



FALL 2024

**Collier Museum
at Government Center**
3331 Tamiami Trail East
Naples, FL 34112
(239) 252-8476

Naples Depot Museum
(TEMPORARILY CLOSED)
1051 Fifth Avenue South
Naples, FL 34102
(239) 252-8419

**Marco Island
Historical Museum**
180 South Heathwood Drive
Marco Island, FL 34145
(239) 252-1440

**Immokalee Pioneer Museum
at Roberts Ranch**
1215 Roberts Avenue West
Immokalee, FL 34142
(239) 252-2611

Museum of the Everglades
105 West Broadway
Everglades City, FL 34139
(239) 252-5026

All museums are open
Tuesday – Saturday
9 am – 4 pm

**All Collier County Museums
offer FREE admission.**

For more information,
visit CollierMuseums.com.

Exhibits and events subject to
change.



Greetings from Museums Director: Amanda Townsend

Greetings and welcome to the Fall Newsletter. Elsewhere in the country autumn means harvest time and enjoying cooler weather. Here we harvest in the spring, and the cooler temperature is a matter of the number of decades you've spent acclimating to our sliding scale of climate. We grade on a curve in Southwest Florida when it comes to fall weather. Speaking of grades, we share with the rest of the nation the excitement of back-to-school time (a personal favorite), and perhaps the (who knew?) polarized opinions about pumpkin spice. Yes, it was news to me recently that some folks take a hard line one way or the other about cinnamon-and-nutmeg flavors, but on the other hand, what doesn't divide us these days?



To that persistent question Collier County Museums strives to provide an answer: here we have a full four months' worth of programming intended to focus on shared history and what brings us together. Thematically I find there's nothing that fuels our mutual understanding and empathy like the importance of family. Collier Museum at Government Center is proud to present *Portraits of Dementia*, a photo and essay exhibit bringing awareness to and destigmatizing those living with memory-related illnesses. We've added programming for all ages to highlight the exhibit, from Family Trees and Memories Family Day to our November Second Tuesday Lecture featuring the latest in memory care practices presented by Alzheimer's Support Network. We look forward to fostering an important conversation in the community about this sometimes overlooked and often isolating medical condition that affects one in three families in the United States.

Another theme we are exploring is our love for our natural environment, expressed in exhibits such as *Python Hunters* at Museum of the Everglades and *Lake Trafford* at Immokalee Pioneer Museum, in events such as Celebrating Latino Conservation (also at Roberts Ranch) and our Home School Day hosted at Museum of the Everglades that tags onto *Python Hunters* and explores other Invaders of the Everglades.

And, of course, it's high holiday season! We won't disappoint with our traditional Pioneer Pumpkin Palooza, Prosecco and Petit Fours, A Cottage Christmas, and Cowboy Christmas, plus—new to the lineup this year—Ugly Sweater Family Day and Christmas Karaoke! Check out our back pages for Holiday Happenings at a glance.

Despite the polarization of politics and pumpkin spice, we have lots to come together about. And the fall months are the perfect time to focus on our commonalities and togetherness. If, like me, you find history and holidays to be an excellent mix, then I'll . . . see you at the Museum!

***Thank You for Your Service:
A Salute to Everglades Veterans***

Museum of the Everglades | May 17 – September 14

Every year Museum of the Everglades collaborates with our local school — the last K-12 public school on a single campus in the state of Florida — to create an exhibit that celebrates a specific aspect of this unique community. Students submit artwork, photos, videos, stories, interviews and more to help us share a part of the character and history of the area with visitors from around the world.



This year we challenged the students to celebrate military veterans from the greater Everglades City area. This includes historic figures from the region's storied past, family members, ancestors, and those who recently served or are still deployed. Our goal is to recognize as many veterans from the area as we can and salute their service to our country with creative, artistic, and literary tributes composed by our local students.

The exhibit is augmented with historic information about the area's contributions to our country's armed conflicts in both natural resources and manpower. Thousands of board feet of bald cypress were logged for the building of Navy vessels during WWII, and many local fishing vessels were commandeered and repurposed as patrol boats to protect coastal waters. Men and women from Everglades, Chokoloskee and Ochopee have served in nearly every military action since the Civil War, and profiles of hometown heroes like Peg and Totch Brown (both Bronze Star recipients during WWII) are prominently featured.



