



CREATIVE PINELLAS

May 2021

Prepared by:

Barbara St. Clair

CEO

Activity Report

Expanding Waters Exhibit

Expanding waters, the multi-media exhibit by Artists Carol Mickett and Robert Stackhouse (2020-2021 Creative Pinellas Artist Laureates) closed in June – complete with a closing reception June 24 that saw close to 100 visitors.

To recap: Expanding Waters was primarily a live exhibit in the gallery that opened in March 2021. It also featured a series of live events including three performances of Shakespeare, two original dance performances choreographed specifically for the space and the artwork installed, and with original music composed especially for the dance.



There were also eight live-streaming streaming panels, discussing topics like the relationship of art and science and what makes a green society, and also featured two live streamed “Coffees with the Curator.”

All of those videos can be seen at

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/CreativePinellas/>

It also included a virtual gallery, available at:

<https://creativepinellas.org/expanding-waters/>

Total visitation at the gallery for Expanding Waters surpassed 3,000 (with the first two months still under social distancing.)

Total viewers, thus far of the videos and the digital gallery has surpassed 5,000.



The featured artwork at the gallery was available for sale, and \$9,000 of sales were made.

Covid Memorial

Creative hosted the Covid Ribbon Memorial in its courtyard at the Pinewood Cultural Park beginning June 24th. The memorial is a sculptural art installation comprised of a long line of colorful ribbons with each ribbon representing one person who has died in Florida due to COVID-19.

The exhibit, which will be open through September 19, is interactive and available to visitors daily during park hours. The community is invited to add a name to the memorial.

Cathy Tobias, a photographer and visual artist conceptualized the project to honor lives lost in a tangible, visual way and offer people a way to remember and mourn loved ones. She started the project in November of 2020 and enlisted a team of volunteers to help tie ribbons when the number of deaths was 16,000. The memorial now has over 36,000 ribbons and is as long as three football fields.



The memorial first appeared on Anna Maria Island and was also on display at the Morean Arts Center in St. Petersburg. Creative Pinellas will be the third location to host the installation. Creator Cathy Tobias plans to keep the project going and move the memorial to additional locations in the area giving people a physical space to grieve, share their stories and think about the magnitude of this tragedy.

Press includes:

WTSP (Tampa Bay 10): [COVID Ribbon Memorial set to visit Largo](#)

Tampa Bay Times: [Covid Memorial on Display](#) and

[Top 10 Tampa Bay area events for the week of June 21-27](#) and

Tampa Bay Newspapers: [Window on Arts & Entertainment: June 24, 2021](#)

ABC Action News: [Covid Memorial at Creative Pinellas](#)

83 Degrees: <https://www.83degreesmedia.com/> and <https://www.facebook.com/83DegreesMedia/posts/10158534484108471>

Upcoming in the gallery

The Emerging Artist Exhibit opens on July 14, with a reception from 6 – 8 p.m. Then, the exhibit continues on through August 15, during normal gallery hours (W-Sun, noon to 5 p.m.)

The exhibit features ten of Pinellas County's exciting rising artists who will premier new work. This fifth annual exhibition features new, original work by artists awarded grants from Creative Pinellas: Tatiana Baccari, Chelsea Catherine, Nick Davis, Nikki Devereux, John Gascot, Mason Gehring, Gabriella Krousaniotakis, Yuly Restrepo, Sara Ries, and Emily Stehle.

A poster for the Emerging Artist Exhibit. The title "Emerging Artist Exhibit" is at the top. Below it, the text reads: "Opening Reception: July 14th, 2021, 6-8pm", "The Gallery at Creative Pinellas", "Enjoy an evening of literary and film performances plus the premier of new artwork! Complimentary light bites and a cash bar. The event is free and open to the public. Artwork will be available for purchase." There is a blue button that says "RSVP HERE". Below that, it says "Exhibition Open: July 15th - August 15th, 2021" and "Gallery Hours: Wed. - Sun. 12-5pm". At the bottom, there is a grid of ten small portraits of the featured artists. The text "Featuring Artists: Tatiana Baccari, Chelsea Catherine, Nick Davis, Nikki Devereux, John Gascot, Mason Gehring, Gabriella Krousaniotakis, Yuly Restrepo, Sara Ries Dziekonski, Emily Lee Stehle" is at the very bottom.

The evening will feature a variety of different art forms, from visual art to performing art and literary readings. Highlights include painting, installation, mixed media, literature, theatre and film. The event is free and open to the public.

The Emerging Artist Grant Program is designed to help up-and-coming artists on their path to future success by providing funding, a professional artist mentor and an exhibition to display or perform their work. Applications for the next round of grants opens Monday, July 12th and closes September 7th. Grantees can be selected for their work in the disciplines of choreography, literature, media arts, music composition, theater/musical theater, visual arts, and interdisciplinary arts.

