



BONNET HOUSE MUSEUM & GARDENS

OCTOBER 2023 - JANUARY 2024



Holiday Magic 2

Piece # 60

Choo-Choo Christmas

Designers:

Beatrice Florida

Price

Bought
Paid

FROM THE CEO

Patrick Shavloske



THERE IS SO MUCH NEW TO report on at Bonnet House, I hardly know where to begin. While our visitor numbers have been down a bit more than normal in these very hot summer months, that doesn't mean the past few months haven't been busy behind the scenes. In many ways, we're seeing the start of a NEW Bonnet House.

How can a 100+ year old home be new? Let me fill you in on a few ways.

First, we have expanded our full-time staff. Sonia Mesa who has been our part time Associate Director of Education since 2021 and previously a tour coordinator for several years has moved to full time. It has been over 20 years since Bonnet House had a staff person devoted exclusively to education, and Linda Schaller is now getting some well-earned additional assistance. Sonia has already developed about 70 new lessons for the distance learning lessons Bonnet House presents at no cost to the Broward Public Schools, reaching about 13,000 youth in the last school year alone. Sonia will be developing our youth education programs even further under the name of Bonnet House Green Connect with the goal of continuing our lessons into local middle schools, attracting more field trip groups, and integrating school programs with on-site youth days. I am confident I will have more wonderful, impactful news to share about Bonnet House education programs over the next few months.

The Bonnet House grounds and waterways are seeing some new developments too. As many readers will know, Evelyn Bartlett created the sloughs as we know them today in the 1930s, opening them up, adding a coral rock border and the Chickee bridge, and planting royal palms on the shores. Not much work has been done on the waterways since. Bonnet House is embarking on a multi-year effort to remove nearly 100 years of organic sediment that is slowly filling the sloughs and beginning to threaten

their long-term health. The first phase of the project began in August and involved re-creating the shoreline on the south-eastern portion of the central slough by removing invasive species and replanting with sod. Take a stroll around the slough the next time you're here just like the Bartletts did!

The sloughs are not the only part of the property that have not seen work in a long while. Thanks to a generous grant from the Jacarlene Foundation, the second-floor bedrooms and the Drawing Room will be getting fresh coats of paint, reupholstered furniture in the bedrooms and new custom lamp shades. In addition, the badly deteriorated oil paintings in Hugh Taylor Birch's bedroom will be restored. This is the first time in at least 50 years that these rooms are getting such a refresh.

Overseeing the completion of these interior restoration projects is Bonnet House's new curator, Katie Valli. Katie has already instituted a Treasures from the Collections program that will specially showcase various items in the exhibit rooms every few months with more detailed information about the items' heritage. Katie has also started work to update the collections database. She is also planning a special exhibit for the second-floor rooms when tours of the freshly painted upstairs begin again in January.

So, yes, there is a lot NEW at Bonnet House!

In closing, this issue of House Happenings is when we take a moment to recognize our upper-level donors and provide a snapshot of our recently completed July 2022-June 2023 fiscal year. It takes an impressive and remarkable interplay between generous donors, volunteer efforts, and an incredibly dedicated staff to make Bonnet House's programs possible. I offer a special THANK YOU to our major donors listed in the Annual Report pages of this newsletter who have clearly done so much for Bonnet House over the past year. We couldn't present our programs without you!

And now, on to the financials. Donor support, earned revenue efforts, and investment income resulted in a very successful 2022-2023. Allow me to highlight some items of note in the profit and loss statement on page 4. The largest revenue line is tours with \$721,346. It was a very busy year, and I offer a sincere thank you to the many volunteers

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

Cover Photo: Eduardo Schneider Photography. Inside photos: Mary D'Elia, Katie Valli, Monica Estevez, Gwynne Beatty, and Manda Weaver Photography.



who helped welcome almost 40,000 people to a house and/or grounds tour this past year. Estate rentals stood at \$415,124. The previous year's rentals saw record highs due to post-COVID pent up demand. This year was still impressive but more manageable. Contributions, memberships, grants and fundraising events equaled \$1,239,780 which made for a very good year for fundraising. All told, this past year was very strong in terms of revenue.

