



MEDIA CONTACT

Jenelle Codianne
Director of Marketing and Public Relations
386.255.0285 Ext. 320
jenelle@moas.org

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Florida in Black and White: An Exhibit Where Local Teens Give Insight into Their Changing World Through Documentary Photography

Daytona Beach, FL – The Museum of Arts & Sciences is hosting a new exhibit titled, *Florida in Black and White: Documentary Photography by Peter Schreyer and the Storytellers XVII* through April 15, 2018. This dual exhibition highlights documentary photographs and oral histories by teen photographers and their instructor, Peter Schreyer, focused on the historic African American community of New Smyrna Beach.

This documentary photography exhibit stemmed from a Storytellers Teen Documentary Photography Project with the Crealdé School of Art. During the 10-week intensive program, 12 teens were taught by Crealdé professionals how to use a 35mm camera and how to tell compelling stories through documentary photography, with the goal of exploring and capturing the heritage of their west-side African-American community in New Smyrna Beach. The Storytellers program is grant-supported and is offered at no cost to the participants with all materials and equipment provided.

This is the 17th Storytellers project mentored by Crealdé professionals. Peter Schreyer, CEO and Executive Director of Crealdé School of Art, is an award-winning photographer and educator who has documented Florida's changing cultural landscape for more than three decades. He teaches all levels of photography at Crealdé School of Art including documentary and traditional film classes.

Schreyer is the founder of the Hannibal Square Heritage Center in west Winter Park, a cultural facility that opened in 2007 to celebrate the heritage of the historical African-American neighborhood through documentary photography, oral history, and public art. In 2016, he and the Hannibal Square Heritage Center were distinguished with a Diversity & Inclusion Award from the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs.

As an American photographer with Swiss roots, Schreyer is interested in places, people, and communities that convey a sense of cultural identity, history, and heritage. "I never tire of exploring rural Florida, the historic African-American neighborhoods, the continually forming immigrant communities, the wide-open spaces of the West and small towns across America," says Schreyer. It is his

hope that his work will motivate others to become more aware of, to respect, and to explore their own community's history and heritage.

The tradition of the Crealdé School of Art is to choose a community partner for the Storytellers project, this time, the Mary S. Harrell Black Heritage Museum in New Smyrna Beach, which became the meeting place and classroom for the Storytellers XVII. Organizers then engaged another local west-side community partner, the Rev. Jeffrey J. Dove, pastor of Allen Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Besides learning how to process and edit film, the students were also taught how to write captions to accompany their images and were encouraged to do some research into the history of their imagery with family, friends, and neighbors. Many hours of work on the part of the participants and mentors was involved in the drafting and editing of the words that are now professionally framed. The result yields the Storytellers' personal moment in time, documented for posterity.

Photo Credits

PHOTO 1: The OK Barbershop presently occupies the location of the former Lydia Pettis Variety Shop, which was a longtime community institution. The building is now owned by the Hill family – New Smyrna Beach, Florida, 2016 by Hannah Green

PHOTO 2: Intern Tyler Durrant and Storyteller Tylar Green pose on Washington Street in front of the historic Walker House. – New Smyrna Beach, Florida, 2016 by Hannah Green

Exhibits and dates subject to change.

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About the Museum of Arts & Sciences - The Museum of Arts & Sciences (MOAS) is the primary **art, science and history museum in Central Florida**. The area's largest museum, MOAS is nationally accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is a Smithsonian Institution Affiliate. Located on a 90-acre Florida nature preserve, the 100,000 square foot facility is host to over 30,000 objects including the Dow Gallery of American Art, one of the finest collections of American art in the Southeast, the Schulte Gallery of Chinese Art, the Bouchelle Collection and Gallery of Decorative Arts, the largest and most comprehensive collection in the South, the Gillespy Gallery of Sub-Saharan African artifacts, the Cuban Foundation Museum showcasing one of the most significant collections of Cuban paintings in the United States, the Prehistory of Florida gallery featuring Florida's Giant Ground Sloth skeleton and the Root Family Museum displaying restored railroad cars, antique automobiles and the largest collection of Coca-Cola® memorabilia in Florida. The Helene B. Roberson Visible Storage Building exhibits thousands of objects from many donors which are owned by the Museum, while the Linda and Williams Children's Museum presents an interactive experience for children. A new state-of-the-art planetarium and the Cici and Hyatt Brown Museum of Art showcasing the largest collection of Florida-based art in the world, rounds out areas to explore inside the Museum of Arts & Sciences.

Museum Hours are 10am-5pm (Monday-Saturday) and 11am-5pm (Sunday). Museum of Arts & Sciences admission is \$12.95 adults; \$6.95 children 6-17; \$10.95 seniors and students; members and children 5 and under are free. Daily Planetarium shows and weekly laser shows. Museum of Arts & Sciences admission includes one Planetarium show. Cici and Hyatt Brown Museum of Art admission is \$10.95 adults; \$4.95 children 6-17; \$8.95 seniors and students; members and children 5 and under are free. Combo ticket admission is \$18.95 adults; \$9.95 children 6-17; \$16.95 seniors and students; members and children 5 and under are free. Combo ticket admission includes one Planetarium show. Additional Planetarium shows are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children ages 17 and under. Parking is free. Admission is FREE for Volusia County residents the first Tuesday of each month (does not include Planetarium shows). MOAS is fully accessible to the handicapped. MOAS is located at 352 S. Nova Road, Daytona Beach, Florida 32114. For more information call 386.255.0285 or visit the website www.moas.org.

MOAS is a not-for-profit educational institution founded in 1955 and chartered by the State of Florida in 1962. The Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. Programs sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the County of Volusia.

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