



**A&H**  **ART & HISTORY MUSEUMS**  
MAITLAND

# PERSPECTIVES

*Quarterly stories for A&H members & donors*

**Spring 2023 Newsletter**

Volume 3 | Issue 1

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# Dear Friend of the A&H,

February 1 marks the official start of the yearly Collaborative Campaign for the Arts, when your favorite local arts organizations request the community's support and are matched by 15% from United Arts of Central Florida. We had a strong start during the "early bird" part of the campaign, before the end of 2022. An anonymous 100% matching donor during the last 2 weeks provided an exciting boost. If you contributed to this early success – thank you! We still need \$26,389 to reach our \$44,000 goal by April 30, to raise critical funds for all the exhibitions and programs you love at A&H. **You can give at [unitedarts.cc/artandhistory](https://unitedarts.cc/artandhistory).**

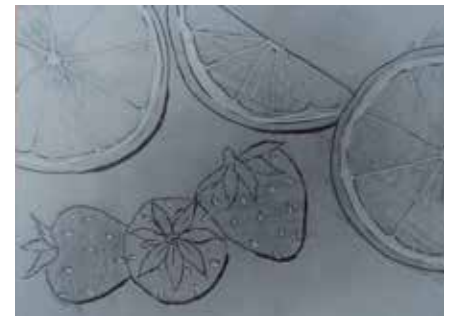


Jessi's pup Cooper modeling for our Dog Meetup promotion. We love dogs at A&H!

We have so many great events coming up in February and March... First up, our first exhibition opening of 2023. Then, I hope to see you at our Members-Only Book Club, and our new Members-Only Dog Meetup if you have a pup! Following that, we'll have our second-annual Art Party gala. Reminder: we have a lower-priced general ticket! (See calendar on the back page of this newsletter and our website for details.)

Sincerely,  
Jessi VanPelt  
Director of Advancement (+ art & history super fan)  
407-539-2181 x 260 / [jvanpelt@artandhistory.org](mailto:jvanpelt@artandhistory.org)

**P.S.** I'm taking Block Printmaking – one of our new Art School classes – this session, and it's so fun! Here's what I've worked on so far. (I still have 3 more layers to carve!) ▶



## A&H in the Community



Maitland Rotary Club members (including Jessi VanPelt and Danielle Thomas) volunteering to help landscape A&H's Main Garden



Dropping food donations off at the LGBT+ Center Orlando, collected by A&H staff



A&H Chief Curator Dan Hess and Board member Trent Tomengo judging at Maitland Rotary Art Festival

### A&H CAMPUS HOURS

**Maitland Art Center, Maitland History Museum & Telephone Museum**

Wednesday-Sunday 11am-4pm

**Waterhouse Residence Museum** is temporarily closed for restoration. **Carpentry Shop** at Lake Lily will soon be open select days – check website.

**Grounds: Chapel / Main Garden**

Tuesday-Sunday 11am-4pm

**Contributors to this issue of Perspectives:** Monica Frisell, Dan L. Hess, Danielle Thomas, and Jessi VanPelt.

**On the cover:** perspective of mischievous Pan sculpture in his permanent home behind the gallery, with custom bracing for protection.

# Expansion Announcement

Have you heard... Maitland Art Center campus is expanding to include new education facilities, with an estimated groundbreaking of late 2023! This is just the second expansion of the campus since it was constructed in the 1930s. The approximately 6,000 sq ft state-of-the-art space will allow A&H's Art School classes to be expanded, while still maintaining the intimate teaching experience that we are known for. Art School classes will be moved from the historic artist studios to these new facilities. Moving will allow A&H to fully restore the original artist studios to their historical use, and expand the number of artists in the Artist in Action program annually by 25%.

The facility's construction is primarily being funded through the estate of Qurentia Throm and Cicero Greathouse, both artists, who shared a deep love for this place. A&H's designated building endowment will also help fund the construction.

These facilities, with added parking, will be just outside the north wall of A&H's main campus, along Jackson Street.

