

BONNET HOUSE
MUSEUM & GARDENS

FEBRUARY - MAY 2022

House Happenings

Concerts Under the Stars

*International Orchid
& Garden Festival*

*Studio Window
Restoration Project*

and more...



FROM THE CEO

Patrick Shavloske



I'm not sure where 2021 went! It hardly seems possible that the calendar now reads 2022. While the old year saw a lot of activity at Bonnet House like the completion of the new Boat House Bridge, the completion of the South Gate improvements, partial rebuilding of the Studio window, and the start of a multi-year project

to restore paintings by Frederic Bartlett, the new year will be even busier.

Installing climate control in the Main House has been a long-known need for the museum. Bonnet House is now finalizing plans to install air conditioning in the Drawing Room and second floor bedrooms. While



this will undoubtedly improve the summer visitor experience, its primary benefit will be providing more stable humidity and temperature levels to preserve collection items. The system will be a combination of units including central air conditioning and mini split units. A partial upgrade to the electrical system is also part of the plan. When complete, Bonnet House will be in a position to consider soft furnishing, floor, and painting restoration projects in both the Master Bedroom and Hugh Taylor Birch's room. A fresh coat of paint in the Drawing Room is under consideration as well.

Bonnet House also plans to finalize plans for reroofing the Main House in early 2022. We are coming to the end of the bidding process and will soon be selecting a contractor to perform the work. Due to our extremely busy wedding and event season, roofing work won't begin until May, but we are also cognizant of supply chain issues and are working to finalize the plan and get materials ordered.



As many readers know, Bonnet House is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and that accreditation expires in 2022. The museum is now in the midst of the reaccreditation process. A required self-study and various accompanying documents were submitted to the AAM in November. Additional documents and clarification were submitted in December. March will see a site visit to thoroughly review our day-to-day operations. The site visit team will consist of two working museum professionals who will participate in some of our programs, inspect the facility, and meet with key staff and select board members. Their report, along with all materials submitted by Bonnet House will be the basis for the reaccreditation commission's decision in the summer.



The winter months will also see our peak visitation season, return of art classes, Concerts Under the Stars, the lecture series, and planning for the Orchid Festival that will take place on April 2nd and 3rd. Add to those events almost twice the number of weddings and private event rentals that Bonnet House sees in a typical season, and you have a very busy few months coming up.

All of this is made possible by a fantastic combination of a talented staff, a dedicated board, and volunteers who give so tirelessly of their time, talent and treasure too. While we are all privileged to be the temporary stewards of this special place, Bonnet House is blessed to have the human talent to nurture its existence. Thanks to each of you for all you do!

Cover Photo: Anna Collins. Inside photos: Clay Weiland Photography, Kevin Miller, Monica Estevez, Denyse Cunningham, and Manda Weaver Photography.



ALL THINGS FUN IN "FUN"DRAISING

Darla L. Stanton, Director of Development

Holiday Magic 2021

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 our wonderful, magical, whimsical event called Holiday Magic. We kicked off the weeklong event with a record breaking sellout crowd of over 400 people at the Soiree on the veranda. The event has created a groundswell 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. This year we raised \$103,000 in funds for Bonnet House.

Mark your calendars for Holiday Magic 2022: Friday, December 2nd will be the Soiree, Saturday, December 3rd will be our Whimsical Wonderland and December 7th, 8th and 9th will be our unforgettable evening experiences!

Don't forget we are your "go to" people for any trees, wreaths or centerpieces that you may need for your home, condo, business office, hotel lobby, or any place else that needs some holiday cheer. We start planning now for next year so if you are interested in assisting with this event in any way call me at 954-653-1557 or email me at darlastanton@bonnethouse.org. We are trying to gauge interest and get orders in ahead of time for decor as we almost completely sold out the first night this year.

Night at the Museum

This component of the Revitalize Bonnet House

campaign offers guests a rare opportunity to spend the night at Bonnet House in the newly renovated bridal suite accompanied by a gourmet dinner and breakfast the next morning. Alternatively, donors can host a gourmet dinner for eight at Bonnet House. Either Night at the Museum experience is a thank you for a \$5,000 gift, but the experiences can be combined for a \$10,000 gift.

