

# CONNECTION



**ON THE AIR**  
*With Tyrus  
Clutter*

**INVESTING  
IN WORKFORCE**  
*Addressing Statewide  
Shortages*

**APPLETON  
MUSEUM**  
*Annual Report*

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IN WORKFORCE*  
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### ON THE COVER:

Gavin Alexander Riley-Morales at the Learning Lab School, which provides real-life experience for students in Early Childhood Education pathways.

Connection magazine is published twice each year by the College of Central Florida for alumni and friends of the college. The magazine's editorial staff strives to inform, engage and inspire readers through stories about the college's contributions to the community.

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# My View

*Letter from the President*



The College of Central Florida continues to expand our programs to better meet the needs of our students, local employers and the communities we serve in Marion, Citrus and Levy counties.

In this issue, you'll learn how we are enhancing our workforce programs to help alleviate the statewide shortages of nurses, teachers and law enforcement officers. You'll see that CF has once again been honored as one of the top 150 colleges in the nation by the Aspen Institute for its focus on student success, which ensures that our graduates are prepared for the workforce or transfer to a bachelor's program at CF or with one of our university partners. You'll see photos from the groundbreaking celebration for our Center for Nursing and meet the president of the CF Alumni Association. You can review the Appleton Museum's annual report and catch up on the latest news from the CF Foundation.

We've included save the date information for some events you won't want to miss in 2024, including the annual Night at the Farm Gala, the CF Theatre spring musical and the Ira Holmes International Film Series.

We thank you for your past support and invite you to discover new ways to connect with our community's college.

James D. Henningsen, Ed.D.  
CF President

*We transform lives and enrich our community by providing  
a supportive, high-quality learning environment that  
prepares individuals to excel in work and life.*

# We Are the Champions

*The CF Baseball team won the National Junior College Athletic Association  
World Series on June 3, capping off the greatest season in school history  
and bringing home CF's first baseball national championship.*



Todd Bennett, official photographer for JUCO World Series



# Investing in Workforce

*CF is expanding training programs to address statewide shortages in critical positions.*



***We are supporting Gov. DeSantis' goal of making Florida the number one state in the nation for workforce education by 2030.***

**-HENNINGSEN**

With our state experiencing critical personnel shortages, CF is in the midst of the largest workforce expansion in the history of the college that will benefit students and our Marion, Citrus and Levy county communities.

"We continue to be focused on our mission of transforming lives, which also enriches our community," said Dr. Jim Henningsen, CF president. "At the same time, we are supporting Gov. DeSantis' goal of making Florida the number one state in the nation for workforce education by 2030."

CF's strategic partnerships are allowing the college to train the professionals of tomorrow, who will help alleviate Florida's critical shortages of teachers, law enforcement officers, nurses and more.

## EXPANDING TEACHER EDUCATION

Together with partners Marion County Public Schools and CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion, CF is helping train and retain new teachers.

CF has partnered with MCPS for the Aspiring Educator Pathway, which supports noninstructional team members interested in pursuing a teaching career.

CF's Pathways to Permanent Certification initiative created four new college credit courses to help teachers on temporary teaching certificates become qualified to earn their permanent teaching license. These complement several existing courses, which allows CF to offer all the classes an individual might need to satisfy this requirement. CF faculty members Jong Ash, Suzanne Breder and Lori Witkovich called on their K-12 backgrounds to create these courses, which will continue to be offered year-round to support the certification of K-12 classroom teachers and ease the teacher shortage. In summer 2023, CareerSource CLM provided tuition assistance to 31 students to help cover their enrollment expenses for these courses.

The college is now preparing to train an estimated 300-400 teachers who will need to enroll in at least one course to finalize their teaching license.

## EXPANDING CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING

The Criminal Justice Institute at CF is a regional leader in training law enforcement and correctional officers. When the college received Open Door Grant funding from the Florida Legislature, it partnered with the Marion County Sheriff's Office and Ocala Police Department to disburse funds that support law enforcement recruits attaining certification. By helping to reduce expenses and barriers to completion, CF is working to increase the number of qualified graduates to fill open law enforcement jobs.

Funding of more than \$17 million from the Florida Legislature will allow the college to construct a new Criminal Justice Instruction Center at the Ocala Campus to house expanded programs with state-of-the-art simulation labs, classrooms and training space, as well as add an Associate in Science degree in Fire Science. Projected opening of the instruction center is 2026.



Members of the CF leadership team, from left, Dr. Jennifer Fryns, Chris Knife, Dr. Vernon Lawter, Dr. Jim Henningsen, Dr. Stephanie Cortes, Dr. Saul Reyes and Dr. Tammi Viviano-Broderick

## EXPANDING NURSING EDUCATION

November 2023 marks the 60th anniversary of the college's Debbie Ressler Nursing Program, which is growing faster than ever thanks to community support.

On Sept. 21, CF welcomed more than 200 community partners, faculty, staff and students to a groundbreaking for the Center for Nursing, held in partnership with the Ocala Metro Chamber & Economic Partnership.

"I am so proud to stand here with you as we break ground for this building and produce the critically needed talent for our local workforce," said Joyce Brancato, chair of the CF District Board of Trustees. "I am so proud of the college's creative solutions that delivered this project at a lower cost to Florida taxpayers, and I am proud of the partnerships between the city, the state and the local level that assisted CF to create and help us build this critical need and see it come to reality."

Construction is underway on the \$20 million capital expansion project, with funding provided by the Florida Legislature, Marion County Hospital District and Marion County Commission. The two-story, 42,500-gross-square-foot building will include six classrooms, three skills labs, six

simulation exam rooms and a testing lab. It will serve 325 Nursing students in associate and bachelor's degree programs. Classes in the new building are expected to start in January 2025.

On Aug. 23, staff from AdventHealth Ocala and CF Nursing faculty and students celebrated with a ribbon cutting for a new dedicated education unit at the hospital.