Holiday Traditions in Florida

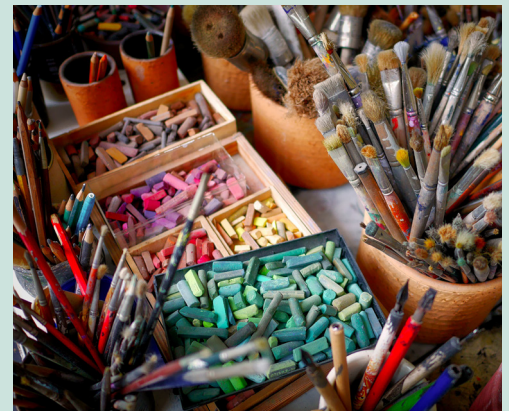
Marco Island Historical Museum | June 11 – September 21

From Christmas Island Style to Swamp Buggy Races, Southwest Floridians either put their own spin on a holiday or fashion a holiday to suit the unique environment and culture. This exhibit will feature the Museum of Florida History's exhibit, *Holiday Traditions in Florida*, and supplement it with material from the Collier County Museums' and Marco Island Historical Society's collections to celebrate what makes Collier County and Florida unique. Come celebrate with us!

Creative Collier Employee Art Exhibition

Collier Museum at Government Center | June 8 – October 5

Wallace Stevens is known to us today as an American poet who won the National Book Award, a Frost Medal, and a Pulitzer Prize. But to the people in his day-to-day work life, he was just another insurance executive at The Hartford. Is the person in the cubicle next to mine a secret Picasso? Collier County employees are dedicated public servants, but they have many other talents as well. Join us for the Creative Collier Employee Art Exhibition and discover the unknown abilities of the people who keep our County running.





Remember Us

Immokalee Pioneer Museum | July 6 – October 19

Remember Us is an immersive opportunity for the residents of Immokalee to showcase their creative and cultural practices. This free-of-charge art fair, hosted by the Immokalee Center for Arts and Culture (ICFAAC), will be held at the Immokalee Pioneer Museum at Roberts Ranch with the support of community partners and patrons of the arts. The ICFAAC is a nonprofit organization focused on enriching lives through art. Please join us in our mission to foster a vibrant and inclusive arts community in Immokalee.

You can find us and support us at icfaac.org

Workshop: Repurposing Paper | September 21 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Closing Reception | September 28 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Python Hunters:

Preserving Paradise One Snake at a Time

Museum of the Everglades | September 17 – January 11

As South Florida's invasive Burmese python problem slithers toward its third decade as a recognized environmental catastrophe, Museum of the Everglades will present an exhibit exploring the actions being taken to remove and/or neutralize this reptilian threat.

Titled simply *Python Hunters*, the exhibit will share information and stories from people on the frontlines of this battle to save the Everglades ecosystem. Scientists, celebrities, hunters, hobbyists, and everyday citizens who have joined in the fight will all be featured.

Striking images of the hunters and their prey will share space with the facts and statistics surrounding this continuing crisis and the work being done to preserve paradise . . . one snake at a time.

Snakes in the Museum/Everglades City Halloween Trunk or Treat | October 26 | 5:00 – 7:00 PM



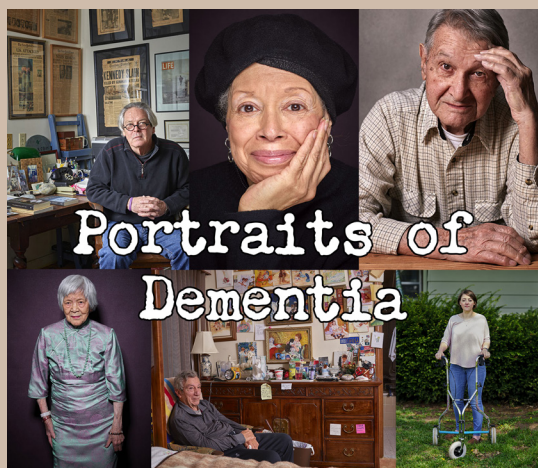
Reflections of South Florida: A Fifty-Year Art Adventure

Marco Island Historical Museum | October 1 – February 15

Celebrating fifty years of Paul Arsenault living and painting in South Florida, this exhibit conveys the history, soul stirring beauty, and charm of Marco Island, Goodland, and Naples as well as other South Florida locales, including Vero Beach, Key West, Cortez, and others. Arsenault has traveled the world to record breathtaking landscapes, seascapes, seaside villages, and more in his captivating plein air paintings. However, he always returns to his Naples home. Here, he has found a treasure trove of inspiration for his art.

