

# ARTIFACTS

January–April 2025





# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

## A Letter to Members and Friends



Happy New Year!

2025 arrives on the heels of an outstanding 2024. Last year, the museum welcomed over 60,000 visitors who enjoyed a remarkable array of world-class exhibitions, classes, lectures, films, performances, events and celebrations. On

behalf of the entire Appleton team, I want to thank you and remind you that your memberships are crucial to our continued success and help provide financial stability for the museum. On one hand, this stability allows us to provide the aforementioned, on-site programming to our community members and out-of-town visitors, alike. On the other hand, it ensures that we can effectively reach the CF tricounty service area. Fun fact: that's well over 2,300 square miles across Citrus, Marion and Levy counties. Members are also the best promoters. Your good word-of-mouth to family, friends and those around town drive attendance, donations and more memberships.

As you read through this issue of "Artifacts," you will find information on exhibitions that celebrate Florida's rich tapestry of artists. Opening in February, following the wildly successful "Transformational Gifts" exhibition, "What If Eye: Fifty Years of Exploration with Ummarid Eitharong" will captivate visitors with the artist's extraordinary range of talent spanning half a century. Eitharong's ability to continuously create, reinvent and evolve through a variety of painting techniques is a powerful testament to the arts' capacity to inspire boundless creativity. Another exciting February exhibition that highlights the talent right here in Marion County is "To the MAX: Magnolia Art Xchange's 10-Year Anniversary." Highlighted are MAX's 2025 Resident Artists, who each have a studio space in Ocala's historic Union Station. We are pleased to support these emerging artists and look forward to exhibiting their work.

Let us have a great 2025 together, full of creativity, inspiration and discovery.

With deep appreciation,

Jason Steuber, Director

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# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## January–April 2025 Free First Saturdays

Join us for Free First Saturdays at the Appleton, where you'll discover inspiring exhibitions, engaging educational programs and so much more — all for free! Keep reading to uncover the exciting activities lined up for the upcoming January–April 2025 Free First Saturdays. Don't forget to visit and support the local food trucks that are scheduled for each event.

### 2025 Free First Saturdays: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

January 4, February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3, June 7, July 5, August 2, September 6, October 4, November 1, December 6

#### JANUARY

##### Film Screenings: "Frozen"

January 4, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

In this 2013 Disney animated musical, fearless optimist Anna teams up with rugged mountain man Kristoff and his loyal reindeer Sven in an epic journey to find Anna's sister Elsa. Screenings are free; no reservation needed to attend. (PG, 1h 50m)

#### FEBRUARY

##### Film Screenings: "Boom for Real: The Late Teenage Years of Jean-Michel Basquiat"

February 1, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

In this 2017 documentary, director Sara Driver offers an insightful look into a key period of the artist's life, his peers and influences, and the early 1980s art world. Screenings are free; no reservation needed to attend. (Not Rated, 1h 18m)

#### MARCH

##### Magnolia Art Xchange Resident Artist Talk

March 1, 11 a.m.

Join us in the auditorium for a talk by MAX's 2025 Resident Artists, whose works are featured in the exhibition, "To the MAX." Participating artists include: Rod Acosta, Kendra Brazzel, Joan Elizabeth, Sarah Lajealle, Zubeyde Reyes, Tyrek Studivant and Gabi Zuniga. This talk is free; no reservation needed to attend.

#### APRIL

##### "Exploring Florida's Sacred Waters"

April 5, 11 a.m.

Drawing from the concept of "spirituality" and the environmental humanities, Dr. Victoria Machado explores how Floridians can understand the Sunshine State's waters within the context of the sacred, the holy or the divine. This presentation is free; no reservation needed to attend.



Free First Saturdays are supported in part by CAMPUS USA Credit Union, Marion Cultural Alliance and National Endowment for the Arts.



## ON VIEW Winter/Spring 2025 Exhibitions

February 22–August 3, 2025

### What If Eye: Fifty Years of Exploration with Ummarid “Tony” Eitharong



As a young man visiting the Kennedy Space Center with a friend, Ummarid “Tony” Eitharong (Thai-born American, b. 1952) remarked of an impressive wall mural, “I bet I could draw that.” Winning that bet was the genesis of a long and successful career in art.

