



The Building of
Bonnet House

Bonnet House Has A New Neighbor

The Gift of Giving

CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS 2018

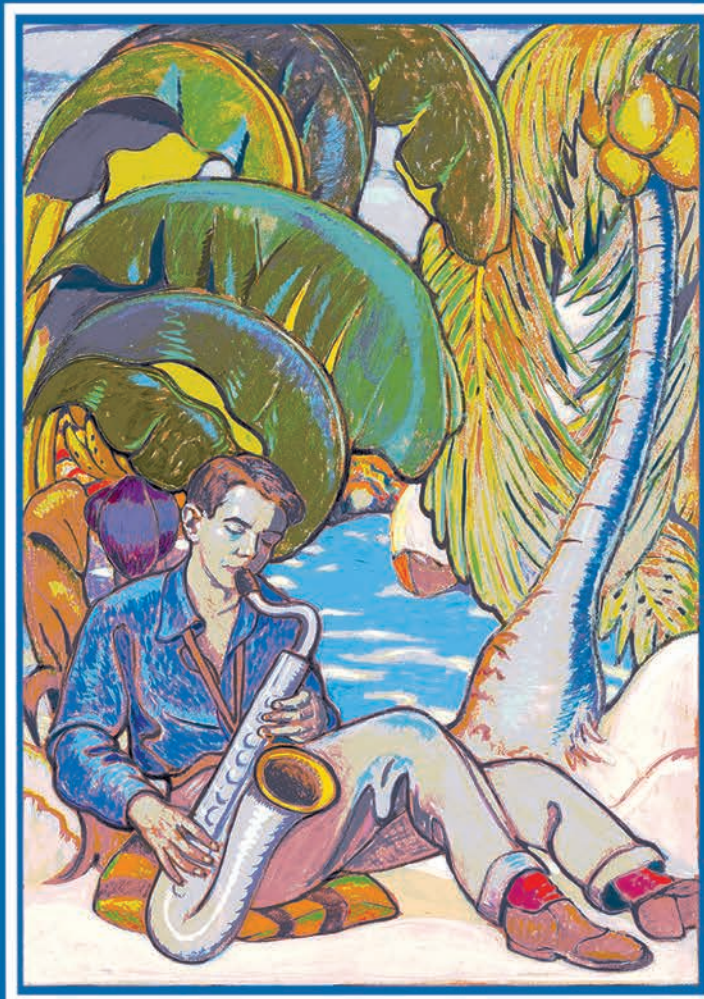
PRESENTED BY THE HALLER FOUNDATION

JANUARY
18

UM FROST OPERA
THEATER

MARCH
15

LYNN UNIVERSITY
STRING QUARTET



FEBRUARY
15

FLORIDA ATLANTIC
UNIVERSITY

APRIL
5

DILLARD JAZZ
ENSEMBLE

THURSDAY EVENINGS
7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

TICKETS START AT \$35 COMPLIMENTARY WINE, COOKIES AND COFFEE

BONNETHOUSE.ORG (954) 563-5393

900 N. BIRCH ROAD, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33304

From the CEO

Patrick Shavloske

Bonnet House Has a New Neighbor

Over the next few months, there will be some exciting changes at the south entrance to Bonnet House, both inside and outside the property. Soon, not only will there be a new gathering area and exhibit space across from the ticket house, but also a much-improved sense of arrival to Bonnet House from the south. This new and improved appearance will be thanks to a new neighbor who now owns the old Natchez property—the City of Fort Lauderdale.

The Natchez property immediately south of Bonnet



House boarded by State Road A1A on the east and Vista Mar Street on the south has been a source

of concern for the museum for years. This property was once the home of two low rise motels dating from the middle of the last century: one called the Natchez and the other the San Tropez. Hurricane Wilma effectively closed both businesses in 2005. Prior to that, various proposed developments had been contemplated on the site that could have overwhelmed the Lily Pond and Dry Fountain and intruded on the historically important south view corridors that extend from the front door of the Main House and the Veranda.

I am pleased to report that those concerns have now been safely put to rest. In September, the City of Fort Lauderdale formally took ownership of the five parcels that once comprised the Natchez and San Tropez motels. The positive impact of this news cannot be overstated. With ownership by the City, the presence of an overly large building so close to the Lily Pond and the southern view corridors has been effectively eliminated for the foreseeable future. City Staff has begun laying plans for a surface parking lot on the site with a low-rise parking structure planned for the future.



