

Art-i-facts

A Publication of the Polk Arts Alliance

Winter Cultural Wonders...

Florida Dance
Theatre
Nutcracker Sweets

Historic Polk
Theatre
*presents
The Four Tops!*

Florida
Southern
College
*46th Festival
of Fine Arts*

Explorations V
Children's
Museum
*Holiday
Workshops*

Ridge Art
Association
*The Annual Black
& White Show*

Warner
Southern
College
*Sounds of
the Season*



Theatre Winter Haven *presents* **CATS**

(See page 6.)

CARRIE MAE WEEMS

THE LOUISIANA PROJECT

December 10, 2005 -
February 12, 2006



Image Copyright Carrie Mae Weems and Courtesy of Arts Management/Pamela Auchincloss.

POP ART
1956 - 2006

The First 50 Years
February 18 - April 16, 2006

Image by Andy Warhol.

Polk Museum of Art

MORE THAN AN ART MUSEUM

800 E Palmetto St | Lakeland | 863-688-7743 | www.PolkMuseumofArt.org

Located on Lake Morton behind Lakeland Public Library. Admission: \$5 General | \$4 Seniors | Students & Members FREE.



Member Organizations:

- Arts on the Park
 - Arts In Healthcare - Polk
 - The Bach Festival of Central Florida
 - Bartow Art Guild
 - Explorations V Children's Museum
 - Florida Dance Theatre
 - Florida Southern College
 - Frostproof Artist's League
 - Harrison Arts Center
 - Historical Lake Wales Society
 - Historical Society of Fort Meade
 - Historic Bok Sanctuary
 - Imperial Symphony Orchestra
 - Lakeland Art Guild
 - The Lakeland Center
 - Lakeland Choral Society
 - Lake Wales Arts Council
 - Lake Wales Little Theatre
 - Pied Piper Players
 - Polk Community College
 - Polk County Historical Association
 - Polk County Historical Museum
 - Polk Museum of Art
 - Polk Theatre
 - Ridge Art Association
 - Southeastern College
 - Theatre Winter Haven
 - The Tuesday Music Club
 - VSA/ Polk County
 - Warner Southern College
 - Winter Haven Symphony Guild
- For information on the CAB: 863-688-7743.

Front Cover: CATS comes to Theatre Winter Haven. (See p. 6.) Pictured: Karl Anderson as "Munkustrap" and Amy Wright as "Victoria". Costume Design: Camille McClellan. Make-up design: LuAndra Whitehurst. Wig Design: Carol Kology. (Photo by: Pezzimenti Photography.)

Back Cover: (top left) Lake Wales Arts Center presents *Origins*. (Shown): George Gadson *Little Preacher Boy*. See p. 14. (Image courtesy of the artist.)

(top right) Historic Bok Sanctuary presents *Disappearing Landscape*, paintings by Maija Baynes. (Shown): *Kissimmee River Landscape I*. See p. 18. (Image courtesy of the artist.)

(bottom left) Ridge Art Association's Banner Award winner for 2006, *Our Children*, watercolor, 22" X 30" by Freddie Combs. (Photo by E. R. Bailey.)

(bottom right) Polk Museum of Art presents *Pop Art 1956 - 2006: The First 50 Years*. (Shown): Andy Warhol, *Marilyn*, 1967, Screenprint, 36" x 36". See p. 12. (Collection of Homer Hooks and Lois Cowles Harrison.)

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*The Mission
of the
Polk Arts
Alliance
is to
cultivate an
environment
in which
all the arts
flourish.*



Art-i-facts

A Publication of the Polk Arts Alliance

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From the desk of the Executive Director



Greetings to all cultural arts enthusiasts.

The Polk Arts Alliance with this issue celebrates six months in official operation with a Director and an office in the County seat of Bartow. We have experienced growth, but still have a lot to accomplish. We have presented two workshops on behalf of cultural arts organizations and the community; writing grants and working with the media & writing press releases. We have collaborated with our cultural arts organizations with letters of support on behalf of their efforts in requesting funds from the Division of Cultural Affairs.

We are working closely with the Tourist Development Council in the production of our first county-wide arts brochure and in the redevelopment of *Artifacts*. We have been granted recognition by our PCBCC, under the direction of Chairman Jack Myers, with our first funding support for the operation of PAA as the County's service organization to the arts and the community. We have advocated with other local arts agencies in our position on maintaining the current character of the "Florida State of the Arts" license plate (of which \$20 comes directly back to our county when constituents purchase the State's specialty license plate that honors the arts). We are working closely with our consultant in finishing the second study on the economic impact of the arts in Polk. We are partners with Polk Vision, Heartland for Children and other initiatives and organizations. We welcomed four new members to our Board of Directors: Sonji Coney, Robin Quillon, Jane Patton and Edie Yates. And, we are under the direction of a new President, Dr. Gabriel Statom. We are forever honored by the work of our past president, Ms. Sue Bentley who continues to serve the art community and PAA.

Please continue to support PAA with memberships, advertisements and participation in events offered by our cultural arts organizations. Together we will ensure that the arts become a standard component in the dialogue on the quality of life of all people in Polk and elsewhere.

Thanks to Chairman/CEO George W. Harris, Jr. of Citrus and Chemical Bank with our first corporate membership as a Platinum Sponsor. We thank him and his fine institution for their generosity toward PAA and his continuous support of the arts.



Michelle Anderson:
Executive Director,
Polk Arts Alliance

Greetings from the President of The Polk Arts Alliance



It is a great honor to serve the people of Polk County by serving on the Board of Directors of the Polk Arts Alliance. I look forward to meeting many of you and helping make our communities a stronger oasis for the arts.

It is a great honor to follow Sue Bentley as President of the Polk Arts Alliance. Under her leadership the alliance has employed our first Executive Director, established a world-class roster for our Board of Directors; and has made many other wonderful strides for such a young organization.

The goal I am keeping before us this year is simple: **To make PAA known and build its support.** During the next year, we will embark on releasing our first brochure with information about all of the arts organizations in the county and to give patrons an opportunity to support the arts financially. Further, we are in the midst of a new Economic Impact Study that will enable us to better advocate the arts among local businesses and supporters. You will be very surprised when you learn the fiscal impact the arts bring to our community.

Finally, we will be holding our first *Gala for the Arts* in the Spring of 2006, in which we not only build financial support, but honor one among us who has enriched the cultural scene in our county. More information on this event will come.

Also, I would like to commend our Executive Director, Mischelle Anderson, for her dedication to the arts and the work she has done thus far to provide support and assistance for our CAB organizations. If you have not met Mischelle, I encourage you to stop by our office in Bartow and get to know her.

I know the best is yet to come!

I hope you enjoy this edition of *Art-i-facts* and I hope that you will be enriched by the artistic events in which you involve yourself.

Dr. Gabriel C. Statom: President, Polk Arts Alliance

The Polk Arts Alliance Board of Directors

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	Executive Director



Warner Southern College
and the
Department of Fine Arts

is proud to announce the Productions and Concerts
for 2005 - 2006

Sounds of the Season

Christmas Concert
December 2, 3, & 4, 2005



Liberty!

A Patriotic Musical
March 9, 10, 11, 12, 2006



Hand bell Choir & Instrumental Ensemble

April 6, 2006



Gospel Sing! April 21, 22, 23, 2006

Music Department, Warner Southern College
13895 Hwy 27, Lake Wales, Florida 33859
863-638-7231 - www.warner.edu



A Note From The Editor...

Extreme Makeover ... Curb Appeal ... While You Were Out ... This Old Magazine?

Art-i-facts Magazine is truly a unique publication. Not only is it the voice of the Polk Arts Alliance, a news and events outlet for member organizations of the Cultural Arts Board (non-profit, arts and cultural organizations), but it is your personal cultural calendar, your link to wonderful events. As such, it is a grand tool for enriching the lives of Polk Countians through increased exposure to the arts. It is proof that no resident of, or visitor to, Polk County can ever make the complaint "There's nothing to do," because it simply would not be true.

As evidence of this, look on pages 16 and 17 of this publication and find dozens of opportunities, something for nearly every day for the next three months and beyond. Over 25 events list the word "free," (look for the big red **FREE** in the listings) and that's just the events I had room to include!

Of course as *Art-i-fact's* editor, designer, lay-out artist, secretary, and occasional photographer for the past six years I am somewhat biased, but I point these things out in advance of announcing that *Art-i-facts* is changing.... But don't worry, this change is for the better. Polk County's premiere arts and culture magazine will still be all of the above, but it's getting an upgrade, a renovation, a make-over. Sounds like the premise for a "reality show," doesn't it?

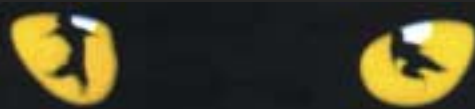
Late next February, when you reach for the spring issue of *Art-I-facts*, don't look for this large, tabloid-sized newsprint publication. Instead, look for a glossy, 40-page, magazine-sized...well, magazine. Thanks to the generosity of the Central Florida Visitors & Convention Bureau, PAA and its supporters, *Art-i-facts* is getting a make-over.

The best news of all is the part of *Art-i-facts* that won't be changing. The magazine in its new glossy format will still be **FREE!**

Edwin Ryan Bailey: Editor, *Art-i-facts Magazine*



presents
CATS



THE CREATION OF CATS.
It began as a book of poems.

Andrew Lloyd Weber, creator of *Phantom Of The Opera*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, remembered a childhood book by TS Eliot called *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*. He had always wanted to set existing verses to music and seized on the memory. It was to be a daunting task that took more than five years to complete. While Shakespeare had based most of his plays on old ideas and folklore would give rise to many a musical (*Into The Woods*, *Cinderella*), no one had dared to drop music on an entire book of poetry before, much less such magical, mystical verses. The idea that a musical without much of a narrative—a story line that was clearly exposed—was a bit problematic.

In addition, no one had ever really done an “environmental” musical before, one that wasn’t really in a set but one in which the entire theatre would become the setting. The original performances were in a London theatre that was “tailored for the show”, rather than the show being tailored for the theatre. When it moved to Broadway most of the theatre was gutted, the roof removed (that made the news!) and the alley in which the cats performed surrounded the entire audience. The cats were among you. You were among their lives.

Then there was the potential hazard of this environmental, kind-of-plotless-all-sung-poetry musical performed by animals being accepted, much less understood. People costumed as cats behaving like people? This idea of a “concept” musical was potentially so foreign to Americans that Trevor Nunn, the director, claimed if the musical had tried to open on Broadway it would have never gotten out of the kitty litter box. Before it opened in New York, *CATS*, the naysayers touted, was “gonna be a dog.”

Gillian Lynn claimed the choreography was the most difficult she’d attempted. The director began rehearsals and for months had no story line to follow, that is until T.S. Eliot’s widow produced some unfinished poems, one of which was about Grizabella, the Glamour cat. This was to lead to a thin story line and produced the most successful single song in Broadway memory: *Memory*.

Even a cat with nine lives cannot live forever, so, on Sunday, September 10, 2000, Broadway’s longest running show finally hung up its whiskers, tails and toe shoes after nearly 18 years and a record 7,485 performances. Longer than *A Chorus Line*, *42nd Street*, *The Sound Of Music*, longer than anything. It grossed 400 million dollars world wide and although T.S. Eliot died in 1965, he received a posthumous Tony Award 18 years later for his unwitting contributions to the score.

Now, on the musical’s 25th anniversary, Theatre Winter Haven has been granted permission to present one of America’s first community theatre productions. We shall make it as “purr”-fect as possible. *Co-producers for TWH’s production of CATS are: Dr. & Mrs. Frank Fischer, Jr., Dr. & Mrs. Frank Fischer III, Mrs. William Fuller, Hill Nissan, Inc., and Oak Ridge Funeral Care.*



Performance dates are February 16 - March 12 at the Chain of Lakes Auditorium (210 Cypress Gardens, Blvd. Winter Haven, FL). For tickets or for more information call 863-294-SHOW (7469).

Coming Soon to Theatre Winter Haven:

★ **December 1 - 18:**
A TUNA CHRISTMAS.

★ **January 12 -29, 2006:**
NO SEX, PLEASE WE’RE BRITISH.

★ **January 25, 2006:**
VAGINA MONOLOGUES.
(one performance only).

★ **January 27, 2006:** *A Gathering of Angels Fundraiser. SWINGSATIONAL*, 6:30 p.m. at Nora Mayo Hall.

★ **February 5 & 6:** Auditions for *KING OF THE MOON* Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. & Feb. 6 at 7 p.m.

★ **February 7 - 8:** Stage Read, *ANTON IN SHOW BUSINESS* at the Ridge Art Gallery.

★ **February 16 - March 12, 2006:** *CATS.*

Theatre Winter Haven is located in the Chain O’Lakes Complex, 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd. in Winter Haven. For show times and tickets, call the box office at (863) 294-7469 or visit us online at www.theatrewinterhaven.com. ★

(above - detail of cover image)

Karl Anderson as Munkustrap and Amy Wright as Victoria.
Costume Design: Camille McClellan.

Make-up design: LuAndra Whitehurst. Wig Design: Carol Kology.
Photograph by Pezzimenti Photography

FLORIDA DANCE THEATRE



Nutcracker Sweets Holiday Celebration

This December's holiday excitement includes Florida Dance Theatre's *Nutcracker Sweets* Holiday Celebration. The professional dancers of Polk County's own professional dance company, Florida Dance Theatre, will be accompanied by a variety of talent from around Polk County. This season, dancers, singers and gymnasts were chosen through an open audition to participate in this exciting program. The traditional *Nutcracker Suite*, including the beautiful Sugar Plum Fairy, Waltz of the Flowers and Mother Ginger and her children, is part of the program which also includes lively holiday music to put everyone in the holiday spirit.

The addition of musical director Josh Sholander, script writer Jeff Luty and exciting new choreography by Associate Director Ferdinand "Freddie" De Jesus makes for a lively evening for the entire family!

Performance Dates are Saturday, December 17 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 18 at 2 p.m. in The Historic Polk Theatre, Lakeland. For reserved tickets call Florida Dance Theatre at 863-802-0399. Ticket prices are Adults, \$20; Students/Seniors, \$18; Children 12 and under, \$12; Group Seats of 12 or more, \$12.

DREAMS: A Celebration of Black History & Culture

Mark your calendars as Florida Dance Theatre and the Polk Theatre join forces in presenting its first annual *Dreams* in recognition of Black History Month and in honor of the work of Dr. Martin Luther King. This community project includes performances by the professional dancers of Florida Dance Theatre and members of the community. Traditional, new and innovative aspects of this rich culture will be represented by dancers, singers, musicians, poets and visual artists.

The exciting showcase will be held at the Polk Theatre on Thursday, January 12th at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased by

calling the Polk Theatre at 863-682-7553. Tickets are \$10 for Adults and \$7 for Students. Don't Miss It!