"Our clinical team is excited to partner with the College of Central Florida on this program to provide a personalized learning experience to CF nursing students," said Dr. Trish Price, AdventHealth Ocala vice

president and chief nursing officer. "We have dedicated it just to the students of CF during their practicum, so no other students will be on the unit during that time."

Dr. Stephanie Cortes, CF associate vice president of Health Sciences, explained that the unit gives students more personalized clinical experience working directly with nurses.

"It's an opportunity for students to get additional experience with patient care," she said. "The hospital staff are really giving back to students in a unique way."



CF Nursing students at the Center for Nursing groundbreaking

# News

from our campuses



From left, Marion County Public Schools internship facilitator Julie Connolly with Dr. Jim Henningsen and Dr. Jennifer Fryns, vice president, CF Workforce Development and Innovation

## CF AGAIN NAMED TO TOP 150 COLLEGES LIST

The college has been recognized by the Aspen Institute as one of 150 institutions eligible to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among two-year colleges. The institutions selected for this honor stand out among more than 1,000 community colleges nationwide as having high and improving levels of student success. It is the sixth time that CF has made the prestigious list.

"Recognition by the Aspen Institute reflects the commitment by CF faculty and staff to our students and our belief in the power of education to transform lives and enrich our community," said Dr. Jim Henningsen, CF president. "We continue to focus on what is best for our students and are looking forward to providing the additional documentation to show that we are one of the best colleges in the nation."

## CF DONATES HEALTH EQUIPMENT TO MARION AND CITRUS SCHOOLS

Health sciences students at Marion County and Citrus County public schools will have more hands-on opportunities to learn basic patient care thanks to donations from CF.

In June the college transferred 12 hospital beds and 17 high-tech simulators — valued at \$67,000 — to Marion County Public Schools. The electric beds allow middle and high school students to learn on equipment used in hospitals. The Laerdal VitalSim-enabled manikins simulate heart, breath and bowel sounds, helping students learn to take vital signs and blood pressure readings as well as other basic nursing skills. An additional five hospital suites with high-tech manikins valued at \$13,600 were provided to Citrus County Public Schools.

The donations were made possible after CF received grant funds through the Florida Department of Education Linking Industry to Nursing Education grant, created by

the Florida Legislature, which allowed the college to purchase new simulators for nursing students.

"This is the ripple effect of funding," said Dr. Jim Henningsen, CF president. "Because of the tremendous support the college received from the Florida Legislature and the Citrus County Hospital Board, who provided the initial investment to be matched by the state, we can now gift this training equipment to our public school partners. We're excited to help younger students interested in health care careers get an earlier start with hands-on learning."

## CF COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TO OPEN IN 2024

CF and Marion County Public Schools have partnered to offer CF Collegiate Academy, which expands dual enrollment opportunities beyond the Associate in Arts to include Associate in Science pathways — all at no cost to the student or family.



CF Criminal Justice students, in uniform, with Dr. Jim Henningsen, Dr. Jennifer Fryns and Ocala Police Department Chief Mike Balken

This new opportunity begins fall 2024 at the CF Ocala Campus, allowing eligible Marion County students to complete programs that lead directly to career opportunities in accounting, agribusiness, computer information technology, criminal justice, early childhood education, emergency medical services, engineering technology, equine studies, office administration, paralegal, supply chain management, and many more fields.

Students pursuing limited-access programs such as Nursing may complete all required prerequisites for a seamless transition into the Associate in Science program upon high school graduation.

Students will apply to the CF Collegiate Academy as a magnet program in eighth grade, remain at their base high school in grades 9 and 10 while completing required high school courses, and then become full-time dual enrollment students at the CF Ocala Campus or online in grades 11 and 12. Academy students choose from an A.A. or A.S. pathway and make as much progress toward the degree as possible prior to high school graduation. They will have access to all of the resources, support services and engagement opportunities offered at CF.

## CF GRANT SUPPORTS OCALA POLICE DEPARTMENT

On June 21, Dr. Jim Henningsen, CF president, presented Ocala Police Department Chief Mike Balken with a check for \$7,070.16 to help support the police

department in accordance with the Open Door Grant Program.

The program was created by the Florida Legislature in 2021 to create and sustain a demand-driven supply of credentialed workers for high-need occupations and expand the affordability of workforce training and credentialing.

CF was the recipient of \$267,453 in Open Door funding and has disbursed funds by partnering with law enforcement agencies including the Marion County Sheriff's Office and the Ocala Police Department, which are experiencing an increased need for qualified, well-trained law enforcement personnel.

## CF SELECTED AS AMAZON EDUCATION PARTNER



CF was selected in July as an education partner for Amazon's Career Choice program, providing Amazon's part-time and full-time employees access to all 170 of CF's degree and certificate programs.

Amazon's Career Choice program is an education benefit that empowers employees to learn new skills for career success at Amazon or elsewhere. The program meets individual learners where they are through a variety of education and upskilling opportunities including prepaid college tuition, industry certifications designed to

lead to in-demand jobs, and foundational skills such as English language proficiency, high school diplomas and GED diplomas. In the U.S., the company is investing \$1.2 billion to upskill more than 300,000 employees by 2025 to help move them into higher paying, in-demand jobs.

At CF, students can upskill with a short-term certificate, earn an Associate in Arts degree for university transfer, learn specialized workplace skills with a two-year Associate in Science degree, or pursue a four-year bachelor's degree. CF's Associate in Science in Supply Chain Management is expressly designed for logistics and supply chain employers such as Amazon. Night, weekend and online classes provide options for students needing flexible schedules.

## CF WELDING WELCOMES A COBOT

The CF Welding program, offered at the Jack Wilkinson Levy Campus, has acquired a new Lincoln Electric® Cobot. This is brand-new technology in the industry, and CF is currently the only institution in the state that has this equipment. The machine allows the operator to program a robotic arm to complete the identified welding process.

The Cobot provides students the opportunity to earn FANUC certification in robotic welding, a high-skill, high-wage career opportunity. This technology already is being used by a few local employers and is expected to be adopted by more as the field of welding continues to innovate the manufacturing process.