On the expense side, conservation came in at \$495,925. This represents the cost of the new roofs

that were added to nearly all the historic buildings as well as the cost of a significant electrical upgrade and installation of central air-conditioning in all the upstairs bedrooms, Drawing Room and Dining Room. These were longstanding needs that have now been completed and will benefit Bonnet House for years to come. Business insurance was more than expected due to an approximate \$50,000 increase in windstorm coverage. Staff wages and benefits totaled about 45% of expenses. None of our programming would be possible without the talented staff of Bonnet House with whom I am privileged to work.

Our mission statement states:

Celebrating the story of Frederic and Evelyn Bartlett, we preserve the art, history and nature of Bonnet House, providing inspiration and respite for all.

If you are reading this newsletter, you have most likely contributed time, talent or treasure helping us fulfill this mission over the past fiscal year. To you, I again say thank you! If you are new to Bonnet House, we would be honored to have your participation and support.

WELCOME OUR NEW CURATOR KATIE VALLI

Please join us in welcoming Bonnet House's new Curator, Katie Valli! Katie is a South Florida native and comes from a background of ten years of professorial experience at a local college. History and anthropology have always been a passion of hers, which has translated to a desire to work within a deeply historical environment. Preserving the past for generations to come to enjoy and learn from is extremely important to Katie, and the Bartlett's extensive and eclectic collections bring her much excitement - excitement for its multicultural significance, the visitor interaction of items from modern day to thousands of



years ago, and for the South Florida community to learn about its unique past and the individuals who began shaping our city. As a fellow lover of nature, art, and travel, Katie finds a kindred spirit in the Bartletts, and has a lot of creative ideas for Bonnet House coming soon!

Katie holds a Master of Fine Arts degree and a graduate certificate in museum collections management and care from the renowned museum studies program at George Washington University. She has previously interned here at Bonnet House, worked at the Boca Raton Historical Society and is a member of the Gold Coast Archivists.

BONNET HOUSE PROFIT & LOSS

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023 - UNAUDITED

INCOME	CURRENT YTD
ANNUAL FUND / UNREST CONTRIBUTION	\$583,058.00
BONNET HOUSE EVENTS	\$240,391.00
BONNET HOUSE OVER/SHORT	\$(113.00)
DONATED GOODS AND SERVICES	\$89,679.00
EDUCATION PROGRAMS REVENUE	\$58,335.00
ESTATE RENTALS	\$415,124.00
MEMBERSHIP	\$94,170.00
MUSEUM SHOP REVENUE	\$175,107.00
CONCESSION INCOME	\$4,225.00
SALES TAX CREDIT	\$323.00
TOURS	\$721,346.00
GRANTS- UNRESTRICTED	\$322,161.00
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$9,658.00
GORSS PROFIT	\$2,713,464.00

EXPENSES	CURRENT YTD
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	\$1,328,430.00
ADVERTISING & MARKETING	\$82,384.00
BONNET HOUSE EVENTS	\$128,085.00
BUSINESS INSURANCE	\$112,377.00
CONTRACT SERVICES- ADMINISTRATIVE	\$160,323.00
CONTRACT SERVICES - PROGRAMMATIC	\$37,568.00
INVENTORY ADJUSTMENT	\$1,965.00
DEPRECIATION	\$35,755.00
DONATED GOODS AND SERVICES	\$89,679.00
EDUCATION PROGRAMS	\$18,647.00
ESTATE RENTALS	\$54,296.00
MEMBERSHIP / FUNDRAISING	\$40,232.00
MUSEUM GIFT SHOP	\$70,176.00
OFFICE / ADMINISTRATION	\$91,882.00
REPAIRS / MAINTENANCE	\$97,583.00
TOURS/ TRAM LEASE	\$52,218.00
UTILITIES	\$61,966.00
COLLECTION CONSERVATION	\$459,925.00
ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION	\$50,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	\$165.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,973,656.00
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$(260,192.00)
TOTAL OTHER INCOME/LOSS	\$1,000,402.00
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	\$(29,464.00)
NET OTHER INCOME	\$970,938.00
NET INCOME	\$710,746.00



IT'S THAT MAGICAL TIME OF YEAR

Darla Stanton, Director of Development

THIS SIXTH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT IS LIKE NO OTHER! For five wonderful nights in December, a team of designers will be decorating trees, wreaths and centerpieces that will be on sale throughout the month of December. Bonnet House will also be open for self-guided tours at night with something exciting each night from Santa and his elves to holiday storytelling, to strolling carolers and much more.