Pinellas Trail Murals:

We are currently working with Pinellas County Public Works/Department of Transportation on a beautification/art project for the Pinellas Trail. We will be painting murals on the entrances and exits of two tunnels along the trail and have completed the design phase of the project. Artists and their designs include:

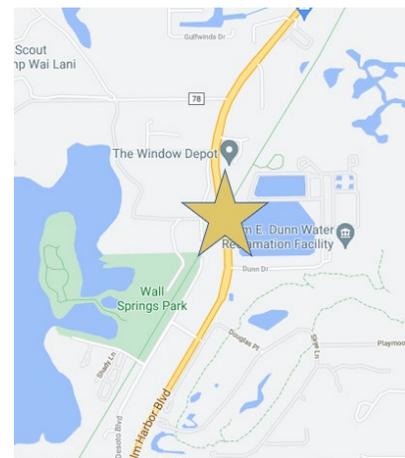
Taylor Smith: Wetland Herons:South-facing Entrance to the Palm Harbor Tunnel:



“This mural features two Great Blue Herons with an organic color scheme. Natural greens, teals, and deep blue hues offer a soothing yet energizing feel to the Trail, and blend in with the surrounding environment. The background elements feature sword grass, cattails, and palm leaves. The mural is meant to highlight the beauty of Florida’s coastal wetlands. This design is my first choice. I feel the color scheme and Herons fit the mural location very well.”

Yhali Ilan: Island People

North-facing Entrance to the Palm Harbor Tunnel:





This mural celebrates the coastal lifestyle in North Pinellas. With vibrant plant life (including palms), people enjoying the beaches, and water-related activities, it's welcoming for visitors and residents alike.

Daniel Barojas: Sun Tribute

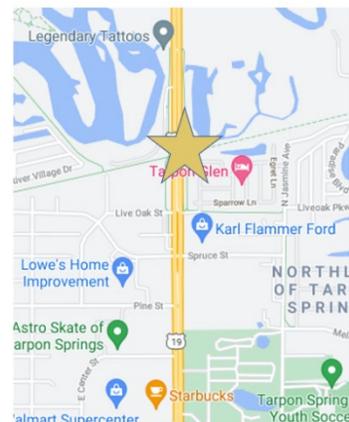
West Facing entrance to the Tarpon Springs Tunnel



“This mural concept intends to give tribute to the sun, an essential part of life bringing us light each day, bringing a new sun-rise and sunset. The mural is located on the side of the Pinellas Trail where the sun sets, and the mural is intended to serve as a blessing and thank you to the sun as it sets before the mood comes out to say hello.”

