

# REFLECTIONS OF MANATEE SUMMER UPDATE!



## Message from the Executive Director

Happy Summer! Our team at Reflections of Manatee have been super busy this spring and summer updating the property, developing new programming, and preparing exciting events for the fall and winter. Some popular favorites like Pioneer Spirits and Galentine's Day are back on the schedule and we will be welcoming Stargazers Astronomy club in 2025. Stop in and say hi, fill out a membership, or take a tour. We are open from 10am-3pm Thursday-Saturday.

## New Walkways!

Our ADA compliant walkways are now finished! In June, Chris Bush Sons Pavers used our historic brick to build us a beautiful set of walkways connecting the ramps, ADA parking space, the historic houses, and the park.

The walkway expansion was funded by the Selby Foundation. Ribbon cutting Sept. 21st.







## Back to School!

**It's time for back to school. Reflections wishes all of our teachers, staff, and students a safe and happy school year.**

As part of ongoing process of providing support and enrichment to teachers and students our Executive Director has been working with a team of educators to develop field trip curriculum and trunk programs for elementary students. They will be adding content for middle school in the near future. Reflections will be able to provide some bus and substitute stipends for teachers who wish to bring their classes. Reservations will begin in November for the Spring semester. Watch our social media and website for updates!

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## New Fences!

Another phase of our master plan has been completed! Our historic houses have been fenced in thanks to help from the Duckwall Foundation and support from the Bradenton Community Redevelopment Agency. RMH Fences did a beautiful job so we will look spiffy for our fall events.





# The President's Corner



## NEW CHALLENGES

Since opening to the public in 2019, Reflections has earned museum operating support through a rigorous grant program administered by the state's Division of Cultural Affairs. This year, for the very first time, the governor vetoed the entire funding for that program, affecting not just us, but cultural arts and museum programs across the state.

The board is having to take a hard look at our operating assumptions and is working on two tracks to grow our income base. One is expanding the service income we receive from private tours by proactively contacting various groups and businesses to inform them of this opportunity. The second is to widen our reach to individual donors, foundations, grantors, and businesses to ask for support.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Come to our season opener on September 21st!

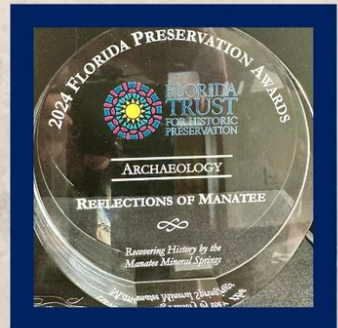
If you are part of a social group, living facility, or business that gets members together to explore the community, let us know who we should contact. Our private tours are \$10 an individual for a 1 1/2 hour docent-led tour. Members are always free.

If you know board members at local philanthropic groups, we'd love an introduction. Or if your business can make a donation to sponsor an event, we'd love that too!

Contact us at [reflectionsofmanatee@msn.com](mailto:reflectionsofmanatee@msn.com)

## Reflection of Manatee Receives Preservation Award

The Florida Trust for Historic Preservation presented Reflections of Manatee an award for excellence in archaeology for its 2021 Recovering History by the Manatee Mineral Spring project.



The archaeological project revealed material evidence of the Angola maroon settlement, including post molds and other features, an intact barrel well and belongings that point to global connections and daily activities at the site, and painted a clearer view of everyday life in the Village of Manatee during 1840-1880. The project was a highly successful collaboration among nonprofit organizations, academic institutions and governmental agencies, providing a deeper understanding of the cultural and historical context of this crucial avenue for trade, transportation and communication since the earliest human occupation. Reflections curates the archaeological collections and exhibits selected items in its Archaeology of Freedom and Manatee Settlement rooms.

