Bizzell is preparing to receive her degree from UAB Saturday. Hear her story on this week's BlazerCast at [www.youtube.com/uabnews](http://www.youtube.com/uabnews).

#### [Psych students get inside look at the life within the lesson](#)

After students have spent weeks learning about autism, its characteristics and behaviors, Rajesh Kana, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychology, makes it personal. He invites parents and children to talk about living with it, including classmate Andrew Rozsa and his father, who spoke about the UAB senior's life-long battle with Asperger's.

#### [Want to be employable when you graduate?](#)

In a tough economy, deciding which college major can make the difference of whether or not you find a job when you graduate. Medical Technology in the School of Health Professions has one of the lowest unemployment rates.

#### [UAB Opera program honored by National Opera Association](#)

A DVD of the 2010 UAB Opera performance of Benjamin Britten's "The Burning Fiery Furnace" was awarded first prize in the 2011 National Opera Association Production Competition. The award will be presented to UAB Opera Director Kristine Hurst-Wajszczuk, D.M.A., at the NOA's national convention gala banquet in January 2012 in Memphis, Tenn.

#### [The dean has lost it and is he ever happy](#)

A biting comment by a member of the faculty helped motivate Harold Jones, Ph.D., dean of the School of Health Professions, to change the course of his life. His highly successful journey is chronicled on his blog, aptly named "Dean Jones is Losing It," at [uabdeanjoness.blogspot.com](http://uabdeanjoness.blogspot.com).

#### [HOW TO GET YOUR NEWS AND INFORMATION REPORTED](#)

Do you have news you want to share with students in

#### Questions?

Direct questions about GreenMail to [greenmail@uab.edu](mailto:greenmail@uab.edu) or 205-975-5533.

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#### GreenMail

GreenMail is an official communication of the University of Alabama at Birmingham that delivers news, announcements and information of particular interest to and for the benefit of its students. It is published electronically as a service of the offices of the Provost, Student Affairs, Public Relations & Marketing, and Information Technology, and is a recommended alternative to mass e-mails.

GreenMail, The Kaleidoscope or on BlazeRadio? Use the [Request Publicity](#) form online. Deadline for submitting information for GreenMail is 10 a.m. every Tuesday.

## **Information**

### **Last GreenMail for 2011**

GreenMail will be on hiatus until Jan. 4, 2012. Submit your requests for publicity for that edition at [www.uab.edu/publicity](http://www.uab.edu/publicity) by 10 a.m. Jan. 3. Have a safe and happy holiday.

### **Rhodes Scholar reflects UAB values**

UAB's second Rhodes Scholar reflects not only the university's academic excellence, but also our commitment to service and global citizenship, as President Carol Garrison discusses in her latest post at [www.uab.edu/president/post](http://www.uab.edu/president/post).

### **Give the gift of blood this week**

UAB and the American Red Cross are hosting a special holiday blood drive in UAB Hospital North Pavilion through Dec. 17. Donors will receive a \$5 meal ticket for the UAB Hospital food court, and there will be prize giveaways — including an iPad2. Validated parking is available at the Fourth Avenue parking deck. Donors should bring a photo ID.

### **Steam project construction to close lanes Monday**

Construction activity is scheduled to begin Dec. 19 on Seventh Avenue South behind the Hill Center and end mid-February 2012. The sidewalk will remain open, but parking in Lot 19 will be affected. The eastbound lanes of University Boulevard between 16th and 18th streets will be affected until Dec. 21. Updates are online at [www.uab.edu/steamproject](http://www.uab.edu/steamproject).

### **Excess financial aid added to Blazer Bucks**

Undergraduate students who have \$50 or more in anticipated financial aid in excess of their student account balance on Jan. 6, 2012, automatically will receive that amount — up to \$500 — as a transfer to their BlazerBucks accounts. Students may use these funds at Barnes & Noble at UAB or any BlazerBucks vendor beginning Saturday, Jan. 7, two days before classes begin Jan. 9. Details, an opt-out form and extended bookstore hours are online at [www.uab.edu/bucksforbooks](http://www.uab.edu/bucksforbooks).

### **Last day to donate to Toys for Tots, get library fees waived**

Bring a new, unwrapped toy suitable for children up to 12 years to the UAB Administration Building lobby by noon Dec. 14 or place one in collection boxes located throughout campus. Sterne Library will waive late fees of up to \$25 and Lister Hill Library up to \$10 with the donation of a toy.

### **Give the gift of WBHM for the holidays**

Give the gift of public radio this holiday season! Join WBHM Thursday and Friday, Dec. 15-16, for the year-end fund drive, and take care of all of the public radio fans on your list — including you! Your gifts will help WBHM pay for the programming you value as we head into the new year. You can make those year-end gifts during the drive or right now by calling 1-800-444-9246 or at [www.wbhm.org](http://www.wbhm.org). WBHM is a listener-supported service of UAB.

### **Study Away in Prague deadline extended to Jan. 13, 2012**

Study child development in Eastern Europe this summer. See firsthand how medieval towns and castles, baroque churches,

wars, communism and a transition to democracy affected children and their families. Attend classes at Charles University, the oldest university in central Europe, and take field trips to multiple UNESCO World Heritage sites. Students will have ample time to explore Prague and a free weekend to travel. Open to all majors who have taken PY 101.