Holiday Magic is a major fundraiser for the preservation of Bonnet House. 100% of the proceeds go to Bonnet House.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Holiday Magic was such a tremendous success in 2022 raising close to \$187,000, and it was all made possible by friends like you. More than just adding to the success of Holiday Magic, your sponsorship gift directly supports the preservation of Bonnet House and our programming that immerses locals and visitors alike in the unique history of this special place. Sponsorship opportunities begin at \$500 and include Soirée and Evening Experience tickets.

HOLIDAY MAGIC SOIRÉE 2023 – Friday, December 1

VIP: 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Includes exclusive admission to our VIP reception with a gift bag, welcome drink, full bar, exclusive preview performance from the new POMP, SNOW & CIRQUEumstance live show and book sequel, and a Blue Christmas Elvis Tribute featuring David Morin and his 6-piece band, festive holiday music by Vision DJs, and a fully catered VIP affair with enhanced menu by the Hansen Group—Offering Catering Options with Bill Hansen Catering, Alexander Catering, Efen Catering, and Lovables Catering & Kitchen. VIP Admission: \$175

General Admission: 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Includes welcome drink, full bar, exclusive preview performance from the new POMP, SNOW &

CIRQUEumstance live show and book sequel, festive holiday music by Vision DJs, and a fully catered affair also by the Hansen Group. General Admission: \$125

WHIMSICAL WONDERLAND – Saturday, December 2,

Join us from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm for a wonderland of live entertainment, scavenger hunt, Santa arriving on a vintage fire truck, letters to Santa, and plenty of opportunities to capture your holiday family portraits. The fantastical characters from the award-winning storybook POMP, SNOW & CIRQUEumstance, will join us again this year. Experience a sneak peek of their magical holiday celebrations. Admission: Adults (includes two drink tickets): \$35; Ages 13 – 17: \$15; Ages 6 – 12: \$5; Ages 5 & under free.

EVENING EXPERIENCES

December 6, 7 & 8, 6:00pm

Decide on your favorite designer-decorated trees, wreaths, and centerpieces as you enjoy a self-guided tour of the house during this magical nighttime opportunity. Live entertainment and featured cocktail nightly. Admission: Adults (includes two drink tickets): \$35; Ages 13 – 17: \$15; Ages 6 – 12: \$5; Ages 5 & under free.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENT CLASSES

Join Flowers of Fort Lauderdale on the Bonnet House Veranda for a class on creating holiday floral arrangements. Wednesday, December 6, 5:00 – 6:00 pm, or Thursday, December 7, 5:00 – 6:00 pm. \$75 (Includes all Evening Experience offerings).

We will be offering holiday cheer each evening which will include general admission to the house and two drink tickets. Self-guided house tours: 5:30pm – 8:00pm.

We look forward to seeing you at Holiday Magic 2023.

BONNET HOUSE DONORS

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023

GIFTS OF CASH OR STOCK & ACTIVE PLEDGES

\$100,000 or more

Anonymous

Broward County Cultural Division
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\$50,000 - \$99,999

A Alexander Event, LLC
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BONNET HOUSE DONORS

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023

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HONORARY AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Honor of Francis Koerner
Dr. and Mrs. Greg Smith

In Memory of Mike McNerney
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Bruce and Angie Almquist
Dianna and Anthony Silvagni
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In Honor of Mary Copeland
Ellen and Scott Hand

In Honor of Sidney Goldenberg
Douglas Brinkley

In Memory of Linda Ziegler
Betty Douglas

In Honor of Paige Brody
With love from Sarah, Bec, Ben and Sam

We strive to keep our records as accurate as possible. Please contact the development office at (954) 653-1557 with any questions about how your gift is listed. You may also send an email to: darlastanton@bonnethouse.org.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME PART OF BONNET HOUSE'S LEGACY SOCIETY?

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!

Make sure you have a will. Nearly two out of three Americans have yet to create a will. Procrastination remains the number one reason most people give for not having a will, with 42 percent saying they just keep putting it off.

If you would like to be listed as a Bonnet House Legacy Society member, please let me know at darlastanton@bonnethouse.org.

FACEBOOK GIVING

Thank you so very much to anyone and everyone who has made a gift to Bonnet House through Facebook. However, we don't know who those donors are, and we always want to show our appreciation! Please remember you can always make a gift directly on bonnethouse.org website or directly to Darla Stanton at 900 N. Birch Rd. These gifts can also be made in honor of someone's birthday or in memory of someone, just by putting it in the memo section of the check or you can call me on the phone when paying with a credit card at 954-653-1557.