# Applause

*for our students, faculty and staff*

## STUDENT APPOINTED TO STATE COMMITTEE

CF Teacher Education bachelor's degree student **Gavin Alexander Riley-Morales**, pictured on the cover, has been selected to represent CF on the Florida Department of Education Articulation Coordinating Committee. As a student representative on this statewide committee, he will help review the Associate in Arts to bachelor's degree transfer student experience and work to improve the transfer process. Riley-Morales earned an Associate in Arts degree at CF and is a junior in the Bachelor of Science Early Childhood Education program.

## STUDENT EXCELS IN INTERNSHIP

CF student **Hernan Gonzalez** spent the summer in the nation's capital after he was selected for The Washington Center's Advance Leadership Internship Program.



CF student Hernan Gonzalez, *fourth from left*, poses with other interns in The Washington Center program.

As a member of the Global Language Network outreach team, he forged alliances with diverse organizations and taught Spanish to local residents. Gonzalez was accepted into the prestigious 2023 Building the TOMODACHI Generation Morgan Stanley Ambassadors Program. He earned first place in the civil society project presentation for a collaborative project addressing gender stereotypes, completed with peers from Japan.

"This transformative experience connected me with people from all over the world, leaving me profoundly grateful for the growth and connections fostered," Gonzalez said.

His participation in The Washington Center program was made possible by the CF Foundation's Sarala Ramkrishna Karve Endowed Chair, awarded to faculty members Sam Ajlani and Dr. Pete Nicely in 2022.

## BEGLEY RECEIVES STATE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



Dr. Mary Ann Begley

In September, **Dr. Mary Ann Begley**, director of compliance and planning, was recognized with the 2023 Florida College System Activities Association Bob Graham Distinguished Service Award.

Each year, a faculty or staff member from one the 28 FCS institutions is selected for their truly caring nature that has made their college a better place to learn.

Begley was nominated by the Ocala Student Activities Board for her role in helping SAB and the student Board of Presidents and Advisors plan and host programs.

## CF RECOGNIZED AS TREE CAMPUS

For the 14th year, CF has earned Tree Campus Higher Education recognition for its dedication to campus forestry management and environmental stewardship.

"Trees on campus provide shaded green areas for studying and gathering, improving students' mental and cognitive health and creating an appealing aesthetic," said

Elena Amesbury, CF associate professor of biological sciences and chair of the Sustainability and Tree Advisory Committee. "Trees help lower energy costs and provide cleaner air and water."

Tree Campus Higher Education is a national program of the Arbor Day Foundation that honors colleges, universities and their leaders for promoting healthy management of their campus forests and for engaging the community in environmental stewardship.



# Honoring Dr. Jillian Ramsammy

*CF celebrates the retirement of a valued vice president.*



CF faculty, staff and community members gathered for a festive reception in June to celebrate the retirement of Dr. Jillian Ramsammy, vice president of Institutional Effectiveness and College Relations.

"Dr. Ramsammy brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the College of Central Florida," said Dr. Jim Henningsen, CF president. "Our Appleton Museum, and the Marketing and Institutional Effectiveness teams thrived under her leadership. She served the college, our students and community in an exemplary fashion and will be deeply missed."

Ramsammy's career spanned more than three decades of championing the arts and education, including more than 20 years at CF. Her service to CF began as manager of Operations, Cultural and Conference Centers in 2002. She moved on to direct the Hampton Center beginning in 2006, then was promoted to executive director of College and Community Relations in 2010. She would enjoy a stint as interim executive director of the Appleton Museum of Art before advancing to vice president in 2014.

Ramsammy earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts at Pratt Institute in New York, master's degree in Communication from Hunter College, and doctorate in Higher Education Administration from the University of Florida. She combined her love of the arts with her strategic planning acumen to help the Appleton Museum earn the prestigious American Alliance of Museums accreditation in 2013 and reaccreditation in 2023. In her Institutional Effectiveness role, she led the college's strategic planning and reaccreditation processes, as well as a prolific grant-writing team. She also inspired the award-winning Marketing and Public Relations team.

Ramsammy volunteered for numerous organizations that benefit the community including the AdventHealth Foundation, Governor's West Neighborhood Revitalization Council, Hospice of Marion County, the Ocala Municipal Arts Commission and the Ocala Royal Dames for Cancer Research, as well as more than a dozen others.

"Dr. Ramsammy was always a thoughtful and gracious leader, as well as a wonderful colleague," said Dr. Saul Reyes, vice president of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. "She knows the importance of data and stories, which was invaluable as she collaborated on numerous collegewide improvement initiatives."

Ramsammy is recognized and respected for leading with love and compassion. In typical fashion, she used her remarks at her retirement reception to extend thanks to her team for their support, time working together as peers, and camaraderie as they focused on serving the college, students and the community.



Demètre Chiparus (Romanian, 1886-1947), "Les Amis Toujours (Friends Forever)," c. 1925, Cold-painted and patinated gilt bronze, ivory and marble, 25 x 25 x 7 1/4 in. Gift of Arthur I. Appleton.

# At the Appleton

Oct. 14, 2023-Jan. 14, 2024  
*SKYLINES TO HEMLINES*  
*Art Deco Design from the Appleton's Permanent Collection*

Curated and displayed for the first time ever from the Appleton's impressive permanent collection of Art Deco objects, "Skylines to Hemlines" offers an introductory overview to early 20th century fine and decorative arts, architecture, design, fashion, jewelry and more created in the interwar period.

Art Deco, from the French *Arts Décoratifs*, originated in France around the time that World War I (1914-1918) began and spread across the globe for a short-lived but brilliant period that ended with the onset of World War II in 1939.

Art Deco grew from a hub of design-centric activity happening in France at that time, including artists working in the Art Nouveau style — an ornamental movement that, like Art Deco, was broad based and applied to just about everything, particularly the decorative arts. Out of Art Nouveau's swirling, ornate curves and flowers came Art Deco's bold and striking geometric shapes, lines and colors.