FOR the LOVE of ARTS and ANIMALS

A benefit for the Horseshoe Creek Wildlife Refuge and Florida Dance Theatre will be held at the Lake Wales Country Club on Saturday February 11th from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The benefit, sponsored by *The Ledger* and The Art Cottage in Winter Haven promises an elegant evening entertained by the professional company of Florida Dance Theatre, live music, wild animal babies and more. A silent auction will include Theme Park tickets, Dinners, Original paintings and... "Lola," a rare Diana monkey that makes the refuge her home, is making her own contribution of an original painting.

The Horseshoe Creek Wildlife Refuge is located in Davenport. The refuge is home to a variety of wild animals including rare white tigers, tabby tigers, and ligers (a tiger/lion mix). These animals are brought in from around the country for care. Some came from circuses or were confiscated from illegal owners or abandoned by owners who could no longer care for them. Some were actually born on site. One of the white tigers is also the same one seen on the ads for *Animal Planet*.

FDT Artistic Director, Carol Erkes, met Horseshoe Creek Director, Darryl Atkinson, at the refuge's fundraising event a few years ago. "Darryl has been involved with the Art Cottage in Winter Haven, where my husband Rod has his paintings on display and has donated some of them to the refuge's past fundraising events. After Darryl attended our *Degas, Art Comes to Life* fundraiser last season we decided to join forces to make an exciting annual event" says Erkes.

One of the baby tigers joined FDT when recently performing at the Arts Platform party. (See image below). "The theme was *Wild Things* and it was held at the Detroit Tiger Stadium so that was the perfect way to start advertising the event."

Tickets for the event are \$30 per person in advance and \$35 per person at the door. For more information or reservations by January 31st call: Horseshoe Creek Wildlife Refuge at 863 295-3547 or Florida Dance Theatre at 863-802-0399.

The studios of Florida Dance Theatre are located at 305 West Main Street in downtown Lakeland, on the corner of New York and Main Streets. For tickets or more information on any of these programs call FDT at 802-0399. □

(Photos courtesy of Florida Dance Theatre.)



PUBLIX SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Over the last nine years, through the generosity of Publix Super Markets Charities, Florida Dance Theatre has been able to award full and supplemental scholarships to deserving young students to attend classes at the Academy of FDT. Open auditions were held at the studios of FDT on October 1st for students ages 6 through 17. Over 100 children attended the audition and this year 37 were chosen to receive an award. Without the help of these scholarships some of these children would not be able to attend classes at all.

This season's scholarships winners are: Sarah Zavala, Logan Eichmeier, Julia Kline, Madison Kline, Alison Gavin, Sarah Calkins, Drew Koon, Leah Burrello, Cheyane Blythe, Terra Caldwell, Danielle Fudge, Madison Weir, Julie Worlow, Brenna Eckhardt, Marisa Williams, Gillian Fazio, Jaylin Hutchinson, Fiona Suckra, Jennifer Benoit, Ariel Trzaskos, Phillisha McAfee, Erin Gavin, Shiloh Hodges, Brittany Sanders, Jackie Felts, Grace Tabales, Alexis Zimmerman, Tomasa Villaronga, Amber Woodie, Tia Perry, Levi Perry, Arielle Ferrell, Kallie Miller, Sarah Foushee, Sheila Jones, Chelsea Barker, and Greg Davis. **Congratulations!**



Florida Southern College's 46th Festival of Fine Arts

The Show Goes On All Winter Long

Florida Southern College continues its 46th season with enough local, national, and international talent to make every night at FSC seem like a holiday. *Winter performances include:*

As Bees in Honey Drown

December 1-3, 7:30 p.m.

Matinee December 4, 2:30 p.m. Thrust into Manhattan's "fast lane" by the success of his first novel, a young writer falls prey to the wiles of Alexa, provocative lioness of the celebrity scene. Later, left alone and strapped with unpaid bills, he learns that others have shared his hapless fate. This play is directed by Mary T. Albright. Buckner Theatre: Single admission ticket: \$15.

Christmas Gala

December 3, 7:30 p.m.

A long-standing holiday treasure that hardly needs an introduction, this potpourri of vocal and instrumental Christmas delights is performed by the ensembles and soloists of Florida Southern's excellent music department. Sponsored by Heath Funeral Chapel. Single admission ticket: \$20.

Cantus – January 12, 7:30 p.m.

With vocal programs that stretch from Gregorian chant to Richard Strauss – from Smokey Robinson to *Shenandoah* – these twelve winsome young men have captured audiences throughout the land. *The Washington Post* notes, "Theirs is a sound that beams with both enthusiasm and natural grace." Single admission ticket: \$25.



(Images courtesy of the artists.)

Marra & Mancini, Duo Pianists

January 17, 7:30 p.m.

From Italy comes this delightful duo with an evening of compositions for two pianos – and for four hands at one keyboard. Chosen from a repertory that stretches from Rossini to Gershwin, their programs always include something for everyone. Generously sponsored by Alma Foods. Single admission ticket: \$25.



CAROL CHANNING

An Evening with Carol Channing

January 20, 7:30 p.m.

True to the lyrics she made famous in *Hello Dolly!*, Carol Channing is still going strong! FSC welcomes this Tony Award-winning Broadway legend to our stage for a delightful evening of repartée and song. Single admission ticket: \$30.

Robert MacDonald Presents:

Mozart, Musicals and More

February 4, 7:30 p.m.

The College's pianist-in-residence plays host to a richly varied evening of excerpts from the world of concerts, operas and musicals. He is joined by talented vocalists and instrumentalists under the skillful direction of John Thomasson. Single admission ticket: \$20.

Mozart's *The Magic Flute* –

February 14, 7:30 p.m.

There's no better way to celebrate Mozart's 250th than to enjoy this delight-

ful operatic masterpiece, fully staged and with orchestra! The gifted company that brought us *Don Giovanni* returns with Papageno's bird-like antics, the Queen of the Night's arias and all the



The Magic Flute

rest. It's an operatic gem for all ages! *In German with English supertitles.* Single admission ticket: \$30.

Into the Woods – February 16-

18 & 23-25, 7:30 p.m. Matinees 19 & 26, 2:30 p.m.

What are Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood and Prince Charming doing in the same musical? This "fractured fairy tale," complete with a witch's spell, is served up as only composer Stephen Sondheim can – with a twist. James F. Beck

serves as both director and set designer. Buckner Theatre: Single admission ticket: \$15.

Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra

February 19, 7:30 p.m.

With an ever-expanding worldwide reputation, this outstanding symphony, under the direction of conductor Leon Botstein, is known as the premier orchestra in Israel's capital city. Through the generous co-sponsorship of patrons from Hadassah and Temple Emanuel, The Festival of Fine Arts is pleased to be a part of its very first Florida tour. Single admission ticket: \$30.

Florida Southern Choral Gala

February 28, 7:30 p.m.

Visits to the inspiring world of choral music are among our most enjoyable Festival traditions. Conductor Larry Sledge insures an enjoyable trip through the vast and varied field of choral literature. Single admission ticket: \$20.

(FSC continued on next page...)

FSC continued from previous page...

Tickets for all Festival of Fine Arts events may be purchased at the Branscomb Box Office, Johnson Avenue (Parking Lot VA). Box office hours are 1-4 p.m., Monday through Friday and telephone orders may be placed at (863) 680-4296.

Melvin Art Gallery Fall Schedule

The Annual Florida Southern All-Student Show – December 2 to 9. Opening reception December 2, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

This is a once-a-year opportunity to view and buy current work from eighty art majors in one of the strongest departments in the Southeast. Awards will be given at the opening.

Robert Recht – January 14 to 27.

Opening reception Jan. 14, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Robert Recht's stirring paintings, photographs and videos approach from different angles the flow of media, or mediated information, into our consciousness. Recht, a former FSC art professor now working in Miami, seeks to capture and analyze the "psychic disarray" of a culture whose experience of time and space has been transformed by technology. He will talk about his work at the opening.

William J. Otremsky and C.J. Yeh –

February 3 to 24. Opening reception February 3 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Friends since graduate school at the University of Pennsylvania, Otremsky and Yeh's collaboration brings divergent media into a moving conversation about how we see ourselves. FSC painting professor Otremsky uses traditional old master painting techniques to explore the nature of the visual image, while Yeh uses digital media to investigate human representation through analogue data. The artists will be at the opening reception to talk about their work.



(Image courtesy of the artist.)

(Shown Above): *Cicatrix* by Bill Otremsky.

Gallery hours are weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., also by appointment, and during intermissions of most performances of the *Festival of Fine Arts*. Please call the gallery at (863) 680-4743 for more information. ❖

HARRISON CENTER FOR THE VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

PRESENTS *THE NUTCRACKER*



Paloma Herrera

The Lois Cowles Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Art will be presenting *The Nutcracker* at the Lakeland Center on December 9 and 10 at 7:30 p.m. and December 11 at 2:30 p.m. International Prima Ballerina, Paloma Herrera (shown at left) comes to Lakeland to dance the role of "Sugar Plum Fairy." Ms. Herrera has been named one of the top ten dancers of the Century and is sought after by ballet companies such as the New York City Ballet, The Kirov Ballet, and the Moscow Ballet. She is currently a Principal Dancer with the American Ballet Theatre in New York City.

Paloma Herrera's roles with the company include Polyhymnia in *Apollo*, Gamzatti in *La Bayadère*, Kitri in *Don Quixote*, the French Ballerina in *Gala Performance*, the peasant pas de deux in *Giselle*, Clara and the Snow Queen in *The Nutcracker*, the leading role in *Paquita*, the pas de trois in *Swan Lake*, the Waltz in *Les Sylphides*, and leading roles in *Symphonic Variations*, *Symphonic Concertante*, and *Theme and Variations*. She also dances the Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux, the pas de trois in *Voluntaries*, and she created a leading role in *How Near Heaven*.

The Nutcracker is the first full-length ballet performed by the Harrison Dance Department. Other Harrison departments participating are Theatre, Musical Theatre and Visual Arts. Along with Ms. Herrera, Carlos Molina who is currently a Principal Dancer with the Boston Ballet and was a Principal Dancer with the American Ballet Theatre is dancing the role of Prince Cavalier; the Nutcracker Prince is Richard Krusch from Hungary, who also was with ABT. Harrison students will perform other principal roles such as Clara by Stephanie Russell, Lead Flower by Gaia Bonini, and the Rat King by Alex Jones. Rochelle School of the Arts and Jewett School for the Arts will be participating as well as Bon Bons, party children, mice, soldiers and Brandi Loyd as the Little Lamb. Of course, you will not want to miss the special appearance of the Assistant Principal of Harrison, Daryl Ward, as Mother Ginger.

The Nutcracker is a well-known story. Little Clara receives a Christmas gift of a nutcracker doll and that night witnesses toys expanding in size and coming to life. The Nutcracker Prince takes Clara to his enchanted sugar castle where she meets pastry chef Sugar Plum who uses spun sugar to concoct the dancing Sugar Fairies. There is chocolate from Spain, coffee from Arabia, tea from China, and so many other delightful goodies. Then Sugar Plum herself dances with her cavalier in Clara's honor. Finally, everyone is dancing, and the beauty of the setting makes it seem a dream.

You will not want to miss the lavish sets and costumes, and the beautiful music with a professionally-filled cast. This is a must-see performance of the traditional *Nutcracker* by Peter Tchaikovsky, choreographed by Susan Olson. Tickets are on sale now at the Lakeland Center Box Office at 863-834-8111 or Ticketmasters at 863-682-5300. Ticket prices are from \$21.50 - \$26.50. * (Images courtesy of HCVPA.)



Polk Community College Special Performance Series

Six Pack of PCC Special Performances Opens In 2006

A wide spectrum of musical styles will be featured in Polk Community College's 2006 Special Performances Series. The great and varied stars will be filling PCC's Fine Arts Theater with joy, music, comedy and song! The package of six musical shows in the Fine Arts Theater on the Winter Haven campus begins during the first days of the New Year and runs through April.

* **Friday, January 6, 8 p.m.: BEACHFRONT PROPERTY** brings a unique combination of high energy and artfully expressive sophistication to their performances. The superb vocal quartet offers audiences of all ages some of America's most beloved classics from the world of jazz, pop and rock and roll. The strikingly versatile voices of Beachfront property will leave you musically enriched and thoroughly entertained. Single Tickets: \$15.

* **Sunday, January 15, 2 p.m.: LAUGHING WITH THE LEGENDS-** Many of the songs and unforgettable legends of the 1950's are brought to life by popular husband and wife team of "Gurl and Girl." Their fun-filled production features singing, dancing, costumes, comedy, theater, red hot piano playing and fabulous impressions of many of the 50's unforgettable legends. Single Tickets: \$12.



* **Sunday, February 5, 2 p.m.: JOHN DAVIDSON-** If you've never seen John Davidson live, you are in for a treat. Davidson has been entertaining concert audiences for almost 40 years. With John Davidson you never know what you're going to get. Whether he is singing country or pop music or moving audiences to laughter with his comedy, you'll be charmed and delighted with his spontaneous one-of-a-kind performance. Single Tickets: \$15.

* **Friday, February 17, 8 p.m.: PIANO4** will shower you with songs of love performed by four talented pianists. Their ingenious medleys of familiar tunes feature rippling arpeggios, thunderous octaves and brilliant finger-work is performed with great taste and style. Mix in colorful lighting



and some light-hearted antics and your evening will be filled with wall to wall joyful entertainment. Single Tickets: \$12.

* **Sunday, February 26, 3 p.m.:**

ALL AMERICAN BOYS CHORUS

will amaze and entertain you with a special patriotic salute to America and our musical history. This

pure energy chorus is filled with some of the most dedicated and talented voices. Their wonderful performance will take you on a spirited romp through America's musical history. Single Tickets: \$15.

* **Saturday, April 1, 8 p.m.: DALLAS BRASS**

Be prepared to be completely charmed with the rich sounds from Dallas Brass. Their artistic blend of traditional brass instruments, with a full complement of drums and percussion, creates an extraordinary range of solos and musical challenges. *Dallas Brass* will blow you away with tons of fun and entertainment. Single Tickets: \$15.



Series tickets and individual tickets are now on sale. For ticket information, call Sharon Bevis at 297-1050, or e-mail her at: sbevis@polk.edu. Also be sure to visit us online at www.polk.edu/calendar for our complete gallery schedule. *



Images this page...

(top center)

Dallas Brass

(bottom left)

John Davidson

(above right)

All American Boys Chorus

(bottom right)

Piano4

(Images courtesy of the artists & PCC.)



ARTS on the PARK

Exhibitions, Performances, Awards

The Return of BRAVA



Arts on the Park welcomes the return of BRAVA, November 29 – December 27, 2005. In their own words, BRAVA is “an unstructured group of women artists who create independently but show their work collectively; who get together for critiques of their work, examine new trends and techniques and encourage one another in their individual quest for excellence.”

The artists of BRAVA are: Kim Radatz, Martha Brooks Marshall, Margaret Conte, Candace Knapp and Lyla Haggard.

An AOP Open House will be held on Tuesday, November 29, from 6 – 9 p.m. and will combine the reception for BRAVA group with the Members' Gallery artists. This pre-holiday event will feature caroling and is open to the public. Visitors will also have a chance to meet and talk with these extraordinary artists at the reception.