Newsletter design by Monica Estevez
Cover photo, photo above and to the left by Monica Estevez

Preliminary discussions with the City have been incredibly positive. Staff fully recognize what a treasure Bonnet House is and to that end they have pledged to build a parking lot that not only serves the needs of locals wanting to visit the beach, but also enhances the approach and sense of arrival to Bonnet House from the south. This parking lot and its improvements should be open towards the end of 2018 at approximately the same time that I anticipate completion of the South Gate gathering area and exhibit space.

The benefits from a property management standpoint are also significant. As long as the lot was vacant, seclusion provided by volunteer Australian pines made the Bonnet House south wall a draw for vandals. Bonnet House has spent thousands of dollars in painting and many man hours over the past few years, painting over graffiti or working to scrub it off. From time to time, vagrants have also set up camps on the Natchez site, leaving behind trash and clothing that have detracted from Bonnet House's appearance.

Having the City has a neighbor to the south gives Bonnet House a wonderful opportunity to enhance its visibility and increase its connectivity to the community at large. Bonnet House extends a hearty welcome to its new neighbor. Welcome City of Fort Lauderdale!

Patrick Shavloske

Development News

by Darla Worley Livesay

The Gift of Giving

It has been an amazing year here at Bonnet House. So many wonderful things have happened, and we could never do it without all you. We have the great fortune of having the most outstanding board members, donors, volunteers and staff. We are extremely grateful for your dedication and commitment to Bonnet House.

One of the many successes here this year has been the invention and implementation of a new event called Holiday Magic. We kicked off the week-long event with a record breaking sellout crowd of over 400 people at the Soiree on the veranda. The event has created a ground swell of support by all of you and the entire community. This is certainly something that will be a tradition here at Bonnet House for many more years to come and a new and much needed revenue stream.



Photo by Kevin Miller

As we continue to plan for the future, we are reminded that with success in order to grow, comes a greater need. It takes a lot to run a 35 acre, 100 year old house. The maintenance alone on a daily basis is unbelievable, add to it preservation and conservation and you end up with a rather large amount of fund-



ing needed to keep this place running. Not to mention a visit from an unwanted lady this year named Hurricane Irma. We recently

learned that repair of the fence we lost will cost about \$45,000 and debris removal was \$14,000. So far, we have received \$21,000 in donations to offset our added expenses thanks to many of you. However, we

still have not recovered all the costs associated with the hurricane.

We, that know and love Bonnet House, want it to be better than ever and we want our future to be bright so that we can be solvent for many, many more years to come. Therefore, Patrick and I are very hopeful that you might consider making an end of the year donation to Bonnet House. Every gift counts no matter how large or small. Visit us at <https://7813.blackbaudhosting.com/7813/Unrestricted--4120> to make your donation.

We are very thankful and blessed to have all of you involved with Bonnet House.

Be sure to mark 7:00 pm on January 18th, February 15th, March 15th, and April 5th on your calendar for the Concerts Under the Stars Music Series. Also, mark your calendars for Impressions which will take place on March 8, 2018. We look forward to welcoming you back to Bonnet House!



Lastly, one of the simplest ways you can help preserve and enhance Bonnet House, this wonderful treasure, is by becoming a member. You will receive complimentary admission for a year, get discounted admission for up to 3 guests and get discounts in our gift shop, the best little gift shop in all of Broward County. This year we also added a brand new Media Partner membership level for corporations wanting to get their name on our website, our Google ad word campaign, mentions on all social media channels and logos on an event of their choice. Visit us at <http://www.bonnethouse.org/membership-support/> for more information on memberships.

With a planned gift to Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, you can combine your desire to support a worthy cause with your overall financial, tax, and estate planning goals. Planned giving gives you a special connection with Bonnet House. You will help preserve this historic site — for now and for years to come!

The Little Gift Shop

by Dianne Ennis

We have many new and unique inventory items that might be the right gift you are looking for when thinking of Valentine's Day. We feature Charles Albert jewelry which is showcased only at high-end retailers, known for their fine sterling silver pieces. For organic lovers, we present Organic Tagua Jewelry, colorful and eye catching. We proudly carry specialty items from SPI, items that compliment your home with elegance.



