

## WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

## Ongoing events



>>Rising Stars Art Studio in Cape Harbour in Cape Coral is presenting awarding winning guest artist Pam Brodersen.

■ **Art - "I Am in It: Contemporary Chinese Calligraphic Expressions"** is on display at **Florida Gulf Coast University** at the **Arts Complex Gallery** through Feb. 16. Guest curator Yiguo Zhang, Director of Nankai University's Art History Center, brings an exhibition of work by five contemporary Chinese artists who have broken from their classical training as calligraphers and applied the discipline to their personal creations. The artists will be conducting talks and demonstrations during the exhibition. For information go to [artgallery.fgcu.edu](http://artgallery.fgcu.edu) or call (239) 590-7199.

■ **Rauschenberg** - Work by world renowned artist and gallery name sake **Robert Rauschenberg** will be featured through Feb. 9 at the **Bob Rauschenberg Gallery on the campus of Edison College**. Often cited as the most important artist of his generation, Rauschenberg did more than any other artist to reach beyond contemporary thinking by challenging limits, perceptions, materials and every other boundary in sight. Among those shattered boundaries is an erased de Kooning drawing, one of the most notorious art objects of the century. There will be a closing ceremony Feb. 1 from 6 to 8 p.m.

■ **Art - Harborside Event Center and ArtFest Fort Myers'** current exhibit is the **"Fabric of Life"**, a display of 30 spectacular contemporary art quilts created by the members of **Art Quilters Unlimited**. This juried show runs through Jan. 28 and represents a broad array of fiber wall art from a group of artists who compete nationally in their medium and bring the excitement of color and design to this fine craft. Everyone is welcome to explore the artistic and cultural vibrancy of fiber art and give the gift of art to someone on your holiday list. The exhibit is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information email [info@ArtFestFortMyers.com](mailto:info@ArtFestFortMyers.com) or call 768-3602.

■ **Art - A juried art show at the Art League of Fort Myers** runs through Feb. 23. The Art League is located in the City of Palms parking garage building at 1451 Monroe Street, between Bay and First Street in the downtown River District. For information call 275-3970 or online at [www.artleagueoffortmyers.org](http://www.artleagueoffortmyers.org).

■ **Art - Rising Stars Art Studio** in Cape Harbour in Cape Coral is presenting awarding winning guest artist Pam Brodersen whose medium is Digital Imaging. The exhibition is "Island Impressions" and runs from Jan. 25 thru Feb. 11. On Saturday, Jan. 26 there is a meet the artist reception at the Studio from 6 to 8 p.m. Regular Studio hours are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Sunday.

■ **Call for artists - Florida West Arts**, a Southwest Florida performing and visual arts organization, is looking for area "arts as healing" programs - as well as individual performing and visual artists - to participate in **ARTS & HEALING** to be held on March 29 at Coconut Point in Estero. **ARTS & HEALING** is presented by Coconut Point, in cooperation with Florida West Arts, and sponsored by the News-Press "Your Health Monthly" magazine. There is no entry fee for the event. The deadline to apply to enter is February 5, 2008. For more information, and to apply to participate in **ARTS & HEALING**, contact Florida West Arts by e-mail at [info@floridawestarts.com](mailto:info@floridawestarts.com) or call (239)784-0707.

■ **Call to artists - The Naples Art Association** at The von Liebig Art Center in Naples, Florida, invites artists residing in the State of Florida to submit up to three entries of current work (created after January 1, 2006) in any media for **ART ENCOUNTER 2008**. The fine art and contemporary craft exhibition will be installed in the art center's six galleries from May 10 to June 29. At least \$3,000 in cash awards will be presented to artists during the Members' Preview Reception and Awards Presentation on May 9. Works appearing in the exhibition as well as the award winners will be selected by guest juror Brian Dursum, director and chief curator of the Lowe Museum of Art at the University of Miami in Coral Gables. Online entries will be accepted at [juriedartservices.com](http://juriedartservices.com) until March 16 with a non-refundable online application fee of \$42 (\$30 for current NAA members), and late entries (extra \$20) will be accepted through March 30. NAA membership is not required. **ART ENCOUNTER 2007** featured 68 works by 49 artists from 416 entries submitted by 155 artists. Entries came from as far away as Crystal River and Jupiter. For details, visit [naplesart.org](http://naplesart.org) or call (239) 262-6517 x106.

## Upcoming events

■ **Cirque Dreams** - A magical jungle will unfold on the stage at the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** when **"Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy"** comes to town beginning Tuesday, Feb. 5. The critically acclaimed theatrical sensation runs through Feb. 10. Because of ticket demand, an additional performance has been added on Thursday, Feb. 7 at 10:30 a.m. Artistic Director Neil Goldberg and his Florida based Cirque Productions have created "Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy," an all new, world class, acrobatic, musical and imaginative adventure that is wowing audiences of all ages throughout the country. Tickets are on sale now and available at the box office, by calling (239) 481-4849 or online at [www.bbmannpah.com](http://www.bbmannpah.com)

■ **Defending the Caveman** - The longest running solo play in Broadway history comes to the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** on Friday and Saturday Feb. 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. respectively. The wildly popular comedy, written by Rob Becker, has become a peacemaker in the ongoing misunderstandings between men and women. With hilarious insights on contemporary feminism, masculine sensitivity and the erogenous zone, **Defending the Caveman** mines the common themes in relationships that go straight to the funny bone. It has won the hearts of millions in more than thirty countries and is performed in over fifteen different languages. Tickets are on sale at the box office, by calling 481-4849 or online at [www.bbmannpah.com](http://www.bbmannpah.com).