Propelling the Art Deco movement was France's desire to compete with Germany and develop its own style. This swept across everything from architecture to

furniture and fashion. Cartier, for example, began designing elaborate pieces during the Art Deco period, which many consider to be the golden era of the jewelry house. In addition to strikingly bejeweled necklaces, objects such as vanity and cigarette cases, compacts, clocks, watches and more reflected the Art Deco style — some of which can be seen in the exhibition.

Also during this time, new technologies improved worldwide communications and globetrotting gained popularity due to advanced machine-powered travel and transport across air, land and sea. As a result, Art Deco taste-maker trends reverberated across the globe showing that cultures all over the world interacted with and reacted quickly to one another despite the distance. Art Deco at its height was ubiquitous — from the hemline of one's clothing to the silhouette of a skyscraper punctuating the skyline. Even a century later, the iconic Art Deco style is still beloved and admired.

More than 150 objects tell the story of this movement, from its beginnings in France to how it was adapted across neighboring continents and the world.

To see our full schedule of exhibits and events, visit  
[AppletonMuseum.org](http://AppletonMuseum.org).

# On the Air

A new podcast will feature interviews with artists whose work is exhibited at the Appleton Museum and Webber Gallery.



Pictured in the CF podcast studio in the CF Webber Center, student Jose Conde-Rivera and Professor Tyrus Clutter

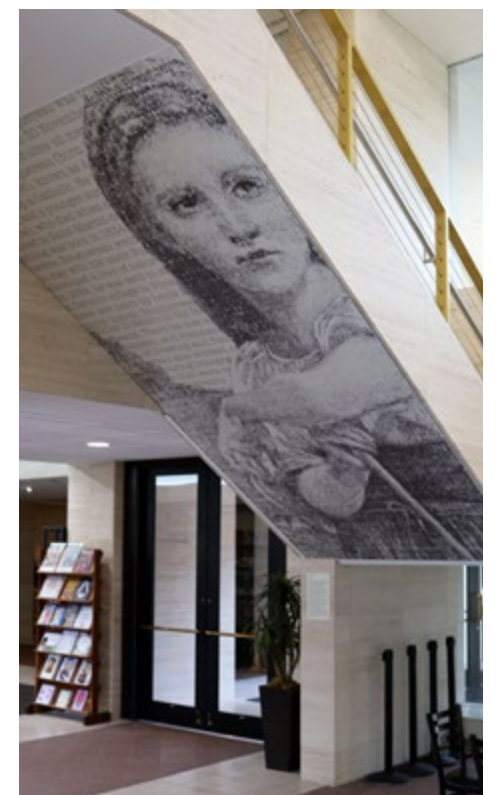
In his 13 years of teaching at CF, Professor Tyrus Clutter has established a close relationship with the Appleton. He recently was the inaugural featured artist of the "Art on the Up and Up" lobby mural installation project. As the primary fine arts instructor in the Visual and Performing Arts Department, he's been incorporating museum visits into his curricula semester after semester. Now, thanks to an award from the CF Foundation, Clutter will share artist interviews with art lovers around the world.

During Fall Convocation, Clutter was awarded the Robinson Federal Endowment Challenge Endowed Chair for a project that will bring together artists and CF students, using technology to enhance learning. Traditionally, Clutter assigned his students to visit the Appleton or Webber Gallery and write essays on the works of art they observed. Then, in 2020, the pandemic forced Clutter to reimagine this assignment, as the museum and gallery were closed to the public for a time. He observed that online group assignments were a great way for students to still develop visual analysis

skills while having the added benefit of working with peers — much like in his in-person group critiques.

With this in mind, Clutter's new project will provide students with the opportunity to use CF's podcast studio and equipment to interview artists who will be exhibiting at the Appleton and the Webber Gallery. Once the questions are developed and the artists interviewed, the content will be edited and made available to the public. The first few podcasts will include interviews with all four artists featured in the Webber's recent installation art biennial, "The Gap Between Art and Life." Upcoming content will include a Q&A with Matthew Bennett, who painted "Primary Color," a visitor favorite at the Appleton.

This multiyear endeavor will be an enriching opportunity for students to engage with and learn from contemporary, working artists while completing important curricula milestones for their degrees. Podcasts will be released on a free platform in 2024, making programming from the museum and gallery accessible to a global audience.



Clutter's "Art on the Up and Up" vinyl, inspired by William-Adolphe Bouguereau's "The Shepherdess."



2022-2023

# Annual Report

*The Appleton Museum of Art continues to successfully bring art and people together in new and meaningful ways.*

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Over the last year, the Appleton Museum of Art achieved impressive milestones that furthered our 2023-2028 strategic goals and reaffirmed our place in the

community and beyond as an exceptional resource for art and education.

In early 2023, the Appleton successfully passed rigorous peer review to be awarded with reaccreditation by the American Alliance of Museums. This accreditation signifies excellence within the museum community, local, state and national governments, funders, outside agencies and to the museum-going public. Initially awarded to the Appleton in 2013,

accreditation is held by less than 5% of museums in the United States. The AAM is the only organization representing the entire scope of the museum community, and receiving this designation is truly an achievement.

In addition, the Appleton announced a new five-year strategic plan that is guiding the museum through 2028. Through staff and community input, six goals were identified with objectives and measures that ensure the museum continues to be a leading cultural institution while invigorating the visitor experience and facility.

In 2022-2023, the Appleton team expanded its wide-ranging offerings of exhibitions, programs and educational opportunities at the museum, as well as across CF's tricounty service district of Marion, Citrus and Levy counties. Attendance numbers this year tallied an impressive 46,095 — an increase of more than 30% from 2021-2022. Attendance figures testify to our

stewardship of the museum's world-class collection of more than 24,000 objects and our commitment to providing access to the arts for all.

Donations received throughout the year added works of art across multiple mediums that enhanced the permanent collections, while grant funding bolstered programming and community access to the museum.

We continue to be thankful for all of our members who supported the museum through their membership dues, active participation in our programming and advocacy for the museum and the arts.

With our updated strategic plan in hand and a full schedule of programming on the horizon, we look forward to the new year.