Opening Reception | October 17 | 4:00 – 5:30 PM

Paul Arsenault Lecture and Book Signing | January 15 | 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Doors Open at 5:30



Portraits of Dementia

Collier Museum at Government Center | October 22 – November 30

Over fifty million people are living with dementia globally. In the United States, one in three seniors suffers with Alzheimer's disease or dementia at the time of their death. And yet despite the millions of individuals and families affected, dementia is often a taboo subject with limited public awareness or discourse. Through the photographs and stories in this exhibit, photographer Joe Wallace shows not only the fear, loss, and despair, but also the love, connection, dignity, and powerful humanity that always remain — in the subjects, in the care-partners, and in the families and

communities. *Portraits of Dementia* destigmatizes those living with dementia through moving portraits and stories of lives well lived.

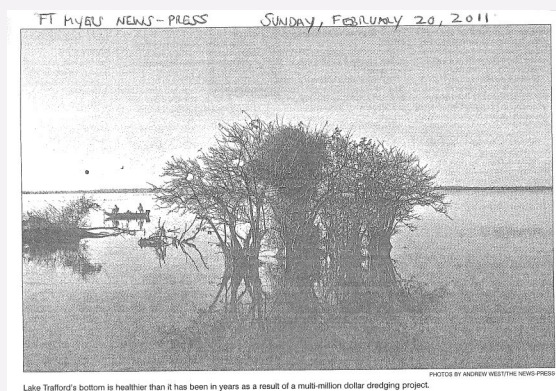
A Program of ExhibitsUSA, a national division of Mid-America Arts Alliance, and The National Endowment for the Arts

Memory Care Resource Fair | November 9 | 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Lake Trafford – Ecology and Excursions

Immokalee Pioneer Museum | October 22, 2024 – February 1, 2025

This exhibit will explore the history, ecology, and cultural impact of one of Southwest Florida's most iconic lakes. From remnants of long boats left behind by the Calusa, to the personal stories of current Immokalee residents, we will dive into Lake Trafford and look ahead to its future. Long hailed for its largemouth bass fishing, this 1500-acre water body is the largest natural lake south of Okeechobee, and serves as a premier fishing lake for anglers and an important freshwater resource for the area. There have been changes to the ecosystem in the last fifty years — from fish deaths and aquatic plant die offs, to the introduction of invasive species — but the lake and its importance to our history and town culture remain. Join us to learn about Lake Trafford and its various changes and impacts on our community and Southwest Florida as a whole.



A Cottage Christmas

Collier Museum at Government Center | November 26, 2024 – January 4, 2025

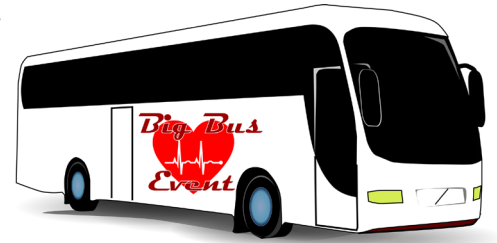
Visit the Naples Cottage at the Collier Museum at Government Center for our 4th Annual holiday display, *A Cottage Christmas*. Explore the Twentieth Century Christmas traditions that introduced new technologies and materials to Christmas celebrations, transforming the holiday from a home-based Victorian celebration of a few days to a modernistic, multi-week season of shopping, events, and celebrations. The cottage is decorated in mid-century holiday style, and vintage decorations are on display throughout the house.

Christmas Karaoke | December 13 | 6:00 – 8:00 PM

The Big Bus Event

Immokalee Pioneer Museum | November 2 | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

The Big Bus event is a community outreach event whose focus is to inform the public of organizations and resources around the area as well as bring awareness to health-related issues in our community. The Immokalee Pioneer Museum hosts this event in efforts to bring the community together and highlight historic health and medicine and practices used in Southwest Florida.



Memory Care Resource Fair

Collier Museum at Government Center | November 9 | 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

In tandem with our special exhibit, *Portraits of Dementia*, we've invited local resources for care, respite, and support to gather for a one-day, one-stop-shop for information about memory loss. Join us to discover all the ways our community can come together to make the lives of those with dementia, and their caregivers' jobs, easier and more meaningful.

