Is History About to Repeat Itself?

Merrick Letter: See related article on Page 4
AB C s of VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE SEE DETAILS

CONTACT: Jude.Alex@Live.Com to schedule a time.

UP-COMING SCHEDULED EVENTS

✓Doggie Halloween Costume Contest: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 at 6PM.
  Five (5) Volunteers needed
  Costumed pooches will strut their stuff on the “catwalk” for a chance to win a prize. Observers who only want to view the spectacle are welcome. Participation in this annual tradition is open to the public for a $5 registration fee per doggie to benefit the Humane Society. On-site registration is available.

✓Give Miami Day: Thursday, November 16, 2018 from 8AM to 8PM.
  SHIFTS:  8AM to 12 NOON: 12 NOON to 4PM and 4PM to 8PM.
  Three (3) volunteers needed for each shift to assist with collecting donations.

✓Skinner Appraisal Day: What Are Your Antiques Worth?
  Sunday, November 19, 2017
  SHIFTS:  11AM-1:30PM and 1:30PM-4PM
  Two (2) Volunteers Needed for each shift.

ON-GOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

✓FRONT DESK RECEPTION: EVERY MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
  NOVEMBER 6, 13, 20, 27 / SHIFTS: 9 AM-12 NOON, 12 NOON-3 PM, 3-5 PM
  One (1) volunteer needed for each shift or three (3) per day. Training for new volunteers will be provided on the day for which you have signed up.

✓GALLERY NIGHT: FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
  NOVEMBER 3, 2017
  SHIFTS: 6-8PM AND 8-10 PM
  Four (4) volunteers needed for each shift. Number of volunteers needed may change to adjust to situations on the particular evening. Please be flexible when choosing a shift as we must cover the entire evening.

✓FAMILY DAY: EVERY SECOND SATURDAY: NOVEMBER 11, 2017
  Ten (10) volunteers needed. Contact: Angela@CoralGablesMuseum.Org

TOURS

✓DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR: EACH SATURDAY, 11 AM
  NOVEMBER 4, 11, 18, 25, 2017
  One (1) volunteer needed for each date to guide groups to locations near the museum, explaining the history and architecture of significant sites. Training required.

✓CREATING THE DREAM: EACH SUNDAY, 1 PM
  NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19, 26, 2017
  One (1) volunteer needed, inside the museum, for each date, to interpret City Founder, George E. Merrick's vision and ultimate achievement of creating Coral Gables, The City Beautiful. Training required.
SOUTH FLORIDA COLLECTIBLES SHOW AND SALE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2017 FROM 6 PM TO 10 PM AND
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2017 FROM 11 AM TO 4:30 PM.
From maps and postcards to restaurant china and railroad artifacts, this encore expanded event promises to be bigger and better than the successful 2016 showcase.

MEET THE ARTIST: EXHIBIT TOUR WITH JACOB HESSLER
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2017 AT 1 PM
Photographer Jacob Hessler will give a tour of the current exhibition at the museum and discuss the themes of boundaries.

WORKSHOP: GETTING AHEAD OF THE WRECKING BALL
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2017 FROM 8:30 AM TO 1 PM
This workshop encourages citizen participation in the preservation of landmarks. The half day program will show citizens how they can be proactive in protecting historic places rather than trying to put out the fire after it is started. Included are topics such as: How to be alert for potentially endangered sites, Designation and what it means, who can designate and how that process works, Citizen surveys and How to record places of interest.

ART TUESDAYS AT THE CORAL GABLES MUSEUM
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017 FROM 5:30 PM TO 8 PM
ArtTuesdays/MIAMI invites you to join us for our current season of programming about timely and relevant creative initiatives in culture, art, design and architecture that impact and transform South Florida’s cultural communities.

GABLES BIKE TOUR: TREADS AND TREATS
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2017 AT 10 AM FOR APPROXIMATELY 2 HOURS.
The best way to experience the ambiance of Coral Gables is on a leisurely bike ride down the famous tree-lined boulevards, past the public parks, plazas and fountains and by the beautiful homes and gardens. Join us for fun, educational bicycle tours through The City Beautiful every 3rd Sunday of every month. Each tour offers a different theme and route.
**Important Info: Volunteer Notes**

- **PLEASE TAKE THE INITIATIVE. EMAIL JUDE AND TELL HER THE EVENTS/TOURS FOR WHICH YOU WISH TO VOLUNTEER.**
  - FREE EVENTS FOR VOLUNTEERS! SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS.
  - **Volunteer Manual:** In a pink folder at the front desk you will soon find the new Volunteers Manual. It was created to help volunteers understand the various positions at the museum. It also contains museum staff job descriptions and phone extensions.
  - The exhibit, *Sublimations*, began on September 1 and continues through November 19, 2017.
  - The Coral Gables House (Merrick House) remains closed for renovation for the next 1-2 months.
  - Don’t Forget...there’s a 15% discount for museum volunteers at the museum gift shop!
  - Have fun but be professional, friendly, helpful and know your “stuff!”
  - *The Volunteer Voice* welcomes your suggestions re: tours, the newsletter or any other helpful hints. Send to: janebond@Comcast.Net, your humble newsletter editor or Jude.Alex@Live.Com.

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**EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS**

**Boundaries**

*Poet Laureate Richard Blanco and Photographer Jacob Hessler*

*November 2 - November 26, 2017*

This exhibition will combine poems by Poet Laureate Richard Blanco with the artwork of photographer Jacob Hessler in order to explore the physical, imagined and psychological boundary lines—both historic and current—that have plagued our American Society. Although the world continues to move its way toward being boundary-less with advances in technology, air travel, social media, etc., our nation continues to feel more and more polarized, repeating our past mistakes and drawing lines in the sand with an Us vs. Them mentality. Across the North American continent lie both visible and invisible boundaries. The exhibit is sponsored by Two Ponds Press.

