



## USS GEORGIA (SSGN 729)

### *Return to Service Committee*

Post Office Box 5096 St. Marys, Georgia 31558

Phone 912-227-2148 [www.USSGeorgia.org](http://www.USSGeorgia.org) [infoRTSGA@aol.com](mailto:infoRTSGA@aol.com)



Dear Superintendent:

As Governor of the great State of Georgia, I am keenly aware of the economic impact that our military bases have on our state. As honorary chairman of the USS Georgia Return to Service Committee, I feel a special sense of pride that after more than ten years of concerted effort, the people of Camden County are seeing a dream come true. On Friday, March 28, the officers and crew of the USS Georgia (SSGN 729), a newly-converted Guided Missile Submarine, will join their friends and neighbors in celebrating their return home with a Return to Service Ceremony at Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay.

The return of the USS Georgia has statewide implications as this former Trident ballistic missile submarine begins a new mission and Georgia's only Naval Submarine Base expands an old one. In an effort to make young people aware of the role of our armed services in the life of our state and its citizens, the organizers of this celebration have announced a statewide art contest for Georgia students. The theme of the contest is

### ***Bringing the USS Georgia home: Celebrating Georgia's Ambassadors for Peace***

Each Georgia School System may submit one outstanding student work from each of three categories: Elementary School, Middle School, and High School. A panel of statewide judges will select outstanding works to be displayed at the public ceremony on March 28. A best of show award will be selected by the Commander of the USS Georgia, with the winner and his family to be invited to the ceremony.

Detailed information about the contest is included with this message. I realize that spring is a busy time of year for schools as you prepare for the Georgia High School Graduation Test, the CRCT, annual budgets, and other concerns. Still, I ask you to please review the contest information and encourage each of your schools to participate. If you have questions about the contest, you may contact the competition chair, Mr. Dean Slusser, at [dslusser@camden.k12.ga.us](mailto:dslusser@camden.k12.ga.us).

The people of Camden County have worked for more than a decade to bring the USS Georgia home. We hope that the entire state will join in celebrating their success.

Sincerely,

Sonny Perdue  
Governor of Georgia  
Honorary Chair, USS Georgia (SSGN729) RTS Committee