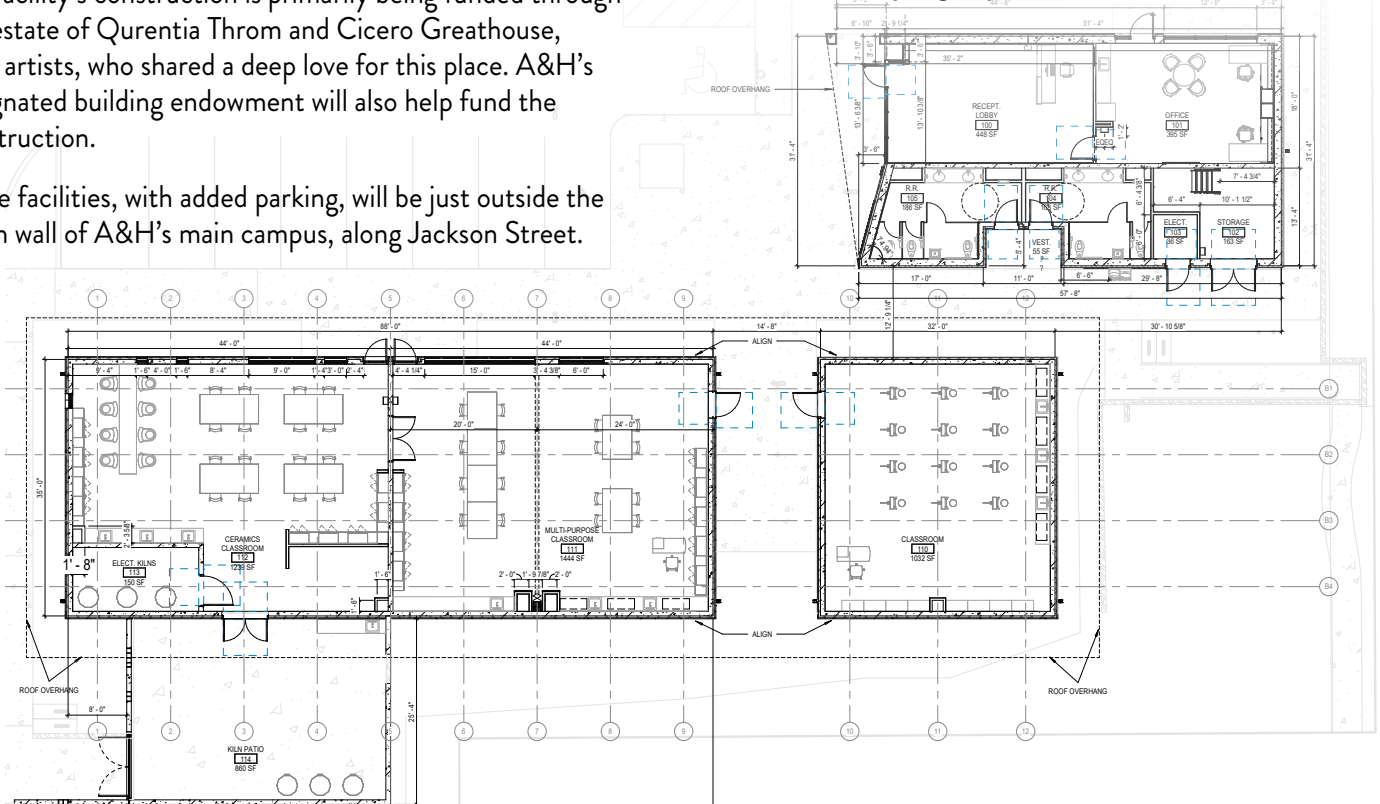
The addition will take inspiration from the scale and look of the original Art Center and its iconic decorative elements.

The expansion will include teaching space for ceramics, painting, drawing, as well as a multi-purpose space that can flex between a variety of disciplines. A gallery within the reception area will showcase the artwork of Que Throm & Cicero Greathouse.



Que Throm & Cicero Greathouse

Visit [artandhistory.org/expansion](http://artandhistory.org/expansion) for more information.



DLR GROUP

# Upcoming Art Exhibitions: (Un)Common Conversations

This year's exhibitions will showcase a total of five (Un)Common Conversations. We look forward to welcoming you to campus more often!

## (Un)Common Form | February 4 – April 2

This exhibition is a solo show by Kendra Frorup, following her mid-career retrospective at the National Art Gallery of the Bahamas. Frorup was born and raised in Nassau, Bahamas, and embodies her memories of this time in her work. She is currently an assistant professor of sculpture at the University of Tampa. Gil DeMeza, one of her former professors, describes Frorup as “the collector,” commending her “unique ability to take the old, used, and discarded, and turn them into other-worldly, exquisite moments in time...”



