

A quarterly newsletter highlighting exhibits and events - Spring 2024



CURRENT EXHIBIT

37th Mahaska Whitley Student Exhibition: High School Art & Senior Portfolio Competition

Thursday, March 7 - Saturday, March 30

Kindly Presented by

Opening Reception

Thursday, March 7, 5:30 - 7:30PM

Each spring since 1988, LeMoyne Arts has put the spotlight on talented young Tallahassee artists in the Mahaska Whitley Student Exhibition: High School Art & Senior Portfolio Competition.

All Leon County high school students enrolled in an art course are invited to participate in this celebration and exhibition of their immense talent and creativity, on display for all to see! For many students, this opportunity is their first experience presenting artwork in a professional gallery environment.



Supporting Sponsor



UPCOMING EXHIBITS



Soulful Feelin': A Folk Art Celebration

Thursday, April 11 - Saturday, May 18

Opening Reception

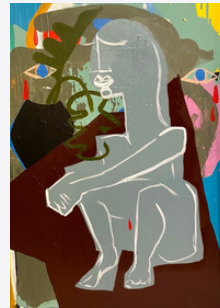
Thursday, April 11, 5:00 - 7:30PM

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In collaboration with the John G. Riley Center & Museum, LeMoyne Arts hosts a special exhibit celebrating local folk artists and their contributions to visual arts in our community. This exhibition is a tribute to the enduring legacy of folk art as a universal form of expression. It celebrates the ingenuity, authenticity, and shared humanity that binds artists from all walks of life with works by artists O.L. Samuels, Thorton Dial, and Mary Proctor. As we pay homage to the past,

we also embrace contemporary voices who continue to breathe life into this timeless tradition. Join us in a community exploration of artistry, where local folk artists captivate, inspire, and enlighten. Soulful Feelin' invites you to transcend borders and appreciate this remarkable artistry that unites us all.



From Grief to Grace

Featuring Paula Gasparini-Santos

Thursday, May 23 - Saturday, June 29

Opening Reception

Thursday, May 23, 5:00 - 7:30PM

Kindly Presented by

Katee Tully & Janet Hinkle

From Grief to Grace features paintings depicting the psychological and relational experience of grief. Paula Gasparini-Santos defines grief as the meeting of the unknown, not exclusive to loss through death, but rather the thing that occurs within us when life changes and we meet fear at the edge of the unknown. When chapters close, when relationships end, when we meet death and loss, when we are faced with choices and sacrifices -- all of it requires us to have intimacy with grief. Through visual exploration and poetry, this exhibition invites the audience into a dialogue, self reflection, and expression of their own grief. Gasparini-Santos believes that one's ability to become intimate with grief is equal to one's ability to be deeply alive in the world. She wants through these works to challenge the notion that grief is reserved for death and dying, but instead that grief is essential for creation and beginnings.

Letter from our President

Dear Friends of LeMoyne,

As spring begins to paint our landscape, we continue to see signs of growth and renewal at LeMoyne! Renovations on the former education building will soon begin and become the Studios of LeMoyne. Included in the reimagined space will be areas to support events and exhibits, including a warming kitchen and bridal lounge. LeMoyne offers a beautiful setting and ideal location for parties and gatherings. Visit our website to book your event!



This edition of LeMoyne LeNews is dedicated to the always fabulous Chain of Parks Art Festival. Each year, Festival Manager, Powell Kreis; Festival Chair, Kelly Dozier; and Artist Relations Manager, Sheri Sanderson rally an incredible team of volunteers to deliver one of the finest art festivals in the country. We are so fortunate to have this premier event in our community. Join us for another spectacular weekend of art, music, and family fun — April 20-21.

As we wrapped up our 60th anniversary celebration in 2023, we honored our past LeMoyne Presidents and their families. LeMoyne has persevered and flourished through their leadership and we were grateful for their service.

It is my pleasure to continue to serve as LeMoyne President this year and my privilege to work with such a dedicated board of directors and talented staff. Come see what's blooming at LeMoyne!

-Stephanie Whitfield, Board President

Letter from our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

In this issue of LeNews, we are wrapping up winter and welcoming the spring season.

This year brings a fantastic line up of exhibits and events orchestrated by our new Curator, Chloe Patterson. We give heartfelt recognition and thanks to Chain of Parks Festival Manager, Powell Kreis, for her years of service as Programming Director, and applaud the many community connections that she has nurtured.



In Tallahassee's bicentennial year, LeMoyne is building on our relationships with art and culture partners in the community to celebrate and promote the many things to see and do in our area.