The Joe Prine Concert Series

It was standing room only at the Arts on the Park gallery this past September when the *Joe Prine Concert Series* held its first performance featuring Bryan Rivers and Vanessa Barbee.



Who was Joe Prine? He was a formidable mover and shaker in Polk County when it came to music and musicians. Joe passed away in April of this year and his untimely death has left a huge vacuum in our community.

Mostly, he was noted for producing local concerts at a variety of venues such as the Renaissance Iron Works, Arts on the

Park and many others. Joe began by booking musicians who played first at Arts on the Park and as time went by, at other locations. Ironically, his final booking was at AOP, so it was appropriate that AOP became the venue for the ongoing series and AOP is proud and happy to have become the place where lovers of music of all types can gather to salute Joe and enjoy a visual art experience at the same time.

The series of concerts was organized by the Friends of Joe Prine. On December 17th an Open House will be held at the AOP gallery where friends of Joe will join together for Christmas songs, jamming and a sing-a-long. The public is invited and there is no charge for the open house.

January 21st at 8 p.m. will be the final concert at AOP featuring Robert Phillips and Victoria deLissovoy. Suggested donations are: Adults \$7, Students \$5, Under 12 free. This concert will be followed by a Joe Prine Tribute at Polk Theater on February 17th & 18th.

Local Art Federation Exhibit At Arts On The Park

Visit AOP February 1st through the 23rd for the opportunity to view the Imperial Polk Advertising Federation, Inc. (local) entries into a competition for a local, district or national ADDY awards of the National American Advertising Federation. This exhibition of commercial art will be in sharp contrast to the fine arts normally exhibited in the gallery. In essence, the art is a form of advertising; designed to entertain, sell, convince or inform the viewer. A reception will be held Thursday, February 9th from 7 – 9 p.m. and is open to the public.

In The Members' Gallery

The Members' Gallery at the top of the stairs has already been booked into next year and is an added attraction to the gallery's monthly shows. Be sure to visit this new space. In

the Members' Gallery in December are Ilene Phelan and Patty Lovell with mixed media/fused glass/acrylic painting and non-functional ceramics. In January, Shirley Bernard will exhibit mixed media works and in February, Steve Martin will exhibit his extraordinary photography.



Peggy Olmstead Chosen "Volunteer of the Year"

Each year at the AOP Annual Meeting, the *Volunteer of the Year* is announced. The 2005 award went to Arts on the Park's Gallery Director, Peggy Olmstead. Peggy's nameplate will be added to the Margaret Parkman Volunteer of the Year plaque which was begun in 2003.

Although Peggy is a paid employee that works from noon to 4 p.m. five days a week, many, many times she could be found after hours, working overtime on time-sensitive mailings or refurbishing of the upstairs gallery, painting, scraping and cleaning. She also does miscellaneous other tasks that go beyond normal gallery operations and that fall outside of her gallery work hours. The list could go on and on. Now that's what's called an award-winning volunteer.

Arts On The Park is located at 115 North Kentucky Ave. in Lakeland. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 12 noon to 4 p.m. For information on programs or exhibitions call (863) 680-ARTS (2787). □

Images this page, by the artists of BRAVA:

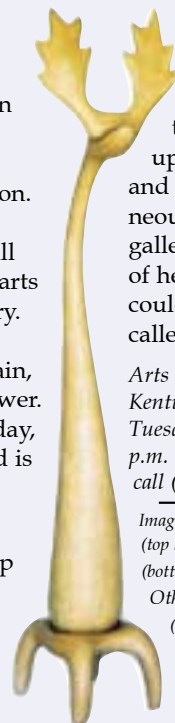
(top left): An 'Art Dress' by Kim Radatz.

(bottom right): A sculpture by Candace Knapp.

Other Images: (Photos by Phyllis Jones.)

(bottom far left): Bryan Rivers at Fall Fest. (He was the first performer at Joe Prine Concert.)

(top right) Vic Prebor presents Peggy Olmstead the 2005 Volunteer Award.





Exhibitions

David Maxim: *Natural Force*

December 2, 2005 through February 22, 2006
Reception: Friday, December 9, 6-8:30 p.m.

Maxim is a San Francisco-based artist whose work deals with mythical characters and forces. The Polk Museum of Art has an

extraordinary collection of his dynamic works on paper in addition to two major sculptural paintings. Maxim will talk about his work at a pre-reception lecture in the Museum's auditorium on Friday, December 9 at 6 p.m.

Carrie Mae Weems: *The Louisiana Project*

December 10, 2005 - February 12, 2006
Reception: Friday, December 9, 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Internationally renowned artist Carrie Mae Weems is one of the most important artists working today. Her work in photography, video and installation examines the history of culture, gender, and race within American society. *The Louisiana Project* was commissioned in 2003 to commemorate the bicentennial of The Louisiana Purchase. However, the impact of this exhibition extends more widely than the particular culture of New Orleans.

Carrie Mae Weems has been exhibiting internationally for over 20 years. Her work has been collected by virtually every major American art museum including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and The Getty Center. She has been awarded numerous honors and has served as artist-in-residence at the National Endowment for the Arts, Bunting Institute at Harvard University, and the Art Institute of Chicago. Recently, she was awarded the Joseph H. Hazen Rome Prize Fellowship by the Trustees of the American Academy in Rome. This exhibition has been organized by the Newcomb Art Gallery, Tulane University, New Orleans and toured under the auspices of Pamela Auchincloss/ Arts Management, New York.

(above) David Maxim, *Death of the Hero*, 1996, Pencil and opaque watercolor on paper, 25 3/4" x 18".

(right) Carrie Mae Weems, *A Distant View*, Iris print, 20 3/4" x 20 3/4". Image Copyright Carrie Mae Weems and Courtesy of Arts Management/ Pamela Auchincloss.



Life as Art: Wood and Fiber Art from the Permanent Collection

December 17, 2005 - April 23, 2006

This exhibition will feature a wide variety of forms created using natural materials such as wood and fiber. Included among the objects in this exhibition are contemporary works by Florida artists such as Holly Hambrick, Margaret Steward, and Charles Parkhill, a set of Chinese nesting tables, Pre-Columbian textiles, and works from southern Africa.

Pop Art 1956-2006: The First 50 Years

February 18 - April 16, 2006
Reception: Friday, February 17, 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Pop Art has become perhaps the most enduring and flexible of all art movements that originated in the 20th century. From the early works of Richard Hamilton and Andy Warhol, the movement has evolved as pop culture has expanded, now including everything from major public sculptures to the silliest of "low brow" art. Using works from its permanent collection and borrowing works from museums, galleries and private collectors, the Polk Museum of Art has curated an exhibition that documents the past 50 years yet maintains an eye toward the future. This exhibition includes the work of Jasper Johns, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, James Rosenquist, Andy Warhol (see back cover of this publication), and many other major artists.

STUDENT ART EXHIBITIONS AND OPENING RECEPTIONS

Rooms with a View: Middle School Student Exhibition; December 6, 2005 - January 8, 2006

Reception: Saturday, December 10, 11 a.m.

This exhibition features works based on room interiors (real and imagined). Sponsored by Polk County Builders Association Foundation.

Harrison School of the Arts Student Exhibition;

January 17 - February 26, 2006.

Reception: Saturday, January 21, 11 a.m.

EVENTS

Gems, Jewels, and More; Friday, December 2, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Saturday, December 3, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This event brings some of Florida's finest jewelry artists to the Museum, just in time for the Holiday season. All artists participating have the same wonderful quality, customer service, and ability to do custom orders.

The Annual Holiday Luncheon will be held on December 2 to coincide with *Gems, Jewels, and More*. There will be two seating for this gourmet luncheon: 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Please call (863) 688-7743, x238.

Kwanzaa; Monday, December 26, 3 p.m.

This PMoA annual tradition is a celebration of family and community for all people. Through music, storytelling, and dance, the Kwanzaa Celebration shares the meaning and purpose behind this special celebration of

Polk Museum of Art continued on next page...



Polk Museum of Art continued from previous page...

African-American culture. The event includes an energized performance by the Kuumba Dancers (shown at left) and Drummers, interactive storytelling, and a traditional kinara candle lighting ceremony. Also included will be an open-house art workshop where visitors can make ethnic jewelry, masks, and ornaments.

Free and open to the public.

3rd Annual Poetry Slam & Poet's Panel

Saturday, February 18, 2006, 1 - 4 p.m.

The Museum once again teams up with the Tampa-based spoken word consortium Black-on-Black Rhyme and the Tampa Black Heritage Festival to present its annual poetry slam fest and poet's panel. Five slam poets (winners of the 2006 Black Heritage Festival Slam Poetry competition) will perform their winning works, as well as engage the audience in a panel discussion about the slam genre. An open mic will let budding slammers do their thing. Slam merchandise and liquid refreshments to be available.

Tickets cost \$10 for the general public, \$5 Members, Seniors, and Students. For more information or to order tickets, call (863) 688-5423. Tickets also available at the Museum front desk beginning December 1, 2005.

Note: Some poetry may contain strong language.

WORKSHOP

The Business of Fine Art: Making Your Creativity Profitable;

Saturday, January 21, 2006, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Join award-winning artist and art instructor Ryan Bailey as he reprises this popular half-day seminar at the Museum. Learn the ins and outs of self-promotion, publicizing yourself and your work, and how to price your art-work with collectors and galleries. Class size is limited. Seminar includes handouts, workshop projects, and discussions designed to help the working artist get the edge in a highly competitive market. Pre-registration required: Members \$30, Students: \$20, Non-Members: \$40. There is an additional \$5 materials fee. Call (863) 688-5423 to register by phone.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Gallery Talks: Curator-led tours 10:30 a.m., every third Tuesday of the month. Light refreshments available prior to each tour.

- Tuesday, December 20, 2005. *Carrie Mae Weems: The Louisiana Project.*
- Tuesday, January 17, 2006. *David Maxim: Natural Force.*
- Tuesday, February 21, 2006. *Pop Art 1956-2006: The First 50 Years.*

Art à la Cartes: Lunch-time artist talks in the auditorium 12:15 p.m., every second Friday of the month. Cookies & coffee will be available.

- Friday, December 9, 2005. Jacqueline Johnson, Ceramic Artist.
- Friday, January 13, 2006. Kryss Lieffers, Fiber Artist.
- Friday, February 10, 2006. Glenn Zwegardt, Sculptor.

Family Fun Workshops: Art activities for the whole family 10:30 a.m. to noon, every 3rd Saturday of the month. Please note that locations vary.

- Sat., Dec. 17, 2005, Polk Museum of Art; Making Holiday Ornaments.
- Sat., Jan. 21, 2006, Auburndale Public Library; Junkyard Art.
- Sat., Feb. 18, 2005, Polk Museum of Art; *I Have a Dream* Pastel Postcards.

Polk Museum of Art is located in Lakeland, Florida. The Museum is a private, not-for-profit organization that is the only art museum accredited by the American Association of Museums serving the 450,000 residents of Polk County. Regular Museum hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The Museum is closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission is \$5. for adults; \$4 Seniors, 62 and older; FREE for students with I.D., Museum Members, and children age 5 & under. The Museum is fully handicap accessible. ■ (Images this article, courtesy of Polk Museum of Art.)



Warner Southern College Concert Choir To Perform *Sounds of the Season*

December 2 - 4, 2005

The Concert Choir will present *Sounds of the Season*, Warner Southern's annual Christmas concert, on Friday, December 2 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, December 3 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; and Sunday, December 4 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$3 per person. Performances will be held in the Turner Athletic Center on the west campus. A cast and crew of more than 200 including students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni and friends of the college bring together their talents in staging the production.

Warner Southern College's Department of Fine Arts, under the direction of Dr. Steven Darr, offers annual musical programs that enhance both campus and community life. *Sounds of the Season* and *Liberty*, a patriotic musical performed in March, bring more than 10,000 guests to the Lake Wales campus each year. Other performing groups are the Collegiate Chorale, Young Americans, Instrumental Ensemble and Handbell Choir.

Warner Southern College, founded in 1968, is a Christian liberal arts institution that offers the Associate of Arts, Bachelor of Arts, a Masters in Business Administration and a Master of Arts in Education degree. The campus is located five miles south of Lake Wales on Highway 27.

For more information about the Department of Fine Arts and the musical productions, telephone (863) 638-7231 or visit the college Web site at www.warner.edu. ▲



(Photo courtesy of Warner Southern.)

Winter is Wonderful at The Lake Wales Arts Center



Exhibitions and Concerts

will be constant this winter at the Lake Wales Arts Center. All concerts start at 8 p.m. and tickets can be purchased by calling (863) 676-8426. Gallery admission is free and the opening artists' receptions from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. are open to the public. Join us for

the openings of *Origins* on December 15, 2005; *Duo* on February 2, 2006 and *Fire and Ice* on April 13, 2006. Exhibitions in the Michael Crews Gallery are supported by the generosity of Pat and Nancy Cain.

✿ On December 2, pianist **Diane Walsh** will open our classical season. Walsh has appeared three times on the Great Performers Series at Lincoln Center; the concert is sponsored by Mrs. Fran Updike and Mrs. Mary Blohm.

✿ On Sunday, December 11, at 4 in the afternoon, the **Lake Wales Youth Chorale** will perform in its very first solo concert. The Lake Wales Youth Chorale is a great source of pride for the Lake Wales Arts Council. The director, Cathy Montero, has inspired almost 70 young people to sing classical choral music. One of the sponsors of the Lake Wales Youth Chorale is SEMCO Restoration.

✿ *Origins* will open in the Michael Crews Gallery on Thursday, December 15, 2005 and run through January 9, 2006. George Gadson, originally from Fort Meade, has created commissioned works of art for many high profile events including the Super Bowl and is now regarded as one of Florida's most versatile and celebrated African American renaissance artists. Also featured will be Thom O'Connor whose photography and printmaking techniques are becoming world famous.

✿ **The Jeff Little Trio** performs at the Arts Center on Friday, January 6, 2006. Jeff Little plays traditional bluegrass songs on the piano, along with jazz, swing, rockabilly, and ragtime. Dr. and Mrs. Murray Miller brought Jeff Little to the attention of the Arts Council and are also sponsors for the concert.

✿ The all-male capella group, **Cantus**, will perform on Thursday, January 19, 2006, thanks to the support of Mrs. Thomas T. Richmond. Their repertoire spans many periods and genres, including Gregorian chant, Renaissance motets, contemporary sacred works, art songs, world music, spirituals, and pop.

✿ A week later, on Thursday, January 26, our stage will be turned into a small version of the Grand Ole Opry when the Springer Theater on Tour performs

A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline. This hit musical traces the legendary singer's rise to stardom from her hometown in Winchester, Virginia, to the Grand Ole Opry, Las Vegas and Carnegie Hall.