Never content, Eitharong consistently asks himself, “What’s next?” “What if I try this?” “What if I change that?” His artistic evolution has produced three distinct bodies of work: realistic yet expressive pencil portraits in the 1970s and 1980s, his Military Industrial Art (M.I.A.) series of mixed-media assemblages in the 1990s and 2000s, and for the last 15 years, his explosively colorful abstract acrylic paintings. He has won several awards in each style, but sales and accolades do not stifle that passion to grow, transform and respond to an ever-changing world. Coming full circle, Eitharong did “draw that,” having just completed a major 30-foot mural project at the University of Tampa.



Opening in the Edith-Marie Gallery, “What If Eye” will present a retrospective of Eitharong’s work, encapsulating every style he has endeavored. It will be a history of the artist that is comprehensive, at least until he encounters his next “What if?”

**Director’s Circle Reception**  
**Saturday, March 8, 5:30–7:30 p.m.**

Join the artist for an evening of hors d’oeuvres and wine to celebrate the opening of “What If Eye.” Enjoy live music from Florida’s retro queen, Becky Baby. RSVP is required by March 2 to Colleen Harper, harperc@cf.edu, or 352-291-4455, ext. 1830.

(opposite page) “Benj,” 1974, Color lithograph, 40 x 28 ¼ in., Gift of Ruth and Richard Shack, Florida Institute of Technology 2021 transfer. (this page, top to bottom) “Target,” 1999, Mixed media: monoprint and charcoal on paper with found objects, 75 ½ x 99 in., Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Leaman | “Untitled,” 2024, Acrylic on watercolor paper, 75 ½ x 99 in., Courtesy of the artist.



January 18–June 8, 2025

## **Framing Tokyo: Joel Bustamante's Architectural Photography**

Opening in the Balcony Gallery for Florida Artists, see 30 black-and-white and color photographs by Joel Bustamante (Venezuela, b. 1949).

Born in Caracas, Venezuela, Bustamante enjoyed an international education early in his career. He graduated from The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale while working in the college's photography department. Bustamante owned and operated an advertising agency in Caracas for a decade before graduating with a master's degree in architectural photography from Tokyo-based Nihon University. During that time, he created a photo exposé of the amazing modern architecture in Japan from the 1970s through the 1980s, capped by the 1985 one-of-a-kind structures erected for the World's Fair in Tsukuba Science City, located north of Tokyo. The majority of the 30 photographs included in the exhibition are black-and-white with a few color works.

"Asahi Seimei Otemachi Building," 1985, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan, Black and white photograph, Gift in memory of Akio Kawasumi.

February 15–May 17, 2025

## **To the MAX: Magnolia Art Xchange's 10-Year Anniversary**

"To the MAX" celebrates the 10-year anniversary of Ocala's Magnolia Art Xchange. Opening in the second-floor Preview Gallery, the show includes MAX's 2025 Resident Artists: Rod Acosta, Kendra Brazzel, Joan Elizabeth, Sarah Lajealle, Zubeyde Reyes, Tyrek Studivant and Gabi Zuniga.

Located in Ocala's historic Union Station, MAX is a collaborative hub of resources for artists, educators and art enthusiasts. Now in their 10th year, MAX is a thriving part of the community's cultural picture, offering studio and communal spaces for resident and member artists, teachers, professional advisers and students, as well as a year-round schedule of community events. It is a true art incubator.

### **MAX Resident Artist Talk Saturday, March 1, 11 a.m.**

Join us in the auditorium on the March 1 Free First Saturday for a talk by MAX's 2025 Resident Artists. Participating artists include: Rod Acosta, Kendra Brazzel, Joan Elizabeth, Sarah Lajealle, Zubeyde Reyes, Tyrek Studivant and Gabi Zuniga. Hear from each artist about their work, processes and inspirations. This talk is free to attend; no reservation needed.