Jason Steuber,  
Director, Appleton Museum of Art

# Acquisitions

*In 2022-2023, the Appleton Museum of Art was gifted and accessioned 95 works of art from 10 private donors.*

These important works originally hail from across the globe and span an array of collecting areas, media and time periods, and increase the permanent collection of approximately 24,000 objects by 0.4%. These donations bolstered the

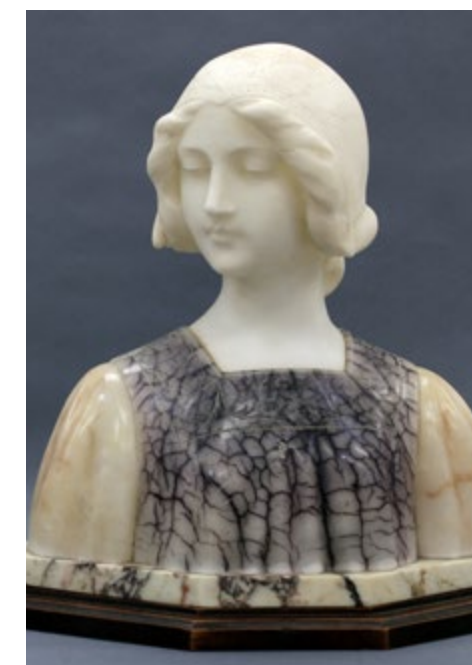
already world-class European, Modern, Contemporary, Asian and Equine collections while establishing a broader representation of contemporary Florida artists and photography. The Appleton is grateful and proud to steward these private gifts into

the future for many generations of visitors to enjoy through exhibition, educational programming and publications.

For the full list of 2022-2023 acquisitions, see the annual report at [AppletonMuseum.org](http://AppletonMuseum.org).



Janet Fish (American, b. 1938), "Roadmap," 1988, Watercolor on paper, 34 1/4 x 45 3/4 in. Aid for the Arts, via Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) 2021 Transfer.



Auguste-Henri Carli (French, 1868-1930), "Dutch Woman," Marble, 15 3/8 x 14 1/4 in. Gift of the Estate of Mary Ann Cofrin.

# Exhibitions

"Invented Observations: Photographs by Steven Benson," April 26-Nov. 13, 2022

"Appleton Studio Art Showcase," May 9-Aug. 6, 2022

"Finding Beauty: A Collaborative Exhibition with Ocala Civic Theatre," May 13, 2022-Jan. 15, 2023

"Connecting Pop," June 13-Nov. 13, 2022

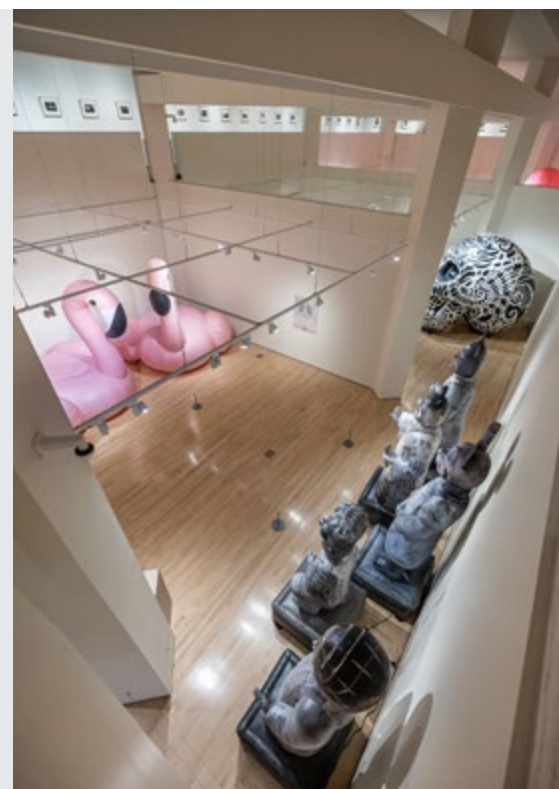
"Dianora Niccolini: Works from the Permanent Collection," Aug. 8-Oct. 16, 2022

"Sintiempo la Exposición: Works from the Permanent Collection," Aug. 12, 2022-Jan. 8, 2023

"Eighth Annual Mobile Photography Exhibition," Aug. 18-Sept. 11, 2022

"BLOW UP II: Inflatable Contemporary Art," Oct. 8-Dec. 11, 2022

*At right, Susan Lee-Chun, "Untitled (Flamingos only hang by the pool)," 2019, Nylon fabric and electric fans, 11 x 11 x 12 ft. (each), on view in "BLOW UP II."*



"A Dickens Christmas: The Urban Family's Holiday Exhibition," Nov. 8, 2022-Jan. 8, 2023

"Paper Thin & Shadow Deep: Hiromi Mizugai Moneyhun's Hand-Cut Paper Works," Dec. 3, 2022-June 18, 2023

"Pre Post Poetic: Hand-Stitched Collages by Debora Greger," Dec. 3, 2022-June 18, 2023

"Big & Bold: In Modern and Contemporary Art," Dec. 16, 2022-May 21, 2023

"Elements of Art," Youth Art Exhibition, Jan. 11-Feb. 5, 2023

"The Shape of Things: Op Art and Geometric Abstraction," Jan. 14-April 9, 2023

"License Plate Tag Art," Youth Art Exhibition, Jan. 17-Feb. 12, 2023

"Focus on the Essence: The Photography of Anne Noggle," Jan. 21-April 9, 2023

"Arts4All Florida," Youth Art Exhibition, Feb. 21-March 5, 2023

"Young in Art," Youth Art Exhibition, March 21-April 23, 2023

"Heroes: Works from the Permanent Collection," April 15-Aug. 20, 2023

"Superintendent's Art Show," Youth Art Exhibition, April 25-May 7, 2023

## MEMBERSHIP

■ In 2022-2023, \$74,805 was collected through annual memberships, reflecting 1,517 members.

■ The Appleton's largest membership category is the upper-level Director's Circle, followed by Individual Senior and Dual Senior.