### **Friend us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter**

You can find more info about campus events and stories about your fellow students on GreenMail's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/uabgreenmail](http://www.facebook.com/uabgreenmail). You'd rather get tweets? Follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/uabgreenmail](http://twitter.com/uabgreenmail).

## **Graduate/Professional Students**

### **AMC21 plan will enable UAB to create strong future**

During the past year, School of Medicine Dean Ray Watts, M.D., and Health System CEO Will Ferniany, Ph.D., have led the development of AMC21 — a plan to make UAB the preferred academic medical center of the 21st century and ensure that Alabamians have access to the world's best care.

### **New course to help students complete journal articles**

Writing coach Jennifer Greer will offer a new course in spring to help graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and other research writers develop "habits of productivity that lead to publication." Greer, writing instructor for the UAB Graduate School's Professional Development Program, created the course for people who have written a first or unfinished draft with potential.

## **Timelines & Deadlines**

### **Initial payment deadline for spring is Dec. 30**

Students must pay 50 percent of their account balance by Dec. 30. Awards for financial aid, scholarships or other forms of aid will be applied to student accounts prior to the Dec. 30 deadline. Failure to make this payment will result in cancellation of the student's class schedule. Students may view an estimate of their initial payment by visiting the Registration Status at a Glance webpage. Students may access their actual initial payment amounts through [BlazerNET](#) beginning Dec. 16. To learn more about the payment policy, visit [www.uab.edu/whentopay](http://www.uab.edu/whentopay).

### **Outstanding Women nominations due Jan. 5, 2012**

Have you seen examples of achievement, courage, service and dedication by women at UAB? Nominating them for Outstanding Woman UAB Student, Becky Trigg Outstanding Woman Faculty Member, Susan D. Marchase Outstanding Woman Administrator, Outstanding Woman UAB Staff Member and Outstanding Woman in the Community. Nominations are due Jan. 5, 2012; details and a nomination forms are [online](#). Sponsored by UAB Women's Center, Women's Studies, and the UAB Commission on the Status of Women.

## **Campus Events**

### **Break with the Blazers: UAB Women's Basketball**

Join your [UAB Women's Basketball](#) team as they continue regular season play at Bartow Arena this Thursday, Dec. 15, with a game at noon against Alabama A&M. The defending WBI National Champions are on a five-game winning streak coming into Thursday's game. As always, all students are admitted free

to all home UAB sporting events with a valid student ID. For more information on Blazer sports, join UAB Gang Green on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

### **Lalah Hathaway to heat up ASC Jazz Caf  with two shows Dec. 15-16**

Songstress Lalah Hathaway will heat up UAB's Alys Stephens Center with two performances Dec. 15-16 for the center's ASC Jazz Caf  series. A holiday cocktail hour will begin at 6:30 p.m. before each show; the performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$42.50, \$34.50, \$25.50; student tickets are \$20. For tickets, call 205-975-2787 or visit [www.AlysStephens.org](http://www.AlysStephens.org).

### **Biostatistics to host Open House Dec. 16**

The Department of Biostatistics will host an Open House Informational Session from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 16. Learn more about the master's and doctoral programs, including the admission requirements and the application process, scholarship information and financial aid. Current BST students, faculty and the student program director will be there to answer questions about the program.

### **Fa-la-la-la funny: Mo Rocca starring in ASC Holiday Comedy Show**

Humorist, actor and writer Mo Rocca will dissect everything holiday — using only his own dry humor and razor-sharp wit — at 8 p.m. Dec. 16 in the UAB's Alys Stephens Center. The event is co-presented by public radio [WBHM 90.3 FM](#), which is a listener-supported service of UAB. Tickets are \$45.50, \$35.50, \$27.50; student tickets are \$20. For tickets or more details, call 205-975-2787 or visit [www.AlysStephens.org](http://www.AlysStephens.org).

### **Christmas Toy Fund celebration is Dec. 20**

UAB Hospital Maintenance will hosts its 30th annual Christmas Toy Fund celebration, open to all UAB employees, at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20 in the West Pavilion atrium.

### **CHECK ONLINE CALENDAR FOR LATEST EVENTS**

The UAB Campus Calendar at [www.uab.edu/calendar](http://www.uab.edu/calendar) is updated daily with campus events, activities and deadlines, and the "Calendars" link on the UAB home page takes you straight there. Postings can include detailed information, photos and links to sites or related events. Check out the FAQs for more information.

### **KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE GreenMail?**

[GreenMail](#) is automatically sent to all students with a BlazerID, but anyone who subscribes can receive news and information about UAB in their email box each week. Just send a blank email to [greenmail-subscribe-request@listserv.uab.edu](mailto:greenmail-subscribe-request@listserv.uab.edu), and we'll take care of the rest.

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#### **Need More Information?**

The Division of Student Affairs can provide more information on a variety of student activities, services and facilities, including registration, academic advising, scholarships, financial aid, on-campus housing, food service, career services, student support services, counseling, student life and services for international scholars and students. Call 205-934-4175.