Prosecco and Petit Fours

Marco Island Historical Museum | December 4 | 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Join us for the annual pre-holiday sale celebration held in the Marco Island Historical Society's gift shop. It is a wonderful opportunity to get a start on holiday shopping, support local business, and, of course, enjoy a glass of prosecco with petit fours.



Volunteer with us!

We are looking for friendly faces to join our volunteer team!
We have the following opportunities: greeter, tour guide, help with special events, gardener, grounds maintenance, and education assistant.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator
Karen Connetta for more information.

239-252-8722

or

Karen.Connetta@colliercountyfl.gov

Visit Collier Museum at Government Center every second Tuesday for a local history lecture.

All Lectures: Collier Museum at Government Center | 2:00 – 3:00 PM

Ray Carroll presents: The Diary of Frank Watt Hall, Pioneer Schoolteacher
| September 10

Frank Watt Hall was the schoolteacher at the Little Marco community on Henderson Creek in 1898. He kept a diary of his time there that in 2013 was transcribed and annotated by Cindy and Ray Carroll. Cindy and Ray are the great grandchildren of James Madison Carroll, one of the first settlers at Henderson Creek. Today the Carroll family owns Bear Hammock on Henderson Creek Bay, about 1.5 mile downstream from the Kirkland home site that was teacher Hall's temporary residence. Ray will share insights from Frank Watt Hall's diary and his family's history to illuminate what life was like in one of our area's earliest pioneer settlements.



Rest in Paradise: Cemeteries of Collier County | October 8

Did you know there are more than a dozen cemeteries in Collier County? From the beautiful and expansive Palm Royale to small family plots hidden away in rural corners of the county, we have been remembering our loved ones who've passed through traditional burial practices since 1869. Join Museum Director Amanda Townsend for a photographic tour of our communities' final resting places and an update on what's being done to recognize long-forgotten gravesites you probably drive by on a weekly basis.

What to Know About Dementia Today | November 12

Over fifty million people are living with dementia globally. In the United States, one in three seniors suffers with Alzheimer's disease or dementia at the time of their death. In conjunction with our temporary exhibit, *Portraits of Dementia*, our partners at the Alzheimer's Support Network will provide insight into how we diagnose, treat, and care for loved ones living with memory-related diseases, sharing up-to-the minute research, techniques, and information you can use in your life.



Merry & Modern: How the Mid-Century Shaped Christmas | December 10

Before the turn of the mid-century, Christmas was a celebration steeped in ancient-feeling traditions. Subtle decorations of ribbon and citrus abounded, a child's Christmas toy would have been simply made, and the feasts enjoyed were definitely lacking in vibrant food coloring. After the heartache of World War II, Americans in the mid-century began to approach the world with a sense of optimism and an appreciation for innovation. That innovation was especially prevalent at Christmastime, where the brightly colored advertisements for exciting new toys and easier-to-cook meals, and the introduction of color televisions, changed the way that people celebrated the holiday. Join Curator of Education Elaina Gyure for this deep dive into how the mid-century shaped the Christmas we celebrate today.

Visit Museum of the Everglades every third Thursday for a local history lecture.

All Lectures: Museum of the Everglades | 2:00 – 3:00 PM



***Florida Pirates: Facts & Fiction* | September 19**

September 19th is known around the world as International Talk Like a Pirate Day, and Museum of the Everglades will be celebrating this unlikely holiday with a fun-filled and fact-packed history talk.

Museum Manager Thomas Lockyear, who started his career at Pat Croce's Pirate Soul Museum in Key West, will share stories of cutthroats and brigands who operated off Florida's coast as well as the basics of pillaging, plundering, and how to survive life aboard a pirate ship.

***Serpents in the Sawgrass: The Evolving Story of Snakes in the Everglades* | October 17**

To coincide with the current *Python Hunters* exhibit, Museum Manager Thomas Lockyear will explore the history of human interactions with snakes in the Everglades region. From the clearing of rattlesnakes by pioneer settlers and the milking of venomous reptiles at roadside attractions to the present-day invasive python problem, snakes have been an integral element of the Everglades story and how it is perceived by visitors and residents alike.

The essential role that native snake species play in the Everglades ecosystem will also be discussed, as well as new information on the efforts of scientists, research teams, and contracted hunters to bring our biosphere back into balance.



***Florida's First People* | November 21**

While the massive cache of Calusa artifacts found on Marco Island in the 1890s is well-documented, evidence of these early inhabitants of the Ten Thousand Islands can also be found just about everywhere around Everglades City. Did you know that the entire island of nearby Chokoloskee is a Calusa shell mound?