✿ On Thursday, February 2, 2006, plan to come meet the artists Olivia Parker and Leslie Neumann. *Duo*, which will run through March 12, 2006. Leslie Neumann's paintings are inspired by the natural forces found in cosmic and terrestrial landscapes and are made with oil paint and encaustic (hot wax). The result is a rich luminous surface. Teamed with Leslie Neumann will be Olivia Parker who is recognized as one of the foremost still-life photographers of her generation. After graduating from Wellesley College in 1963 with a degree in Art History, Olivia Parker began her career as a painter but turned to photography in 1970. Her photographs are fundamentally still life inspired by those painted in the traditional Dutch, Flemish and Spanish 17th century style, with their torn petals, sumptuous but imperfect fruit and improbable insects. The objects are arranged by Parker herself, usually in her studio. Her reputation for this intriguing art form is constantly growing and this exhibition will attract art lovers from the entire state.



(Photos courtesy of the Lake Wales Arts Center.)

✿ On Saturday, February 11, 2006, classical music continues with a performance by the **Proteus Ensemble**, sponsored by Fields Huston Cadillac, Pontiac, Buick, & GMC. The Ensemble consists of flute, clarinet, violin, cello and piano and changes its configuration to perform quartet, trio, duo, and solo works in creating eclectic programs that include the classics of the standard repertoire, new music and its own arrangements of Western and non-Western music.

✿ The final February concert at the Lake Wales Arts Center will be **Chatham Baroque** on Saturday, February 25. This irresistible, charming and accomplished baroque trio delivers compelling, vibrant and wholly enjoyable performances. The virtuosic baroque violin pyrotechnics, the soulful, fluid lines of the viola da gamba and the allure of the baroque guitar mesmerize and inspire audiences from coast to coast.

Excellence and diversity are two of the qualities that make the Lake Wales Arts Center a treasure in the community. It is located at 1099 State Road 60 at the intersection of 11th Street. For more information, call (863) 676-8426 or visit www.lakewalesartscenter.org.



PROTEUS

Images this page:
(top left) Encaustic work by Leslie Neumann.
(above right) A digital image by Olivia Parker.
(bottom center) Proteus Ensemble.

EXPLORATIONS V CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Hands-on Winter Wonders at Explorations V Children's Museum

It is quite likely that snow will not be in the local winter forecast but the lack of snow will never put a damper on the hands-on fun at Explorations V Children's Museum during the winter months. Holiday workshops, Chinese New Year and Black History activities are sure to keep museum guests popping like hot popcorn on a cold, wintry day.

HoLiDaY WoRkShOpS

★ The holidays will hum with wonder and excitement as Explorations V hosts the opportunity for museum visitors to fashion a gingerbread house to use as a tabletop decoration during the holiday season. Explorations V will also offer creative treat and gift making sessions in *Mrs. Claus's Candy Kitchen* and *Santa's Workshop*. If it is family togetherness that makes the holidays bright, visit Explorations V's Family Fun Friday Trim-A-Tree and create a special holiday ornament together.

Be sure to bring your camera and capture all the festive memories as they happen at Explorations V Children's Museum!

CrEaTe A gInGeRbReAd HoUsE!

★ During the week of December 19 - 23, children and adults alike will be able to create a gingerbread house especially for those famous little elves. The drop-in and decorate sessions will be held Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. - 12 noon and from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. No advance registration is necessary and visitors can drop in at either of the sessions. Museum admission is required plus a fee of \$2 for each gingerbread house created. Explorations V will supply the fanciful decorations essential for trimming the perfect gingerbread house.

★ Morning and afternoon holiday workshops will be offered December 20, 21 & 22. *Mrs. Claus's Candy Kitchen* will be

held from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. Participants will concoct delectable delights to give away or keep for themselves and thrill their own taste buds. Those participating in *Santa's Workshop*, held from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m., will create ornaments and gifts sure to provide bountiful portions of glee during any holiday celebration.



(above) Children create holiday gift bags during *Santa's Workshop* at Explorations V Children's Museum.

Pre-registration and pre-payment are required for *Mrs. Claus's Candy Kitchen* and *Santa's Workshop*. The fee for each session is \$12 for non-museum members and \$11 for museum members. Museum admission is included in the payment of the session. Those wishing to participate may sign up for a preferred date for either or both topics. Classes are limited and fill up quickly so make reservations as soon as possible. Families can join together for holiday fun during Family Fun Friday Trim-A-Tree on December 23. Families are invited to make an ornament together during the two walk-in sessions which will be held from 10 a.m. - 12 noon and from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. *Fun Friday Trim-A-Tree* is included with admission while supplies last.

ChInEsE NeW YeAr

★ As traditional New Year celebrations wane, Explorations V will gear up to celebrate the *Chinese New Year* with drop-in activities, weekdays, January 29 through February 10, 2006 from 9 a.m.

until 12 noon. Museum guests can join in the merriment by creating symbols typically used during the Chinese New Year celebration. Activities are included with admission while supplies last.

BlAcK HiStOrY

★ **Black History** will be featured during *Magical Monday* on January 16 and February 27. *Magical Monday*, a pre-school story and activity time, focuses on literacy and encourages parent and child reading and interaction. *Magical Monday* is included with museum admission and begins at 10:30 a.m. Parents and caregivers are also welcome to attend Meet Other Parents, a meet and greet session hosted by Explorations V's Education Department each Monday at 10 a.m. prior to *Magical Monday*.

With Explorations V providing a winter full of hands-on wonder, you don't need snow to keep you busy! There are heaps of winter fun to be had at Explorations V without it!

Explorations V Children's Museum is located at 109 North Kentucky Avenue in downtown Lakeland. Hours are Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Admission is \$4 for children, ages 2-15 and \$2 for adults. Children under two and museum members are free. For general museum information and details regarding events and activities visit www.explorationsv.com, call 863-687-3869 or email info@explorationsv.com. □



(Images, this page, courtesy of Explorations V Children's Museum.)

(below) **PCC's Fine Arts Gallery presents:**
Michael Barickman & Erika Schmidt
through December 16, 10 a.m. - Noon.
(Shown below) **Tilt** by Michael Barickman.



(Photo courtesy of Phyllis Jones.)

Now showing

Through Dec. 3: Holiday Craft Bazaar & Think Outside the Box Exhibit. Frostproof Art League & Gallery. **FREE.** (See p. 23) 635-7271.

Through Dec. 11: Connections: Tony Eithorong and Charlie, exhibition. Lake Wales Arts Center. **FREE.** (See p. 14.) 863-676-8426.

Through Dec. 16: Michael Barickman and Erika Schmidt (art exhibit). Polk Community College. 10 a.m. - Noon. **FREE.** 863-297-1050.

Through - Jan 6: Hidden Beauty: Photography of W.A. Brown, Polk County Historical Museum, Bartow. **FREE.** 863-534-4386.

Nov. 25 - Jan. 1: Christmas at Pinewood-11th Annual Holiday Home Tour. Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales. (See p. 18.) 676-1408.

DECEMBER 2006

Nov. 29 - Dec. 27: BRAVA (Invitational). Arts On The Park, Lakeland. Reception: Tues. Nov. 29, 6-9 p.m. (See p. 11.) **FREE.** Call: 680-2787.

Nov. 30 - Dec. 18: The Black and White Show. Ridge Art Association. Reception Sat. Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m. **FREE.** (See p. 20.) 863-291-5661.

Dec. 1: PCC Music Department Christmas Gala. Polk Community College WFA Theatre, Winter Haven. 7:30pm. **FREE.** Call: 297-1050.

1-4: As Bees in Honey Drown. Buckner Theatre, Florida Southern College. (See p. 8.) 680-4296.

1-18: A Tuna Christmas. Theatre Winter Haven, (See ad on page 27.) Call: 863-294-7469.

2: Gift of the Magi. Historic Polk Theatre, Lakeland. Rochelle School of the Arts Show Choir & Chamber. 8 p.m. (See p. 21.) 682-7553

2: Pianist Diane Walsh, concert. Lake Wales Arts Center. Fri. 8 p.m. (See p. 14.) 676-8426.

2: Annual Christmas Concert, Southeastern University Bush Chapel, Lakeland. 7:30 p.m. **FREE.** (See p. 21.) Call: 863-667-5000.

2 & 3: Gems, Jewels, and More. Polk Museum of Art, Lakeland. (See p. 12.) 863-688-7743.

2,3,4: Sounds of the Season, Warner Southern College Concert Choir. Turner Athletic Center, WSC. (See p. 13.) Call 863-638-7231.

2 - 9: Annual All-Student Show. Melvin Gallery, Florida Southern College, Lakeland. **FREE.** (See p. 8.) Call: 863-680-4743.

2 - Jan. 26: Disappearing Landscape, Maija Baynes, exhibition. Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales. Admission. (See p. 18.) 676-1408.

2 - Feb. 22: David Maxim: Natural Force. Polk Museum of Art, Lakeland. Reception, Fri. Dec. 9; 6-8:30p.m. (See p. 12.) Call: 863-688-7743.

3: Christmas Gala. Branscomb Aud. Florida Southern College. (See p. 8.) 863-680-4296.

3: underground @ The Polk. Historic Polk Theatre, Lakeland. 8 p.m. (See p. 21.) 682-7553.

5: Amahl & the Night Visitors. SEU at 1ST Presbyterian Church of Lakeland 7:30 p.m. **FREE.** (See p. 21.) Call 863-667-5000.

6: Tea & Symphony #3 - Guest Host Robert MacDonald. Imperial Symphony Orchestra. Lakeland Center. Tues. 5:45p.m. 863-688-3743.

6 - Jan. 8, 2006: Rooms with a View: Middle School Student Exhibition, Polk Museum of Art, Lakeland. (See p. 12.) Call: 688-7743.

8: Fall Jazz Concert. Southeastern University Bush Chapel. 7:30 p.m. **FREE.** 863-667-5000.

8-18: A Taffeta Christmas. Pied Piper Players, Lake Mirror Theatre. (See p. 19.) Call: 603-7529.

9: Opening Receptions for Maxim and Weems Exhibitions, Polk Museum of Art. (See p. 12.)

9: Unpland Improv. Southeastern University Johnson Chapel. 7 & 9 p.m. (P. 21.) 667-5000.

9, 10 & 11: The Glass Menagerie. Historic Polk Theatre, Lakeland. (See p. 21.) 863-682-7553.

10-Feb. 12: Carrie Mae Weems: The Louisiana Project. Polk Museum of Art. (p. 12.) 688-7743.

11: Lake Wales Youth Chorale, concert. Lake Wales Arts Center. (See p. 14.) 863-676-8426.

13: Masterworks #3 - Christmas in Vienna. ISO. Youkey Theatre, Lakeland Center. Tues. 7:30p.m. Call: (863) 834-8111.

15 - Jan. 29: Origins: George Gadson and Thom O'Connor, exhibition. Lake Wales Arts Center. Reception Dec. 15, 5 -7 p.m. **FREE.** (See p. 14.) Call: 863-676-8426.

16 & 18: Holiday Concerts at Pinewood Estate, Christie and Katie Bell, Sopranos. Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales. 7-9 p.m. (See p. 18.) Call: 863-676-1408 or 863-734-1221.

17: Joe Prine Concert Series, Arts On The Park, Lakeland. (See p. 11.) **FREE.** 863-680-2787.

17 & 18: Nutcracker Sweets, Florida Dance Theatre -Polk Theatre. (See p. 7.) 863-802-0399.

17 - Apr. 23: Life as Art: Wood and Fiber Art from the Permanent Collection, Polk Museum of Art, Lakeland. (See p. 12.) Call: 863-688-7743.

19-23: Create a Gingerbread House. Explorations V Children's Museum, Lakeland. (See p. 15.) Call: 863-687-3869.

23: Family Fun Friday Trim-A-Tree. Explorations V Children's Museum, Lakeland. (See p. 15.) Call: 863-687-3869.

25: Christmas Day Recital. Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales. 1 p.m. (p. 18.) 676-1408.

26: Kwanzaa. Polk Museum of Art, Lakeland. Mon. 3 p.m. (See p. 12.) 863-688-7743.

JANUARY 2006

2 - 27: Fall Show Winners at PCC, Winter Haven. Lakeland Art Guild exhibit, Polk Community College Gallery. **FREE.** 297-1050.

6: Jeff Little Trio, concert. Lake Wales Arts Center. Fri. 8 p.m. (See p. 14.) 863-676-8426.

6: Beachfront Property (performance). Polk Com. Coll. 8 p.m. (See p. 10.) 863-297-1050.

6-26: Cutting Edge Exhibit, Arts On The Park, Lakeland. Reception: Thurs. Jan. 12, 7-9 p.m. (See p. 11.) **FREE.** Call: 863-680-2787.

9: Edward W. Bok Memorial Recital. Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales. 9 - 5 daily. Admission. (See p. 18.) Call: 863-676-1408.

10: Annual Art Show. Frostproof Art League & Gallery. **FREE.** (See p. 23.) 635-7271.

10 - Mar. 3: Girl Scouts: Sisters All, Friends Forever Exhibit. Polk County Historical Museum, Bartow. **FREE.** 863-534-4386.

11 - 29: 56th Anniversary Fine Arts Exhibition. Ridge Art Association. Reception Sat. Jan. 14 at 6:30 p.m. **FREE.** (See p. 20.) Call 863-291-5661.

12: Dreams, A Celebration of Black history and culture. Florida Dance Theatre at Polk Theatre, Lakeland. Thurs. 7 p.m. (See p. 7.) 682-7553.

12: Cantus. Branscomb Auditorium, Florida Southern College. 7:30 p.m. (See p. 8.) 680-4296.



(Photo courtesy of Polk Museum of Art.)

(above) From the **Polk Museum of Art** exhibition **David Maxim: Natural Force - December 2, 2005 - February 22, 2006** David Maxim, *Blue Flames*, 1996, mixed media on paper, 25 3/8" x 19 5/8". (See p. 12.)

OF EVENTS

Arts On The Park presents
BRAVA - November 29 – December 27
 (below) **Martha Brooks Marshall, Gentle Wind.**
 Acrylic on Canvas. (See p. 19.)