Concerts Under the Stars and the International Orchid Festival are Just Around the Corner

Be sure to mark 6:30 pm on January 27th, February 10th, March 10th, and April 14th on your calendar for the Concerts Under the Stars. If you would like more information on the Concerts or wish to become a sponsor, please visit our website bonnethouse.org.

Also, mark your calendars for the Orchid Festival which will take place on April 2nd and 3rd, 2022. If you would like more information on the Orchid Festival or wish to become a sponsor, please visit our website bonnethouse.org

The New Year is Here and Maybe You Would Like to Become Part of Bonnet House's Legacy Society?

The change of the calendar is always a good opportunity to reflect on the past year and review your personal financial affairs. Perhaps you have experienced a change in your life that would affect your estate plan or your charitable interests have changed? With a planned gift to Bonnet House Museum & Gardens—such as a bequest or charitable gift annuity—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!!

(CONT'D)

ALL THINGS FUN IN "FUN" DRAISING (CONT'D)

For more about becoming part of Bonnet House's Legacy Society or if you have already left Bonnet House in your estate plans and would like to be listed in our Legacy Society, please contact Darla at darlastanton@bonnethouse.org.

Mark Your Calendars for the Most Extraordinary Wine and Food Festival



This will be the most extraordinary wine and food event in history and what better venue to hold it at than Bonnet House?! You won't want to miss the event! It will take place on March 11th and 12th, 2023. Look for more information in the coming months.

Membership

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 three guests and receive discounts in our Museum Shop, the best little gift shop in all of Broward County.

We are very thankful and blessed to have all of you involved with Bonnet House and wish you all a very Happy, Healthy New Year!



BONNET HOUSE MUSEUM & GARDENS CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM



INDULGE IN EXCLUSIVE & LUXURIOUS
OVERNIGHT STAYS & DINNERS,
BENEFITTING BONNET HOUSE'S REVITALIZATION CAMPAIGN

BOOK YOUR RESERVATION NOW:
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STUDIO WINDOW RESTORATION PROJECT

Denyse Cunningham, Curator



Many of you have been watching the craftsman James R. Baxter toil away restoring the huge north-facing window in the Studio. The window is original to the house. It was designed by Frederic Clay Bartlett to supply the best lighting for painting in an art studio. Natural or full-spectrum light provides the most consistent light throughout the day. We know from historic photographs that Mr. Bartlett had large north-facing windows in his other art studios in New York City, Chicago, Illinois and Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

The Chicago Tribune described his studio there: "The studio is probably 40 X 25 feet; the ceiling perhaps is twenty feet high. For painting huge decorative canvases an unusably high pitch was required and obtained partly by lowering the floor and partly by elevating the ceiling."

Jim Baxter does his restoration work based in his home in West Palm Beach. A former Andersen Windows sales representative he goes to window restoration workshops and considers his work a "vocational revival." His attitude has come full circle, and he now truly values old windows that he feels are the "soul of a home." He thinks restoring windows honors the history of an historic structure. Unfortunately the craft is rarely being passed on to the future generations. Schiller's Architectural and Design Salvage yard in Tampa Bay is one of

the few places that you can find unique salvaged items. Wood Window Makeovers, also in Tampa Bay, restore historic windows. It was through a referral from them that we were lucky enough to find Jim to come to Bonnet House and work on the Studio window.

Jim used a lift to access the top part of the Studio window. He first identified the spots with rot. The original glazing was very hard and had mildewed due to moisture penetration. Jim replaced it with putty mixed with zinc-oxide to minimize the mildew in our damp South Florida environment. His work is much like how a doctor does surgery, slowly removing away the rotted wood.

The large Studio window had been restored and parts replaced in the past. The work Jim has been doing is essentially a re-do of the past restorations. He replaced some of the framing members with a "Dutchmen" made of Accoya wood. Accoya is a fast-growing pine tree (*pinus radiata*) which is sustainably grown in managed forests. This type of wood is known for its high performance. A Dutchman is a matching piece of wood used to replace a small damaged area that has been cut out of a larger portion to avoid having to replace the entire piece. An acetic acid is injected into the wood to deter bugs and rot and make it extremely stable and durable.



Jim feels the hardest part of a window repair job is working around the existing tempered glass, removing the old hardened calking. Care must be used as the glass is tempered. Unlike regular glass, which fractures into large irregular shaped shards, tempered glass when broken fractures into small relatively harmless pieces. It is four times stronger than regular glass.