Ancient artifacts were commonplace for early pioneer settlers to the region, but the story of the indigenous people who called the area their home for thousands of years remains shrouded in mystery to this day.

Just who were the Calusa and how big was their settlement here? How long were they here, and what happened to them? For the answers to these questions and more, please join us at Museum of the Everglades as we celebrate Native American Heritage Month with a Third Thursday talk dedicated to Florida's First People: the Calusa Indians.

***The Dauntless Dr. Snyder: Physician, Hotelier, and Politician in the Swamp* | December 19**

Dr. Kenneth E. Snyder came to Everglades City in the 1950s, serving as the last physician to work at the five-bed Juliet Carnes Collier Hospital there. He worked closely with members of the Seminole Tribe, often doing house calls by airboat.

A member of the Collier County School Board and proprietor of the town's Illinois Motel (still a popular hostelry in Everglades), Dr. Snyder also served as the city's mayor from 1959 to 1963 — fighting to keep the county seat in Everglades City in the aftermath of Hurricane Donna.

Museum Manager Thomas Lockyear will share photos and anecdotes from the Snyder family's collection that were recently donated to Museum of the Everglades, bringing the story of an Everglader who wore many hats and touched many lives to life.



Wacky Weather Family Day

Collier Museum at Government Center | September 14 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

The weather around here can get pretty wacky! Is it going to be sunny? Rainy? Windy? Probably! Get scientific and make a tornadic tube! Learn the different tools that measure air and wind, even make your own anemometer. Look up to the sky and know the names of clouds and which ones to take cover from! We predict the day will be sunny with a good chance of fun!

All ages welcome, but best for ages 5-12. Drop in from 10 am to 1 pm.



Celebrating Latino Conservation

Immokalee Pioneer Museum | September 14 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

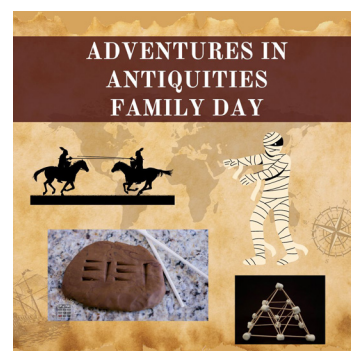
We are inviting all who love the outdoors to get involved in activities, conservation efforts, and becoming a voice for the environment. Latinx Conservation week emphasizes the importance of highlighting multiple perspectives in conservation efforts to encourage the Latin community to participate proactively. Roberts Ranch will invite many conservation organizations and more to join and introduce the many possibilities that community members could do to be more involved. Drop by to discover and contribute to conservation initiatives!

Adventures in Antiquity Family Day

Collier Museum at Government Center | October 12 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Let's step back, waaay back, to ancient civilizations! Marvel over the mysteries of mummies, and see how fast you can mummy the dummy! How will your toothpick/marshmallow pyramid hold up to the sandstorms of Egypt? Dabble in the Mesopotamian (Cuneiform) way of writing your name in clay! Engage in the ancient game of jousting with a pool noodle. It will be a good, old, old time!

All ages welcome, but best for ages 5-12. Drop in from 10 am to 1 pm.



Honrando Nuestra Historia: Dias de los Muertos Family Fun Day

Marco Island Historical Museum | October 12 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

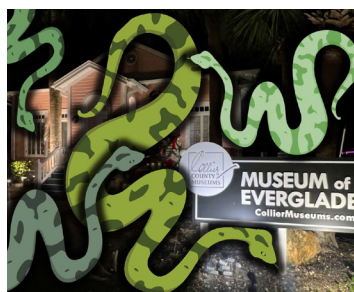
Part of the Honrando Nuestra Historia series, this family-friendly event will talk about the importance of los Dias de los Muertos and how they differ from Halloween. There will crafts with *calaveras* (skull decorations) and *ofrendas* (altars). Bilingual instructions will be available.

Pioneer Pumpkin Palooza

Immokalee Pioneer Museum | October 19 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Let's "harvest" some good memories together at our pumpkin patch! Pick your pumpkin and head to the decorating station to gussy up your gourd. Then head to the crafts tables where you can make a scarecrow and corn husk dolls! Experience the magic of fall on our hayride as you tour the Ranch surrounded by the beauty of fall colors. Join us to celebrate the fall bounty with an event full of the warmth and joy of the season!