(Image courtesy of Arts On The Park)

- 12: Moonlight Recitals**, Historic Bok Sanctuary. 8 p.m. Admission. (See p. 18.) 863-676-1408.
- 12 - 29: No Sex, Please We're British.** Theatre Winter Haven. (See ad, p. 27.) 863-294-7469.
- 13: The Four Tops.** Historic Polk Theatre, Lakeland. 8 p.m. (See p. 21.) 863-682-7553.
- 14: One-Man Play – George Washington Carver: From Slave to Scientist.** Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales. (See p. 18.) 676-1408.
- 14 - 27: Robert Recht**, exhibit. Melvin Gallery, Florida Southern. **FREE.** (see p. 8.) 680-4737.
- 15: Laughing With the Legends** (performance). Polk Comm. Coll. Theatre. (See p. 10.) 297-1050.
- 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Recital.** 1 & 3 p.m. Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales. Admission. (See p. 18.) Call: 863-676-1408.
- 17: Opera Thru the Looking Glass.** Imperial Symphony Orchestra. The Polk Theatre, Lakeland. Tues. 5:45p.m. Call (863) 688-3743.
- 17 - Feb. 26: Harrison School of the Arts Student Exhibition.** Polk Museum of Art, Lakeland. (See p. 12.) Call: 863-688-7743.
- 17: Marra & Mancini, Duo Pianists.** Branscomb Auditorium, Florida Southern College, Lakeland. 7:30 p.m. \$25. Call 680-4296.
- 19: Cantus**, concert. Lake Wales Arts Center. Thurs. 8 p.m. (See p. 14.) Call: 863-676-8426.
- 20: An Evening with Carol Channing.** Branscomb Auditorium, FSC, Lakeland. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$30. (See p. 8.) Call 863-680-4296.
- 21: Journal of Light: A Photographer's Search for the Soul of Florida.** John Moran, Slide Lecture. Historic Bok Sanctuary (p. 18.) 676-1408.
- 21: Derek Menchan Cello Concert**, Polk Com. Coll. Theatre. **FREE.** (See p.10.) 297-1050.
- 21: A Night at the Opera V: Carmen.** The ISO at Polk Theatre, Lakeland. Sat. 7 p.m. 688-3743.
- 21: Joe Prine Concert Series**, Arts On The Park, Lakeland. 8 p.m. (See p. 11.) Call: 863-680-2787.
- 25 & 27: The Vagina Monologues.** (See p. 19.) Jan. 25-Theatre Winter Haven, 7:30 p.m. (call 294-7469). Jan. 27-Lake Mirror Theatre, Lakeland, 7:30 p.m. Call: 863-603-7529.
- 26: A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline**, concert. Lake Wales Arts Center. 8 p.m. (p. 14.) 676-8426.
- 27: Steven Wright.** Historic Polk Theatre, Lakeland. 7 p.m. (See p. 25.) 863-682-7553.
- 27: Unpland Improv Southeastern University** Johnson Chapel. 7 & 9 p.m. \$3. 863-667-5000.
- 27: A Gathering of Angels**, Fundraiser at Nora Mayo Hall. (Theatre Winter Haven benefit.) 6:30 p.m. For more info call: 863-294-7469.
- 28 - Mar. 30: A Life of Painting Birds: Diane Pierce Retrospective.** Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales. (See p. 18.) Call: 863-676-1408.
- 29 - Feb. 10: Chinese New Year Celebration.** Explorations V Children's Museum, Lakeland. (See p. 15.) Admission. Call: 863-687-3869.
- 30: A Night on Broadway.** SEU at 1st Presbyterian Church of Lakeland 7:30 p.m. **FREE.** (See p. 21.) Call 863-667-5000.

FEBRUARY 2006

- 1-23: Advertising Federation Invitational**, Arts On The Park, Lakeland. Reception: Thurs, Feb. 9; 7 - 9 p.m. (See p. 11.) **FREE.** 863-680-2787.
- 2 - Mar. 12: Duo - Leslie Neumann and Olivia Parker, exhibition.** Lake Wales Arts Center. Reception Feb. 2, 5 p.m. (See p. 14.) 676-8426.
- 2: Sing! Sing! Sing!** Historic Polk Theatre, Lakeland. 8 p.m. (See p. 21.) 863-682-7553.
- 3 to 24: William J. Otremsky/C.J. Yeh exhibit.** Melvin Gallery, FSC. **FREE.** (See p. 9.) 680-4743.
- 4: Bach Encounter for Children**, Explorations V Children's Museum. 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 687-3869.
- 4: 4th Annual Hearts for the Arts GALA**, Lake Wales Arts Center. (See p. 14.) 863-676-8426.
- 4: Robert MacDonald Presents Mozart, Musicals and More.** Branscomb Auditorium, Florida Southern Coll. 7:30 p.m. \$20. 680-4296.
- 5: John Davidson.** Polk Community College WFA Theatre. 2 p.m. \$15. (See p. 10.) 297-1050.
- 5: Concert at Pinewood Estate, Joseph Schwartz, Classical Pianist.** Historic Bok Sanctuary. 4:30 p.m. (See p. 18.) 863-676-1408.
- 6 - 24: Art Exhibition TBA.** Polk Community College WFA Gallery, Winter Haven. M-F 10 a.m. - Noon. **FREE.** Call: 863-297-1050.
- 7 - 8: Stage Read - Anton In Show Business.** Theatre Winter Haven. For more info: 294-7469.
- 10: Unpland Improv. Southeastern University** Johnson Chapel (See p. 21.) Call: 863-667-5000.
- 10: Moonlight Recitals** Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales. 8 p.m. (See p. 18.) 863-676-1408.
- 11: Proteus Ensemble**, concert. Lake Wales Arts Center. Sat. 8 p.m. (See p. 14.) 863-676-8426.
- 12: PCC Music Students Concert.** Polk Comm. Coll. 2 p.m. **FREE.** (See p. 10.) 863-297-1050.
- 13: Tea & Symphony #4 – Young Artist Winners.** Imperial Symphony Orchestra. Lakeland Center. Mon. 5:45p.m. (863) 688-3743.
- 13: Love is in the Air - A Faculty Recital.** SEU at 1st Presbyterian Church, Lakeland. 7:30p.m. **FREE.** Call 863-667-5000.
- 14: Valentine's Day Recital.** Historic Bok Sanctuary. 1 & 3 p.m. (See p. 18.) 863-676-1408.
- 14: Mozart's The Magic Flute.** Branscomb Auditorium, Florida Southern College, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$30. (See p. 8.) Call 863-680-4296.
- 15 - Mar. 12: The Young Artists Show.** Ridge Art Association. Reception Sat. Feb. 18 at 6:30 p.m. **FREE.** (See p. 20.) Call 291-5661.
- 16: Gentlemen Prefer Blondes.** Historic Polk Theatre, Lakeland. 8 p.m. (See p. 21.) 682-7553.
- 16-18; 23-25; Matinees 19, 26: Into the Woods.** Buckner Theatre, Florida Southern Coll. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$15. (See p. 8.) Call 863-680-4296.
- 16 - Mar. 12: CATS.** Theatre Winter Haven. (See page 6 - and cover.) Tickets, call: 863-294-7469.
- 17: Piano4** (Performance) Polk Comm. Coll. Theatre, 8 p.m. \$12. (See p. 10.) 863-297-1050.
- 18 - Apr. 16: Pop Art 1956-2006: The First 50 Years.** Polk Museum of Art. Reception: Fri., Feb. 17; 6-8:30 p.m. (See p. 12.) Call: 688-7743.
- 18: 3rd Annual Poetry Slam & Poet's Panel.** Polk Museum of Art. (See p. 12.) 863-688-7743.
- 19: Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra.** 7:30 p.m. Branscomb Auditorium, FSC. \$30. 863-680-4296.
- 20: Presidents Day Recital.** Historic Bok Sanctuary. 1 & 3 p.m. (See p. 18.) 863-676-1408.
- 21: Masterworks #4 - Youth in Concert.** Imperial Symphony Orchestra. Youkey Theatre, Lakeland Center. Tues. 7:30p.m. 863-834-8111.
- 24 - 26: Harvey.** Bush Chapel (SEU campus), Lakeland. (See p. 21.) Call: 863-667-5000.
- 25: Chatham Baroque**, concert. Lake Wales Arts Center. Sat. 8 p.m. (See p. 14.) 863-676-8426.
- 26: All American Boys Chorus** (performance). PCC Theatre. 3 p.m. \$15 (See p. 10.) 297-1050.
- 28: Florida Southern Choral Gala.** Branscomb Auditorium, FSC. 7:30 p.m. \$20. 863-680-4296.

(right)
Bobby Vinton is just one of many exciting performers coming to the Lakeland Center. See Bobby Vinton January 11, 2006 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. The Youkey Theatre. Tickets \$37, \$57. (See p. 24.)



(Image courtesy of The Lakeland Center.)

For other events and opportunities not listed here, please contact our member organizations listed in the Arts Directory on page 30 of this publication.

HISTORIC BOK SANCTUARY

GARDENS • BELLTOWER • ESTATE



CARILLON MUSIC

The 60-bell Taylor carillon delights visitors with daily recitals at 1 & 3 p.m. and brief recorded selections throughout the day.

Seasonal Carillon Music – December 1 through 31

Holiday favorites played on the carillon every half hour and during daily recitals at 1 & 3 p.m.

Christmas Day Recital – December 25

At 1 p.m. music for Christmas. At 2:45 p.m. the Tower Brass plays music from the north balcony. Sanctuary carillonneur performs carillon selections that alternate with readings by Charles Sykes.

Edward W. Bok Memorial Recital –

January 9: 1 & 3 p.m.

A carillon recital in honor of founder Edward W. Bok, one of America's most inspiring men.



Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Recital

January 16 at 1 & 3 p.m.

Music of hope, inspiration and peace honoring Dr. King; humanitarian and civil rights activist who, like Sanctuary founder Edward Bok, championed the cause of unity among all people.

Valentine's Day Recital – February 14 at 1 & 3 p.m.

Traditional romantic favorites from the majestic Singing Tower.

Presidents Day Recital – February 20 at 1 & 3 p.m.

Commemorate the day with patriotic musical selections including *The Star-Spangled Banner* and *America, the Beautiful*.

MOONLIGHT RECITALS

January 12 & February 10 at 8 p.m.

Enjoy the delightful sounds of the carillon and thrill to the spectacle of nature from the highest point on peninsular Florida. Admission after 5 p.m., \$4 adults and \$1.50 children ages 5-12. Members and children under 5 admitted free

PINEWOOD ESTATE

Christmas at Pinewood – 11th Annual Holiday Home Tour November 25 - January 1

Enjoy resplendent holiday décor in a 1930s historic mansion. Its magnificent antique furnishings and architectural elements will be accentuated by the decorative designs of central Florida businesses. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 1-5 p.m. Dec. 10 only, 5-9 p.m., enjoy the ambiance of Pinewood at night! \$15 adults, \$8 children 5-12, under 5 free, \$5 members; includes Sanctuary admission. Group rates available.

Pinewood Estate Guided Tours

Daily walking tours of a 1930s Mediterranean Revival mansion. Check tour schedule and availability in the Visitor Center. Limited to 15 and require additional ticket. General Pinewood tours: \$5 adults, \$3 members and children 5-12, under 5 free (begin Jan. 18)

CONCERTS AT PINEWOOD ESTATE

For more information call Pirjo Restina at 863.734.1221.

Holiday Concerts

Dec. 16 & 18 – 7 to 9 p.m.

Christie and Katie Bell, Sopranos

Awaken your holiday spirit with beautiful carols and songs of the season. Enjoy an exclusive evening holiday home tour of Pinewood before the performance. End the evening with a sparkling cider and champagne reception. Each concert limit 30; \$34 or members \$26



Joseph Schwartz, Classical Pianist

February 5 – 4:30 p.m.

A member of Oberlin Piano Trio for 12 years, Dr. Schwartz's career encompasses solo performances, chamber music and teaching. His program will include music by classical composers Schubert, Ravel, Rachmaninoff and Chopin. Limited seating; \$20 or \$15 members

ART EXHIBITS AND LECTURES

View interpretations of the uniqueness and natural beauty of flora, fauna, landscapes and architecture.

December 2 - January 26: Disappearing Landscape

Maija Baynes of Lake Wales uses her environment, color, composition and her own emotions to recreate the essence of the places she has been.

January 21 – 1 p.m.: Slide Lecture: *Journal of Light: A Photographer's Search for the Soul of Florida*

Award-winning photographer John Moran will reflect on his quest to capture the soul of one of America's most photographed states. Book signing follows program. Limit 100. Road Scholar programs are funded by a grant from the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs.

January 28 - March 30

A Life of Painting Birds: Diane Pierce Retrospective

Observing, raising and portraying birds have been a major part of Diane Pierce's life. "It's more than just a portrait of the bird. I like to tell a story about it." (See image on next page.)

January 29 – 2 p.m.

Exhibit Opening and Lecture: *A Life of Painting Birds*

Diane Pierce of Lake Wales shares her vision and life-long mission to feature birds in their natural habitats in her images. Registration recommended; call 863.734.1221.

(Historic Bok Sanctuary continued on next page...)

Images this article - this page: (top left): Historic Bok Tower at night. (center left) Edward W. Bok. (top right): Christie and Katie Bell. (Next page, bottom): *Along the Peace River*, by Diane Pierce. (Unless specified, images this article courtesy of Historic Bok Sanctuary.)

(HBS continued from previous page...)

FAMILY FEATURE

One-Man Play

George Washington Carver: From Slave to Scientist.

January 14; Matinee 11 a.m.; Evening Performance 7:30 p.m.

Born into slavery near the end of the Civil War, Carver became one of the nation's greatest educators and agricultural researchers.

Experience his early struggles to get an education through defining years as a teacher and inventor. *A Robin Lane Production. Limited seating. Matinee: \$10 adults, \$8 members, \$5 children and students with ID. Evening: \$12 adults, \$10 members, \$7 children & students with ID.*

GARDEN CAMPUS PROGRAMS

For more information on excursions, events or classes, call Pirjo Restina at 863.734.1221.

Watercolor Classes with Alice Behrle, Artist

Thursdays, January 26 - April 13

9 a.m. to noon - The intermediate to advanced class will explore new watercolor techniques, strengthen drawing skills and inspire your creativity.

1 to 4 p.m. - In the beginner to intermediate class, learn step-by-step basic watercolor techniques and the elements of design. No previous experience required.

Each class: Limit 16; \$192 or members \$156

Watercolor Workshop with artist Janet King

February 7 and 8; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This two-day workshop will focus on architectural elements of the Mediterranean, 1930s style Pinewood Estate and the surrounding gardens. *Limit 25; \$134 or \$120 members*

Valentine's Day Soap Class: February 11; 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Carolyn Ford, Candle and Soap Artisan and Gardner, HBS

Discover the luxury of scented soaps. Learn to make real soap with infused botanical oils. *Limit 16; \$39 or member \$32*



(Image courtesy of the artist.)

Historic Bok Sanctuary is open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Visitor Center, Café and Gift Shop are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. General Admission: \$8 - adults; \$3 - ages 5 - 12. Members and under 5 are admitted free. For more information call: 863-676-1408 or visit online at www.boksanctuary.org. ❁

PIED PIPER PLAYERS

Pied Piper Players, Lakeland Community Theatre, is celebrating its 20th anniversary season. In December the theatre is presenting two exciting holiday events.

A GIFT OF THE MAGI

On December 2 it will present a musical version of *A Gift Of The Magi*, based on O'Henry's classic story about love and giving when a wife sells her hair to buy a chain



Quentin Darrington

for her husband's watch and a husband who sells his watch to buy combs for his wife's hair. Starring Quentin Darrington and Arvelle Hodge this wonderful holiday classic perfect for the entire family will take place at the Polk Theatre at 121 South Florida Avenue. Preceding the performance of *A Gift Of The Magi* the Rochelle School for the Arts show choir and chamber orchestra will perform holiday favorites. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 students and may be purchased by calling 603-7529.