*Portrait of Kendra Frorup in her Tampa studio, by Monica Frisell*

One of the major works in the exhibition is *Collecting Plates*, a site specific interactive work using augmented reality and a free cell phone app. Additional content from the artist will appear, related to an organization which she is a member of: The Links, Inc. The Links is an international not-for-profit established in 1946. Membership consists of over 17,000 professional women of African descent in 299 chapters. This volunteer service organization is committed to enriching and sustaining the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry.



*Collecting Plates, by Kendra Frorup*



*Detail, Wallpaper Dragon, by Elisabeth Condon*

## (Un)Common Light | April 15 - June 11

(un)Common Light will showcase the work of two established abstract painters, Elisabeth Condon and Carole d’Inverno. Condon and D’Inverno are well-known to our A&H community, with both women completing multiple residencies at A&H. On the surface there are many parallels between the women and their work – both women are from New York, both speak in the language of color and abstraction, both discuss themes of place and memory.



*Carole d’Inverno*

The memories they explore, however, take the artists in different directions. Condon’s work is heavily influenced by her personal memories, and shaped by her exploration of sumi-e, expressionist, and Color Field paint applications. D’Inverno’s work focuses on collective memory, and through her process of reduction and abstraction, she examines the histories and the geographies that shape our communities. Her work carefully peels back the layers of what is taught and what is hidden, revealing the bones of the towns and cities we call home.



*Elisabeth Condon*

Together, the work of Condon and D’Inverno will present viewers with a lush journey through color, light, time and place, with many of the works having been created right here on the historic Maitland Art Center grounds.

# Upcoming History Exhibition

## Maitland's Attic: A Journey through a Small Town's Past Opens March 5, 2023

Our History Museum will soon house a new permanent exhibition, affectionately titled Maitland's Attic, which will take visitors on a visually compelling journey through Maitland's past. We will be renovating the museum with the addition of a new exhibition room, and in total we will display over 150 artifacts in 900 square feet of exhibition space. Why? Because sometimes more is more!

The new exhibition will take guests through five major time periods in the town's history, beginning with Florida's first people, including the Timucua, Seminole and Maroon populations. Guests will then learn about the settlement of Maitland as a Gilded Age town, which became a winter destination for affluent northerners, including president Grover Cleveland. The Progressive Era in Maitland manifested with the emergence of forward thinking ideas, and visitors will learn about the establishment of the Florida Audubon Society and the Robert Hungerford Industrial School in neighboring Eatonville. Guests will then be transported to the New Era, where the nation saw

the advent of the road trip, and Maitland saw the arrival of Jules André Smith, who would build the architectural gem known today as the Maitland Art Center. The exhibition concludes with the arrival of the Atomic Age, and guests will be able to experience what it was like when Cold War terror gripped the nation, and families built bomb shelters in their backyards.

The story of Maitland isn't a story of time, however. It's a story of people, seemingly ordinary people, who lived through extraordinary times. It's the story of people who labored here, raised their families here, who loved, lost, thought, and created here, even as the world changed around them. We look forward to welcoming you to Maitland's Attic, a gathering place of the unique items that the people who came before us held dear. From the everyday to the downright weird, these objects open a window onto the people who chose to call Maitland home.



*Behind-the-scenes: sorting through the collection and displays in storage*



*Executive Director Danielle Thomas holding one of the "downright weird" objects: a basket made from a preserved armadillo*



## A&H Flashback

Did you know that Studio 2 used to be a 2-car garage? The garage door was later taken out (we're not certain when), and replaced with planters, windows and an office door. It's now the Advancement Office. If you've been on one of our weekly National Historic Landmark tours, you probably learned this! This photo of the garage was taken in the 1940s, and includes founder André Smith's dog Cocoa enjoying the sun.

# Artists in Residence: Monica Jane Frisell and Adam Scher

The Nomadic Photo Ark is a converted cargo trailer that is equipped with a photo darkroom and small office space, piloted by Monica Jane Frisell and Adam Scher. Since July of 2021, they have been traveling throughout the US collecting 8x10 film portraits and audio stories from different communities for their ongoing project Portrait of US. While in residence at A&H, they have been gathering portraits and stories from people living in Central Florida - from Orlando to Tampa to Sanford, and of course here in Maitland.