■ From 2021-2022, both senior categories increased — Individual Senior with the most significant increase of 48.5%, and Dual Senior by 8.67%.

# Arts for All

*Appleton staff provide access to the arts at the museum and across our tricounty communities.*

Year-round, the Appleton presents educational programming that brings in artists, scholars, historians and others who represent excellence in their fields and provides visitors access to a world of knowledge. Most programs are free with drop-in participation, ensuring that these learning moments are easy to attend and accessible to CF students, faculty, staff and the community.

Outside the gallery walls, Appleton outreach programs took place across the tricounty service area of Marion, Citrus and Levy counties. From distributing free bags of art supplies to in-classroom programs, the education team worked hard to serve individuals of all ages with limited access to the arts.

## 2022-2023 Programs

Gallery Tours with Steven Benson, Aug. 6, 2022

Appleton Book Club, “Rodin and Rilke,” Aug. 8, 2022

Maharajah Flamenco Trio performance, Sept. 15, 2022

Dr. Welton Tremura and Dr. José Valentino present “Latin American Music: Discovery Through Sound,” Sept. 18, 2022

Alpine Express Oktoberfest performance, Oct. 2, 2022

Hispanic Heritage Festival, Oct. 8, 2022

Dr. Rebecca Dominguez-Karimi presents “Treasures from Azatlan,” Oct. 8, 2022

Appleton Book Club, “Woman in Gold,” Nov. 8, 2022

Southern Express Big Band performance, Nov. 17, 2022

Gallery Tours with Debora Greger, Feb. 4, 2023

“Remembering Marion County’s African American Achievements” presented by Cynthia Wilson-Graham, Feb. 4, 2023

Gallery Tours with Hiromi Mizugai Moneyhun, March 4, 2023

“Medicine in Art” presented by Dr. Jose Gaudier, May 6, 2023



Oral historian, writer and podcaster Dr. Rebecca Dominguez-Karimi gave a talk in celebration of Hispanic heritage.

## FREE FIRST SATURDAYS

Thanks to local grant funding, the Appleton continued its second consecutive year of hosting Free First Saturdays, providing free admission for all on the first Saturday of each month. Attendance for the 2022-2023 season increased by 66% from the previous season. In addition to 11,670 individuals of all ages enjoying the exhibitions, other free programming held on these monthly free-admission days included musical performances, artist-led gallery tours, talks by historians and authors on culturally significant topics and film screenings. Highlights include free gallery tours led by contemporary Florida artists Hiromi Mizugai Moneyhun and Debora Greger, presentations on cultural heritage by Cynthia Wilson-Graham and Dr. Rebecca Dominguez-Karimi, and a talk on the

history of medicine as it appears in famous works of art throughout history, presented by Ocala neurologist Dr. Jose Gaudier.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In addition to a variety of rich learning opportunities on-site, 8,878 individuals were served through outreach programs, representing an impressive increased reach of 130%. These outreach efforts included Appleton-on-the-Go, which brings curricula to K-12 classrooms inspired by the museum’s permanent collection, as well as providing free activities at community events, leading presentations in schools and communities for seniors, and delivering art supplies to schools, groups and organizations that directly serve at-risk youth and adults.

# Hands-On Learning

*The museum offers a wide variety of arts education for children and adults.*

In 2022-2023, a full schedule of studio art offerings for pre-K through adult learners were offered on-site in our studios and online. A total of 924 individuals enrolled in a variety of paid classes from drawing and painting to printmaking and fashion. The Master Class series offered special workshops by visiting artists and gave those enrolled the opportunity to take their skills to the next level. Visiting artists were Hiromi Mizugai Moneyhun, who led a workshop on the art of Japanese papercutting, and CF Professor Tyrus Clutter, who led a workshop on cyanotype printmaking. In total, \$53,552 was brought in through class and workshop fees, adding to the museum’s annual earned income.

Other free programs hosted by the education department served 2,697 individuals and included the virtual Appleton Book Club, group visits, art activities, in-service days for regional teachers and more.



Vanessa Zumba-Gonzalez, education assistant, reads to children during the Museum & Me Pre-K program.

## 2022-2023 ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Community Representatives

Audrey Bell, community volunteer

Scott Canel, Appleton family representative

Diane Carter, Appleton family representative

Albert Goodman, Appleton family representative

Melanie Gordon-Crawford, community volunteer

Kent Guinn, community volunteer

Dr. Diane Gullett, community volunteer

Te'Sha Jackson, community volunteer

Judy Johnson, community volunteer

Mariann McClary, community volunteer

Ulli Monroe, community volunteer

Sonya Nasser, community volunteer

Olivia Ortiz, community volunteer

Elodie Perron, community volunteer

Susan Peters, community volunteer

Linda Potter, Appleton family representative

Caron Reid, community volunteer

Phil Rosenberg, board member, CF Foundation

### CF Representatives

Dr. Jennifer Fryns, vice president, Workforce Development and Innovation

Dr. James Henningsen, president

Chris Knife, vice president, Institutional Advancement and CEO, CF Foundation

Dr. Mark Paugh, vice president, Academic Affairs

Chuck Prince, vice president, Administration and Finance

Jason Steuber, director, Appleton Museum of Art



# Foundation News

*With the help of donors who believe in the economic, social and cultural impact of quality education, the CF Foundation is building promising futures for students.*



Pictured at Fall Convocation, from left: Chris Knife, Peggy Recanzone, Steve Schenk, Nancy Abshier, Tyrus Clutter and Dr. Jim Henningsen

## FOUNDATION AWARDS ENDOWED CHAIR AND NEW INITIATIVE GRANTS

At the start of the Fall 2023 semester, the College of Central Florida Foundation recognized faculty and staff with New Initiative and Endowed Chair awards at the college's Fall Convocation. The Endowed Chair and New Initiative Grant program was established more than 30 years ago to fund outstanding and transforming ideas that advance the learning and work environment for the college community. Since its inception, more than \$5.6 million has been awarded through the Endowed Chair and New Initiative Grants program.

