

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Ongoing events

■ **History** - One of the greatest anthropological finds in history, "LUCY: The Story of Human Origins" spans 50 million years in scope, from the early primates to the dawn of humanity. This exhibition, at the SWFL Museum of History in downtown Fort Myers, represents a historical frame of reference for the human timeline which includes this comprehensive collection of exact replicas of skeletons, skulls, footprints, tools, and artifacts dramatically illustrates the story of the progression of humankind on Earth. As part of the exhibit, the museum store will feature anthropological items and gifts and the best-selling book by the man who discovered her; "Lucy: The Beginning of Humankind," by Donald Johanson and Maitland Edey. The exhibit runs through June 12. Call (239) 332-5955 or visit www.cityftmyers.com/museum.

■ **Art - Space 39** in downtown Fort Myers hosts an exhibit "Women's Work: Feminist Art from a Man's Perspective." The issues of the Feminist Art movement are re-examined and re-interpreted from the point of view of a single dad. Artist Jeffrey Scott Lewis uses acrylic paint and canvas to create collages that are inspired by the Quilts of Gees Bend. Using color, line and texture, the artist questions traditional gender-based roles and responsibilities. The abstract works are given titles that suggest the issues a stay at home mom faces in raising children, keeping a home and maintaining relationships.

■ **Art - Rising Stars Art Studio** in Cape Coral presents a private Collection of Fine Art Prints by Salvador Dali, Henri Matisse, Egon Schiele, Helmut Newton, and Raoul Dufy. The exhibit will be on display through April 21 on the promenade at Cape Harbour, 5781 Cape Harbour Drive, # 105, Cape Coral. For information call 541-9992.

■ **Call for entries** - The **2D/3D All Florida Juried Exhibition** is looking for artists to appear in the show set for June 13. The categories for the 2D 3D exhibit are sculpture, painting (including oil, acrylic, collage, watercolor, and mixed media), fiber art, photography, prints and drawings (no crafts). Cash awards will be given totaling \$2,000, including \$1,000 for Best in Show Announced on Opening Night. Digital Graphics, Entry Form and Fee must be hand delivered or received on or before April 23, at 5 p.m. August 4-5: Hours to pickup all artwork, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

■ **Call to artists** - The Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art Center has issued a Call for Artists to participate in "10 Illustrated: An NAA Members' Photography Exhibition." It will be installed in the Art Center from July 12 through Aug. 3, and selected images from those works will also be published in Naples Illustrated magazine.

The Art Center and the magazine both turned 10 this year, and like brothers born near the same time, they will celebrate together to "take 10 to the max." The photography exhibition, therefore, is to be compiled from work based on a single theme - 10. There is no entry fee. Submissions are open to NAA members only and work may include photography or mixed media incorporating elements such as collage, photomontage, hand colored photographs, graphic design, compositing and computer illustration. Artwork receiving is Friday, June 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday, June 29 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Art Center, 585 Park Street or call (239) 262-6517 for more information.

Upcoming events



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■ **Blast** - "Blast!" winner of the 2001 Tony Award for "Best Special Theatrical Event" and the 2001 Emmy Award for "Best Choreography," is on stage at the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** for eight performances Wednesday, April 16 through Sunday April 20. The show is comprised of 35 brass, percussion and visual performers brought together in a unique explosion of music and theatre. Born on athletic fields across the nation, "Blast!" is a novel art form evolved from the showmanship of outdoor pageantry. According to Bruce McCabe of the Boston Globe; "Blast! is an exuberant 15-number show that doesn't falter while bridging the categories of classical, blues, jazz, rock n roll, and techno-pop music. Blast! stands, blows, pounds, marches, and whirls with panache. It sent a full house into repeated bursts of cheering and applause." There's a special "Kids' Night on Broadway" performance on Wednesday, April 16 at 7:30 p.m. Kids (moms and dads, too) are invited to attend a special pre-show party with food and fun. Tickets for "Kid's Night on Broadway" are specially-priced: buy one regularly priced ticket and get a kid's ticket of equal value free. This special pricing is valid only for the Kids' Night performance on Wednesday, April 16. Tickets are on sale at the box office, by calling (239) 481-4849 or at www.bbmannpah.com.