-Arielle Raff, Executive Director

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*Kelly & Laurie
Dozier*

*Mary Jo &
Alan Spector*

*Katee Tully
& Janet Hinkle*



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1) The Gallery shines like a beacon during the Dazzling Diamonds Cocktail Party. 2) Artists' booths fill the gardens during the Garden Galleria. 3) LeMoyné Arts members enjoy early access to the Holiday Show during the Members Only Mimosa Preview. 4) Bartow Rainey and Powell K. Kreis pose for a photo over the specialty cocktails at the Dazzling Diamonds Cocktail Party. 5) Santa Claus makes an appearance at Festive Family Fun Day! 6) Young Actors Theater braves the rain and perform their heart out during Festive Family Fun Day.

60 Years of Holiday Show

A Diamond Jubilee Enchants All

In a year of celebration, the 60th Annual Holiday Show: A Diamond Jubilee was the sparkling finale. With major support from Presenting Sponsor Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare Foundation, and new Shimmering Light sponsor, Proctor Acura, the show included hand-made gifts by over 50 local and regional artists and attracted over 2,500 visitors in its 5 weeks.

Opening Day's Garden Galleria was very well attended, with an estimated 750 guests who enjoyed 28 artists' booths, set up in festival format, throughout the renovated sculpture garden. Throughout November and December, festive events like Cookies and Cocoa, Hoppy Holidays, the Dazzling Diamond Cocktail Party, and Festive Family Fun Day brought the community out in celebration.

LeMoyné appreciates the many businesses, performers, and volunteers that made the 60th Annual Holiday Show possible. Performances by the Elsinore Sewing Club, Saylor Dollar, the Rachel Hillman Quartet, Hot Tamale, 4 Oysters in Search of a Pearl, Tallahassee Ballet, Stan Rosenthal & Charlie Nuzzo Duo, St. John's Episcopal Church Choir, Young Actors Theater Troupe, Kyle Frost, String of Light, and face painting by Mary Rault brought joyful energy to the events. Visitors enjoyed treats and libations from Uptown Café, Argonaut Coffee, Proof Brewing Co., Chicken Salad Chick, Il Lusso, and Deep Brewing. Rags2Bags and the Retired Art Teachers of Tallahassee lent their creativity.

Marketing support from WCTV, FASTSIGNS, Conexion, and Greg Tish helped us get the word out. Beautiful foliage by Persica Landscape Nursery, Esposito's Garden Center, and Just Fruits and Exotics decorated the garden and gallery. Décor contributions by Terri Smith Details, Tallahassee Lighting & Décor, FSU School of Theater, Bob Callan, and Mary Adelson. Exterior light hanging by Armstrong Tree Service, Facilities preparation by WestScott Construction, Inc. and Capital City Awning Co. Additional thanks to Dianne Perkins, Susan Frisbee, Jim Gray Designs, Leslie and Robert Anderson, Bob O'Lary, and Katie Clark.

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TERRI SMITH DETAILS
inspiring event details



Chain of Parks ART FESTIVAL

Panoramic photos of the Festival, photo by Bob O'Lary

LeMoyne's 24th Chain of Parks Art Festival

Annual event paints picture of Tallahassee arts throughout history

Whether you're an art aficionado or simply an admirer, LeMoyne's Chain of Parks Art Festival holds sights to behold.

Ranked as one of the top fine arts shows in the nation and as North Florida's premier outdoor fine art festival, the 2024 event will occur April 20–21 along Tallahassee's Park Avenue, east of Monroe Street.

The Festival is free to the public and features high-quality art from over 150 local, regional, and national artists specializing in a spectrum of mediums. Artists will feature their original work on display and for sale. Artists compete for awards in each category which will be assessed by expert judges and announced on Saturday afternoon with awards and recognition flags displayed on Sunday. The Festival is produced each year by LeMoyne Arts. Funding support comes from Presenting Sponsor – Mad Dog Construction and from Visit Tallahassee, City of Tallahassee, Leon County, and generous private businesses and individuals who love the festival.

"The festival is a culturally enriching good time that focuses on interaction," said Powell Kreis, manager of the Festival, "each artist and participant engages the public in a meaningful way through demonstrations, make-and-take activities, visual arts, one-on-one interactions, entertainment, and more."

Supporting the careers of artists, providing interactive creative experiences, informative cultural programs, and community access to the arts are the main goals for the 2024 event.

In partnership with Florida State University's Opening Nights, Dean Mitchell will be the Festival's presenting artist on Thursday, April 18 with a discussion on Navigating the Odds. Mitchell is well known for his figurative works, landscapes, and still-life paintings.