A TAFFETA CHRISTMAS

December 8 through 18, Pied Piper Players presents its second production of its 20th anniversary main stage season, *A Taffeta Christmas*. A sequel to the popular production two seasons ago called *The Taffetas*, *A Taffeta Christmas* brings back the four sisters from Muncie, Indiana. They are a fictional 1950's singing group who will sing numbers from the original production along with holiday classics. Tickets are \$14 adults and \$8 students and may be purchased by calling 603-7529.

Both *The Gift Of The Magi* and *A Taffeta Christmas* are wonderful holiday entertainment for the entire family.

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Pied Piper Players and Theatre Winter Haven are collaborating on an encore production of *The Vagina Monologues* by Eve Ensler. Last year's successful production encouraged the two community theatres to mount the production again. Eleven of the area's best actresses will take the stage once again on January 25 at Theatre Winter Haven and on the Pied Piper Players' stage at Lake Mirror Theatre in Lakeland on January 27. Both performances are at 7:30 p.m. and a talk back with the actors will follow each performance. Tickets are \$17 and can be purchased for the Theatre Winter Haven performance by calling 294-SHOW and for the Pied Piper Players performance at 603-PLAY. ●

(above)
Quentin Darrington
(Image courtesy of the artist.)

(right)
The Taffetas
(Photo by Roy Rossell
a.k.a. Otto Phocus.)





(Photo by Edwin Ryan Bailey)

THE BLACK AND WHITE SHOW

From November 30 through December 18 the gallery at Winter Haven's Ridge Art Association will feature one of the area's most unique exhibitions, *The Black & White and "Read All Over" Show*, a juried competition. RAA invited area artists to compete for \$2,200 in total prizes, including a top prize of \$1,000 for *Best of Show*. This unique exhibition provides viewers with a most unusual exhibition featuring original artworks created in black, white and shades of gray only. In other words, no color (no, not even red!) whether underpainting or glazing, could be present in either the artwork, matting or the frame.

This year's judge was Rachel Fearing-Stewart, assistant curator of exhibitions at The Arts Center in St. Petersburg, Florida. Ms. Stewart is an artist and instructor having taught at Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota and at the Edna Manly School for the Visual Arts in Kingston, Jamaica. She has had numerous exhibitions and her work can be found in many public collections in Kingston, Jamaica.

The reception and awards ceremony for the artists will be held Saturday, December 3rd from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend and meet some of the artists. Most of the artwork will be available for sale. The show will remain on view in the gallery through December 18. This annual juried exhibition is made possible through the generous sponsorship of Citrus & Chemical Bank, *The Ledger*, PBS&J, Oak Ridge Funeral Care and the City of Winter Haven.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

56th Anniversary Fine Arts Exhibition

The 56th Anniversary Fine Arts Exhibition. Exhibition dates: January 11 through January 29, 2006. Opening reception will be held on Saturday, January 14; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Dates for receiving are Friday, January 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, January 7 from 8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. (*sharp*). A Judge's Critique will be held following the judging on Saturday January 7 at 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Congratulations to Freddie Combs, winner of the 2006 Banner Award (awarded at the Member's Show). This is the second time that one of Freddie's exceptional watercolors will be featured on a banner announcing the Fine Arts Exhibition. The banner will be displayed on the building throughout 2006.

(See banner image on the back cover of this publication.)

THE YOUNG ARTISTS SHOW

Join Ridge Art Association as they celebrate the creativity of our area students. The Young Artists Show is an annual

event that provides Polk County Middle and High School Students with the opportunity to win cash prizes. One lucky senior will have the opportunity to win a \$1,000 scholarship for the best portfolio presentation. The exhibition will be on display from February 15 through March 12, 2006. An opening reception and awards presentation will be on Saturday, February 18 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This exhibition is sponsored by The Florida Citrus Festival, Mrs. William Fuller and Kenneth Rogers, DMD. The Scholarship is made available through RAA's Illa Brogden Education Fund.

Call for Artists: 2006 Ridge Art Association SunTrust Central Park Art Festival

The RAA SunTrust Central Park Art Festival will return to downtown Winter Haven on March 18 and 19, 2006. Now is the time for artists to consider entering this prestigious outdoor exhibition which features over \$11,000 in prizes and purchase awards. This will be the second year that Ridge Art has been in charge of the art festival and the quality of the show improves each year. 2006 promises to be even better as more fine artists are expected. Sponsors of the Central Park Art Festival include SunTrust Bank, The City of Winter Haven, The Polk County Visitors & Convention Bureau, Central Florida Eurocars and the Winter Haven Hospital. Contact the office at Ridge Art Association for a copy of the exhibition guidelines.

RAA & THE BIG APPLE March 30-April 2

Ridge Art is offering a wonderful opportunity to visit the art center of the Western World by taking its first art excursion to New York City. The itinerary for the trip includes a visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Whitney Museum of Art, The Guggenheim Museum, and the Museum of Modern Art with plenty of time for shopping and sight-seeing in the Big Apple. Don't miss this opportunity to visit some of the greatest art collections in the world. Availability is limited so sign up now. Rates are currently based at \$995 per double occupancy. The trip departs Thursday, March 30, 2006 and returns Sunday, April 2, 2006.

As a bonus for those who sign up early, RAA is offering a free art appreciation course beginning in February to be taught by resident artist and board member, Ryan Bailey. Ryan will also be joining us on the trip as our art docent. This six night course (dates TBA) will be free of charge for tour participants. Others interested in taking the course can do so for \$50 for members, and \$65 for non-members in advance for the full six nights.

Ridge Art will also be raffling off one free trip! Raffle tickets are available for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Call the office at 291-5661 for more details.

Ridge Art Association is located at the Chain of Lakes Complex, 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven. Ridge Art's office and gallery hours are from 12:30 to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. The gallery also is open to coincide with Theatre Winter Haven productions one hour prior to show time. For more information, call the Ridge Art Association Gallery at (863) 291-5661 between 12:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays or visit their website at www.ridgeart.org. □



What's Happening at The Historic Polk Theatre

The Historic Polk Theatre continues its exciting Performing Arts Series with **The Four Tops** - Friday, January 13 at 8 p.m. The Four Tops have been marveling audiences with their unique blend of vocal power and unparalleled harmonies since 1954. With hits such as *Baby, I Need Your Lovin', I Can't Help Myself, Bernadette,* and *Ain't No Woman Like the One I Got*, this powerhouse group has been performing to standing-room-only crowds all over the world, delighting old and new fans alike. Their powerful, recognizable melodious harmonies and memorable voices have firmly established their status in the history of musical legends.

On Thursday, February 2 at 8 p.m. Ken Peplowski brings an electrifying tribute to the Benny Goodman 1938 Carnegie Hall concert in *Sing! Sing! Sing!* Peplowski, who has been playing the clarinet since he was seven years old, has performed with musicians such as Mel Tormé, Peggy Lee, Woody Allen and Rosemary Clooney, to name a few. He has also played with the Tommy Dorsey Band as well as the Benny Goodman Band. This show will bring back Goodman's famous 1938 concert and features the Kingdom of Swing Big Band. Called "Goodman straight up, with a twist of lightning" by the New York Times, Peplowski's musical style is magical and radiant.

Next *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* - Thursday, February 16 at 8 p.m. is a zany musical that follows the adventures of chorus girl Lorelei Lee, a role made famous on Broadway by Carol Channing in 1949 and on screen by Marilyn Monroe in 1953. Set in the roaring 20's the story follows Lorelei Lee on her trip aboard a ship to Paris with a friend. The score is packed with melodies that evoke the era of the late twenties. Songs such as *Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend* is just one of the gems in this performance that is not to be missed!

Other shows of interest not included in our Performing Arts Series are: Pied Piper Players *Gift of the Magi*, Friday, December 2 at 8 p.m. *Underground @ The Polk* - Saturday, December 3 at 8 p.m., celebrating the local music scene showcasing the best of local and regional music in Florida. Acorn Theatre's Production of Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie* - December 9 & 10 at 7 p.m. and December 11 at 2 p.m. directed by Levi Kaplan. *Dreams* with Florida Dance Theatre - January 12 at 7 p.m. is a Dr. Martin Luther King Black History Celebration. The incredibly talented and hilarious Academy Award winning comedian **Steven Wright** on Friday, January 27 at 7 p.m.

For more information, ticket prices or to purchase tickets please call 682-7553 or visit our website at www.polktheatre.org. ●



The Four Tops

(Image courtesy of Historic Polk Theatre.)

Southeastern University Upcoming Events

LAKELAND - Southeastern University steps up their performing arts season with a plethora of offerings varying from concerts and Christmas musicals to Broadway numbers and plays.

- * The Music Department presents its annual Christmas Concert at the newly redesigned Bush Chapel December 2 at 7:30 p.m.
- * The 2005/2006 Concert Series continues at First Presbyterian Church December 5 at 7:30 p.m. with the Christmas musical, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*.
- * The annual Fall Jazz Concert is December 8 at 7:30 p.m. at Bush Chapel.
- * The Music Department starts the new year with *A Night on Broadway*, a compilation of classic Broadway musical selections, on January 30 at 7:30 p.m. The music faculty presents *Love is in the Air* February 13 at 7:30 p.m. This performance features songs perfect for Valentine's Day. Both performances are at First Presbyterian Church.

All of the above mentioned performances are free to the public.

HARVEY

The Theatre Department presents the Mary Chase play, *Harvey*, February 24 - 25 at 7:30 p.m. and February 26 at 2:30 p.m. at Bush Chapel. The play focuses on the life of Elwood P. Dowd and his friend Harvey, a six-foot tall invisible rabbit only Elwood can see. Elwood's life and happenings affect his family and turn a psychiatric ward upside down as everyone sees Elwood and Harvey in a different light. Admission is \$10 per person, and \$5 for students and senior citizens.

Check the Arts Calendar at <http://www.seuniversity.edu/calendar/arts.html> for additional information regarding admission fees, shows and times, or call (863) 667-5000.

About Southeastern University

Southeastern University is a four-year, coeducational, Christian liberal arts university, accredited to award bachelor's and master's degrees. Located in Lakeland, Florida, the university offers 44 undergraduate majors and two graduate programs, and has captured national attention for its rapid growth in enrollment and facilities in recent years. *

BARTOW ART GUILD

Upcoming Events - Art Shows, Exhibits, Workshops, & Programs



EXHIBITS

The Dimensions V Exhibit, an invitational art exhibit by selected members of the Bartow Art Guild will be held from March 6 to April 29, 2006 in the Polk County Historical Museum. This exhibit will be open during the *Bartow Bloomin' Arts Festival*. Chairman for this event is Joni Duane.

WORKSHOPS

This year's workshop will be taught by Sterling Edwards, renowned teacher and watercolor artist from Winston-Salem, NC. The workshop is titled: *Watercolor Expressions*. This is an annual event for the Bartow Art Guild usually held in the early spring. The dates are February 17, 18, and 19, 2006. Members of the Bartow Art Guild will be given first priority for signing up. The hours will be from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. each day with a daily demonstration by Mr. Edwards. For further information call Richard Bassett at 533-7264.

ART GUILD PROGRAMS

The Bartow Art Guild programs scheduled for the months of January through April are:

- **January 16:** Printmaking by Karen McMichels of the Polk Museum of Art.
- **February 20:** Tony Piekarski and the Bartow Senior High art students present the program to be held at the school's art room.
- **March 20:** Lois Jackson, former art teacher at Bartow High School will critique member's art works.
- **April 17:** Doug Boyce presents a program on sculpture.

Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month in the Adult Lounge at the Bartow Civic Center starting with a social time at 7 p.m. and a business meeting at 7:30 followed by the program of the month. Attendance is open to everyone.

Art Classes - Classes taught at the Art Guild Building at 1240 East Main Street in Bartow are:

- **Watercolor Painting:** Thursday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to Noon by Martha Post, watercolor artist. Call 533-2884 for further information.
- **Children's Art:** Thursday afternoons 3 - 6 p.m. for school age art students, taught by artist Kappy Williams. Call 533-2600 for information.

BLOOMIN' ARTS CALL FOR ARTISTS:

The 2006 Bartow Bloomin' Arts Festival will be held along the revamped Main Street of Bartow the weekend of April 1st and 2nd. A host of activities are scheduled for this popular event: Fine Arts and Crafts from talented artists from all regions of the country, the Quilt Show, Car Show, Motorcycle Show, and Flower Show. Crowds are expected to be larger this year because of the renovations to Bartow's Main Street with brick lined walks and beautiful oaks shading the street.

Artists will be competing for these top prize awards: Best of Show, \$2000. First Place, \$1000 each. 5 awards of Distinction, \$400 each. 5 awards of Achievement, \$250 each; 5 awards of Merit, \$250 each; 5 Festival Judges' award, \$150; Best Still Life Award, \$100; 4 Honorable Mention, \$100 each.

The deadline for entering is January 31, 2006. Each entry must be accompanied by three slides of the artist's work and one slide of their display. The entry fee is \$130 and should also include a self-addressed, stamped, legal-sized envelope. For further information contact the Bartow Chamber of Commerce at 863-533-7125.

CORNUCOPIA WINNERS ANNOUNCED



Best of Show for this year's Cornucopia art competition held in the Pamplin Art Gallery at the Bartow Public Library was won by Lynne Hughes of Lakeland for her watercolor painting (shown left), *Contentment*. Her depiction of an old woman looking whimsically at the observer through crinkly eyes is a delightful and beautifully crafted work of art.

Second Place went to Gerri Sage of Lake Wales for her acrylic painting *Dead Horse Stamping Mill*.

Pat Heyer received Third Place for her watercolor, *My Princess Sarah*.

Fourth Place went to Miguel Valencia for his painting, *Gorden Marsh Sandhill Cranes*.

Honorable mention recipients were: Richard Bassett, Bonnie Dodson, Carol Frye, Elinor Mundy, Kim Peter, and Toni Treverton. The judge for the exhibition was Gene Brenner of Sebring. ○

(shown top left) Bartow Art Guild's Cornucopia Exhibition at the Pamplin Art Gallery. (Photo by Boyce Garmon).

(above right) *Contentment*, a watercolor by Lynne Hughes, winner of *Best of Show* at this year's Cornucopia Exhibition. (Image courtesy of the artist.)

Imperial Symphony Orchestra



Christina Dominski-Sale

A Night at the Opera V: Carmen

A fully-staged production of the Imperial Symphony Orchestra; January 21, 2006 at 7 p.m. at the Polk Theatre.

Experience an enriching performance with super-titles projected in English.

The ISO presents one of the most popular operas of all time, Bizet's *Carmen* featuring Polk County's own Christina Dominski-Sale in the leading role. Other principal cast members from Polk, include John Thomasson as *Zuniga*, Susan Holmes as *Frasquita* and Sarah Downs as *Mercedes*. Cesar Hernandez, who portrayed *Rodolfo* in last year's performance of *La Boheme*, returns to Lakeland to perform the role of *Don Jose*.

Enjoy the Familiar Melodies of Carmen...