FROM THE CURATOR'S DESK/ THE CURATORIAL EYE

Katie Valli



HELLO TO ALL FELLOW BONNET HOUSE ENTHUSIASTS! I am so thrilled to be a part of this enchanting historic home and gardens family. When I first visited Bonnet House, the collections of Frederic and Evelyn Bartlett immediately struck me as splendidly whimsical and lighthearted. From the style of painting they both employed, to the eclectic architecture and furnishings, collections, and all the hand painted accents, this home truly shows the Bartletts' unique flair. One set of paintings that caught my eye and stayed with me are the diptych – style oil on canvas portraits of Evelyn and Frederic Bartlett in the studio. These vertical murals depict Evelyn and Frederic posing on the balconies of two different hotels during their 1931 honeymoon. Evelyn is painted in a chic bright yellow skirt suit with stylish brown cloche hat looking out over Monte Carlo from the Hotel de Paris, while Frederic, in a dapper black and white pinstriped suit, looks out onto Paris from the Ritz Hotel.

While getting more familiar with our collections vault, I discovered a companion painting that I just had to share. This watercolor features a scene from the balcony of the Hotel de Paris in Monte Carlo, overlooking a lake and mountains - the same window Evelyn is looking out of in her portrait! Further research revealed that Frederic painted a



series of travel scenes during their four-month long European honeymoon. Two others I found absolutely beautiful are of Venice, Italy, and a Riviera harbor shown here.

Even further research found an excerpt from a letter to her best friend Catherine Beveridge while on her honeymoon, in which Evelyn wrote, "To try to tell you how happy I am would make my letter endless and besides you know, but I just must say that it is perfect heaven to live with Frederic – to be with him every day and all day, to be swept along doing all the things that he knows so perfectly how to plan and do. There is not a wasted moment, nor is there a hurried one. To see all the beautiful things of life with him – of course I feel that all my dreams are coming true, but the richness of life now goes beyond anything I ever imagined." How romantic! Part of my personal mission at Bonnet House is to bring clandestine treasures in our collections to light for everyone to enjoy. I plan on incorporating this idea into the newsletters and blog posts to come, as well as mini exhibits in each room of the property. There may be some up now! Come see and hear about the broader history of the Bartletts' art and collections – I can't wait to share them with you.

HELP NEEDED AT BONNET HOUSE

Linda Schaller, Director of Education & Volunteer Programs



THIS HEADLINE IS VERY FAMILIAR to the existing Bonnet House Volunteers - I send out a help needed list at least once a week begging for Greeters, Tram Drivers, Nature Trail Drivers, Room

Docents, Courtyard Coordinators, Guides and help with events! Bonnet House is open 6 days a week to the public, but our staff and volunteers are here all 7 days. We need volunteers of all ages 12 to.....

Our wonderful grounds volunteers put in many hours cleaning up the grounds, weeding, planting, and pruning to keep our grounds looking beautiful. Volunteers who help with tours do the work with each guest who comes to this remarkable house. They meet, greet, tell stories, and help with every aspect of the main house and grounds.

We need many wonderful volunteers to make each guest feel comfortable.



Over the past few months, I have had the opportunity to invite staff and volunteers to visit two wonderful historic sites. Our first field trip since COVID was to Long Key Nature

Center - Pine Island Ridge, a very historic area for Tequesta, Seminole and early settlers. It is the highest area in all of Broward County, 35 whole feet above sea level! Our former staff member Jason

Alvares (now a member of the Parks & Recreation Division) and Kelli Whitney gave us a great Power Point presentation followed by a tour of the vast natural grounds.

We also got to visit with Clive Taylor, Susan Ostheim and the wonderful staff and volunteers of the Hollywood Historical Society and tour the historic Hammerstein House and learn about the Grand Lady, the fantastic hotel that was at the end of the main road leading to the beach.



Last year we saw 1,859 school students here at Bonnet House. We work with students of all ages and do several different programs all in compliance with the BEST

principals and the STEM curriculum. We always need volunteers who love to share with our students. All students get to visit the main house and the grounds to learn some exciting facts about the people who built Bonnet House and the people who lived on these 35 acres over 2,000 years ago. Students walk in the footsteps of the Barefoot Mailman and get to see the ocean where pirates once roamed and learn about the men and women who made Broward County what it is today. We are always looking for great volunteers to work with our student programs and our other art programs.