>>Trisha Yearwood hits the stage at the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** on Feb. 13.



■ **Trisha Yearwood** - Talent, dreams and determination are an intoxicating little cocktail. It's a recipe that has served to propel a litesome Georgia blonde from local honky tonks to the world's most prestigious stages. **Trisha Yearwood** hits the stage at the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** on Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. Sitting in a Nashville studio listening to mixes of her Big Machine Records debut, "Heaven, Heartache and the Power of Love," it is obvious Yearwood is living the dream and loving every minute of it. With three Grammys, three Country Music Association honors, and 19 top ten singles to her credit, including such career-defining hits as "She's in Love With the Boy," "Perfect Love," and "How Do I Live," it might be tempting to rest on her considerable laurels, but that's not in Yearwood's nature. Tickets are on sale at the box office, by calling 481-4849 or online at [www.bbmannpah.com](http://www.bbmannpah.com).

■ **Art** - An exclusive exhibition by artist legend **Peter Max** will be on display at the **Peter Max Gallery**, 370 12th Ave. South,

Naples Feb. 16 and 17. The show includes exquisite paintings, lithographs and sculptures. With paintings on exhibition in hundreds of museums and galleries worldwide, Peter Max and his vibrant colors have become part of the fabric of contemporary culture. Max has been successively called a Pop Icon, Neo Fauvist, Abstract Expressionist and the United State's "Painter Laureate." For more information about Peter Max, visit [www.petermax.com](http://www.petermax.com).

■ **Art - Harbour View Gallery** announced that **Maru Carreras**, brass and acrylic artist, and **Joanmarie** and **Emily Lermann of Radiant Renditions** crystal jewelry designs, are the gallery's visiting artists for the month of February. A reception to meet Maru, Joanmarie and Emily is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the gallery located at 5479 Cape Harbour Drive, Unit 104 on the promenade at Cape Harbour Marina South. The work of the seven Harbour View Gallery member-owner artists will also be on display. Refreshments will be served. No reservation necessary. For more information call 540-5789.

■ **Artfest** - Southwest Florida's premier fine art festival takes place in downtown Fort Myers on Feb. 2 and 3. Each year Fort Myers' only free, two day celebration of the arts, decorates downtown with exceptional artwork, entertainment and children's art activities. Attendees can enjoy and purchase artwork in a variety of mediums and prices from nationally recognized artists from across the country and around the world. Its better than a gallery - there is lots of variety - you can talk to the artists - you can view the work of over 200 fine artists in a single weekend - you can introduce your children to the magic of original art.

■ **Art - Space 39** will hold an opening reception Feb. 2 from 6-10 p.m. for **"Redline"** featuring the works of sculptor, **Hal Buckner**. This artist is an aluminum sculptor whose works in the last 30 years have been based on the female form. Its' many changes and attitudes reflected are meant to be interpreted by the viewer. His work is sensual and leaves a lot open to the imagination. The exhibit will be on display from Feb. 2 to March 15.

■ **Art - Join Arts for ACT Gallery** located at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort Myers on Friday, Feb. 1 from 7 to 10 p.m. for its artful evening opening artist's reception for February. Three dynamic women artists not to be missed, each with unique styles and subject matters, will give you feelings of nostalgia, happiness, romance, wonder and even sadness.

■ **Art** - February 8 will launch **"Just Deserts"** a short **Art League of Fort Myers** exhibit opens Feb. 8. The exhibit features small paintings and photos of deserts at the 1451 Monroe Street gallery. The real deserts, created by Pastry Chef Karen Schaffer will be available on Feb. 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the ALFM gallery for \$10 each. The paintings also on sale, will be a maximum size of 11x14, and will be priced under \$100 with many being in the \$50-\$75 range. Paintings will be available for one week. All paintings are originals and they are created by local artists.

■ **Bluegrass** - Y'all best be gittin' downtown for a night of bluegrass music on the steps of the **Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center**. Renowned band **Cadillac Sky**, an International Bluegrass Music Association "Emerging Artist of the Year" nominee, will set downtown on fire, Thursday, Jan. 31. Tickets are free to members of the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center and \$15 for future members. To become a member or purchase tickets visit us online at [www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com), email us at [florida.arts@yahoo.com](mailto:florida.arts@yahoo.com), or call 337-1933. Tickets will be available at the door on a first come first serve basis. The show begins at 6 p.m.