

# You're Invited! It's an exciting time for Museums . . .

Although cultural events have decreased in attendance in the past few years, museums have begun drawing record numbers of visitors. **Six hundred million nationwide in fact.** Our young country is discovering its history and art. And that figure is still increasing. Paul Richard, art critic of the Washington Post states museum going "is addictive." The more you learn about what you are looking at "the richer the contemplation." Locally, we've seen it happen. The recent exhibit of the Key Marco Cat from the Smithsonian Institution brought out many residents and visitors to engage in the history of the area and what the Museum offers. To build on this success, another project is in the planning stages for the coming winter season. In this rapidly developing region, many new residents to Southwest Florida and their children may be unaware of our area's rich history. **For this reason the Collier County Museum was founded.** Ancient fossils of creatures who basked along pristine shores, relics of long-vanished Indian civilizations, and the rustic pioneer tools of recent settlements are preserved to ensure the legacy of our county's past.

**The Friends of the Collier County Museum is a not-for-profit corporation created to assist the Museum's staff with various planning and fund raising activities to sustain and elevate the quality of our local museum.**

Today, in America, the average person can walk into a museum for free or for very little money and see what not even a king could see a hundred years ago.

Paul Richard  
*Washington Post art critic*

## Be a Part of the Continuing Success !

We've proven ourselves over the last decade and the future promises to be even brighter. The bedrock of this organization rests on its members and volunteers. Showing themselves strong especially during the Key Marco Cat Exhibit, over 2,000 hours were donated last year by loyal volunteers. A large base of volunteers is critical to providing the type of Museum our county deserves. We hope you will consider becoming a volunteer. Whether you have two hours a week or just a few hours a month, you can be an important asset to the projects of the Collier County Museum. Volunteers fill many diverse roles within the Museum. You are invited to share your unique talents with our guests. To learn more about joining our volunteer team, please write "VOLUNTEER" on your membership envelope.

One ought not to hoard culture. It should be adapted and infused into society as a leaven.

Wallace Stevens  
*U.S. poet*



*an invitation*

from the

**FRIENDS OF  
THE COLLIER COUNTY  
MUSEUM**

# Celebrating Ten Years of Telling It Like It Was !

From its inception in 1986, the Friends of the Collier County Museum has striven to make our Museum a true showplace. Beginning with an aggressive development campaign supported from many sides, the Collier County Museum was successfully relocated to a new facility more than doubling its original size. Since that time, the Friends have provided technical support and gained funding from multiple sources to continually improve the scope and level of the Museum's collections and exhibitions.

## Now at the Museum because of the Friends . . .

**The 1910 Logging Locomotive** A vintage steam locomotive and coal tender representing the early cypress logging industry.

**Craighead Laboratory** The restored field laboratory of this noted Everglades' scientist and scholar is a fully working laboratory enabling on-site assessment and conservation of the Museum's artifact collection, research, identification, and proper exhibit preparation.

**Carolyn Craighead Orchid House** This recent addition is devoted to the wondrous orchids and botanical specimens unique to Southwest Florida.

**Swamp Buggy Exhibit** The modern swamp buggy is well-known in Collier County, but many people may be unaware of its past. This fully restored buggy from the 1920's gives guests a first hand look into the history of this useful vehicle.

**Native Florida Garden** Adjacent to the Craighead Laboratory, this teaching garden features a wealth of tree and plant communities native to southern Florida. The garden is a living memorial to the work of Dr. Frank C. Craighead.

**Victorian Gazebo** Dedicated to the memory of Gerald L. Lanterman, one of the founding members of the Friends, this beautiful gazebo accents the grounds and provides an enjoyable resting area in the midst of the gardens and exhibits.

**George G. Huntoon Gallery** This 1940's era Naples home permanently displays the extensive marine and wildlife collection of Dr. Earl L. Baum.

**Children's Discovery Cottage** This unique learning resource is centered in a 1926 Naples home. Equally significant to the historical content is the hands-on learning features within Discovery Cottage. Intended to assist educators, the exhibit moves students beyond text books to observation and primary research of regional history.

**Lecture Hall** This multi-purpose facility offers Museum guests a rotating series of limited engagement exhibits, lectures, film programs, and special activities geared to visiting groups.

**Bruce and Annie Haldeman Research Library** The museum's non-circulating library contains a growing collection of books, documents, and research materials on the history of Collier County and Florida. The library is open to the public by appointment.

Research shows that future visitors come from those who were taken to museums by their parents when they were children.

Pam McDonald

audience development director for the  
San Francisco Museum of Fine Arts

## Help Us Greet the World

Drawn by our charm and climate, the nation and the world visit Collier County. And many of today's visitors look beyond the traditional venues. The Friends of the Collier County Museum ensure guests to our county have the opportunity to learn about and enjoy the unique heritage of this tropical destination. And both our visitors and residents compare the Museum to the many other museums they visit expecting a quality and well informed staff to present this heritage. For this, the funding and donated time of the Friends of the Collier County Museum is integral.



## Membership Renewal

BPCK #378

In order to keep our efforts focused on improving the Museum and to stay focused on the stated goals of our organization, the Friends of the Collier County Museum will uniformly have all dues paid in March of each year. If you have already sent in your payment for 1996, you are a member through March of 1997. If you have not paid, please send in your dues as soon as possible. We do realize the adoption of this new system will cause an inequity during this transition year, but we are confident this one time shift will result in better efficiency and more time spent working on the projects that truly benefit the Museum and its visitors. We apologize for any confusion and hope you will continue to generously support the Museum during this next exciting year. An envelope has been enclosed for your convenience. Please feel free to call us if you have questions regarding this change at (941) 774-8724.

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