"It is an honor and a privilege to administer the Endowed Chair and New Initiative Grant program each year," said Chris Knife, vice president of Institutional Advancement and CEO of the CF Foundation. "CF faculty and staff continue to push the bar by submitting outstanding ideas for funding consideration. This year's grant recipients will no doubt, through their projects, positively impact our students and college community."

This year, Peggy Recanzone, Health Sciences recruiter/outreach specialist, received a New Initiative Grant. Recanzone's project will enhance the college's effort to showcase available programs and careers in Health Sciences to middle and high school students

in Citrus and Levy counties. The Health Sciences division will host four days at which potential students will hear program presentations, be exposed to hands-on lab experiences and take campus tours.

Three endowed chairs were awarded this year, the first being the Charles P. (Chuck) Hiatt Endowed Chair – Business and Technology. This is the first time this chair has been awarded since being established in memory of Hiatt, a beloved CF Business and Technology faculty member. Nancy Abshier, associate professor of Business and Technology, was the recipient of this inaugural award. Abshier's project will offer career workshops, a speaker series and advising sessions to increase CF students' marketability to employers. This project will connect students with today's and tomorrow's career opportunities in the ever-changing learning economy.

The Dorothea G. Jerome Endowed Chair was awarded to Steve Schenk, associate professor of Biological Sciences at the Wilton Simpson Citrus Campus. Through his project, Schenk will work with students to create the Citrus Campus Biodiversity Trail, a self-guided tour that will highlight various elements of nature on the Citrus Campus.

The Robinson Federal Endowment Challenge Endowed Chair was awarded to Tyrus Clutter, associate professor of Visual and Performing Arts. Clutter is using the podcast studio that was partially created with a past endowment chair award to develop a new podcast series. The interviews will engage students and artists in critical discussion of the ideas, processes and materials used by artists to create their works.



From left: Ocala Lions Club President Lou Barnes, CF Foundation Director of Development Traci Mason, Billy Ward, Gary Adel and Chris Knife, vice president of Institutional Advancement and CEO of the CF Foundation

## OCALA LIONS CLUB ESTABLISHES NEW SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF BOB WARD

In August 2023, the Ocala Lions Club Bob Ward Memorial Scholarship was established for qualifying Marion County residents majoring in Education (Associate in Arts or Bachelor of Science) at the College of Central Florida. This new scholarship is in recognition of longtime Marion County educator Bob Ward, who passed away at age 96 in June 2022. He was a member of the Ocala Lions Club for 58 years.

Ward-Highlands Elementary School was named after Ward, whose career spanned 30 years with Marion County Public Schools. Ward began his career as a teacher at Ocala Junior High and he retired from Ward-Highlands, where he served as the school's first principal.

"We are very proud to honor Bob's memory with this new scholarship that will help students at CF fulfill their goals to major in education, giving them the opportunity to shape other students' futures," said Lou Barnes, president of the Ocala Lions Club. "It is a very fitting recognition given Bob's education background and how civic-minded he was. In addition to other community leadership awards, he was recognized as Lion of the Year several times."

The Ocala Lions Club has been a strong supporter of students at the College of Central Florida dating back to 2004, when members established the Lions Club of Ocala Endowed Scholarship for students who are hearing or visually impaired. The

club also established a nursing scholarship in 2008 in memory of Dr. Charles Henry Marks and Abe Shashy. The Bob Ward Memorial Scholarship is the Ocala Lions Club's third scholarship at CF.

"We are so appreciative of the Ocala Lions Club for their investment in students at CF," said Chris Knife, vice president for Institutional Advancement and CEO of the CF Foundation. "The gift of education is life changing and the club's newest scholarship supporting future educators is a most fitting way to remember Mr. Bob Ward."

## FLORIDA COLLEGE SYSTEM FOUNDATION SUPPORTS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

In September, the Florida College System Foundation donated \$34,452 to the CF Foundation to support student scholarships.

"This contribution is going to make a huge difference in the lives of many students, and we are grateful to the Florida College System for its ongoing support," said Chris Knife, vice president of Institutional Advancement and CEO of the CF Foundation.

The Florida College System Foundation donates more than \$100 million annually for student scholarships to the 28 state and community colleges in the Florida College System. With this most recent gift, the foundation has given more than \$544,000 to CF. The FCSF funds will be used to help first-generation college students, education majors and nursing students achieve their goals.

## PAYING IT FORWARD AND GIVING BACK: ONE DONOR'S STORY

Louise Mary Werner is committed to helping students succeed and recently shared with the CF Foundation her reason for giving. In memory of her late parents, she is establishing two scholarships and two endowed chairs at the College of Central Florida Foundation. Werner stated that giving back is a way for her to support her community and that she knows firsthand that getting a formal education is what helped her to live a better life.

Werner's mother was from Ukraine and her father was born in Belarus. During World War II, her mother was forced to go to Nazi Germany and work in a factory. Her father, who was in the Russian military, was wounded and taken as a prisoner of war by the German military. Upon his recovery, he was forced to work as a laborer on a German farm. Werner's parents met after the war ended and moved to the United States in 1950 to make a better life for themselves and their daughter.

"My parents encouraged me to get a good education and dreamed of me graduating from college. Every week my mother would put a meager amount of my father's salary into the bank. It was my college fund," said Werner. "My parents knew that a good education was essential for a better life."

She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies in 1967, a Master of Arts in Sociology in 1971, and a Master of Arts in Russian Language and Literature in 1972. Her education led to many rewarding jobs over the course of her career, but the ones she enjoyed most were sociology instructor and then Russian linguist for the U.S. government.

Werner said she discovered that there is no plateau to what one can learn, and that being open to and investigating new ideas, but not being led by them, has been enriching.

"Mrs. Werner's desire to give other students the opportunity she had to make a better life for themselves through education is the crux of what we do at the CF Foundation," said Chris Knife, vice president of Institutional Advancement and CEO of the CF Foundation. "Through the generosity of wonderful people like Mrs. Werner, we are able to help students make their dreams of receiving a college degree a reality."