# PIONEER FIELD DAY

## REFLECTIONS OF MANATEE PIONEER FIELD DAY



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**BRADENTON**



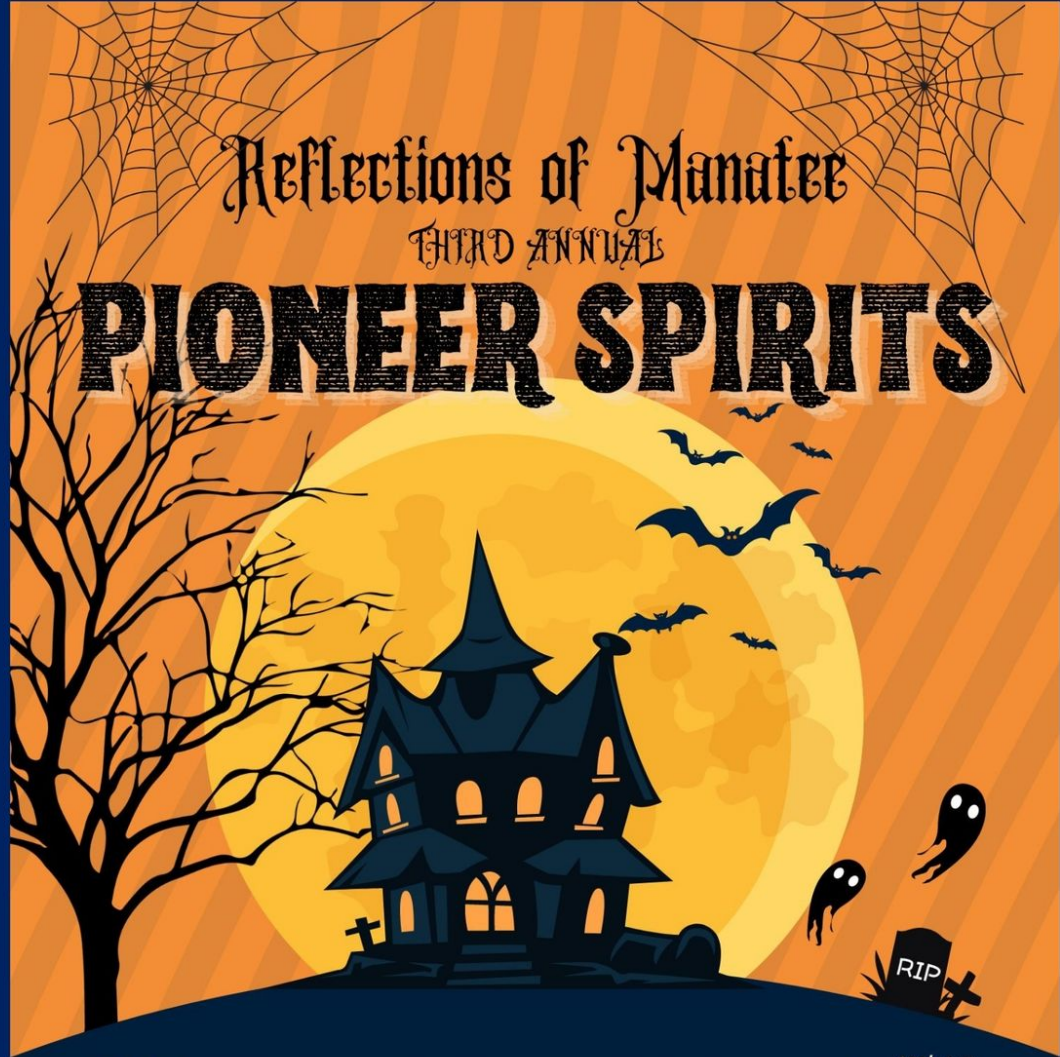
# BACK TO ANGOLA 2024



Oak Tree Community Outreach once again welcomes the public to celebrate the annual Back to Angola Festival honoring the ongoing legacy of the Angola Freedom Seekers.

Join us for music, food, retail therapy, and junkanoo rush out!

October 19, 2024  
Time TBD



# Reflections of Manatee

## THIRD ANNUAL

# PIONEER SPIRITS

**OCT**  
**25 & 26**  
**2024**  
**8-10 PM**

TOUR OUR HISTORIC HOUSES WITH A COSTUMED GUIDE  
PARTICIPATE IN A HOME WAKE  
WITNESS MADAME LARUE SEEK THE OTHER REALM  
ATTEND A 1920'S STYLE HALLOWEEN PARTY

Reflections of Manatee  
1302 4th Ave. E  
Bradenton, FL 34208

\$20/adult  
\$10/child 10-17  
Children must be  
accompanied by  
an adult  
Not recommended  
for children under  
10  
Tickets available  
soon!!!