To see more of their work you can visit their website, [nomadicphotoark.com](http://nomadicphotoark.com) or follow along with their newsletter - [portraitofus.substack.com](http://portraitofus.substack.com). An exhibition of portraits and stories they have collected here in Central Florida will be shown in the Maitland Art Center gallery this Fall.

We asked them a few questions about their project and their experience here in Central Florida...

## What other places have you been with the Ark?

Since starting this project in July of 2021, we have gathered portraits and stories from North Hero, VT, Rochester, NY, Savannah, GA, Cleveland, OH and Green Mountain Falls, CO before coming here to Maitland, FL.

## Have you noticed any common threads in stories between Central Florida portraits and other places?

We are still learning what these common threads are. But many people talk about overcoming hardships - whether that being finding sobriety or dealing with the loss of a loved one, or working things out within their marriage. Everybody has a story - whether they think they do or not!

## Is your process the same as when you started?

Our process has not changed that much. We still spend time speaking with people before making the portraits - and our prompt has not shifted much from the beginning. At the start I think we asked folks to tell us about their life - but now we try to lead the person to find a singular story they

can share instead of a resume of their lives. As this project has evolved, we have also been surprised by how therapeutic it can be for people to share a story - often people leave our sittings feeling lighter and happy. Sometimes they are even able to make new realizations about their lives as they share with us.



## What's your favorite thing that happened during the project?

It is not lost on us how incredible it is to sit with strangers and learn from them. We are constantly stunned and humbled by what people share with us. I think that is consistently one of our favorite parts of the project. Just sitting and listening to folks tell us things from their lives. We learn something new about ourselves after almost every sitting.

## What are some challenging things about the project?

Traveling and being in different places can be hard. Every state or city has its own culture that we have to navigate and learn - sometimes ways to meet people work in one place but don't work in another. And the classic - funding is always challenging. Finding ways to either sell work, or find folks that believe in the project enough to send us a few bucks - not to mention grant applications and the like!

## What's your favorite thing about your A&H residency?

We were able to stay here for 10 weeks, which really allowed us to pursue different avenues of connecting with folks. I think being able to go back to the same locations multiple times to photograph different communities - like the Sharing Center and Black Bird Comics & Coffee - was a really cool way to meet more people from one area. Also - you can't beat the weather here in December and January!



Peyton and Juno, Maitland, FL



Millard, Eatonville, FL



Roger, Longwood, FL



The Margaritis Family

# Holiday Studio Show Photos by Jack Fields



Printmaking instructor Sage Squire



Artist in Residence's studio



New A&H Marketing Coordinator Daniela Ortiz

# Winter Wonderland Family Day Photos by Jack Fields





**ART & HISTORY MUSEUMS**  
MAITLAND

231 W. Packwood Ave. | Maitland, FL 32751

The A&H is a non-profit organization supported by generous individual, business, government and community partners including:



DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE EXPEDITE

# Spring 2023 Newsletter

## Upcoming at A&H

### February

- 3 | Exhibition Opening Reception
- 4 | *(Un)Common Form* opens in Maitland Art Center
- 11 | Members-Only Dog Meetup
- 15 | Little Creatives & Me
- 18 | Free Family Day –  
*Sponsored by Massey Services*
- 19 | Members-Only Book Club
- 22 | Last Wednesday: After Hours (5:30–8:00pm) + Gallery Tour (5:30–6:15)

### March

- 25 | **A&H: THE ART PARTY**  
**2nd annual gala celebration**  
6-10pm | *Presented by Duke Energy*
- 3 | *Maitland's Attic* opens in Maitland History Museum
- 15 | Little Creatives & Me
- 29 | Last Wednesday: After Hours + Gallery Tour

#### National Historic Landmark Tours

1st & 3rd Saturdays + 2nd & 4th Thursdays from 10-10:45am

### April

- 4 | Art School Spring Session begins
- 14 | Exhibition Opening Reception
- 15 | *(Un)Common Light* opens in Maitland Art Center
- 19 | Little Creatives & Me
- 22 | Free Family Day –  
*Sponsored by Massey Services*
- 23 | Members-Only Book Club
- 26 | Last Wednesday: After Hours + Gallery Tour with Chief Curator

**Advance registration required for many events. Please visit our website to register and to discover even more events: [artandhistory.org/events](http://artandhistory.org/events)**