(detail) "Dreamscape," Kendra Brazzel, Watercolor, acrylic and ink on mineral paper mounted on a wood cradleboard and coated with resin, 18 x 24 in., Courtesy of the artist.

# STUDIO ARTS

## For Children and Families

### Appleteens:

#### Wheel Throwing (Ages 13–17)

This six-week class, designed for teens ages 13–17, offers the perfect opportunity to hone pottery wheel skills through fun, functional projects. Students will practice and develop new techniques while creating unique pieces. The fee includes the provision of clay, glazes and kiln firing tailored to the student's needs.

**Saturdays, March 1–April 5**  
2–4 p.m.

\$140 Appleton members | \$165 nonmembers

#### Art Explorations (Ages 8–12)

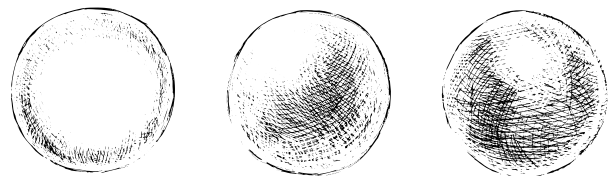
Art Explorations are multiweek classes designed for ages 8–12. Choose the session of your choice. All materials are provided

##### SKETCH IT

In this three-week class, ages 8–12 will discover how to bring their drawings to life by mastering color, perspective, shading and realism. Experiment with various materials while enhancing drawing skills and creativity. All materials are provided.

**Wednesdays, January 22–February 5**  
3:30–5 p.m. OR  
**Saturdays, January 25–February 8**  
10:30 a.m.–noon

\$75 Appleton members | \$100 nonmembers



##### CLAY

This six-week class for ages 8–12 presents fun projects in hand building with an introduction to glazing. All materials are provided.

**Wednesdays, February 19–March 26**  
3:30–5 p.m.

\$120 Appleton members | \$145 nonmembers

##### A WORLD OF COLOR

In this three-week class, ages 8–12 will mix colors to create imaginative art pieces.

**Wednesdays, April 9–April 23**  
3:30–5 p.m. OR  
**Saturdays, April 12–April 26**  
10:30 a.m.–noon

\$75 Appleton members | \$100 nonmembers



#### Art Adventures (Ages 5–7)

This class for ages 5–7 introduces young artists to the world of studio art. Over the course of three Saturdays, students will complete three unique art projects to take home at the end of the program. All materials are provided.

**Saturdays, April 12–26**  
10:30 a.m.–noon

\$70 Appleton members | \$95 nonmembers

#### Museum & Me (Ages 2–5)

This engaging, multisensory program introduces children ages 2–5 to the Appleton. Each session begins with a storybook reading, followed by a short gallery visit to explore a featured artwork or artist. Afterward, children will head to the Artspace to create their own art inspired by what they have seen. An adult must accompany each child throughout the program.

**Tuesdays, January 7, February 4, March 4,**  
**April 1 and May 6**  
10:30–11:30 a.m.

Free for children and Appleton members; included with admission fee for adult nonmembers. Advance registration required on Eventbrite. Registration opens one week before each program date at [AppletonMuseum.org](http://AppletonMuseum.org). Limited to the first 20 children registered.

#### Museum Happenings (Ages 6–9)

This program, led by an art educator, is designed for homeschool and independent students ages 6–9 to explore the wonders of the Appleton. Meet in the lobby to receive a special activity sheet. Use the sheet to guide your adventure through the museum galleries, then head to the Artspace for a hands-on art project.

**Tuesdays, January 28, February 25, March 25**  
10:30 a.m.–noon

Free for children and Appleton members; included with admission fee for adult nonmembers. Advance registration required on Eventbrite. Registration opens one week before each program date at [AppletonMuseum.org](http://AppletonMuseum.org). Limited to the first 20 children registered.



### Save the Date!

## 2025 Summer Art Camp

Registration for our annual Summer Art Camp begins on Tuesday, March 4. With a variety of exciting camps available for ages 5–7, 8–12, and 13–17, there's something for every young artist. Camps run weekly over the course of eight weeks, starting June 2. For more details, visit [AppletonMuseum.org](http://AppletonMuseum.org).