Snakes in the Museum / Everglades City Halloween Trunk or Treat

Museum of the Everglades | October 26 | 5:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Join us after hours at Museum of the Everglades as we make hissssssstory with Everglades City's annual Halloween Trunk-or-Treat celebration at McLeod Park (right across the street). Check out our current *Python Hunters* exhibit in the front, then wind your way through the main gallery to pick up treats from creepy characters — if you dare! Avoid the sneaky snakes and you just might win a prize!

Fun for kids of all ages guaranteed.

Family Trees and Memories Family Day

Collier Museum at Government Center | November 16 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

In correlation with our current exhibit, *Portraits of Dementia*, and as we gather around with our families this time of year, we are focusing on the importance of the "family tree." How much does your little one know about your family's history? We'll let them "take the mic" as they learn how to interview their elders and capture those timeless stories. Take home a template to fill out your family tree and learn how to preserve old family photos so your family history is never lost!

All ages welcome, but best for ages 5-12. Drop in from 10 am to 1 pm.



The First Thanksgiving Family Fun Day

Marco Island Historical Museum | November 27 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Did you know the first Thanksgiving was celebrated in St. Augustine, Florida in 1565 by the Spanish and Timucuan natives? Drop-in between 10AM and 1PM with the kids and grandkids to enjoy classic Thanksgiving crafts, but with a Florida twist! We'll be learning about what they would have eaten at Florida's first Thanksgiving and have hands-on activities related to colonial Florida history.

Ideal for preschool and elementary-aged students.

Ugly Sweater Family Day

Collier Museum at Government Center | December 14 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

The skills of simpler days seem to fall through the cracks of time, so we're bringing some homespun handiwork back in a fun way! Bring in a sweater, we'll help you make it abominable! Have fun learning simple sewing stitches, the art of ironing on appliques, and even try your hand at embroidery as you turn your sweater into a masterpiece! Should I use a whipstitch or a blanket stitch? Rick-rack or no notions at all? Wear your creation for a fantastic Christmas card photo-op!

All ages welcome, but best for ages 5-12. Drop in from 10 am to 1 pm.



Cowboy Christmas

Immokalee Pioneer Museum | December 14 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

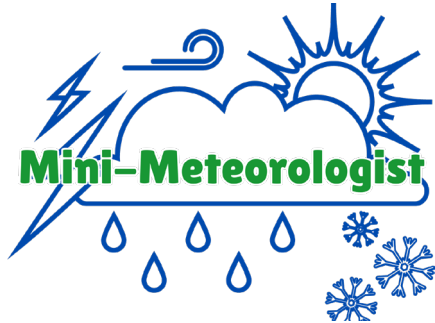
Why did the cowboy decorate his Christmas tree with spurs? Because he wanted it to have a real "kick!" Embracing the sweet charm of pioneer life on the ranch, join us to make festive ornaments you can take home to adorn your tree. As the air is filled of the smell of magnolia and pine, remember to join the line to take photos with Santa! Celebrate the festive season with us at our annual Cowboy Christmas event to lift the holiday spirit in Immokalee!

Join Curator of Education Elaina Gyure from 10 – 11 am for our preschool program! With a focus on combining history and STEM (we like to call it SHTeM!) we aim to engage your preschooler in crafts, activities, and story time. Enjoy fun themes and history tailored for the preschool age-group.

This program is ideal for ages 3–5.

RSVP at CollierMuseums.com/Events or 239-252-8242 to ensure there are enough supplies for all participants.

Collier Museum at Government Center | 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM



Mini-Meteorologist | September 18

Does your little one love a good Florida rainstorm? Have they held a snowball yet? Join us for a preschool-friendly exploration of the science of weather! We'll be doing hands-on science experiments and learning about all the different weather you can (and can't find) here in Florida!

Ancient Adventures | October 16

Your little Indiana Jones is going to love this adventure into the history of the ancient past, from Ancient Egypt and Greece to the ancient people who lived here in Southwest Florida. We will be exploring ancient maps & artifacts in this celebration of International Archaeology Month.



Dirt Diggin' | November 20

Are construction sites your little one's favorite "site" to see? Then Dirt Diggin' is the preschool program for you! Join us for this exploration of all things construction! We'll be doing hands-on and STEM-based activities, as well as having a story time featuring all your favorite construction rigs.