Beautifully provides ladies scarfs, handbags and books that capture the history of Fort Lauderdale are also a part of our gift shop collection. We also carry a large array of household and personal items. Stop by and take a look; we know you will be delighted with our inventory. A great gift is a Bonnet House membership; it is the gift that keeps giving all year long. Don't forget there is a 20% discount for our volunteers and members during the month of May.

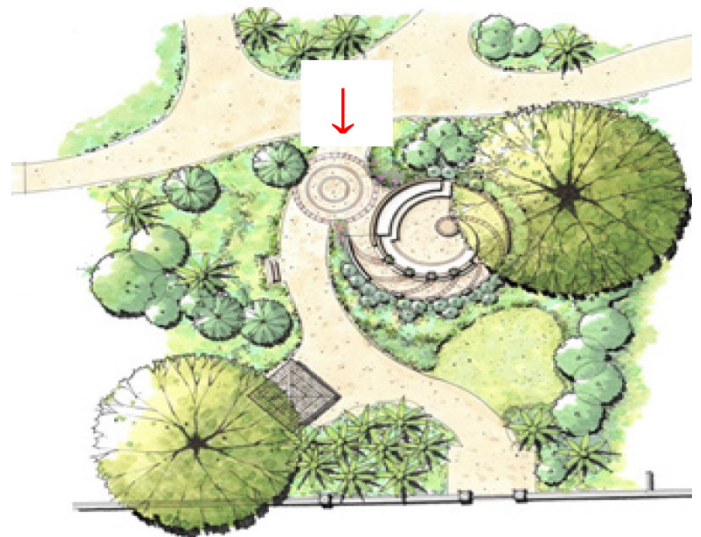
Well, we are halfway through our fiscal year. It was a rough six months due to Hurricane Irma but we are all fighters and we work hard to make Bonnet House the gem that it is. We, of course, bounced back. It is that time of the year when our budgets are getting thin so we are again implementing our "Gently Loved & Used Items Donation Program." This program helps us reach our fiscal goals and also helps those who decide to donate by issuing you a "Gift in Kind" for your yearly tax deduction. For those items that you would like to donate to the Gift Shop simply call 954-563-5393 X130 and we will be more than happy to accept your gently loved items.

For your convenience, tickets for Concerts Under-the-Stars, Impressions, Cruising Down the River, Orchid Festival also the many classes and workshops featured at Bonnet House are sold at the Gift Shop, Welcome Center and the South Gate as well as on-line. We look forward to seeing you at our beautiful museum and hope you take advantage of all that it offers and help us preserve a part of history.

Commemorative Coral Stones

by Darla Worely Livesay

The Bonnet House Commemorative Coral Stone Campaign is an opportunity to honor loved ones, celebrate milestones or show your lasting commitment to this special place by adding your own personal sign of support. The Coral Stones will be placed in the outer band of the entry way leading into the South Gate gathering area at Bonnet House. 77 characters are allowed including spaces, 11 per line, 7 lines total. Call Darla for your engraving form at 954-653-1557. Coral Stones are \$500 and 100% tax deductible. Visit us online to donate at bonnethouse.org/membership-support/donate.



Support and Revenue 2016-2017

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Grants	\$ 262,693		\$ 262,693
Contributions	\$ 213,755	\$ 49,609	\$ 263,364
Memberships	\$ 126,340		\$ 126,340
Fundraising Events	\$ 169,119		\$ 169,119
Tours	\$ 485,669		\$ 485,669
Interest and Dividends	\$ 80,177		\$ 80,177
Net realized and unrealized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments	\$ 110,909		\$ 110,909
Weddings and Rentals	\$ 275,143		\$ 275,143
Museum Shop	\$ 124,828		\$ 124,828
Education Programs	\$ 57,454		\$ 57,454
Donated Goods and Professional Services	\$ 36,997		\$ 36,997
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$ 162,208	\$ (162,208)	\$ -
Total Support and Revenue	\$ 2,105,292	\$ (112,599)	\$ 1,992,693