## STUDIO ARTS For Adults



### Virtual Art 101: Acrylic Painting

In these free online workshops, learn new acrylic painting techniques or refine your existing skills in just one two-hour session. Join live via Zoom with folks from around the world to follow step-by-step instruction from our instructor, with recordings available for later viewing. Registration opens on Eventbrite.com one month prior to each class; links available at AppletonMuseum.org.

**Tuesday, January 21**  
11 a.m.–1 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 8**  
11 a.m.–1 p.m.

There is no fee to participate; a supply list will be emailed in advance. Email [AppletonEducation@cf.edu](mailto:AppletonEducation@cf.edu) with questions.

### Drawing a Portrait in Profile

Led by Lisa Russo, learn the fundamentals of drawing a portrait in profile during this immersive three-hour workshop. You'll explore techniques for capturing facial proportions, angles and details from a side-view perspective. Whether you're a beginner or looking to enhance your portrait drawing skills, this class will guide you step-by-step to create a stunning profile portrait. All materials are provided.

**Saturday, January 25**  
1–4 p.m.

\$60 Appleton members | \$85 nonmembers

### Soft Cut Block Printing

In this four-hour workshop led by E. Marie Fielding, discover the possibilities of working with soft cut blocks and acrylic paint. You'll experiment with techniques and textures, and by the end of the session, you'll select one of your prints to mat and take home. All materials are provided.

**Saturday, February 15**  
1–5 p.m.

\$75 Appleton members | \$100 nonmembers



### Ripples and Waves: Koi Fish Diptych

Led by Maritza Jauregui-Rodriguez, create an aquatic background for koi fish by building layers and texture with paints, stencils, and stamps. Make two completed works that are suitable for framing. All materials are provided.

**Saturday, March 15**  
1–5 p.m.

\$75 Appleton members | \$100 nonmembers

### Ceramic Stacking Sculpture

In this two-part workshop, create a ceramic stacking sculpture composed of individual pieces arranged atop a wooden dowel. In the first session, craft the individual components, and in the second session, assemble your unique sculpture.

**Saturdays, April 12 and 19**  
10:15 a.m.–1:15 p.m. OR 2–5 p.m.

Please register for only one session, either morning or afternoon, to help us accommodate more students.

\$125 Appleton members | \$150 nonmembers

### Dig Into Clay: Wheel Throwing

Led by Dawn Bergstrom, these six-week sessions provide potters of all skill levels the opportunity to practice and develop new wheel-throwing techniques through engaging and functional ceramic projects, including serving sets, vases and personal creative expressions. The fee includes clay provisions, glazes and kiln firing tailored to the student's needs.

**Saturdays, January 11–February 15**  
10:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m. OR 2–4:30 p.m.

**Saturdays, March 1–April 5**  
10:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

\$250 Appleton members | \$285 nonmembers



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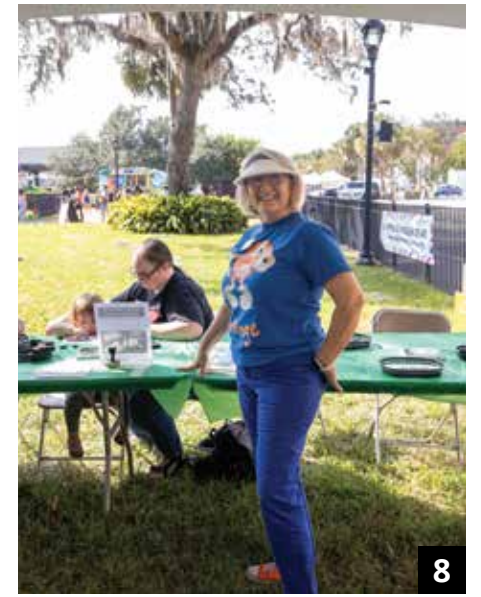
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8

## APPLETON ART SCENE

### 1-4

Appleton Director's Circle members celebrated the opening of "Transformational Gifts: Recent Acquisitions (2019-2024)."