Cookies Around the World with Santa | December 18

Learn how kids around the world welcome Santa into their home! We will be tasting cookies from other cultures (allergen information will be provided — nothing with nuts will be present) to learn about all the different ingredients kids are cooking with around the holiday! Crafts inspired by Christmas celebrations from around the world add to the festive fun!



FALL HOMESCHOOL DAY: INVADERS OF THE EVERGLADES

Fall Homeschool Day: Invaders of the Everglades

Museum of the Everglades | November 12 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

In conjunction with Museum of the Everglades' latest special exhibit, *Python Hunters: Preserving Paradise One Snake at a Time*, Fall Homeschool Day 2024 will be talking about all things invasive that our impacting our unique Florida ecology! Learn about how invasive animals like the python, iguana, and curly-tailed lizard have made a home here in Southwest Florida, whether we like it or not, and the efforts to stop them. You'll even get to observe some of these invasive animals up close! We'll also feature other invasives, like insects and plants!

This program features different hands-on activities and special exhibit exploration geared toward preschool, elementary, and middle and high school students. Parking at Museum of the Everglades is limited, but you can park along medians as well as in McLeod Park across the street from the museum.

While RSVP is not required, it is encouraged to ensure enough supplies for students. Call our Curator of Education at 239-252-8242 or go to CollierMuseums.com/Events.

Important note: This is a drop-in style event! It is not required to arrive at 10AM nor stay for the full 3 hours.

About Collier County Museums Homeschool Days:

Three times a year, Collier County Museums hosts a day where homeschoolers of all ages will be able to come for free educational programming geared toward their specific age groups. We will have preschool, elementary, and middle/early high school appropriate activities based on that Homeschool Day's theme. With a focus on combining history and STEM (we like to call it SHTM!), Collier County Museums aims to provide your homeschooler with a holistic approach to learning about our region's history. Homeschool Days will cycle through our five museums, so your family has an opportunity to get to know all of them!



Honrando Nuestra Historia: Dias de los Muertos Family Fun Day

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Prosecco and Petit Fours

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Merry & Modern: How the Mid-Century Shaped Christmas

Collier Museum at Government Center | December 10 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM

Before the turn of the mid-century, Christmas was a celebration steeped in ancient-feeling traditions. Subtle decorations of ribbon and citrus abounded, a child's Christmas toy would have been simply made, and the feasts enjoyed were definitely lacking in vibrant food coloring. After the heartache of World War II, Americans in the mid-century began to approach the world with a sense of optimism and an appreciation for innovation. That innovation was especially prevalent at Christmastime, where the brightly colored advertisements for exciting new toys and easier-to-cook meals, and the introduction of color televisions, changed the way that people celebrated the holiday. Join Curator of Education Elaina Gyure for this deep dive into how the mid-century shaped the Christmas we celebrate today.

Christmas Karaoke

Collier Museum at Government Center | December 13 | 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Grab some friends and warm up your vocal chords, it's time for Christmas karaoke! Enjoy the Naples Cottage decorated for the holiday and partake of some festive food and beverage. We know you know you know the words, so there's no excuse not to join in the fun. Belt out a few carols and you may even win a prize.

If you can't carry a tune, we'll give you a bucket!



Ugly Sweater Family Day

Collier Museum at Government Center | December 14 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

The skills of simpler days seem to fall through the cracks of time, so we're bringing some homespun handiwork back in a fun way! Bring in a sweater, we'll help you make it abominable! Have fun learning simple sewing stitches, the art of ironing on appliques, and even try your hand at embroidery as you turn your sweater into a masterpiece! Should I use a whipstitch or a blanket stitch? Rick-rack or no notions at all? Wear your creation for a fantastic Christmas card photo-op!

All ages welcome, but best for ages 5-12. Drop in from 10 am to 1 pm.