Expenses 2016-2017

General and Administrative			
Accounting and Legal	\$ 91,410		
Depreciation	\$ 9,264		
Salaries and Other Related Expense	\$ 213,542		
Payment to Florida Trust	\$ 147,329		
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$ 4,983		
Newsletter	\$ 5,168		
Office Expense	\$ 82,649		
Postage	\$ 4,803		
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 68,960		
PR and Advertising	\$ 67,164		
Telephone	\$ 11,921		
Travel	\$ 4,587		
Utilities	\$ 40,247		
Donated Professional Services	\$ 36,997		
Professional Services	\$ 92,037		
Other	\$ 9,986		
Sub Total	\$ 890,777		
Program Services			
Salaries and Other Related Expense	\$ 578,986		
Animal Care	\$ 787		
Event Expense	\$ 39,277		
Golf Cart Expense	\$ 23,843		
Insurance	\$ 64,894		
Tours	\$ 15,397		
Education Programs	\$ 29,490		
Building Restoration	\$ 214,298		
Other	\$ 4,530		
Sub Total	\$ 971,502		
Fundraising			
Salaries and Other Related Expense	\$ 102,814		
Museum Shop	\$ 57,067		
Event Expense	\$ 59,192		
Alliance Expense	\$ 20,535		
Alliance Support	\$ 34,097		
Sub Total	\$ 273,705		
Total Expense	\$ 2,135,984	\$ -	\$ 2,135,984
Change in Net Assets	\$ (30,692)	\$ (112,602)	\$ (143,294)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$ 1,059,854	\$ 1,196,025	\$ 2,255,879
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 1,029,162	\$ 1,083,423	\$ 2,112,585

Statement of Activity 2016-2017 Patrick Shavloske, CEO

As I wrote in the "From the CEO" column in the last newsletter, I am presenting in this newsletter a Statement of Activity for Bonnet House's July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 fiscal year. As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, I believe Bonnet House has an obligation to be transparent with its finances. But in addition to that, I believe our members and most loyal donors and constituents should be aware of what goes into operating Bonnet House from a dollars and cents standpoint. While we have made good improvement in controlling expense over the past year, an organization cannot cut its way to prosperity. We must also look at ways to boost revenue from fundraising, wedding and event rental, and tour revenue (down a disappointing \$37,000 from 2015-2016).

The museum's busiest time of year is coming up. We will be working hard towards seeing enhanced revenue in our 2017-2018 performance.



The Lily Pad

Newsletter of the Bonnet House Alliance

A warm welcome to the 2017 Holiday Season at the Bonnet House. Our mission is to serve as community ambassadors by promoting awareness and interest in our Bonnet House paradise right here in our beautiful Fort Lauderdale, Venice of America.

The Alliance has been very active this fall in promoting the Bonnet House by holding and assisting in various activities and fund raisers. This year we again held our second annual Oktoberfest which was a great success by introducing many new people to the Bonnet house to enjoy an evening in the Courtyard with ice cold Veuve Clicquot champagne provided by the "Seminole Hardrock Hotel and Casino" along with wine, cold beer, and delicious German food provided by Checkers Old Munchin Restaurant. We had over one hundred in attendance and raised a couple of thousand dollars for the Bonnet House, but the best of all was the fun and comradery of meeting new friends and introducing them to the Bonnet House for the first time. Truly, a good time was had by all.



Our December Holiday Luncheon was held at LYC on December 5th. We had a wonderful lunch time get together and a short board meeting after the luncheon. Many, many unwrapped gifts were brought for Ann Powell's ACAC Charity so that there were enough gifts for Santa to leave presents for several families on Christmas.

Holiday Magic was held December 8th to 15th this year as a beginning of a new tradition at the Bonnet House. The Alliance helped participate in this new, exciting event by decorating three Christmas trees as auction items to be bid on the opening night of Holiday Magic. With over 400 in attendance it was a wonderful South Florida holiday event. Look to get involved with us next year as it is lots of fun and a great kick off for the Holiday/Christmas spirit.



memorable.