The glass in the Studio window has a wavy irregular appearance. This old glass was originally in a cylindrical shape and then cut and flattened. Modern glass is poured out onto a bed of molten tin and allowed to flatten producing a perfectly flat surface.

TAKE ROOT FOREST SCHOOL & CAMP AT BONNET HOUSE

BY Christy Schultz

Experiencing the Forest & History of
Bonnet House



Take Root Forest School's mission is to provide outdoor learning experiences that inspire the curious mind, instill love and appreciation for nature, and nurture positive and holistic living. The children learn about where they live, bringing the PLACE - the land and the history ALIVE, allowing each child to find his or her Sense of Place.

Forest Camp (Ages 4.5-11)

Holiday Breaks 2021/22

9:30am-3pm

Winter Break Mini-Camp

December 21, 22, 23 & 28, 29, 30

Spring Break Mini-Camp

March 22, 23, 24

Summer Break Camp

June-August - 3 or 5 Day options

Forest School (Ages 3-11)

Sept 2021-June, 2022

9:30am-3pm

Various Days Each Week



Website: natureseekers.earth

E-mail: natureseekersfl@gmail.com

Phone: (786) 490-6660

Celebrate Beautiful & Historic

Weddings and Special Events

on Fort Lauderdale Beach

BONNET HOUSE
MUSEUM & GARDENS

www.BonnetHouse.org

954-703-2608



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY - MAY 2022

BIRDING CLASSES

Children (Ages 8 - 12): Sat | Feb 12 | 9 am - 12 pm
Adults Sun | Mar 6 | 2:00 - 5:00 pm

CALLIGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Tue | Feb 15 - Mar 15 | 9:30 am - 11:30 am
5-Week Workshop

TWO-DAY ORCHID PAINTING WORKSHOP

Fri & Sat | Feb 25 & 26 | 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

FOREST BATHING CLASS

Sun | Feb 27 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

For more information, to purchase tickets or register for classes, please visit bonnethouse.org.

WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

Tues | Mar 2 - Apr 6 | 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
6-Week Workshop

ADVANCED WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

Sat | Mar 5 - 26 | 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
4-Week Workshop

SPEAKER SERIES

Mon | Feb 14 | 10:00 am - 11:30 am
The Many Home of Frederic Batlett
Historian and Author, J. Kent Planck

Mon | Mar 14 | 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Cruising Through Paradise: 20th Century Boat Tours
in South Florida
Bonnet House Curator, Denyse Cunningham



CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS PRESENTED BY THE HALLER FOUNDATION



Experience live performances on the beautiful Bonnet House Veranda with wine & cheese included. Sweet music, balmy starlit nights, and the setting of Bonnet House combine for a truly unique experience. The concert takes place on our lovely tent-covered veranda with seating provided.

Thursdays | February 10th, March 10th & April 14th | 6:30 -8:00 pm

INTERNATIONAL ORCHID & GARDEN FESTIVAL

The Festival welcomes orchid enthusiasts and plant lovers alike to vividly experience – and purchase – diverse, colorful and fragrant varieties of orchids, tropical plants, herbs and fruit trees sold by local and international vendors from Thailand, Malaysia, Ecuador and Hawaii.

International vendors subject to change pending global health restrictions.

Saturday & Sunday | April 2nd & 3rd | 9:00 am -4:00 pm





Non Profit
Organization
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Permit No. 4398

A promotional poster for "Concerts Under the Stars" at Bonnet House Museum & Gardens. The poster features a collage of images on the left: a woman singing into a vintage microphone, a man playing a saxophone, a man playing a guitar, and a group of people in formal attire. The right side of the poster has a dark blue background with musical notes and the text "Concerts" in a large, white, cursive font. Below "Concerts" is a purple banner with the text "UNDER THE STARS" in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below that is the text "PRESENTED BY THE HALLER FOUNDATION" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The dates "JANUARY - APRIL 2022" are displayed in a large, yellow, sans-serif font. At the bottom, a purple banner with the text "PURCHASE TICKETS NOW!" in white, bold, sans-serif font is shown. The Bonnet House Museum & Gardens logo is also present in the upper right corner of the poster.