For more information on the CF Foundation or how to establish a scholarship, call 352-873-5808 or visit [CF.edu/Foundation](https://CF.edu/Foundation).



# A Solid Foundation

*The president of the Alumni Association shares her thoughts on starting at CF.*

Henrietta Flanders, president of the CF Alumni Association, is a registered nurse who has been caring for patients in Ocala since 1996. She serves as the health center manager for Premise Health. Flanders earned both Associate in Science in Nursing and Associate in Arts degrees at CF, and stayed at CF to earn a Bachelor of Applied Science in Business and Organizational Management, specializing in Health Care Management. In 2017, she earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Webster University.



## **How do you feel CF and the Health Sciences program prepared you for your career?**

**Flanders:** CF gave me the building blocks for an unshakable foundation. While the Health Sciences program filled my toolbox with the tools that would help me combat the challenges of real-life nursing, the program was equipped with experienced, seasoned instructors who had full knowledge of what was to be expected in a professional setting. From the beginning of nursing school, I was allowed to participate in real-life experiences in diverse clinical settings. That hands-on, direct patient care gave me the confidence to provide care, problem solve and make critical clinical decisions while having health care professionals an arm's length away. Before finishing the nursing program, I had experiences working with infants, young adults, geriatrics and everyone in between with a multitude of illnesses. I not only work with the sick but also with the dying. Overall, this program has given me so much more than I could

have imagined when it came to my future in nursing and beyond.

## **You've earned multiple degrees and have had a successful career. Is there an accomplishment in your professional or personal life you feel particularly proud of?**

**Flanders:** I have achieved some pretty exciting things in my education, career and personal life. I am proud to have had all the opportunities in my life. One of my most memorable and greatest achievements is my soft-spoken, intelligent and strong daughter who is consistent in her efforts to be the best. It's also quite amazing being the president of the CF Alumni Association and working alongside an extraordinary group of people. My life has allowed me to provide compassionate care to patients at the end of their lives and to support their families through such a journey. I have even had the opportunity to travel to the Holy Land, and it was truly a dream to walk the land that Jesus walked!

## **You have been part of the CF Alumni Association for five years and are now the president of the association. What makes you want to give back?**

**Flanders:** Being part of the CF Alumni Association for five years and now being the president of the association makes me want to give back because I know firsthand the opportunities that CF extends to many despite their race, color, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability. Our hometown college offers associate and bachelor's degrees and certificate programs. Giving back allows me to be a part of the ongoing change. I am grateful to sow in such a worthy cause.

## **What do you think of CF after graduating many years ago?**

**Flanders:** I believe that the college has much more to offer today than when I attended. I have seen firsthand the resources and opportunities that have arisen there.

Keep up with the CF Alumni Association on Facebook or online at [www.CF.edu/Alumni](http://www.CF.edu/Alumni).



# Arts and Culture

*CF is committed to providing educational and enriching arts and culture opportunities to our students and the public.*

## SPOOKY SUSPENSE

CF Theatre brought super sleuth Sherlock Holmes to the stage just in time for Halloween. "The Hound of the Baskervilles" featured a cast of 10 in what Assistant Professor Nonalee Davis, the play's director, called "the most entertaining Sherlock Holmes mystery." The grand Victorian mansion set was designed by Tyler Stentiford and built by CF students under the direction of Dassance Fine Arts Center Theatre Manager Mario Cieri.



From left, CF students Camila Bran as Lady Agatha Mortimer, Wes Jones as Watson and Collin Williams as Sherlock Holmes



From left: Tayen Poplin, Danielle Moore and Antony Smith are a few of the students taking Ballet I in the Fall 2023 semester.

## DANCE IS BACK!

The CF Visual and Performing Arts department is excited to once again offer dance classes open to all CF students. This fall, students are studying ballet and modern dance under the direction of instructor Justine McDaniel. The Introduction to Dance class is recommended for students with no previous dance experience and will be offered again in spring 2024. McDaniel hopes to bring back the dance ensemble to offer performances very soon.

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<b>Jan. 30</b> "Pather Panchali"	<b>Feb. 27</b> "Calendar Girls"
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<b>Feb. 13</b> "Petite Maman"	<b>April 9</b> "Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom"

Get more info at [CF.edu/FilmSeries](http://CF.edu/FilmSeries)

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# In Person

*with Elijah Rushing*

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***My favorite part about being in CF's Paramedic program has definitely been the amount of skills that I'm learning, and gaining more confidence in patient interaction.***

-RUSHING

Working 24-hour shifts that sometimes turn into 48 hours. Rescuing car accident victims on the side of the highway, in the dark and in the rain. Racing to the hospital to transport patients with life-threatening illnesses and injuries. Saving people, their pets and their residences from fires. That's life as a firefighter and emergency medical technician.

So when Ocala Fire Rescue Firefighter/EMT Elijah Rushing enrolled in CF's Paramedic program, he knew he wasn't just giving up a year and a half of precious days off to attend class, participate in labs and clinical experiences, and study for tests. He knew he was signing up for his biggest challenge yet — one that will help him advance to the next level in his career. While EMTs are proficient in the basics of emergency care, paramedics have an additional year of training and can provide advanced treatments in prehospital care, such as administering medications, performing invasive airway procedures and interpreting EKGs.

"I chose the Paramedic degree because it's challenging," Rushing said. "Becoming a paramedic will increase my scope of practice and I'll have more knowledge of what to do on-scene."

Rushing said he chose CF's Paramedic program over other local schools because "the CF program is the more challenging one."

"It has almost double the amount of clinical hours," Rushing said. "It's a bit more stressful, but you get more experience and the instructors here are really good."

Rushing was hired by Ocala Fire Rescue in 2021 after completing its mentorship program. After he graduates from CF in December, he plans to take the certification exam to become a nationally registered paramedic.

"My favorite part about being in CF's Paramedic program has definitely been the amount of skills that I'm learning, and gaining more confidence in patient interaction. I can say, for anyone who wants to come to the program: Be prepared. It's a lot of work, but I think it will teach you more perseverance and time management and responsibility. I'd recommend it!"