Our bus tour to the Flagler Museum in WPB has moved from Monday, January 29th to Tuesday the 30th of January and there are a few places left, so if you would like to attend call the Bonnet House and make your RSVP to attend. Remember champagne mimosas for the ride up to WPB make the trip that much more

Finally, for this Lily Pad edition, EE is coming in February on the 26th. This is the 23rd annual EE and as always this event is virtually a "Parade of Tables" in a paradise setting of the tropical Bonnet House wonderland. Sandy Casteel is organizing the designers for this tremendous event along with Valerie Viglioni. Susan Gundlach has graciously agreed to chair EE again, Mike Osceola and Brian Hill have secured Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino as title sponsors (which promises more Veuve Clicquot for our receptions) this year, so with all this talent going in the same direction it will be an outstanding event for certain.



I look forward to the rest of our year and I want to wish everyone a joyous Holiday Season!

Bill

William Gundlach III
Alliance President 2016-2017

The Building of Bonnet House

by Denyse Cunningham



Concrete is an ancient building material but concrete block is a product of the twentieth century. Patents for methods of casting blocks were granted as early as the 1870s but widespread production did not take off until the invention of a cast-iron machine with a removable core and adjustable sides by Harmon S. Palmer. His patent was issued in the U.S. in 1900. Concrete blocks soon became a very popular and economical building material. The early machines sold for two hundred dollars each and copycat machines were made by many different companies. It was said that two men, one mixing the cement and another tamping the mixture down to compress out the voids could easily make a hundred blocks a day. Many people with no construction experience got into this cottage industry but by the end of the 1930s most blocks were made in factories.

Hardware companies such as Sears, Roebuck & Co. sold concrete building block machines. Interestingly the 1919 and 1922 Hibbard, Spenser, Bartlett & Co. catalogs in the Bonnet House archive do not offer the machines for sale. Several of the molds that were used to create the blocks for Bonnet House exist; one is on the south wall of the Caretaker's cottage.

A 2007 inspection of Bonnet House by consulting engineer Joaquin J. Rodriguez, III, P.E. noted "... one of the pilon on the North side of the lower level open porch to be of very weak unreinforced concrete. (It is probable that all the rest are also)." Old House Journal states "early builders sometimes inadvertently

compromised concrete by using seawater or beach sand in the mix or by using calcium chloride or a similar salt as an additive to make the concrete more "fireproof." Given the fact that almost the entire business section of downtown Fort Lauderdale burned in 1912 that may have been the case in 1920 when Bonnet House was built.

To complete his creative vision for his winter retreat Frederic Clay Bartlett hired local contractor, Samuel L. Drake (1874 – 1952) to build Bonnet House. Drake had come to Fort Lauderdale in 1911 just in time for the 1912 fire. Some early manufacturers of blocks tried to emulate the more expensive stone or brick. Architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright condemned such imitation attempts. Frederic used concrete block with artistic intention, not trying to make it look like anything else but machine produced block. In rooms such as his art studio he did not even paint the blocks.

Over the years cracks have formed in the block walls as the earth below them has settled. In 1989 structural crack monitors, called "Tell-Tales", were installed in various locations around Bonnet House. These gauges consist of two plates which overlap for part of their length. The bottom plate is calibrated in millimeters and the top plate is transparent and marked with a hairline cursor in the form of a cross. As seen in photographs from 1984, rebar was used in with the concrete blocks that form the tower and probably other walls. The old rebar was very rusty and as it expanded from rusting caused cracks. It was the twisted type like the decorative pieces on the gates on the west side of the courtyard. Concrete repairs today include specially treated rebar that does not corrode.

Luckily for us the Bartlett's thoroughly documented the building of Bonnet House with photographs. One image shows Drake's workers mixing the cement to be used to make the concrete blocks.

A final piece of info: Hugh Taylor Birch bought the land where Bonnet House sits today from Patrick Cunningham who was a Jacksonville attorney.

Volunteer Update

by Linda Schaller

Friends of Bonnet House



October and September have been very sad months for Bonnet House staff and volunteers. We lost two precious friends: Barbara Steinhart who has been a volunteer guide and greeter since 1999 and Tom Taplinger who was a guide since 2012. Their

love of Bonnet House was shown in the tours they gave, and their gift of time and talent was most appreciated. Barbara and Tom will truly be missed by all of us. We send our condolences to their families.



Bonnet House Needs You!

