SU has long been considered the cultural hub of the Delmarva Peninsula. During the University’s 75th Anniversary celebration, the campus was again the focal point of some of the region’s most engaging and entertaining presentations and performances.

The year opened with FUNday (Festival for our University Neighbors) with over 100 events and activities and more than 3,000 community participants. The evening concert featuring the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra at SU, Randy Ashcraft and his Saltwater Cowboys, and The Nichols Sisters and Family played to a full house in Holloway Hall Auditorium.

Journalism icon Daniel Schorr, one of the vaunted team of newsmen who worked for Edward R. Murrow and currently National Public Radio’s senior news analyst, was this year’s Presidential Lecturer. Each of SU’s four schools also brought a special speaker to campus for the celebration. The Seidel School hosted Alfie Kohn, author of *The Case Against Standardized Testing: Raising the Scores, Ruining the Schools*; the Henson School invited Dr. William Dunham, author of *The Mathematical Universe*; the Perdue School hosted Antoinette Ford, CEO of Projected Reality Corp.; and the Fulton School welcomed Tim O’Brien, author of *In the Lake of the Woods*.

The Bobbi Biron Theatre Program drew sell-out crowds and rave reviews for its stage productions, highlighted by the musical comedy *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. In addition to stage performances, students displayed their talents with the Dance Company, Chamber Choir and Chorale, Wind Ensemble, and campus art galleries.

University Galleries and the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art hosted exhibits that attracted over 60,000 patrons. The Ward Museum also coordinated the annual Ward World Championship Wildfowl Carving Competition, with thousands of carvers from around the world competing for prizes totaling some $100,000.

The Salisbury Symphony Orchestra at SU celebrated its 15th anniversary year. The Decorators Show House and “Savor Goes to the Moon” fundraisers generated almost $30,000 in financial contributions for the SSO. That private support enabled the orchestra to expand its schedule to four concerts and its biggest season-audience ever.
**Cultural Affairs Highlights**

**Speakers**  
Daniel Schorr (NPR senior news analyst), Herbert Kohl (author of *Discipline of Hope*), Tim O’Brien (author of *In the Lake of the Woods*), Alfie Kohn (author of *The Case Against Standardized Testing: Raising the Scores, Raining the Schools*), Antoinette Ford (CEO, Ruining the Schools), Testing: Raising the Scores, Case Against Standardized Alfie Kohn (author of *The Mathematical Universe*), Dr. Ellen Shearer (co-director Medill News Service), U.S. Senator Joseph Biden (D, DE), Shara McCallum (author of *The Water Between Us*), Michael Waters (author of *Prathenopii: New and Selected Poems*), Akwasi Osei (“The State of Politics in Black America”), Madison Smartt Bell (author of *All Souls’ Rising*), Dred Leder (“Guns and Voices: Inmates Reflect on Life Behind Bars”), Li-Young Lee (author of *The Winged Seed*), Jenny Jochens (author of *Women in Old Norse Society*), Cary Holladay (author of *The People Down South*).

**Art Exhibits**  

**Ward Museum**  
Some 28,000 visitors toured the Ward Museum and participated in its special events, enjoying the world’s most comprehensive collection of wildfowl carving. SU recently took ownership of the Ward Museum and its $4 million art collection and $5 million facility. SU students have free access to the museum to study one of America’s unique art forms. Public exhibits this year were “Decoy of the Millennium,” “Animal Sculpture” and “Boehme Porcelains.” Additionally, the Museum hosted the Ward Weekend and the Chesapeake Wildfowl Expo.

**Bobbi Biron Theatre**  
Maryland’s only endowed theatre program (by Salisbury arts patron Bobbi Biron) featured *A Bit of Broadway, The Crucible, How I Learned to Drive, Apology for the Life of an Actor, The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas and Crop Circles. Apology*, a one-man play by SU Theatre Director Paul Pfeiffer, was staged as part of the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland in August 2001.

**Music and Dance**  
SU’s Dance Company performed “Fall Dance Showcase of Member Works” and “Spring Dance Concert” to full houses in the 776-seat Holloway Hall Auditorium. The SU Wind Ensemble and SU Chamber Choir and Chorale performed spring and fall concerts, and a music theatre class performance of Broadway show tunes closed the curtain on each semester’s student concerts.

**Film**  

**Special Events**  
Classical guitarist Miguel Perez and Flamenco dancer Micaela Moreno; Grupo Caribe; Denise & De’Nephews; Juilliard violinist Remus Azoitei; U.S. Navy Clarinet Quartet; U.S. Navy Trombone Quartet; “Mark Twain Live”; “Creating and Defining the African-American Community: Family, Church, Politics and Culture”; and Buffalo Soldiers Day.

**Salisbury Symphony Orchestra**  
The 15th anniversary season of the SSO featured four concerts. The first was a November children’s concert of Prokofiev’s *Peter and the Wolf* with Dr. Paul Pfeiffer as narrator. The annual December holiday concert featured Alissa Hearne, violin, and Beth Holder, soprano. At its February concert the SSO performed Anton Bruckner’s *Symphony No. 4 in E-flat Major*. Margaret Motter Ward and David Dupee playing Bruch’s *Double Concerto* highlighted the spring concert for Clarinet and Violin, *Op. 88*, and Kevin Hekmatpanah performing *Cello Concerto, Op. 85* by Edward Elgar. Other concerts on the Eastern Shore included the SSO’s popular July Fourth celebration at Ocean City. “A Night in Old Vienna” at Cecil Community College, the Winterfest Gala in Ocean City and a holiday concert at North Caroline High School. The SSO also joined the festivities at FUNday.

**Chesapeake Bay Conference**  
SU hosted “Chesapeake 2000: the Chesapeake Bay in the 21st Century” October 16-21. Free and open to the public, speakers included Tom Horton, author and environmental writer for *The (Baltimore) Sun*, Dr. Robert Cottom, editor of the *Maryland Historical Magazine*, Dr. Hal Rothman, editor of the *Journal of Environmental History*, and Susan Stranahan, regional affairs writer for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. Topics included “Agribusiness, the Environment and Chesapeake Bay,” “Aging in the Chesapeake: the Bay Country and Demographics” and “Black Communities of the Chesapeake, Past, Present and Future.”

**Calumet Photography Conference**  
“20th Century American Photographers,” Calumet Institute’s fifth annual master photographic workshop, was held on campus in June.