■ **B.B. King** - Legendary "King of the Blues" **B.B. King** returns to the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** Sunday, May 4 at 7:30 p.m. Riley B. King, affectionately known as B. B. started recording in the late 1940's and has released over 50 albums; many of them considered blues classics, such as 1965's definitive live blues album "Live At The Regal", and 1976's collaboration with Bobby "Blue" Land, "Together For the First Time." A five-time Grammy Award winner, he is best known for such hits as "The Thrill Is Gone", "Sweet Sixteen", "Caldonia" and "Why I Sing The Blues." He was inducted into the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame

in 1984 and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987. Between 1999 and 2000 B. B. King released several albums, two of which included "Let The Good Times Roll," an excellent tribute to Louis Jordan, and "Riding With The King," a collaboration with Eric Clapton.

■ **42nd Street** - The ultimate Broadway musical comedy, "42nd Street" will go on stage at **Estero High School** on Thursday, May 8 and Friday, May 9 at 7 p.m., in the Estero High School Auditorium. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for students with an ID, and will be sold at the door. This landmark show, which is based on the classic 1933 movie musical of the same name, "42nd Street" is the story of a naive young actress named Peggy Sawyer (played by sophomore Anna Robbins) who arrives to audition for the new Julian Marsh (played by freshman Diego Rodriguez) extravaganza set to open on Broadway starring aging leading lady Dorothy Brock (played by senior Kelsey Thompson). A classic backstage story, "42nd Street" is a delightful throwback that the entire family will enjoy. For more information contact Estero High School 947- 9400 or the Drama Department at 273-7587.

■ **Fantasticks** - "The Fantasticks" will be presented by Jodick Productions at the **Foulds Theatre** at the Alliance for the Arts on two weekends April 25 thru May 4. Jodick Productions is a volunteer based community theatre collaborative based in Cape Coral. This will be their second show of the year, following on the heels of their smash hit "Nonsense" which was performed in January at Cape Coral High School. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$20 for seniors. Call 297-3077 for tickets.

■ **Dance Lessons** - The delightful comedy, "Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks," opens at the **Sugden Community Theatre** in downtown Naples on April 23 for a four week run. Written by Richard Alfieri, the show tells the story of a lady of a certain age who

has retired to the West Coast of Florida, and signs up for a course of dance lessons in her own home. When the dance instructor arrives for the first lesson, sparks and banter fly as two strong personalities clash. Critics have described the show as "entertaining, thoughtful, razor sharp, charming, funny and genuinely moving." The Naples Players production stars Diane Davis and David Goguen, and is directed by Jeff Hoover. The show will be performed Wednesday through Saturday at 8 pm and Sunday at 2 pm from April 23 through May 17. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$10 for students. Tickets are available at The Naples Players Box Office, 701 5th Avenue South in downtown Naples, by telephone at (239) 263-7990 or online at www.naplesplayers.org

■ **Calusa Musicale** - **Calusa Musicale** is celebrating its 30th anniversary this month with its Annual Scholarship Benefit Concert. The event will feature violin virtuoso Reiko Niiya, concert mistress of the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra, who is celebrating her 25th anniversary with the orchestra this season. Her collaborator at the piano will be Mary Griffin Seal of Edison College and a devoted member of Calusa Musicale. The concert plays Sunday, April 27 at 3 p.m. at the **Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Myers**, 13411 Shire Lane. The concert is free, however donations may be given at the end of the program.

■ **Art - Leroy Nichols**, a celebrated oil painter from Sarasota and **William Turner**, an award-winning watercolorist from Bradenton, will present their landscape masterpieces at the **Sim Gallery of Fine Art** in Cape Coral. An Artist Reception will be held on April 18, 6 to 9 p.m. Both artists graduated from Ringling Art School in the 1950's and didn't meet again until 2008, when they agreed to show work at Sim Gallery. It is located at 5785 Cape Harbour Drive, Ste. 104. Call 541-1004 for additional information.