2018 is looking to be a really big year for volunteer needs at Bonnet House. We are looking for volunteers to help with the grounds maintenance. Since Hurricane Irma hit in September we have been working on clean-up of the grounds. We need people to help with weeding, raking, planting and pruning; if you are interested we need you! Special Events & Weddings always need tram drivers to get guests from the parking lot to the front door. These events take place in the evening and if you are a night owl, we can use you. You would be driving a tram (large golf cart seating five people along with the driver). We need good drivers who can make the guests feel welcome. Nature Trail Tram Drivers are also needed Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Nature Trail Tram Drivers interpret the grounds telling about the history of the property, the plants and trees. If you are interested in the nature of Bonnet House and would like to share your enthusiasm, we need you!!!



Please call 954-703-2606 or email lindaschaller@bonnet-house.org

Employee Spotlight

by Nicholle Maudlin

Julius Bianchi and Richard Bach

Bonnet House community...please meet Richard and Julius, Tour Coordinators. I'm laughing as I type this because they do, and have done, so much more than coordinate tours since they became regulars at

Bonnet House. Starting out as orchid care volunteers, the pair quickly became enamored with the estate and expanded their volunteer repertoire including leading house tours and then nature trail tram tours.

When Linda Schaller, Director of Education and Volunteer Programs, approached them to join our staff, Richard and Julius accepted right away. Richard thought it would be a great way for them to contribute to the community and at the same time, become a part of the Bonnet House history. Julius wanted to have a more meaningful role in the guest experience and making sure everyone had fun while they discovered the beauty of Bonnet House, just as they had.



Photo by David Woodin

Their responsibilities quickly expanded since Richard, a retired flight attendant purser of 42 years, is called upon for all things customer service related and Julius, a retired University CIO (Chief Information Officer) of 24 years is called upon to assist with all things data related.

Richard says of his initial interest in Bonnet House "we wanted to learn how to grow orchids in this tropical environment". They had just moved to South Florida from California (originally though from the Midwest) and visited the estate during the 2014 Orchid Festival. They were newlyweds at the time and knew they wanted to get involved right away. They searched www.bonnethouse.org for volunteer opportunities and started two weeks later caring for our extensive orchid collection.

The rest is history! The couple says they enjoy working with the volunteers and staff and have met one of their "dearest friends" at Bonnet House. Richard speaks about the "feeling of inclusiveness" and Julius of the "feeling like you are part of a community" and "interacting with the guests" as some of their favorite things about Bonnet House. They encourage others to consider getting involved with Bonnet House at any level they are comfortable with. Richard says "It doesn't matter your tenure. You feel comfortable here whether it's your first day volunteering or if you've been here for a lifetime".

Activities Calendar January - March

Events

CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS

January 18, February 15,
March 15 & April 5
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm



LECTURE SERIES

January 9, February 13 &
March 13, 10:00 am

ARTFUL MUSINGS: A BONNET HOUSE FINE ARTISTS EXHIBIT

January 11- 6:00 pm Opening
Exhibition runs to February 25



MAKING NEW IMPRESSIONS March 8, 6:00 pm



Workshops

CALLIGRAPHY

Tuesdays,
January 9 - February 6
9:30 am - 11:30 am



WATERCOLOR

Wednesdays,
January 10 - February 14
9:30am - 12:30pm
or 1:00pm - 4:00pm



ACRYLIC

Thursdays,
January 10 - February 14
9:30am - 12:30pm
or 1:00pm - 4:00pm



Workshops

Cont'd

BASKET WEAVING

January 27
10:00 am - 2:00 pm



Classes

BIRDING CLASS

January 21
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm



Alliance

ENTIRELY ENTERTAINING
February 26
11:00 am - 2:00 pm



To Register for Classes or Purchase Event Tickets visit BonnetHouse.org

Daniel Bennett Group Returns

An intoxicating blend of
modern jazz, American folk
& experimental classical

Thursday
March 29, 2017
7:00 pm
\$25

Bonnet House Museum & Gardens

www.bonnethouse.org • 954.703.2614



900 NORTH BIRCH ROAD
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33304

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FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS PLEASE VISIT BONNETHOUSE.ORG

Co-sponsored by: *R. S. Ingham, Mowry Spencer and John Newton, Jean Francois Roy, Jim Stepp and Peter Zimmer, Dr. William King and John Scheifel, Denis and Susan McMillan, Allan Rexinger and John Davis, Connie and Theo Folz, Northern Trust, David and Virginia Hagen*



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