To coincide with an exhibit collaboration with the John G. Riley Center & Museum and LeMoyne Arts, *Soulful Feelin': A Folk Art Celebration*,

the festival is introducing a new category and section focused on the traditions of Folk Art and Fine Craft. Festival attendees can enjoy Folk Art and Fine Craft along the Festival's Tunnichiff Lane leading to the exhibit at the LeMoyne Arts gallery. The exhibit will be on display throughout April.

Engaging festival visitors at the Chalk Art Oasis, professional street artists will create 3D art with chalk and temporary paint. For the young ones and their families, the Children's Park offers pop-up art-making studios, interactive art vendors, historical reenactments, heritage booths, entertainers and chalk art, facilitated by a partnership with the Retired Art Teachers of Tallahassee group.

"Each year this festival is a way to fill our community with the wonders of visual arts, cultural experiences, and live performances," said Kelly Simmons Dozier, Festival Chair. "It's a window into what makes Tallahassee the wonderfully culturally rich community it is."



1) Panoramic photos of the Festival, photo by Bob O'Lary. 2) Ballet Art Conservatory enjoy free ice cream by Johnny's Ice cream for performing at the Festival, photo by Bob O'Lary. 3) 2024 Cover Art by Eluster Richardson, "A Walk Along Morris Creek", Oil on Canvas, 30" x 40" inches, \$4,000. 4) Eluster Richardson wins "Best In Show" at the 2022 Chain of Parks Art Festival, pictured with Festival staff Kelly S. Dozier, Sheri O. Sanderson, and Powell K. Kreis. 5) The Children's Park offers a variety of Pop-Up Studios for children to create make-and-take crafts with their friends and family. Photo by Powell K. Kreis.

2024 Festival Cover Artist is Tallahassee Treasure Eluster Richardson

Eluster Richardson's art strikes a soulful chord. "Uplifting, inspiring, and enlightening" are all words frequently used to describe the experience. Born and raised in Tallahassee, Florida, Eluster began painting as a young child and currently maintains his studio in his hometown. With a fascination of local history and the people and places of North Florida inspiring the body of his work, it has been long treasured by history and art lovers of the region. He is adept in oil and pencil, but his medium of preference is watercolor.

Eluster has earned a well-respected place in the local art community. He is the Artist-in-Residence for the Riley House Museum and Resource Center of African-American History and Culture, which also houses his historical works collection. Eluster has been involved with LeMoyne Arts for several decades and continues to be a

cherished partner. He also previously served as President of the Watercolor Society.

He has received numerous awards for his paintings, including LeMoyne's Chain of Parks Art Festival 2022 "Best in Show". His works have been exhibited in a variety of galleries, including the Museum of Florida History, LeMoyne Art Gallery, Florida State Museum of Art, Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art, and Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. Collections of his work can be seen at the Custom House Museum in Clarkesville, Tenn., Polk County Museum of Art in Lakeland Fla., Riley House Museum/Center, Gadsden Art Center Museum in Quincy, All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Fla., Florida League in Tallahassee and Leon County Libraries (just to name a few). His most recent series of work includes a Quilting Series and a Forgotten Coast Series of landscapes.

Eluster Richardson's Artist Statement

It is difficult to explain the spirit that haunts and compels me to draw and paint. My journey of hard work and a passion for the arts is ongoing. In my recent quilting series of paintings, there is something fascinating about patches of colors all placed together and bringing those colors together in the rules of composition. The quilting theme is dear to my heart because the quilts you see in many of my paintings are inspired by my mother's quilts.

I like to explore the beauty of how sunlight seems to travel across the marsh grass in landscapes of the Forgotten Coast, inviting the viewer to see a palette of warm colors. There is an intimate, personal moment of reflection through all of my artwork.

Art for Always Construction in Final Phase

By Kelly S. Dozier

With great excitement WestScott Construction received the permits needed to begin work on The Studios of LeMoyne located at 417 East Call Street. The former education center will soon be converted into support space for events in the garden and artist studios for lease. Already in use are two new ceramics studios on the east side of the first floor. The renovated front courtyard, now the XOJ Courtyard, is beautifully located outside the first-floor flex space and warming kitchen making it a beautiful outdoor space for hosting parties and pop-up exhibits by resident artists.

The warming kitchen in the new Education Center at 121 North Gadsden Street is complete and will make hosting exhibit openings and other events in the Gallery much easier as it has direct access to the Bye Plaza. No more having to squeeze through the gallery to get to the back kitchen.