Richard Delgado: Birds and Flowers

East Facing Entrance to the Tarpon Springs Tunnel

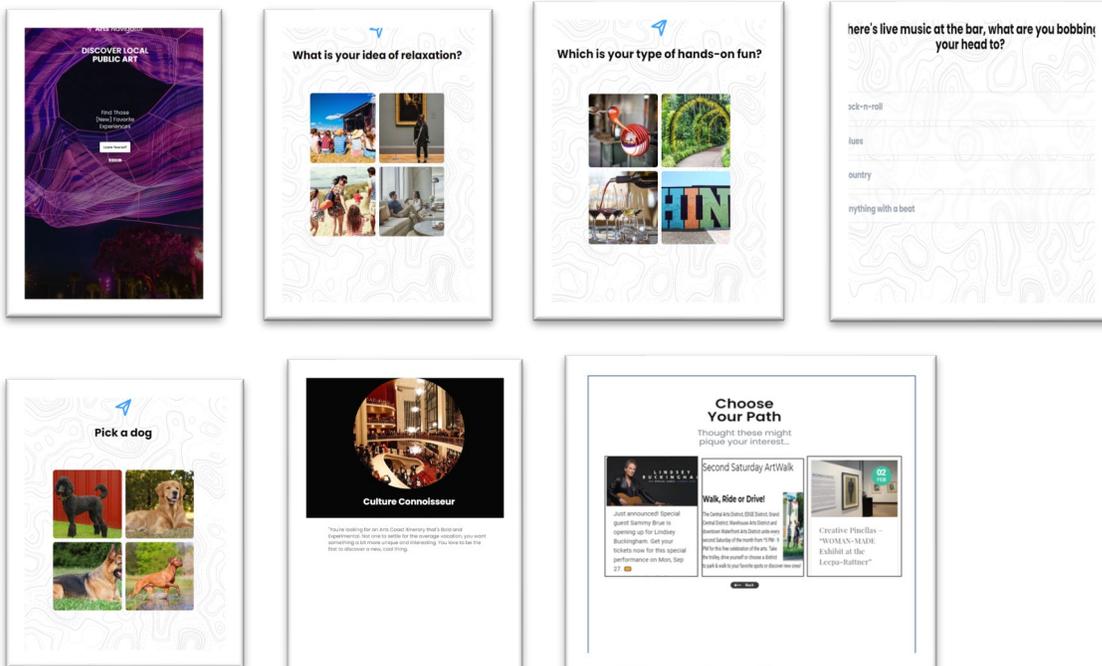




This mural also addresses the sun, setting into the sea as people walk and ride their bicycles on the trail. Featuring vibrant flowers and tropical birds, it too celebrates nature and Florida life.

Arts Navigator

We had our first functional, test-software release of the Arts Navigator and will be doing our first public demonstration at the July TDC meeting.

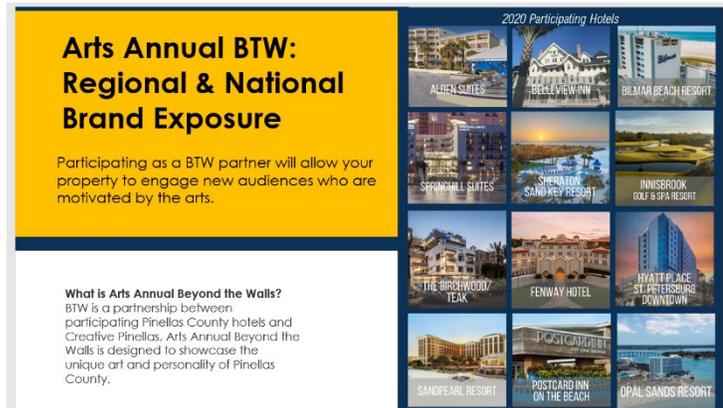


Arts Annual Beyond the Walls (Arts in Hotel's Program) Launch

At the end of June, we kicked off recruiting hotels for our 3rd annual Arts Annual Beyond the walls program.

An innovative and program, BTW is designed to showcase the unique art and personality of Pinellas County.

Artwork by Pinellas County award winning artists (who have all received grants from Creative Pinellas) is placed in participating hotels in September/October through mid-December.



An individual video is made for each participating hotel and their artist, and then a media buy is made in key visitor markets, for each of the videos. In 2020 we have over 145,000 viewers of the videos total, with most hotels averaging about 12,000 viewers each. In 2021 we expect to expand the media outreach and the number of hotels participating.

Other Upcoming Kick-off's

We are working diligently on updating creativepinellas.org and expect to launch the refreshed website in August.

SPACEcraft Traveling Art Program

SPACEcraft continues its art tour of Pinellas County. In June, SPACEcraft is in Lealman and in Largo. See more on the Facebook Page. <https://www.facebook.com/exploreSPACEcraft/>

The Arts Coast Journal Magazine

Lots of wonderful featured articles in June. These include:

A feature on the St. Pete Opera: <https://creativepinellas.org/magazine-items/st-pete-opera-brings-back-tears-of-a-clown-with-i-pagliacci/>

A feature on a local collector and the art he has donated to the Leepa Ratner museum <https://creativepinellas.org/magazine-items/jim-sweeny-collecting-art-for-all-of-us/>

Stories about and by our amazing artist grantees: <https://creativepinellas.org/magazine-items/the-courage-to-create-2/> and <https://creativepinellas.org/magazine-items/the-making-and-unmaking-of-an-installation/>



An article about the Skyway Exhibit <https://creativepinellas.org/magazine-items/skyway-20-21-at-the-tampa-museum-of-art/>

And much more that you can access here: <https://creativepinellas.org/arts-coast-journal/>

More (general) Press

We also had a great article published about Helen French, our new Artist Laurette: [Window on Arts & Entertainment: June 10, 2021](#)

Tampa Bay Newspapers

[Creative Pinellas](#), Artist Laureate announce 2021-22 programs. LARGO — St. Petersburg native and Julliard trained dancer Helen French was named ...

June Web & Social Media

Website

5884 Visitors (Down 8%)

10,279 Pageviews (Down 4%)

Facebook

Post Reach – 25,983 (Up 25%)

New page likes – 43 (Down 14%)

Total page likes – 5174 (Up 1%)

Post engagement – 2,805 (up 22%)

Twitter

New Followers: 10 (Up 300%)

Impressions: 4,269 (Up 715%)

Engagements: 34 (Up 467%)

Instagram

New Fans: 27 (Up 4%)

Impressions: 7.741 (Up 37%)

Engagement Rate: 18% (Up 7%)