



Re-Upholstery Project

A Special Time

The Little Gift Shop & Cafe

From the CEO

Patrick Shavloske

A Special Time for Bonnet House

The Holidays are a special time of year, and for the second year, Bonnet House's staff and volunteers staged a marvelous celebration of the Holiday Season with Holiday Magic. So many parts came together flawlessly, to create a truly enchanting evening on the first day of celebration with the Holiday Magic Soiree. For the first time ever, the Citrus Courtyard was transformed into event space and became the VIP area for the Soiree. Our own Tour Coordinator, Kevin Miller shared his artistic talent by embellishing the floor with wintery decorative painting. We owe a special note of thanks to the Seminole Hard Rock Casino for providing Veuve Clicquot champagne and Kelly's Landing for providing delightful seafood selections for VIP guests. On the Veranda, John Knox Village Catering provided a wonderful prime rib and ham buffet with traditional trimmings and delightful desserts. A celebration like this would not be complete without Santa Clause, and Admissions Associate Rudyard Heady played the role perfectly. The true stars of the evening were the talented girls and young women from Meg Segreto's Dance Centre. Radio City Music Hall had some serious competition right here at Bonnet House! To our underwriters, sponsors and everyone who attended, thank you for making the event such a success with over \$30,000 netted for Bonnet House.

But we are on the verge of an even more special time for Bonnet House. January 22, 2019 marks the 100th wedding anniversary of Frederic Clay Bartlett and Helen Birch Bartlett. For those of us who know and love Bonnet House, we know that it was their marriage that led Hugh Taylor Birch to give the newlyweds the property where Frederic would build Bonnet House starting in 1920. Frederic's and Helen's wedding in 1919 was reported at the time as being a "quiet affair."

Much like the wedding, their 100th anniversary will be celebrated quietly too. However, it will set in motion preparation for something far from quiet, namely the 100th anniversary of Bonnet House in 2020. Not much in South Florida can lay claim to a 100-year heritage. This remarkable property has an equally remarkable story, and we will be working behind the scenes to make a real splash when December rolls around again to celebrate not only the third year of



Holiday Magic, but the opening of a year-long celebration of Bonnet House's centennial.

In the meantime, Impressions, Concerts Under the Stars, and the International Orchid & Garden Festival are fast approaching. I hope to see you at one or all of these events that do so much to support Bonnet House and make Fort Lauderdale a great place to live.

Jane Fortune, Patron of Art, 1942-2018

Bonnet House is sorry to announce the passing of Evelyn Bartlett's great niece, Jane Fortune. Jane had a passionate interest in art, particularly the art of women. Her impact on the art world in Florence, Italy was immense where she spearheaded the conservation of numerous important paintings that would have been lost to decay but for her support and advocacy. She quietly brought that zeal to Bonnet House where she sponsored the conservation of several of Mrs. Bartlett's paintings. Bonnet House extends its deepest sympathies to Jane's children, her brothers Bill and Rich Fortune, her sister Pam, and the entire Fortune family.

Newsletter design by Monica Estevez,
Cover photo: *Organic Moments Photography*. Photo above by Mary D'Elia

FOR THE LOVE OF ART & ORCHIDS

IMPRESSIONS: THE NEW AESTHETIC



IMPRESSIONS

BONNET HOUSE
MUSEUM & GARDENS

ART
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THE NEW AESTHETIC
A COLORFULLY CHIC AFFAIR

Let your imagination delight for one shimmering evening of sight, sound, and motion.

MARCH 7 | 6PM

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE
BONNETHOUSE.ORG | 954-703-2605

IMPRESSIONS at Bonnet House Museum & Gardens
900 N Birch Rd | Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

artserve

Bonnet House Museum & Gardens is partnering with ArtServe to present **IMPRESSIONS: THE NEW AESTHETIC** in honor of the legacy of Frederic and Evelyn Bartlett's artistic creativity and appreciation for art of all genres.

The official opening for our 19th Annual Juried Art Exhibit and Fundraiser is scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 6:00p.m. **IMPRESSIONS**, an annual juried art event, is Fort Lauderdale's preeminent exhibition of modern and contemporary original work from South Florida in a variety of media including painting, photography and mixed media.

The exhibition opens with an immersive art affair for new and experienced collectors alike, featuring interactive sensory experiences replete with engaging art installations, video projections, live painters, musicians, performance art, and irresistible edibles and elixirs.

IMPRESSIONS showcases artists from throughout Florida while transforming the event into a celebra-

tion of art from various perspectives that will attract long-time patrons and new guests. All guests and participating artists are invited to cast votes for their favorite artist in the exhibition. The artist receiving the highest number of votes will receive the People's Choice Award, awarded that evening. All of the artwork in the Impressions competition will be available for sale with 50% of the proceeds benefiting the ongoing preservation of Bonnet House and its cultural programming that reach over 70,000 visitors, including 8,000 area youth each year. The Impressions exhibition will be on display from March 7 through April 28, 2019 during Bonnet House's regular tour hours.