Our contractor anticipates most of the work on The Studios to be completed this summer. If you are interested in leasing studio space or planning your next event, consider this wonderful new space at LeMoyne Arts.

LeMoyne is eternally grateful to all those who have contributed toward the Art for Always Capital Campaign, making our Master Plan vision come to life. The campaign is close but has not reached its goal so if you'd like to help us get to our goal, please consider a gift to support our efforts.



Chloe Patterson Takes the Reigns as LeMoyne Arts New Exhibit Curator

Chloe Patterson, a passionate individual driven by a deep love for art and community, has carved a path in the art world as an Exhibit Curator. Growing up, Patterson was motivated by her creativity and her desire to help others. However, it was during her time at college that she realized her true calling lay in delving into the history and creative process of art, uncovering the stories behind the artists and the inspiration behind their work.

While studying for her History and Criticism of Art degree at Florida State University, Patterson became enamored with the idea of becoming an Exhibit Curator. Her ambition is to engage with artists from diverse backgrounds, absorb their narratives, draw inspiration from their creations, and present their work in a manner that resonates with the community. For Patterson, art is not merely about aesthetics; it's about evoking lasting emotions and understanding the message within each piece.

In 2021, Patterson embarked on her journey at LeMoyne Arts, initially joining as an outstanding volunteer. Her exceptional skills and dedication quickly caught the attention of the organization, leading to her promotion to Gallery Shop Manager after serving as a Gallery Associate. Today, she holds the esteemed position of Curator at LeMoyne, where she directs the planning and execution of exhibits and events. Patterson's role extends beyond curation; she acts as a conduit between the artists and the community, ensuring that their voices are heard, and their work is showcased in a meaningful manner.

Amidst the whirlwind of her professional life, Patterson also cherishes moments with her one-year-old daughter, finding balance between her career and her role as a parent. Her ability to juggle multiple responsibilities with grace and passion is a testament to her dedication to both her craft and her family.



Patterson's role as a curator presents its challenges, yet she embraces them eagerly, viewing each exhibit as an opportunity to showcase the purpose and essence behind every artwork. With her unwavering dedication and vision, Chloe Patterson continues to leave an indelible mark on the art world, enriching the lives of both artists and audiences alike.

THANK YOU TO OUR NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS!

OCTOBER 1ST, 2023 THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST, 2023

- | | | | | |
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| Lauren Antista & Jake Armstrong | Nancy Donovan | Faye Johnson | Marion Millet | Cheryl Sattler |
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- Mary Adelson, for lending Holiday Show lighting
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 Laurie Dozier, for tending to the garden
 Scott McLuckie, for donating to fund education equipment
 David Strange, for donating to fund education equipment
 Dan Taylor, for tending to the garden and helping with fieldtrips
 Christopher Walsh, for keeping the facilities clean
 Mahaska Whitley, for donating two paper roll cutters

Thank You to Our Interns & Volunteers

- | | |
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For more ways to donate and support LeMoyné, please visit lemoyne.org/engage.



LeMoyné Remembers

Jasmine Kara Richardson

Jasmine Kara Richardson, 32, of Tallahassee went Home to be with the Lord on Saturday, January 20, 2024. A lifelong resident of Tallahassee, Jazz was a 2010 graduate of North Florida Christian School. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Pre-Kindergarten Primary Education from Florida A&M University in December 2017. Ms. Richardson was an Educator at Bond Elementary School. During her college years, she was an Instructor at the Childcare Facility, the Growing Room. She was a devout member of Friendship AME Church where she served diligently as a Trustee, Class Leader, member of the Women's Missionary Society, Director of the Young People's & Children's Division (YPD), delegate to Sunday School Conventions and member of Spiritual Cyber Intelligence Ministry. Jasmine was known for her tenacity, commitment and her ability to ensure tasks were properly completed. Her love and memory will be treasured forever by her loving parents, Eluster Jr. and Lessie Gee Richardson; bonus brother Charles Gee; and a host of loving aunts, uncles, other relatives and friends.





125 N. Gadsden St, Tallahassee, FL 32301
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EVENT RENTALS

Our historic gallery, serene garden, and education facilities offer many beautiful and charming settings for a variety of events.

- Corporate events
- Fundraisers
- Weddings
- Showers
- Receptions
- Your event!

For more information, please visit our website at www.lemoyne.org/facilityrentals

STUDENT ARTWORK SPOTLIGHT

Stained glass mosaics and stepping stones created in Shea Webb's mosaic classes

