

Celebrating Culture



Volume XII, Number 2

Summer 2006

A newsletter of the Cultural Council of Volusia County

Southeast Museum of Photography to expand

The Southeast Museum of Photography will get a new, larger home when it moves into the 62,500-square-foot Hosseini Center on the Daytona Beach Community College campus in fall 2007.

The Southeast Museum of Photography, the internationally-acclaimed visual arts institution dedicated to photography, will share occupancy of the Hosseini Center with the college's Hospitality and Culinary Arts Department. The specially designed facility will increase the size and efficiency of the museum's exhibit space and work areas. It also will create a state-of-the-art, environmentally-controlled and lighted exhibition facility and provide increased opportunities for public lectures, workshops, children's activities and other educational programs.

"Our new facility will allow us to move to the next level as one of the premier photography-dedicated institutions in the world today," said Kevin Miller, the museum's director. "With vastly expanded exhibition capabilities and much-needed additional administrative and educational space, we will be able to increase significantly our service to the community."



Southeast Museum of Photography's Hosseini Center

Established in 1992, the museum is a public resource dedicated to the advancement of education and photography through a multidisciplinary curriculum, community outreach programs and public exhibitions of national and international prominence.

The museum is one of 12 photography museums in the nation and the only one associated with a community college in the Southeast.

Its permanent collection contains more than 3,000 photographs spanning the history of photography from the 1840s to the present. The museum also houses a 900-volume reference library, a research collection of prints, a variety of educational publications and a media center to support student research projects.

"The museum is deeply appreciative of Mr. Hosseini's generous support of Daytona Beach Community College and the Southeastern Museum of Photography," said Miller. "This facility is a magnificent example of his continuing commitment to art and education."

Couple Committed to Keeping African-American Heritage Alive in New Smyrna Beach

Mary and Jimmy Harrell are devoted to the preservation of African-American history and to the education of all who are interested in the local history. They are educators after all – with 34 years of teaching experience each.

The couple, along with a handful of devoted volunteers, has managed the Black Heritage Festival for over fifteen years. They've also worked diligently to amass an impressive collection of local history within the walls of the Black Heritage Museum, a local historical treasure.

"It's really a labor of love," says Mr. Harrell. "I work on the outside maintenance and Mary keeps the inside up."

He neglects to point out that he and Mrs. Harrell are volunteers and accept no compensation for their efforts.

The pair's hard work and dedication was validated recently when the Black Heritage Museum was honored with the City of New Smyrna Beach's 2006 Historic Preservation Award.



(See Couple Page 3)



DeLand Artist and CCVC Member Tim Ludwig has been selected as the featured artist for the 14th Annual DeLand Fall Festival of the Arts, November 18 - 19. An image of a piece of his unique, colorful pottery will be used for the official festival poster and t-shirt.

CFCE education, outreach programs bring new names to young musicians

Most Central Floridians know about the Florida International Festival, the season of classical concerts Central Florida Cultural Endeavors presents that culminate with the London Symphony Orchestra performances.

A lesser known aspect of each Florida International Festival, but one of its largest components, is education and outreach. Through education and outreach, the festival takes music and music education to locations not always considered as venues for performances throughout the two-county area the festival serves.

When an artist is presented through CFCE, the organization often asks the musician to give a master class or

workshop to students in the area and/or a matinee performance for the community. Some artists in the Young Artist Series engage in short-term residencies, coming to the community for four - five days and presenting workshops at local high schools. In the hour-long sessions, students can ask questions and the artists share with students their artistic background and talent.

"It's an exciting venture, the kids really enjoy it," said Robert Cox, concert and events manager for CFCE. "The classes range from 10 - 50 students, and they are usually students in band or who perform at the school."

A growing aspect of the festival is its workshop/master class section, another of CFCE's grant-funded outreach initiatives. Visiting artists provide workshops to the public aside from the general performance. Often the festival teams with other arts organizations in the area, such as Atlantic Center for the Arts, to provide advanced training in music or dance technique to amateur artists. Participants and observers meet the artist in small class settings to ask about performing and to learn from a master in the particular field.

Artists will spend time with small groups of students. The students perform their instruments for the artist and hear critiques of their work. "These are very specialized," said Cox, who added that most master class programs are conducted by and for pianists.

Matinees are mini-concerts conducted for elementary, middle and high school students and the community. After the performance, the artist engages in a usually lively question and answer period. Recently, the Young Artist Series presented Japanese marimba artist Naoko Takada who entertained a crowd of hundreds at DeBary Hall Historic Site. The energized performance made fans of young and old.

"These interactions are often very animated," said Cox. "There are lots of discussions." Overall, the matinee concerts are an educational event mixed with performances. In the 2006-07 season, the matinees will be performed at the News-Journal Center in Daytona Beach. The matinees attract children of all ages and educational backgrounds, including home-schooled children. The performances are free for the students.

"These programs are how we give back at CFCE," said Cox.



Naoko Takada



The matinee concerts are an educational event mixed with performances

Couple

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"The award, presented by the city's Historic Preservation Board, is a real honor," said Mrs. Harrell. "The festival, museum, preserving our history – it's been a real joy!"

Built in 1899, the frame vernacular building formerly housed the black parish of St. Rita's Catholic Mission. The museum, founded in 1999, houses an extensive collection of more than 100 replicas of African-American inventions, including a wood-burning stove, an ice box, authentic African masks and hundreds of photographs from Chisholm High School, the first Volusia County school for African American children.