INTERNATIONAL ORCHID & GARDEN FESTIVAL



Photo by Barbie Pearson

There is also news to share about the Orchid Festival. As mentioned in the previous issue of The Newsletter to better accommodate Holiday Magic, we've moved the Orchid Festival from December to the first weekend in April. That means that the next Bonnet House Orchid Festival will be held on April 6 and 7, 2019. In addition, the Orchid Festival will be expanding to become the Bonnet House **INTERNATIONAL Orchid & Garden Festival!** For the first time ever, growers from Malaysia, Thailand and Hawaii will be participating as growers. You'll be certain to find extraordinary specimens.

In addition, we will have book signings as part of the event by renowned orchid expert Dr. Martin Motes and the participation of several plant and garden societies. We will also have a live performance by the Pride Steel Band and a variety of Orchid and Plant Care lectures in our Island Theater along with a reduced public admission fee of \$10. For updated information please visit our website at <https://www.bonnethouse.org/event/bonnet-house-orchid-festival-2/>. We look forward to seeing you at this blooming event.

Development News

by Darla I. Stanton

Second Annual Holiday Magic!



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 the second annual Holiday Magic event. We kicked off the weeklong event with a record breaking sell-out crowd of over 500 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.

As we continue to plan for the future, we are reminded that with success in order to grow, comes a greater need. It takes a lot to run a 35 acre, 100 year old house. The maintenance alone on a daily basis is unbelievable, add to it preservation and conservation and you end up with a rather large amount of funding needed to keep this place running. We, that know and love Bonnet House, want it to be better than ever and we want our future to be bright so that we can be solvent for many, many more years to come. Therefore, Patrick and I are very hopeful that you might consider making a donation to Bonnet House this year. Every gift counts no matter how large or small.



Photos by Anna Collins

Visit our website page and click Donate.

Did you know you can turn your required distributions into charitable donations? IRS rules mandate that individuals age 70 1/2 and older take a required minimum from their IRA each year, regardless of whether the income is needed. These annual withdrawals are subject to ordinary income taxes. By making a charitable contribution from your IRA to Bonnet House, you can satisfy your required minimum distribution amount without reporting additional income.

We are very thankful and blessed to have all of you involved with Bonnet House and wish you all very best in 2019!

Be sure to mark 6:30 pm on January 17th, February 21st, March 14th, and April 4th on your calendar for the Concerts Under the Stars Music Series. Also, mark your calendars for Impressions which will take place on March 7, 2018. We look forward to welcoming you back to Bonnet House!

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 3 guests and get discounts in our Museum shop, the best little gift shop in all of Broward County. This year we also added a brand new Media Partner membership level for corporations wanting to get their name on our website, our Google ad word campaign, mentions on all social media channels and logos on an event of their choice. Visit our website and click Membership/Support.

Re-Upholstery Project

by Denyse Cunningham



Recently, we had the sofa and the tufted chair in the Drawing room reupholstered. The fabric had become stained and the springs were rusty and some of them had “sprung”! We solicited several quotes and chose Margolis Upholstery in Margate to do the job. Not only was their quote the lowest, but they had come highly recommended by Bonnet House Board member Bill Hines.

According to their website, Margolis Upholstery is a family owned and operated business that began in Brooklyn, NY. Soon after opening, the family opened three additional locations on Long Island including one in Queens. With over 35 years of experience, the Margolis brothers, Rick and Ken specialize in the trades their grandfather Phil Margolis passed down to his son, Don Margolis and then on to them.

When the year 1975 came around, the family moved to Florida and opened up Margolis Upholstery in the city of Margate. The family trades include upholstering furni-



ture, repairs, as well as marine and auto upholstery using your fabric or their own. Having the family touch means home demonstrations of samples, free estimates and a low repair service fee of \$75.

Amazingly, the Margolis brothers were able to locate an almost identical fabric to match the original pieces. They carefully removed the original bullion fringe and reused it alongside the new fabric.

Other upholstered pieces at Bonnet House that have been reupholstered are the green sofa in the Studio, the blue chairs in the Music Room, the banquette in the Shell Museum and the green settees in the courtyard. The latter have been done twice;

once in 1994 and again in 2000! As seen in one of Mrs. Bartlett’s paintings, Florida Mail, the original color of the fabric was pink. The green vinyl was selected by Mrs. Bartlett.