Cowboy Christmas

Immokalee Pioneer Museum | December 14 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Why did the cowboy decorate his Christmas tree with spurs? Because he wanted it to have a real "kick!" Embracing the sweet charm of pioneer life on the ranch, join us to make festive ornaments you can take home to adorn your tree. As the air is filled with the smell of magnolia and pine, remember to join the line to take photos with Santa! Celebrate the festive season with us at our annual Cowboy

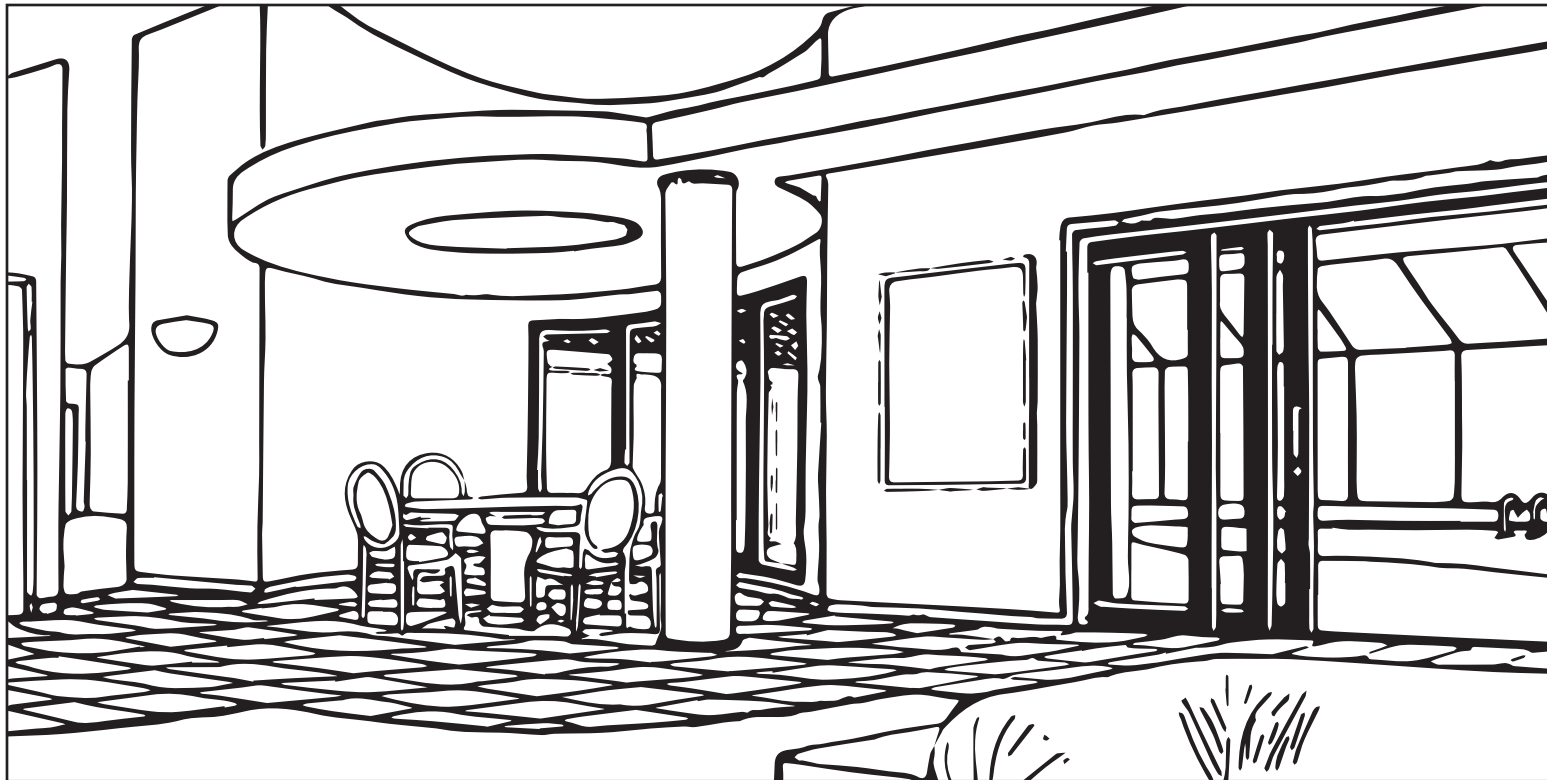
Christmas event to lift the holiday spirit in Immokalee!



A Pioneer Christmas: Holiday Crafts

Marco Island Historical Museum | December 26–28, & 31 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Join us in the Pioneer Gallery the week between Christmas and New Year's for crafts and activities! We will learn how the pioneers on Marco Island created decorations and celebrated this time of year.



The Dining Room with dropped soffit & vaulted ceiling is the unique focal point of the house.



From the Archives:
04.15.137.1

The Sandpiper by
Jonathan Homes

Showcase Home on
Marco Island
Circa 1987



The Master Suite offers water views, walk-in showers, his & hers closets, dual vanities & garden courtyard.