Classes are filling up fast for our adult art programs - please check the calendar of events to see which classes are right for you. Please send me an email if you too would like to volunteer here at Bonnet House; we have a place for you!!!!

PATRICIA D'ANTONIO, FRIEND OF BONNET HOUSE



In 2003 a wonderful new volunteer, Pat D'Antonio, came to Bonnet House. As a former 4th grade teacher, she helped with our education programs, gave wonderful guided tours and helped with many weddings and special events. She was bartender for the Music Series and Orchid Festival and actively participated in the Alliance Entirely Entertaining event for years. Pat loved people. She was always busy! She always had a bright smile and made everyone feel welcome.

We lost our great friend on Thursday, August 31, 2023 - our sympathy goes out to her many friends and family.

THANK YOU

A Very Special THANK YOU to all of you who gave so much for the wheelchair accessible golf cart. This cart will let visitors in wheelchairs enjoy the full beauty of Bonnet House Museum & Gardens. We have 35 beautiful acres with different eco systems and now all visitors will be able to see the special beauty our grounds have to offer.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2023 - JANUARY 2024

WATERCOLOR WORKSHOPS

3-Day Mini-Workshops, Tuesday - Thursday
Beg | Oct 3 - 5 | 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Adv | Oct 24 - 26 | 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

BIRDING CLASSES

Sun | Oct 8 | 2:00 - 4:30 pm
Sat | Nov 4 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Sat | Dec 2 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Sun | Jan 7 | 2:00 - 4:30 pm

IS BEE KEEPING RIGHT FOR YOU?

Sat | Oct 14 | 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

YOGA ON THE VERANDA

Sun | Oct 18 | 9:00 am - 10:15 am
Sun | Nov 15 | 9:00 am - 10:15 am
Sun | Jan 13 | 9:00 am - 10:15 am

BASKET WEAVING CLASS

Fri or Sat | Oct 27 or 28 | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

SPECIAL FAMILY DAY

Sat | Nov 18 | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

HOLIDAY FLORAL ARRANGEMENT

Wed | Dec 6 | 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Thurs | Dec 7 | 5:00 - 6:00 pm

SPEAKER SERIES

Mon | Jan 8 | 10:00 - 11:30 am
Bats at Bonnet House with Stephanie Brinez

OIL/ACRYLIC WORKSHOP

Tues | Jan 9 - Feb 13 | 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
4-Week Workshop

ORCHID CARE CLASSES

Tues | Jan 9 | 9:30 - 11:30 am or 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Tues | Jan 16 | 9:30 - 11:30 am or 1:00 - 3:00 pm

WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

Thurs | Jan 10 - Feb 14 | 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
6-Week Workshop

ACRYLIC WORKSHOP

Thurs | Jan 11 - Feb 15 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
6-Week Workshop

COLORED PENCIL & DRAWING CLASS

Sat | Jan 13 | 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

CALLIGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Tue | Jan 23 - Feb 20 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
5-Week Workshop

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

HOLIDAY MAGIC 2023

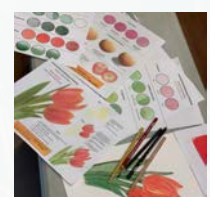
HOLIDAY MAGIC SOIREE - Come celebrate the kick-off of our five-day holiday celebration
Friday | December 1, 2023 | 6:00-10:00 pm

WHIMSICAL WONDERLAND, AN EVENING FOR FAMILIES

Featuring fantastical characters brought to life from the the award-winning storybook
POMP, SNOW & CIRQUEUmstance™
Saturday | December 2 | 5:30 pm-8:00 pm

HOLIDAY MAGIC EVENING EXPERIENCES

Live entertainment & libations nightly
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday | December 6, 7 & 8 | 6:00-8:00 pm





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5 NIGHTS

Holiday Magic

DECEMBER 2023

Holiday Tours • Live Concerts • Workshops • Dazzling Decorations & Lights

Learn more and purchase tickets at
BonnetHouse.org/Holiday-Magic-2023

The fantastical characters from the award-winning storybook
POMP SNOW & CIRQUEumstance
will join us again this year with a sneak peek of their new live show and book sequel.

The poster features a dark blue background with a bokeh light effect. On the left, there is a purple fairy with large wings and a green jester with a harp. On the right, there are two circular inset images: one showing a person in a Santa suit and another showing a carousel. A colorful jester is also depicted on the right side. The bottom of the poster has a blue background with a palm tree pattern.