

The Magic of the Movies and More

For those residents that have been part of the Lake Worth community for more years than they would like to recall, it is rewarding to drive Lake Avenue and see many of our historic buildings being protected and enjoyed. Just a drive to the beach brings back such marvelous, magical memories.

If memories are made and are magical, the now Cultural Arts of Palm Beach County at 601 Lake Avenue has been blessed with more than their share. In 1939, this building, which is being cared for so well, was started as the Lake Theater.

Few remember the new 18 foot by 28 foot silver screen. It wove a tapestry of film magic for all of Lake Worth. The Lake Theater opened on February 29, 1940. A standing room only crowd was introduced to such films as Walt Disney's "Pinocchio" (1940), Bette Davis in W. Somerset Maugham's "The Letter," and brightest comedy of the 1940's "The Philadelphia Story" with James Stewart.

The completed Art Deco Lake Theater was 125 feet long, 54 feet wide and 34 feet high. Like the Oakley Theater, the Lake Theater was a link in the Sparks chain. In the mid-1950's the Sparks chain sold the Lake Theater to Florida State Theaters.

The Lake Theater flourished until the 1970's. Due to the lack of parking, the Florida State Theater moved the Lake Theater operation to the Dolphin and Plaza Twin theaters. Both are now closed. In 1973, with the showing of Walt Disney's "Robin Hood" the Lake Theater became history.

Paul McConnaughy purchased the building in 1974. He leased it to the Pasta Palace, a restaurant showing classic movies while people ate. The Pasta Palace concept lasted less than a year.

In 1976, it became a disco called Horsefeathers. Parking was still a



problem. They were forced to close when the disco faced numerous noise complaints. The music stopped late 1978.

The Cracow Corporation completely refurbished the building and in 1979 they opened the Kaleidoscope, a teen-disco. The Kaleidoscope served no alcohol (on the inside) and provided adult supervision. Young people swarmed to the new disco. For reason unknown, it silently closed its doors in early 1980.

In August 1980, J. Patrick Lannan purchased the old Lake Theater to house his private collection of paintings, sculptures, glass and ceramics. The Lannan Foundation was dedicated March, 1982.

All the reasons are known only to the Lannan family, but after J. Patrick Lannan's untimely death, the bulk of his collection was moved to other loca-

tions. The Lannan family graciously donated the building and a 'starter collection' to what was the Palm Beach Junior College.

In 2012, after much discuss and remodeling, the Lake Theater became the 'forever home' for what today is called the Cultural Council of the Palm Beaches. In 1978, the founder of this prestigious organization was Alexander W. Dreyfoos.

This Cultural Council of Palm Beach County is a private, nonprofit, membership-based organization that is "a staunch advocate for the arts." The Lake Theater has been returned better state than its original building.

Today, after 82 years, the building fulfills its magical mission for a bright future. Like its film history, it continues to cast a unique spell of enchantment on this community.

Virtual HBCU Fair Offers Opportunity to Connect with Colleges

The School District of Palm Beach County is collaborating with Broward County Public Schools, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and the School District of Osceola County to host a college access event highlighting Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

All-In on HBCUs" is a two-week initiative with participation from 34 HBCUs from across the

country. This event will connect Florida students and families with information about the outstanding post-secondary opportunities available at Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Each day, starting on January 19 and continuing through January 28, representatives from participating institutions will be available for one-hour information sessions. All-

In on HBCUs kicks off on Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 3 p.m. with an exciting and interactive celebratory virtual program.

All sessions are virtual, free, and open to anyone who is interested in learning more about the featured institutions. A schedule of sessions along with the links to attend is available online at www.palmbeachschools.org/HBCU.



City of Greenacres 2021 Educational Scholarship Program

The City of Greenacres is pleased to announce the 2021 Educational Scholarship Program consisting of five, \$1,500.00 Educational Scholarships, including one to be awarded in memory of former City employee Denise Padgett to an applicant who has achieved athletic success and one to be awarded in memory of former Councilman Norman W. Rose.

The Educational Scholarship program provides \$1,500 in individual scholarships for academic, technical and vocational school tuition and books.

REQUIREMENTS:

-  Must reside within the municipal limits of the City of Greenacres.
-  Must be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States.
-  Must be a high school senior/graduate, obtained a GED, or attending college.
-  Must demonstrate a financial need.

Note: Prior award recipients may re-apply; however, first-time applicants and high school seniors will be given first consideration.

Deadline: April 2, 2021 ~ 6:00 P.M.

**Applications Now Available Online and at the
Greenacres Community Center
501 Swain Blvd.
Greenacres, FL 33463**

<https://greenacresfl.gov/community-rec/page/2020-educational-scholarship-program>

For more information, call 561-642-2180.