The dramatic, emotional and musical tale of the fiery Gypsy girl, *Carmen* is taken from the story by French novelist Prosper Merimee. Bizet set his story to stirring music, drawing upon his talent for "local color" by using typical Spanish themes and rhythms, but set to French words. He also used easily recognizable musical motives to represent the various characters.

The story of Carmen...

Don Jose, a corporal in the Dragoons, falls madly in love with *Carmen* and deserts the army to run away to the mountains with her, and her band of Gypsies and smugglers. He is insanely jealous of *Carmen* who constantly taunts him. His childhood sweetheart, *Micaela*, follows to tell him his mother is dying, at which time Don Jose goes with *Micaela*, leaving *Carmen* to take on her next lover, *Escamillo*. In the final scene, Don Jose returns to Seville to confront *Carmen*, and when she laughs at his declarations (and her possible fate), he kills her.

INFORMATION AND TICKETS

Tickets are available through The Imperial Symphony Orchestra office at 1037 South Florida Avenue, Suite 125 in Lakeland, by phone to (863) 688-3743 or on the web at www.imperialsymphony.org. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$150 for adults and \$10 to \$60 for children/full-time students. Tickets will be mailed in December. □

(Photo courtesy of the ISO.)

FROSTPROOF ART LEAGUE & GALLERY

Activities abound at the Frostproof Art League and Gallery. As you read this, we will be in the middle of our *Holiday Craft Bazaar* and *Think Outside the Box* exhibition. Both displays will end December 3rd. Our *Holiday Open House* will be on Saturday, November 26 at 6:30 p.m. Fred Moore will be our featured entertainment. Refreshments will be served. This always proves to be a popular gathering for our members and friends.

December will feature classes by Pat Bowen, Vicky Alley, Judy Jackson, and a workshop by Tom Freeman. Tom's workshop will be *Painting the Florida Landscape using Acrylics as Watercolors*. The dates are December 8 - 9 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Pat will teach *Drawing and Painting Animals* on Monday mornings from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Monday evenings she will have an *Open Studio featuring oils and acrylics*. This is the perfect class to get individualized instruction. Vicky is a certified One-Stroke Instructor and teaches each Tuesday from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Judy Jackson, fabric artist will present the *Fabric Open Studio* for anyone wanting to work on unfinished projects or get help with new techniques. This will take place every Friday, except December 9.

Annual Art Show

January ushers in our *Annual Art Show*. All mediums are welcome. The entries will be accepted on January 5 or until noon January 6. They will be juried before acceptance in the show. The fee is \$5 per entry with a maximum of three entries. The show will open January 10. The winners will be announced at 6 p.m. prior to our January Members Meeting. Refreshments will be served and doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for viewing.

New Classes

New classes have been added for January. Joe Clantz will teach the class *Realism with a Touch of Impressionism* beginning on January 4 for four weeks. The class meets 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Pat Bowen will be teaching three classes. Monday morning is *Drawing and Painting Portraits* from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Monday evenings she will continue her *Open Studio for Acrylics and Oils*. Thursday evenings, Cathy Futral will teach a class titled *Lessons From the Art Notebook*, featuring watercolor techniques. Dates are January 19 & 26 from 6 - 8:30 p.m. Friday will feature Judy Jackson's *Fabric Open Studio* for help on fabric projects including computer photo transfers to fabrics and t-shirts. Want to wear one of your favorite works of art? Let Judy show you how. Vicky Alley will continue with *One-Stroke Painting* on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

February will be another busy month with more new classes. Do you ever have trouble with a painting and wonder what you can do with it short of the garbage can? Well, Rose Beshb has the answer. Her class, *Reviving your Painting with Collage* will be held on February 8 from 1 - 4 p.m. Another new class is *The Art of Hand Lettering* with Leon Gifford on February 4 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. *Wearable Art Workshops* will be held every Friday in February. This is a way for members to get items ready to model at our Wearable Art Fashion Show in March. This is a perfect class to update your wardrobe with simple techniques. Pat Bowen will continue her Monday classes and Vicky Alley will continue her *One-Stroke Classes* on Tuesday evenings.

The second Tuesday of each month is reserved for our Members Meeting. We begin at 6:30 p.m. with an update of new activities and programs. This is followed by a speaker. In November, Jennie Grenke will be highlighting the Art of Sculpting. In December, Vicky Alley will demonstrate One-Stroke Painting.

March 7 is our *Wearable Art Fashion Show* so mark it on your calendar now. March will also feature our annual *Quilt Display*. All quilts should be brought to the Art League no later than March 3rd. If you have a quilt you just made or one from Great Grandmother, we will be glad to display it. Large or small, hand or machine stitched - we love them all. Quilts will be displayed only, no judging involved. They will hang the month of March.

For more information on classes, activities or membership, please feel free to call us Tuesday through Friday from 10 - 3. Our number is 863-635-7271. We are located at 12 East Wall Street in downtown Frostproof, Florida. ♦

The Lakeland Center presents...



Broadway's Spirit of Christmas

Alison Krauss and Union Station

Featuring Jerry Douglas

December 8, 2005 at 8 p.m. in the Jenkins Arena. Tickets are \$39.50, \$47, \$57 and are on sale now.

Alison Krauss, at the age of 33, has achieved more career milestones than most people do in their lifetime. She has earned 17 Grammy Awards, multiple Country Music Association Awards and International Bluegrass Music Awards and countless others. The members of Union Station are: Dan Tyminski (Dan gained national recognition as the singing voice of George Clooney in the motion picture *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*), Jerry Douglas, Ron Block and Barry Bales.

Currently On Sale at

The Lakeland Center Box Office:

Daniel O'Donnell

December 11, at 7 p.m. in the Jenkins Arena. Tickets are \$77, \$57, \$47, \$37.

Ireland's most popular "easy on the ear" entertainer; known internationally for his blend of Irish, easy listening and country music material, O'Donnell has been charming mass audiences with his first ever US television special aired nationwide through PBS stations. This year, the color of Christmas will be GREEN as The Lakeland Center brings the magic of the Emerald Isle to Central Florida with Daniel O'Donnell live in concert at the Jenkins Arena.

Broadway's Spirit of Christmas -

December 14, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. in the Youkey Theatre. Tickets: \$37, \$57.

The Lakeland Center brings back the memories and family traditions of Christmas in New York with one of the greatest holiday shows in America. Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus and the Claus Kids are joined by a glittering

cast of Broadway singers and the most gorgeous high-kicking chorus girls this side of the North Pole. The Youkey Theatre will truly be a winter wonderland of fun and festive cheer! Make sure to purchase extra tickets and bring friends or family along for this pure holiday magic!

A Beach Boys Christmas Featuring Mike Love and Bruce Johnston

December 17, 2005 at 8 p.m. in the Youkey Theatre. Tickets are \$41.50, \$47, \$77.

Their classic songs epitomize the spirit of the California lifestyle and The Beach Boys have become an American icon to a worldwide audience. The Beach Boys' string of chart-topping songs spans nearly forty years and includes eternal anthems of American youth: *Surfin' USA*, *Surfer Girl*, *Fun, Fun, Fun*, *California Girls*, *Help Me Rhonda*, *Barbara Ann*, *Good Vibrations*, *Kokomo* and more.

Surf into The Youkey Theatre as original members Mike Love, Bruce Johnston and The Beach Boys bring plenty of *Good Vibrations* and a relaxed tropical mood to the holiday season.

Bobby Vinton

January 11, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Youkey Theatre. Tickets are \$37, \$57.

A multi-talented musician, singer and actor, Bobby Vinton has sold more than 75 million albums during his career. In this full-stage musical gala, the "Total Entertainer" is joined by an orchestra, and family members to sing all his most beloved hits and many more favorites. *Blue Velvet*, *Roses are Red* and *Mr. Lonely* are just a few of the songs that has Billboard Magazine calling Bobby, the all-time most successful love singer of the "rock era."



Roy Clark ~ January 19, 2006 at 2 p.m. in the Youkey Theatre. Tickets are \$34.

The great Roy Clark is best known for hosting the popular TV Show *Hee Haw*. Whether he is playing the guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin or any other stringed instrument, the audience is right there sharing an unforgettable experience. His musical taste range from Hot Country to Cool Jazz as reflected in his stirring rendition of *Yesterday When I Was Young* or his own 12 string version of *Malaguena*. Come join us for a fun filled "pickin' & a grinnin'" good time.

CATS 25th Anniversary Tour

January 27, 2006 Entire House Available For Sale 7:30 p.m.

January 26, 2006 Limited Seating Available 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$47, \$25 (*Child Anniversary Price ages 2-12*) Youkey Theatre.

There's no better way to introduce your family to the wonders of live theater than with the magic, the mystery, the memory of *CATS*. Winner of seven Tony Awards including Best Musical, *CATS* features 20 of Andrew Lloyd Webber's timeless melodies, including the hit song, *Memory*. The Show that revolutionized musical theatre is celebrating its' 25th Anniversary with The Lakeland Center. Join the cast of *CATS* for a special interactive performance celebrating their Silver Jubilee!



MAME – February 6, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in the Youkey Theatre. Tickets: \$37 Limited Seats Available.

One of the longest running musicals in Broadway history, *MAME* is the story of the indestructible, irrepressible Auntie Mame and her beloved orphaned nephew Patrick. This delightful carnival of a show, with spectacular costumes and ebullient choreography follows Mame and Patrick through years of fantastic and funny adventures- all supported by Jerry Herman's glittering score that features unforgettable songs such as *Need a Little Christmas*, *Best Girl*, *Bosom Buddies*, *If He Walked Into My Life*, and the rousing title song, *Mame*.

Bob Newhart – February 8, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. and February 9, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. in the Youkey Theatre. Tickets: \$37, \$47.

Lakeland Center continued on next page...

The Lakeland Center continued from previous page...

Bob Newhart is a household name to generations, thanks to his two extremely successful, long-running television series and his unparalleled quirky style. With routines created by Newhart from today's newspapers in his unique style and some of his early classic routines, he is garnering critical raves and pleasing audiences at the same time.

Patti Page -- February 27, 2006 at 2 p.m. in the Youkey Theatre. Tickets are \$34. In the course of her recording career, Patti Page has sold over 100 million records, and her recording of "Tennessee Waltz" remains the biggest selling single ever for a female singer! The southern silk of Patti's voice remains as she mesmerizes audiences with "Allegheny Moon," "Cross Over The Bridge," "How Much is That Doggie In The Window" and "Changing Partners."

Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons – February 14, 2006 at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the Youkey Theatre. Tickets are \$37, \$57. Frankie Valli...A true American pop music icon. His incredible career as a solo artist and with the Four Seasons has produced 19 top ten hits and sold over 100 million records world wide. Possessing one of the most distinctive voices in all of Rock and Roll, Frankie Valli continues to dazzle with his distinctive musical style...the popular doo-wop music of the 1950's inflected with the R&B influences that would come to define much of the music of the 1960's.

Frankie's dazzling falsetto has become one of the most enduring in all of rock and roll. You won't be able to "Take Your Eyes Off" of this enduring legend as he brings back the band stand memories to The Lakeland Center for *Oh What a Night*.

OUR SINATRA – February 23, 2006 at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the Youkey Theatre. Tickets are \$37, \$57.

Our Sinatra celebrates the songs and music made famous by the incomparable Frank Sinatra. Not an impersonation of the legendary singer, Our Sinatra is a heartfelt tribute to Sinatra's music and legacy. Featuring three rising stars from Broadway, backed by an eleven-piece big band, and your evening of Old Blue Eyes memories spans over sixty songs recorded by Sinatra – *New York, New York, Come Fly With Me, Fly Me To The Moon, Strangers in the Night, All The Way, One For My Baby, Night and Day*, and many more.

THE MIKADO – Gilbert and Sullivan's

March 1, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in the Youkey Theatre. Tickets: \$37 Limited Seats Available.

Carl Rosa Opera's new production of *THE MIKADO* is a historic recreation of the original London's Savoy production of 1885. A light-hearted burlesque of Victorian England, *THE MIKADO* is the tale of a wandering minstrel whose misfortune is to fall in love. Set against a fanciful and wholly imaginary Japanese society, *THE MIKADO* of the most widely admired of the Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. The Carl Rosa Opera is a unique national touring company comprised of 65 musicians, singers and technicians producing the highest quality opera productions in the world. Travel to a land of Oriental intrigue and wild romance as Britain's Oldest Opera Company brings *THE MIKADO* to life in the Youkey Theatre.

The Lakeland Center offers a full variety of sporting events, concerts and shows. Located minutes between Orlando and Tampa in Lakeland, Florida off I-4 on Lime Street, The Lakeland Center is a short drive from anywhere in Central Florida. For complete directions call 863-834-6142. Regular box office hours are Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and two hours prior to most events. For ticket information, call the Box Office at (863) 834-8111 or visit our website at <http://www.thelakelandcenter.com/>. Service charges apply to all ticket purchases. ♦

Lakeland Art Guild

A WINTER FULL OF ACTIVITIES

The Lakeland Art Guild looks forward to a busy winter full of interesting demonstrations and events. The season begins with the opportunity for our members to get together and share the joy of the holidays at the annual members potluck supper December 12th. Social time begins at 6 p.m. with supper at 6:30. Remember to bring artworks for the monthly competition; the top winners will have their works displayed in City Hall the following month.

In partnership with Polk Community College, Lakeland Art Guild will present an art exhibit in the Fine Arts Gallery on the Winter Haven campus to honor the winners of the 49th Annual L.A.G. Fall Show that was held November 5th and 6th, 2005. The Exhibit will include both two and three-dimensional artworks from many of the artists in our community. The show opens January 2nd and runs through the 27th; Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to Noon. The PCC Fine Arts Gallery is located at 999 Ave. H, NE. Winter Haven. The exhibit is free and open to the public. For information call: LAG 863-853-1377 or PCC 863-297-1050.



Jerry Dunning

Lakeland Art Guild is proud to welcome Mr. Jerry Dunning (shown at left), owner of Central Florida Driving School as our new President. Jerry's main interest is in photography and promotion of the arts in our community. He hopes to help the Guild expand existing programs and provide new opportunities for local artists.

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Monthly meetings are held in the Magnolia Building, on Orange Street, next to the Hollis Gardens. Social hour is from 6:30 - 7 p.m., a short business meeting and demonstrations begin at 7 p.m. The monthly meetings are open to the public and free.

JANUARY 30: Niki Smith Larrson will demonstrate *Art on Gourds*. Using natural materials Niki creates wonderful baskets and gourds with her unique style.

FEBRUARY 27: Kat Merriman will present The art of Xerography and Bookmaking; she will demonstrate her innovative ideas and techniques.

Lakeland Art Guild offers several art classes with our local artists at the Peggy Brown Building and Simpson Park.

For information about classes, meetings, upcoming shows and events; please call the guild at: 863-853-1377.

(right) Toni Treverton demonstrating oil painting at our September, 49th Anniversary Celebration meeting.



(Photos courtesy of Lakeland Art Guild.)

