

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.

■ **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.

■ **Art - "First Look"** is a visual art exhibit at the **Alliance for the Arts** featuring Senior Projects of Florida Gulf Coast University visual art students. An opening reception, free to the public, runs from 5 - 7 p.m. Also in attendance at the opening will be the new C.E.O. of the Alliance, Gary Conley. The artwork created by FGCU visual arts students will be featured in the exhibit at the Alliance and were chosen by the Exhibition Committee from the Alliance. "First Look" will be on display at the Alliance for the Arts through June 6. The Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard just south of Colonial Boulevard. Visit www.artinlee.org for further information.

■ **Call to artists - The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program**, a partnership program working to protect the natural environment from Venice to Estero Bay to Winter Haven, is encouraging artwork submissions for its **2009 calendar**. People can submit up to three digitized entries by 5 p.m. on July 14. Qualifying images captured must be within the watershed of concern to the CHNEP, which includes all or portions of Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Lee, Manatee, Polk and Sarasota counties.

Entries and forms must be received by Maran Hilgendorf, CHNEP, 1926 Victoria Ave, Fort Myers FL 33901-3414 prior to the deadline. If you have any questions, please contact Maran at mhilgendorf@swfrpc.org.

■ **Art - Space 39 Modern & Contemporary gallery** presents **"Reflexive,"** featuring the works of **Pavol Roskoven-sky**. The artist explores a more naturalistic method of painting, creating images that are meticulously detailed and provide an almost spiritual transcendence. He explores the idea that true nature can not be rendered on a picture plane by a human hand. "Reflexive" will be on display until June 15. Space 39 Modern & Contemporary is located at 39 Patio de Leon, Fort Myers. For more information, call (239) 690-0004 or visit www.spacethirtynine.com.

■ **ART - Art of the Olympians** will be featured in the **Bob Rauschenberg Gallery/Edison College** through June 19. There will be a special preview event featuring the Art of the Olympians collection to be showcased at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games at The Prince Jun Palace. Olympic Gold Medalists, Bob Beamon and Pat McCormick, among other Olympians will be present at this special preview exhibition, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The Bob Rauschenberg Gallery is located on the campus of Edison College. For additional information call: 239-489-9313 or visit the Web site, www.bobRauschenberggallery.com

Upcoming events



■ **Backyardigans** - A national touring production of **"The Backyardigans Live! Tale of the Mighty Knights"** will stop at the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** on July 15 and 16 for two performances. Tickets are now on sale. Since its debut on Nickelodeon's preschool weekday lineup, "The Backyardigans" has become the No. 2-rated preschool show on all of commercial TV among the target audience of preschoolers. The shows will start at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$32.50, \$27.50 and \$17.50. For more information, call (239) 481-4849 or visit www.bbmannpah.com.

■ **Space 39 - Space 39 Modern & Contemporary gallery** hosts a reception June 28, from 6-10 p.m. for **"New Works"** featuring the distinguished students of Florida Gulf Coast University. The gallery picked specific pieces from this juried group show to bring to Space 39 for your enjoyment. The exhibit will be on display from June 28 to July 19. Please call ahead for summer hours. For more information, call (239) 690-0004 or visit www.spacethirtynine.com.

■ **Piano Men - "The Piano Men 2,"** an acclaimed musical journey through the 1970s and 1980s showcasing the songs of legendary performers Billy Joel and Elton John, comes to the **Philharmonic Center for the Arts** for one show on Saturday, June 28 at 8 p.m. Multi-talented entertainer Jim Witter is featured on grand piano and lead vocals, along with his band, which includes guitar, bass, sax, electric keyboard and drum backup. The

Piano Men 2 is the sequel to The Piano Men, Witter's critically acclaimed show featuring Billy Joel and Elton John hits from the 1970s. Tickets to The Piano Men 2 are \$35. For more information or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at (239) 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900 or online at www.thephil.org.

■ **Sweet Baby James** - Multi-talented entertainer Bob Stillman stars in **Sweet Baby James - A Tribute to James Taylor**, featuring such legendary hits as Fire and Rain, You've Got A Friend and How Sweet It Is, at the **Philharmonic Center for the Arts** on Saturday, June 14 at 8 p.m. Stillman has lit up some of New York's best-known stages as a writer, musician and actor. The two-time Tony Award nominee, who studied piano and composition at the Juilliard and Manhattan Schools beginning at age 9, has appeared on Broadway in Grey Gardens and Kiss of the Spider Woman and in the cult off-Broadway hit The Last Session. Joining Stillman will be classically trained singer and actress Connie James, a New York staple for the past 20 years as a performer and studio singer. Tickets to Sweet Baby James are \$35. For more information or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at (239) 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900. Tickets are also available online at www.thephil.org.

■ **Symphony - The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra**, led by guest conductor Andrew Lane, will present **"Music Takes You There,"** the final Family Fare concert of the season, on Sunday, June 1 at 3 p.m. Travel the world in an afternoon through the music of Mendelssohn, Bernstein, Sibelius, Offenbach, Tchaikovsky and more! This splendid concert event will feature orchestral music from Japan, Nigeria, Great Britain, France, Germany, Finland, Mexico, Russia and the United States. Joining the orchestra will be 7-year-old piano sensation Ethan Bortnick, who was recently featured on Jay Leno, Good Morning America and elsewhere. Tickets to Music Takes You There are only \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. For more information or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at (239) 597-1900 or toll-free at (800)

597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ **Fab Four - The Fab Four**, known for their uncanny, note-for-note live renditions of Beatles' songs, return to the **Philharmonic Center** by popular demand on Saturday, July 19 at 8 p.m. This incredible stage show includes three costume changes representing each era of the Beatles' career. Hear record-perfect live performances of such classics as Can't Buy Me Love, Yesterday, A Day In The Life, Penny Lane, Here Comes The Sun, Hey Jude and many more. Tickets to The Fab Four are \$35. For more information or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at (239) 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900 or visit www.thephil.org.

■ **Secret Garden** - For its Naples summer musical extravaganza, The Naples Players bring to the stage **"The Secret Garden,"** a production based on the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett. The book and lyrics for "The Secret Garden" were written by Marsha Norman; the music is by Lucy Simon. **The Naples Players'** production includes a cast of more than 30 and a full orchestra. Tickets for "The Secret Garden" are on sale at The Naples Players Box Office. Also on sale is a return of the summer dinner/show package offered by The Naples Players and Vergina Restaurant. Beginning Saturday, June 28 and continuing Wednesday through Saturday evenings until the last performance on August 2, the dinner/show package costs \$48 for an adult. After enjoying a three course dinner at Vergina, the ticket holder then watches a performance of "The Secret Garden." On Sundays, dinner follows the matinee. Individual tickets for The Secret Garden cost \$30 per adult and \$10 for children under 18. The show opens June 27 (opening night is sold out) and runs through August 2. For reservations for the dinner/show package or for individual tickets to any performance, visit The Naples Players Box Office at 701 5th Avenue South in downtown Naples. The office is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets also may be purchased by phone at (239) 263-7990 or at www.naplesplayers.org



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