"We started out with things passed down from our parents and grandparents," said Harrell. "It just snowballed from there. People have been so generous."

Actually it started over fifteen years ago when the movie *Roots* was released. The movie spurred Mrs. Harrell to begin a *Roots* genealogy program for the members of her church, Allen Chapel.

"The libraries and museums we visited throughout the county didn't have any black history information," said Mr. Harrell. "So, Mary got mad and decided to do something about it."

Her first efforts resulted in a photo slide show featuring members' family trees. The program was very well received and the Harrells began receiving photos and artifacts from throughout the community.

Mrs. Harrell then began to travel from school to school with her 'suitcase museum' showcasing the inventions of blacks. This eventually grew into an annual festival showcasing local black history. Eventually, the church was donated and restored and became a permanent home for the display and a venue for the Black Heritage festival held each year in February.

The festival focuses on educating the public about black history through activities ranging from cane grinding to hair braiding and museum tours. The Black Heritage Museum, 314 Duss St., and the historic shotgun house in Pettis Park are central to the festival. African-American culture is showcased during this three day festival which includes storytelling, exhibits, African-American arts and crafts, clothing, music, dancing, live entertainment, unique demonstrations, and children's activities. Hundreds of students from Volusia County schools attend the festival to learn what it was like for past African-American generations growing up.

The Black Heritage Museum is also part of the students' tour. Chisholm Elementary students find the history of their school particularly interesting. Many children have no idea that their school is "so old" or that it had been a school for African Americans during segregation.

Throughout the weekend there are the sounds of gospel music and ongoing historical exhibits and demonstrations. There is also a non-denominational church service Sunday with several area pastors and choirs involved.

The Black Heritage Museum and the annual festival allow people of all races the opportunity to learn about the local black community's history.

"It's necessary for children to learn about history – American history," says Mrs. Harrell, "American history covers all colors."

The museum is open year round, admission is free. For more information, please call 386-424-0008

Cultural affairs

Here's what's on the cultural scene this season in Volusia and Flagler counties:

- ❖ Eight cultural and heritage organizations received Volusia County ECHO funds amounting to \$2.8 million for building construction or restoration projects. Funds will be disbursed beginning October 1.
- ❖ ArtHaus of Volusia and Flagler Counties has new management staff. After departures of key staff members, the board of ArtHaus has announced the appointment of Stephanie Merryman, program manager, and Juliana Romnes, administrative assistant.
- ❖ The Gateway Center for the Arts building program got a boost recently from the U.S. government with the award of \$100,000 toward the project. Congressman John L. Mica was instrumental in getting the award for the center's parent organization, the DeBary Art League.
- ❖ The Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts, Barberville, has named Jessi Smith its executive director. Smith replaces longtime director Marilyn Breeze who stepped down after more than 20 years.
- ❖ Gamble Place, the historic home, reopened to the public May 27 in conjunction with a daylong Cracker festival. The 150-acre historic site in Spruce Creek Preserve is operated by the Museum of Arts and Sciences for the Nature Conservancy.
- ❖ Florida's arts and heritage organizations received good news this year from Tallahassee. Funding across the board was increased or remained level with last year for all cultural and historical programs. The cultural and heritage budget was more than \$58 million.
- ❖ The Cultural Council of Volusia County (CCVC) has re-appointed an Art in Public Places selection committee for the Historic Courthouse in DeLand and approved a revised call-to-artists solicitation. The new schedule calls for the selection committee to begin evaluating submissions by September.

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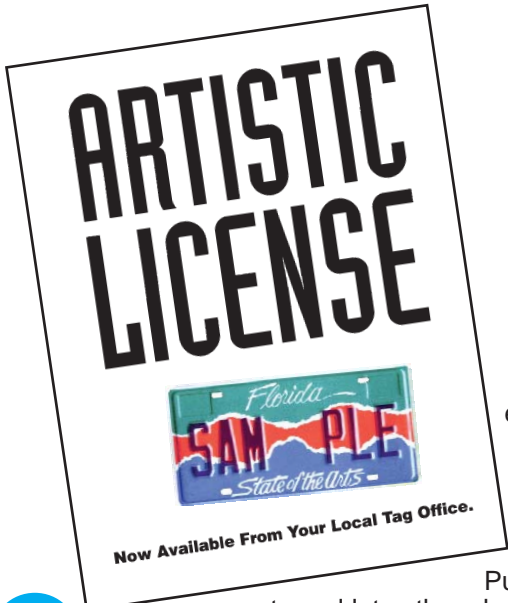
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Be a driving force for the Arts in Florida- Buy a State of the Arts license plate

Did you know that sales from "State of the Arts" license plates have generated more than \$170,000 for arts-related programs in Volusia County since the program's inception in 1995? Did you know that \$20 of each plate sold in Volusia County is returned directly to the County's local arts program? Did you know that the initial cost for one of these attractive plates is only \$32 (renewable each year for \$22 additional)? Now you do!

Putting one of these plates on all your vehicles shows your commitment to the arts and lets others know that Florida really is a "STATE OF THE ARTS." So, stop by your local tag office today and upgrade to one these plates. You'll be a "Driving Force for the Arts."