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### 5-6

On the September Free First Saturday, photographer Theresa Segal gave two free tours of her solo exhibition, "Common Thread," and visitors of all ages enjoyed the Artspace.



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### 7-9

The Appleton served more than 1,200 attendees with a free art activity at FAFO's annual Ocala Arts Festival in October.



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### 10-11

Art teachers from Marion County Public Schools attended an In-Service Day at the Appleton.



10



11

## BEHIND THE SCENES

### Award-Winning Leadership



Each year the Florida Association of Museums recognizes outstanding contributions to the museum profession in the State of Florida. These Annual Museum Service Awards recognize museum staff, volunteers, or trustees, as well as individuals outside the museum profession who make significant contributions to the advancement of Florida's museums, either locally or statewide. The Appleton is pleased to announce that Assistant Director Victoria Billig has received a 2024 Exceptional Leadership award.




Billig has been with the Appleton as assistant director for almost 11 years. She leads a 15-person team composed of Education, Marketing and Public Relations, Appleton Store and Visitor Services departments. Victoria is the managing editor and content designer for all the Appleton's public-facing engagement and marketing strategies, such as the triannual museum magazine, "Artifacts," as well as the website and media communication platforms. Working closely with the Appleton team, she led the museum's successful American Alliance of Museums (AAM) reaccreditation in spring 2023 and the development of two, five-year strategic plans (2017-2022 and 2023-2028). Billig embodies a true and heartfelt dedication to ensuring that museums and the arts are accessible resources for children and adults in all walks in life.


We congratulate her on her win and are proud to have her representing the Appleton and College of Central Florida.

## THE ART OF LIVING

### January–April 2025 Appleton Member Deals

Enhance your membership experience by exploring exclusive discounts at select local businesses, curated especially for Appleton members like you! Your support means the world to us, and as a token of our gratitude, we're delighted to offer you these new coupons from our generous network of business partners. To redeem, clip the coupon you want to use and present it to the participating business. Coupons expire on April 30, 2025.






**Artistic Eye Fine Art Services**  
352-598-9113 | Facebook @artisticseyefas  
Instagram @artisticseyefas | artisticseye-fas.com

**10% OFF ANY INSURANCE APPRAISAL**

Leslie Hammond, ASA, of Artistic Eye Fine Art Services provides a variety of art-related services such as appraisals and identification of art and artifacts, research and documentation of artists and collections, consultation on collections planning, care and investments, as well as curatorial assistance.




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**10% OFF**

Big Lee's BBQ is Central Florida's premier destination for handcrafted, small batch barbecue. Offer excludes catering orders and cannot be combined with other offers or discounts.

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Looking to spotlight your locally owned business? Consider featuring an exclusive, members-only deal for Appleton members! By partnering with us, your business will be showcased on the Appleton website, highlighted in "Artifacts" magazine, and shared in our weekly eblast, reaching over 8,000 engaged contacts. This is a fantastic opportunity to promote your business to a broader audience. To get started, reach out to Jason Steuber at steuberj@cf.edu. Deals are fully customizable by your business, including any restrictions, blackout dates, or specific terms.





4333 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470-5001  
352-291-4455 | [AppletonMuseum.org](http://AppletonMuseum.org)

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### ON THE COVER AND TABLE OF CONTENTS:

(detail) "Untitled," 2024, Ummarid "Tony" Eitharong (Thai-born American, b. 1952), Acrylic on watercolor paper, 73 ½ x 61 ½ in., Courtesy of the artist.



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# Welcome to the Director's Circle

Thank you to our Director's Circle members for their support! To join, renew or upgrade memberships at any level, contact Colleen Harper, [harperc@cf.edu](mailto:harperc@cf.edu), or 352-291-4455, ext. 1831. Or visit [AppletonMuseum.org](http://AppletonMuseum.org).

## New, Upgraded and Renewed: August 1–November 30, 2024

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