**Shelter Design**

*November 3, 2017-May 27, 2018*

Partnering with architects and artists, this exhibition explores the various ways in which innovative design can be used for humanitarian purposes and how it can help those affected by the current refugee crisis, mass migration and natural disasters. Museum patrons will be able to experience physical iteration of the designs, from an actual shelter being used by Ecuadoran earthquake victims today to refugee-inspired clothing designed by Womenswear Designer of the Year, Angela Luna.
Venezuelan-French artist, Annette Turrillo, is featured in this solo exhibition, titled *Sublimations*, curated by art historian and professor, Dr. Carol Damian.

*Sublimations* is based on Turrillo’s personal concerns and research. She focuses on the power of awareness by means of art through reflection of the individual (introspection), the onlooker’s spiritual essence, and consequently, the projection of his or her surrounding, in society and life. With this exhibition, she intends to give recognition to the brave, hard-working women who have contributed to our current conception of the contemporary woman. She concentrates her work on the continuous gender equality advancements that have been achieved and those that are yet to come.

**What Does A Volunteer Do When...**

Let’s say you have volunteered to be at the museum for an event and a docent scheduled for a tour that day isn’t able to come at the last minute. Our volunteers can step in with a little preparation and maybe with a few words of interest and enthusiasm to our visitors. Volunteers should take advantage of the previews of our new exhibits to learn an overview of their content. In addition, volunteers should be familiar with our permanent exhibits – Creating the Dream and Sister Cities – to give a brief explanation of those exhibits also.

Volunteers stepping in for a docent need to introduce themselves and say that they are ready to highlight the exhibit with suggestions as to how the visitors can enjoy the exhibit. When speaking to the visitors, the volunteers may give a brief overview of the exhibit first, before inviting the visitors to take advantage of the exhibit texts and videos, to use the phone tour if possible, and to follow up with our website for further information. Volunteers can have fun introducing visitors to the wonderful exhibits in our great museum!

**Merrick Letter from Front Page:**

"Dear Mr. Merrick," it begins! If you live in and love Coral Gables, that salutation should immediately catch your attention. The date is July 14, 1938. The cornerstone for the “new” Police and Fire Station will be put into place the following day with a ceremony befitting its importance. It is felt that the Founding Father of Coral Gables, George Merrick, should be there “to see that the matter is put through properly.”

This “find” from our Coral Gables Museum is a tangible piece of history and it is incredibly timely. The Coral Gables City Commission, the Police and Fire Departments, the City Manager and all related city departments are at this very present time moving a similar process forward to ultimately provide the City and its residents with a new Public Safety building. The new building, to be located at the corner of Salzedo Street and Alcazar Avenue, will be *state of the art* as was the 1938 edition in its time.

Could they plan to lay the cornerstone for our new building on July 15, 2018, eighty years later?
Meet Your Museum Team!

*The Volunteer Voice* will publish thumbnail bio’s of other volunteers and staff in future issues.

Moving to Coral Gables about a dozen years ago, Sandra Wisham was primarily attracted to the city’s “walkability.” Since her retirement a few years ago from various Office Management positions Sandra, has become very involved in the community. She is an active member of the Adult Activity Center and our Coral Gables museum. For the museum, she “does it all,” working the front desk, manning the city information booth (“The Bubble”) at the Miracle Theater and training to lead the “Creating the Dream” tour. She is enjoying all the interesting, friendly people she has met while volunteering. She strongly believes, as did Helen Keller, that “either life is a great adventure or nothing at all.”

After years of bicycling through The Gables, playing in the fountains, climbing the Banyan trees and shivering in the icy waters of Venetian Pool, Gay Bondurant was able to travel to other cities and came to realize that not every place looked like Coral Gables.

As a product of Florida schools from Gables Elementary through Ponce, Gables High and Florida State University, Gay ultimately obtained a Master’s Degree in Counseling at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, FL. After retiring she found a passion for historic preservation and served as an active volunteer and Board Member of the Dade Heritage Trust for some 7 years. Gay was also honored to have served for 8 years on the City of Coral Gables Historic Preservation Board and as its Chair for one year. During several of those years she was a docent at the Historic Biltmore Hotel. When the Coral Gables Museum came into being the connection was made for an opportunity to continue her enjoyment of sharing the story of Coral Gables with all who were interested in the history of The City Beautiful. She is also the editor of the Coral Gables Museum’s newsletter, by and for volunteers, *The Volunteer Voice*.

This Month’s Featured Staffer

A man of many talents, Patrick Alexander, born in England, holds a degree in Philosophy, has trained as a CPA in London, has held positions in such diverse areas as International Finance and Software Development. If that were not enough, he directed the Office of Professional Advancement at the University of Miami for several years and is a published author of both fiction and non-fiction. In the latter category he is a recognized oenophile. His most recent related publication is, “The Booklovers’ Guide to Wine: An Introduction to the History, Mysteries and Literary Pleasures of Drinking Wine.”

Patrick and his wife, Jude, have raised two daughters while living in Southwest France before moving to the Italian/Swiss border and then on to Santa Cruz, California. Patrick is a part-time Facilities Manager at the museum. You can see him there on Tuesday and Wednesday and some weekends.

*The Volunteer Voice* is published by Coral Gables Museum volunteers for museum volunteers and staff to provide relevant museum information and as a method of building comradery with other volunteers and museum staff.