Interestingly, the sofa had an indentation on the right side by the fireplace. It was noted that the owner must have preferred that spot to sit. In reviewing the photographs of people in the Drawing Room, it became apparent that spot was indeed Mrs. Bartlett’s favorite spot to sit!

The famous decorator, and friend of Frederic Clay Bartlett, Elsie de Wolfe wrote in her popular 1913 book *The House in Good Taste* “In the drawing-room, there should be one or more sofas, with comfortable chairs pulled up beside them.” Although the Bartlett’s certainly had their own unique decorating sense, they did have de Wolfe’s book in their library in their Beverly Massachusetts mansion Whitehall. They also had *The Decoration of Houses* by Edith Wharton and Ogden Codman Jr. published in 1897. Both books are now in the collections of Bonnet House Museum & Gardens.

The Little Gift Shop & Cafe

by Dianne Ennis



Bonnet House has an ultimate goal of ensuring our guests the “Ultimate Guest Experience.” Like any business, our goal is to offer our guests an experience that they will remember and talk about while making wonderful memories which will put a smile on their faces long after they leave us when reflecting their visit at Bonnet House.

When calculating what will make Bonnet House fulfil this objective, it was simple, seize all five senses of the human configuration. Address each sense with a commitment of achieving total customer satisfaction. I would like to think we are there or extremely close.

There are five human senses that were needed to be addressed: Touch – Sight – Hearing – Smell – Taste. First, touch – running your hands over the railing of Welcome Center Bridge anticipating a pleasant experience that welcomes you to the second sense of sight, the beautiful Bonnet House complimented by its orchids and natural gardens. The tour through the home communicates the story and history of the home embracing the sense of hearing. After the tour, a tram ride that greets you to the sense of sight and also smell, enjoying the natural ambiance of the property. These are four senses which leads us to the last, taste.

Bonnet House proudly presents The Little Café, sense number five, taste. After many years of discussions and plans that were put aside due to lack of funds, The Little Café is now a reality thanks to so many generous supporters.

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 was our official opening day. We listened to our guests’ request for food and now our guests can enjoy a diverse menu which will appeal to those very hungry or to those who just wish to enjoy

something light. Either way, we will deliver. Our menu ranges from breakfast muffins to lunch sandwiches, wraps, tuna and chicken salad with crackers including fresh fruit to mention a few items. Let us not forget our ice cream, Fruitiq, which proved itself to be a success. Our guests convene on our new patio under our blue and yellow umbrellas enjoying the many fruit flavors we have to offer. The ambience is so peaceful and relaxing, come join us for breakfast, snacks and/or lunch.



Bonnet House is very excited about this new venture. Please join us for a bite, we welcome our guests, members and volunteers to come and enjoy a peaceful lunch surrounded by the splendor of Bonnet House.

Accompanying the café, an orchid sales area presenting potted orchids are for sale. Not only can you tour, shop and eat you can pick an orchid display to take home and enjoy.

Let us not forget the gift shop. Every day we are welcoming new inventory. Stop by and take a look, you will be pleasantly surprised of the diverse inventory all complimenting Bonnet House’s history. We have been mentioned on Trip Advisor by our guests very favorably as being eclectic and affordable, something for everyone.

We at Bonnet House are so proud of the transformation of the gift shop and the new addition of our café and orchid shop. Thank you to everyone who supported both financially and emotionally to this success.

THE VERANDA SESSIONS

PRESENTED BY:

BONNET HOUSE
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SOSOS

*Thursday * February 7, 2019 * 6:30pm*



DANIEL BENNETT GROUP

*Thursday * March 28, 2019 * 6:30pm*



Complimentary Beer & Wine - \$30 per person

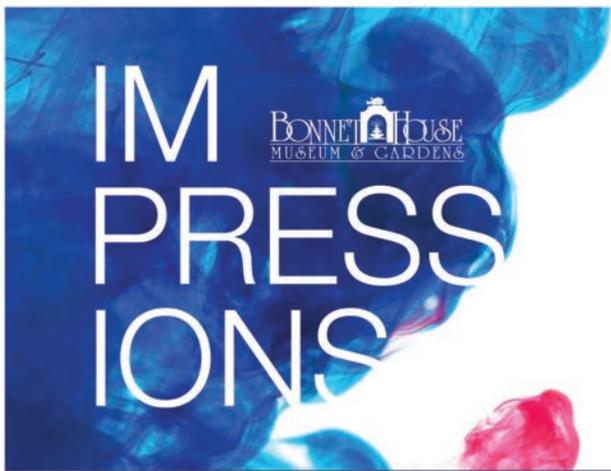
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THE NEW AESTHETIC A COLORFULLY CHIC AFFAIR

ART OPENING: MARCH 7
EXHIBITION: MARCH 7-APRIL 28



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