Portraits by **Edwin Ryan Bailey**



Memories

A portrait by artist Ryan Bailey is more than just a painting. It is an archival heirloom, hand-painted on canvas, to be passed down for generations to come.

Family



LIFE



For more information on portraits call (863) 294-0076; or for a FREE brochure featuring portraits by

Edwin Ryan Bailey - email: erbarscene@aol.com.

To See The Original Artwork of Edwin Ryan Bailey:
Visit Birch Tree Coffee in Bartow.

Ryan will present his seminar *The Business of Fine Art* at Polk Museum of Art on Sat., January 21, 2006. Space is limited, pre-registration required. Call: 863-688-5423.



"What? You want Art-i-facts Magazine delivered?"

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"While the Polk Arts Alliance is currently developing a membership benefit package, which includes mailing *Art-i-facts Magazine* out to new PAA members; it is still important to PAA that we meet your cultural arts scheduling needs. The offices of the Polk Arts Alliance will mail one copy of the magazine to your choice of address each quarter with a new membership. *

Contact us now to set up your membership.

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See our ad on page 28 in this publication for membership categories and rates.

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**Mischelle Anderson: Executive Director
The Polk Arts Alliance**

690 E. Davidson St.; Bartow, FL 33830

* Note: This is not a subscription, but a benefit of membership.

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THE NUTCRACKER

Choreography by Susan Olson

featuring

Paloma Herrera and Carlos Molina

Dec. 9, 10
at 7:30 p.m.

Performances at
The Lakeland Center

Dec. 11
at 2:30 p.m.

For reservations call
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2005



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Season Thirty-Six - A New Day Has Begun

A TUNA CHRISTMAS

Two Actors Play 18 Wacky Characters!

December 1 - 18, 2005

ADULTS: \$17, STUDENTS \$16

Co-produced by Dr. Maryly VanLeer Peck, & Dr. Ed Carey and SunTrust



No Sex, Please We're British

January 12- 29, 2006; ADULTS: \$17, STUDENTS \$16

Co-produced by Jarrett-Gordon Ford and Joe & Kim Long

A Gathering of Angels

"Swingsational" Fundraiser at Nora Mayo Hall

6:30 p.m., January 27, 2006

CATS

February 16 - March 12, 2006

ADULTS: \$22, STUDENTS \$19

Co-produced by Dr. & Mrs. Frank Fischer, Jr., Dr. & Mrs. Frank Fischer III, Mrs. William Fuller, Hill Nissan, Inc., Oak Ridge Funeral Care



Season Subscriptions Now Available: twhtickets@aol.com
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www.theatrewinterhaven.com

Worship, Music and the Arts

The Music Ministry of First Presbyterian Church

16 North Third Street † Lake Wales, Florida 33853

2005-06 Concert Series



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 † 4 p.m.

The Magic of Bronze

An auditioned handbell group directed by Blanche-Marie Lewis, Associate Director of Music at First United Methodist Church of Winter Park. The Magic of Bronze has been heard throughout Central Florida and presents some of the most challenging music written for handbell choirs.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 † 4 p.m.

Baroque Chamber Music,

featuring music by J.S. Bach, Georg Philip Telemann, Hasse and Quantz. Directed by Dr. Gabriel Statom.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19 † 4 p.m.

John Thomasson, baritone

teaches voice at Florida Southern College and also taught at Shorter College in Rome, Georgia where he revived the DMA.



For more information call (863) 676-0711.

All concerts are free and open to the public.



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Broadcast the news! Pilot a space shuttle! Perform on stage!
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Decorations, Candy, Gift Items - Times and Fees Vary.
Call 687-3869 for additional information.

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The Polk Arts Alliance

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By purchasing a "Florida State of the Arts" license Tag when you renew your license tag, \$20 of the cost comes directly home to Polk County to support our local arts programs!

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- MARRA & MANCINI PIANO DUO
- AN EVENING WITH CAROL CHANNING
- MOZART, MUSICALS & MORE
- "INTO THE WOODS" □ CHORAL GALA
- MOZART'S "THE MAGIC FLUTE"
- JERUSALEM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

For information on Festival events and tickets, please call
Branscomb Auditorium at 863-680-4296, Mon - Thur, 1-4 p.m.

VISIT THE MELVIN ART GALLERY

Open during Festival events
and weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.





**The Bach Festival
of Central Florida**
is Pleased to Announce the
2005-2006 Season



Bach Encounter for Children

February 4, 2006
From 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Explorations V Children's Museum Lakeland
109 N. Kentucky Ave. Lakeland
(863) 687-3869
www.explorationsv.com
Museum Admission: Children \$4 - Adults \$2
Museum Members Free

The Italian Baroque

Friday, March 17, 2006
at 6:45 p.m. Pre-Concert Talk
7:30 p.m. Concert
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
656 Avenue L Northwest
Winter Haven
(863) 294-8888

Cost: \$15:00 Adult ♦ \$5:00 Student



Music Director
Dr. Gabriel Statom



Ars Antiqua Dinner Concert

Saturday, March 18, 2006
At 6:00 p.m.
Lake Ashton Golf Club
4141 Ashton Club Drive
Lake Wales (863) 324-5457
Cost: \$50.00 per person
\$90.00 for two tickets

Bach's St. Luke Passion, BWV 246

Sunday, March 19 at 4:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church, Lakeland
175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr. (863) 686-7187
Cost: \$15.00 Adult ♦ \$5.00 Student

The Bach Festival of Central Florida, Inc.

P.O. Box 2764 Lakeland, FL 33806-2764
web site: www.bachfestivalpolkcounty.com
Tickets and Information: (863) 299-2555

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Harvey • October 20 - 30, 2005
A Taffeta Christmas • December 8 - 18, 2005
Disney's Beauty and the Beast • March 2 - 19, 2006
Cat On A Hot Tin Roof • April 20 - 30, 2006
West Side Story • July 13 - 23, 2006

Call 863.603.7529 for a brochure, tickets or information about
Theatre for Youth & our Alternative Stage Series. Season tickets on sale now.

Celebrating 20 Years...
Pied Piper Players Lakeland Community Theatre

Join your friends and neighbors in support of
The Polk Arts Alliance

*Want to know more about The Polk Arts Alliance?
Interested in becoming a member?*

The mission of the Polk Arts Alliance is to cultivate an environment in which all the arts flourish.

The PAA will accomplish this through coordination, promotion, advocacy, education and economic development. If you enjoy arts and cultural activities and believe that they are important to our quality of life in Polk County, and if you think we need more of these events then consider joining us.

The newly formed Polk Arts Alliance not only accepts member organizations, but business and individual sponsorships.

Polk Arts Alliance Membership Investment Categories

Individual or Business:		
Diamond Sponsor:	\$2,500.	Family: \$60.
Platinum Sponsor:	\$1,000.	Individual: \$35.
Golden Sponsor:	\$500.	Senior/Educator: \$30.
Silver Sponsor:	\$250.	Artist/Student: \$20.
Bronze Sponsor:	\$125.	

*The Polk Arts Alliance is a non-profit, 501(c)(3), organization.
All memberships and donations are tax-deductible.*

INVEST IN POLK COUNTY CULTURE

To join, simply send your name, address, email address and phone number along with a check indicating your membership level to:

Mischelle Anderson: Executive Director

The Polk Arts Alliance,

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World Class Performances!

Diane Walsh, Pianist

Friday, December 2, 2005

Jeff Little Trio

Friday, January 6, 2006

Cantus

Thursday, January 19, 2006

A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline

Thursday, January 26, 2006

Proteus Ensemble

Saturday, February 11, 2006

Chatham Baroque

Saturday, February 25, 2006



CANTUS

863-676-8426

World Class Exhibits!

Origins

Thom O' Connor and George Gadson

December 5 - January 29

Opening Reception Dec. 5, 2005; 5 - 7 p.m.



Duo

Olivia Parker and Leslie Neumann

February 2 - March 12

Opening Reception Feb. 2, 2006; 5 - 7 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS!

Treasures We Have Loved Sale

January 21, 2006; 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Hearts for the Arts GALA

Saturday Evening

February 4, 2006



Lake Wales Arts Center, 1099 SR60 E, Lake Wales, FL 33853

lwartsss@verizon.net www.lakewalesartscenter.org

Open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday 1-4 p.m.



St. Paul Lutheran Church

4450 Harden Blvd., Lakeland

presents

"Boar's Head Medieval Christmas Festival"

Friday, December 9th, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 10th, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 11th, 4:00 p.m.

**FREE
ADMISSION**

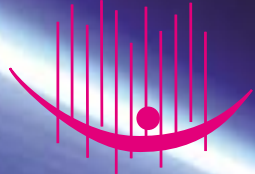
Call to reserve your seats

863-644-7710

Don't miss this colorful ceremony in a royal court setting with king and peasant, lords and ladies, dancers and singers, beefeaters and bakers, jugglers and jester.

This is no mere medieval tale, but the nativity of Christ - the very grace of God upon an otherwise chaotic world.

Imperial Symphony Orchestra



IMPERIAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
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Imperial Symphony Orchestra

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Arts Directory

Arts on the Park
 115 North Kentucky Ave.
 Lakeland, FL 33801 / 863-680-2787
www.artsonthepark.com

The Bach Festival of Central Florida
 PO Box 2764, Lakeland, FL 33806
 863-605-2200 or 863-646-0143
www.bachfestivalpolkcounty.com

Bartow Art Guild
 P.O. Box 1644
 Bartow, FL 33830 / 863-533-2600

Explorations V Children's Museum
 109 N. Kentucky Ave.
 Lakeland, FL 33801 / 863-687-3869
www.explorationsv.com

Florida Dance Theatre
 305 W. Main/PO Box 831
 Lakeland, FL 33802 / 863-802-0399
www.floridadancetheatre.org

Florida Southern College
 111 Lake Hollingsworth Dr.
 Lakeland, FL 33801 / 863-680-4117
www.flsouthern.edu

Frostproof Art League
 P.O. Box 654/ 12 E. Wall St.
 Frostproof, FL 33843 / 863-635-7271
www.Frostproof-Florida.com

Haines City Community Theatre
 P.O. Box 1452
 Haines City, FL 33845

Harrison Arts Center
 750 Hollingsworth Road
 Lakeland, FL 33801
 863-499-2855

Historical Lake Wales Society
 325 S. Scenic Highway
 Lake Wales, FL 33853

Historical Society of Fort Meade
 1 N. Tecumseh Ave. P.O. Box 1021
 Fort Meade, FL 33841
 863-285-7474

Historic Bok Sanctuary
 1151 Tower Boulevard
 Lake Wales, FL 33853
 863-676-1408
www.boksanctuary.org

Imperial Symphony Orchestra
 PO Box 2623
 Lakeland, FL 33806 / 863-688-3743
www.imperialsymphony.org

Lakeland Art Guild
 P.O. Box 353
 Lakeland, FL 33806 / 863-853-1377

The Lakeland Center
 700 West Lemon Street
 Lakeland, FL 33801/ 863-834-8111
www.thelakelandcenter.com

Lakeland Choral Society
 PO Box 3157
 Lakeland, FL 33802
 863-646-5442

Lake Wales Art Center
 1099 SR 60 E./ P.O. Box 608
 Lake Wales, FL 33859
 863-676-8426
www.lakewalesartscenter.org
lwartsss@verizon.net

Lake Wales Little Theatre
 411 N. Third St.
 Lake Wales, FL / 863-676-1266

Pied Piper Players
 Lake Mirror Theatre
 121 South Lake Ave / P.O. Box 2603
 Lakeland, FL 33806 / 863-603-7529

Polk Community College
 Cultural Events: 863-297-1050
www.polk.edu

Polk Co. Historical Association
 863-638-7116
polkcountyhistory@yahoo.com

Polk County Historical Museum
 100 East Main Street
 Bartow, FL 33830/ 863-534-4386
www.polk-county.net/museum

Polk Museum of Art
 800 East Palmetto ST
 Lakeland, FL 33801 / 863-688-7743
www.PolkMuseumofArt.org

Polk Theatre
 121 S. Florida Ave.
 Lakeland, FL 33801 / 863-682-7553

Ridge Art Association
 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd.
 Winter Haven, FL 33880
 863-291-5661
www.ridgeart.org
office@ridgeart.org

Southeastern University
 1000 Longfellow Blvd.
 Lakeland, FL 33801-6034

Theatre Winter Haven
 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd.
 Winter Haven, FL 33880
 863-294-7469
www.theatrewinterhaven.com

The Tuesday Music Club
 P.O. Box 2524
 Lakeland, FL 33803

VSA Arts: 863-534-0935

Warner Southern College
 13895 Hwy 27
 Lake Wales, FL 33859
 863-638-7609
www.warner.edu

Winter Haven Symphony Guild
 56 Fourth Street, NW
 Winter Haven, FL 33881
 863-293-5214

The **HEART** of the Arts!



CENTRAL FLORIDA'S POLK COUNTY

Central Florida Tourism and Sports Marketing is a proud sponsor of the Polk Arts Alliance. Fall offers a variety of holiday events throughout Polk County including:



Polk Historic Museum

HISTORIC BOK SANCTUARY: HOLIDAY SPLendor CHRISTMAS AT PINWOOD
in Lake Wales, **NOVEMBER 25-JANUARY 1**



Lake Wales Depot Museum

THEATRE WINTER HAVEN: A TUNA CHRISTMAS in Winter Haven, **DECEMBER 1-18**

IMPERIAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: CHRISTMAS IN VIENNA TEA & SYMPHONY
in Lakeland, **DECEMBER 6 AND DECEMBER 13**

PIED PIPER PLAYERS: A TAFFETA CHRISTMAS in Lakeland, **DECEMBER 8-18**

FLORIDA AIR MUSEUM: HIGH FLYING HOLIDAYS in Lakeland, **DECEMBER 8-11**

FLORIDA OUTDOOR SCULPTURES in Lakeland and Winter Haven, **JANUARY 2006**

LAKE WALES LITTLE THEATRE: THE CEMETERY CLUB
in Lake Wales, **JANUARY 20-FEBRUARY 5, 2006**



Historic Bok Sanctuary



Polk Museum of Art



Imperial Symphony Orchestra

Central Florida's Lakes Country is a destination rich in artistic diversity...from museums, award-winning theatres, music and dance to art and heritage festivals. With pleasant Central Florida weather, communities offer outdoor concerts and activities – something for everyone.

For a FREE Vacation Guide, call 863-298-7565 or 1-800-828-7655, code ART6, or visit www.sunsational.org for a calendar of events.



New Exhibitions in Polk County This Winter



(left) George Gadson at Lake Wales Arts Center;
shown: *Little Preacher Boy*. (See p. 14.)

(below) *Kissimmee River Landscape I*
by Maija Baynes, from her exhibition at
Historic Bok Sanctuary. (See page 18.)



(left) Winner of Ridge Art Association's
Banner Award for 2006:
Our Children,
a watercolor by Freddie Combs.

(below)
Marilyn by Andy Warhol.
Pop Art comes to Polk Museum of Art
February, 2006. (See page 12.)

