


## The President's Corner



Happy end of summer, everyone! Having survived the heat of July and August, the Florida native plants in our front yard are taking over their trellises. Bursting with blooms, they are also alive with caterpillars, cocoons, and dancing butterflies. The Visitors Center front porch provides a great front row seat.

As we head into October, there is a lot happening inside and outside the museum with many ways for you to participate. The season kicks off on Saturday, the 10th. A **new lecture by Ofelia Diaz-Uribe on The Columbian Interchange on a Florida Platter: Spanish, Native, and African Roots**, will be accompanied by some foods inspired by this talk. That same day will premier our **"Music on the Porch"** series. **The GoodTimers** will be bringing their brand of soft rock, blues, and country to help us wind down the afternoon and welcome the ever earlier sunset. On the 13th we have our **first student field trip of the year** and we can't wait to share all the new hands-on learning activities we've designed for these fourth and fifth graders. On the 18th, we welcome **Council member Lisa Moore** for the second of our "Conversations on the Porch" series. And on the 24th, we have a new seasonal program, **Dressed for Death: An Evening of Victorian Mourning Traditions**, which will be held in our Victorian era Curry house.

We continue to be busy out in the community. As recent members of the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, we are learning more about community involvement and partnerships not just in our East Bradenton neighborhood, but in the Greater Bradenton area. Jean is volunteering with the Manatee Chamber of Commerce Big Bank Theory Program, which teaches financial literacy to high school students. We have been invited to speak to the Manasota DAR, the students at St Stephen's Episcopal School, and State College of Florida. On October 24th we'll be attending the **Manatee County Preservation and Heritage Awards** at the Manatee Village Historic Park. We nominated our founders, Trudy and Jeff Williams, so join us in supporting them as awards are announced. It'll be a busy month! Hope we'll see you here.

# Our Community Museum




Reflections is continuing to collect responses for **our community survey**. It only takes 1**0 minutes to complete**. It helps us **create programming that is interesting** to you, as well as giving us strong data for grant applications. If you have already completed the survey, please do not take it again. We have tablets with the survey available at Reflections if you prefer to stop by and complete it here.



## Blooms and Butterflies



Our **native perennials** survived the drought and came back with an abundance of blooms that drew an **absolute flurry of pollinators** over the last few weeks. We spotted at least **10 different native species of butterflies** and around 6 or 7 different species of bees. In fact, our executive director found a **bee so pollen drunk upside down in a flower it didn't notice her intrusion!** The flurry is slowing down a bit now, but we are seeing more caterpillars and cocoons so we are **anticipating another exciting butterfly cycle** in the near future. Come out and help us keep an eye on the lifecycle of our native pollinators or just enjoy the cooling weather on our porch while watching the show.

**Our Community Museum Survey Link**



# Touring History





Reflections of Manatee was pleased to welcome **Sister Cities Association of Sarasota** for our first group tour of the fall season. They learned about the **Cuban ranchos, the Freedom Seekers, the Manatee settlement, and the archaeological excavations** conducted in the Mineral Spring Park. Thank you for coming up! If you would like to schedule a tour for your group please contact director@reflectionsofmanatee.org.



# Upcoming Events



## We have numerous events planned for October.

- On **Saturday the 10th** we are hosting **The Columbian Interchange on a Florida Platter,** a **free lecture with light refreshments**. The lecture will begin at 11 AM in the Visitor Center.
- In the **afternoon of Oct. 10th,** we are welcoming **local band The GoodTimers** for our first Music on the Porch series starting at **5 PM at the Visitor Center**. **Bring a chair, blanket, and picnic!**
- On **October 18th** we are hosting our second **Conversation on the Porch** with **Councilwoman Lisa Moore**. Come out and discuss the community with us.
- Wrapping up our busy **October on the 24th** we are pleased to offer **Dressed for Death: An Evening of Victorian Mourning Traditions**. This event is **$5 at the door or in advance**. **Family friendly!**
- **October 31st during regular hours we will be welcoming young trick or treaters who wish to practice with or show-off their costumes.**







Stay tuned for an **update on our comic books** and **other fun and educational events planned in November. See the flyers below for more information on our October opportunities.**



# Reflections of Manatee

## *Lecture Series Presents*

## Ofelia Diaz-Uribe



### The Columbian Interchange on a Florida Platter: Spanish, Native, and African Roots

This lecture explores **La Florida's pivotal role as the geographic epicenter of the Columbian Interchange**: how beginning with Spanish exploration in the early 15th century, the collision of the Old and New Worlds triggered an immediate and irreversible ripple effect. The presentation focuses on how **local ecosystems, Indigenous societies, and global foodways were permanently altered in Florida** and beyond, tracing how the influence of this food exchange impacted politics and trade worldwide.

Ofelia M. Uribe is a bilingual storyteller, performing arts instructor, and living history educator who brings culture and history to life through the arts.

Saturday Oct 10th
11:00 AM- 12:30 PM
1305 4th Ave E
Bradenton, FL 34208

Light refreshments will be served

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Free Admission

# Music on the Porch @ Reflections of Manatee

*Featuring*

## The Goodtimers




*Bring a chair, blanket, and picnic!*

October 10th 5-7 PM
1305 4th Ave E.
Bradenton, FL




# CONVERSATIONS ON THE PORCH AT REFLECTIONS OF MANATEE

Join us for a meaningful discussion with **Councilwoman Lisa Moore** about our Bradenton community, our roots within it, how communities are formed, and the ways we contribute to improving them.



October 18 | 1:30–2:30 PM
Reflections of Manatee,
1305 4th Ave E, Bradenton, FL
Free & Open to the Public



# Reflections of Manatee

*Presents*

## DRESSED FOR DEATH: AN EVENING OF VICTORIAN MOURNING TRADITIONS



Come visit our 1860 Sam G. house while it's dressed for a **Victorian wake**! Learn how the people of Old Manatee conducted wakes and memorialized the dead. You will also have the opportunity to see a display of authentic **memento mori, death photographs, and decorations**. This tour **brings death to life**! Join us and take home your own memento mori.

## Crystal Kopp



Crystal has a Masters in Museum Studies and is a local historical interpreter with a deep interest in the Victorian era. She specializes in fashion, manners, customs, and traditions, including those that governed how people experienced death. Come out and see her personal collection of memento mori.

**$5 at the door or in advance by scanning the QR code**

**Gather for the Wake**
**Saturday October 24th 4-6 PM**
**1305 4th Ave E**
**Bradenton, FL 34208**

**Dressed for Death Tickets Here**

Reflections of Manatee

www.reflectionsofmanatee.org