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OVERVIEW

For 14 years the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art (LRMA) has captured the imaginations and inspired the talents of the Tarpon Springs community. As the preeminent museum throughout northern Pinellas County and Pasco County, the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art plays a vital role in defining our community as a destination for sun, sand, and culture!

By mission, the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art is committed to providing culturally diverse programming for Tarpon Springs residents designed to reach a broad audience, including underserved populations and special needs groups. The primary opportunity for us to engage our community in this way is through our exhibitions and programming.

REQUEST

The Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art (LRMA) requests a $10,000 gift in support for the coming year, establishing the City of Tarpon Springs as a “Partner in Art.” As a valued Partner in Art you will be supporting all of our exhibitions and educational programs while receiving the following benefits:

- Six Museum Access Cards for use by city employees (each admits 5)
- Invitations to all exhibition opening receptions and Patron Previews
- Recognition on website, quarterly newsletters, and other media as appropriate
- Entertaining privileges and discount on museum rentals.
- Behind-the-scenes tour of the museum with the Curator

*Recognition is not exclusive

An investment from the City of Tarpon Springs would enable the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art to continue its successful development of creative, inspirational, and educational exhibitions for our residents. Your commitment further emphasizes the Tampa Bay community’s reputation as a cultural destination, and the Tarpon Springs community and Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art as a northern anchor for the region.
IMPACT

The Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art strives to provide unique experiences and services to our community, both in terms of our economic impact as well as the cultural influence of our many programs and exhibitions. Over the last decade, the Tampa Bay area has increasingly become recognized as a cultural destination, with visitors coming from near and far.

Whether it is residents of our region, seasonal art lovers, or those just stopping through Tarpon Springs, we provide a welcoming venue for the nearly 15,000 annual visitors to LRMA. Our Visitor Services Staff provides guests with Tarpon Springs maps and helps direct them to the sponge docks, downtown restaurants, beaches and parks. Additionally, LRMA has partnered with many Tarpon Springs businesses, schools, city programs and departments in the course of developing and delivering our programs to the community. These relationships add to the economic vibrancy of our community for all parties.

One illustrative example is our recent Florida Inspired 2016 exhibition in partnership with PARC, Inc. (Feb 21, 2016 – May 15, 2016). This exhibition featured new work by emerging artists with intellectual and developmental disabilities from the PARC studio art program. Showcased at the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art, the artists had a venue to proudly exhibit their work, but also allowed visitors to see the immense talents that exist throughout our community.

One of our current exhibitions – Youth Gone Wild: The History and Art of Pinball – was designed in partnership with Tarpon Springs’ Replay Amusement Museum. Relationships like this with area businesses are mutually beneficial and underscore the importance of collaborative efforts in attracting people to Tarpon Springs and providing them with unique, entertaining, educational and fun attractions that make them want to live here – or come back again for a visit.

Among the most significant relationships we have in the community come through engagements with youth. Since 2004, the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art has provided art therapy sessions, working with children, adolescents, and SPC students with emotional or behavioral challenges. The Boys and Girls Club of Tarpon Springs has participated in this program for several years, through which children are able to build self-esteem and self-expression; strengthen problem-solving abilities; and use art and cultural activities as coping strategies.
Additionally, Tarpon Springs schools, R’Club, and the CAP afterschool program visit the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art. They are a few of the 29 youth groups that visited LRMA last year. Visiting students from schools like Tarpon Springs Elementary and Tarpon Springs Fundamental start their day with a tour of the museum galleries. From there, they may explore our Interactive Gallery with puzzles, games, and books or go into one of the college’s art studios to create their own “masterpiece” for display in the gallery.

Our Mini Masterpiece program underscores our mission and epitomizes the goals set forth by Dr. Allen Leepa. Known for his prolific creation of abstract paintings, visitors fashion their own “masterpiece” on foam core. Our student artists go home with the kind of profound experience that Dr. Leepa envisioned for our community. Every child, young adult, and member of our greater community should have access to the arts. The Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art is committed to that aspiration.

CONCLUSION

Since 2002, the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art has become a respected cultural arts institution, contributing vital services to our community. We are also tremendously proud to offer the students of St. Petersburg College access to an accredited museum of this caliber, and serve as a learning laboratory for SPC students and faculty, every day.

With eleven campuses and centers throughout Pinellas County, serving 65,000 students annually, St. Petersburg College is transforming lives every day. We are honored to be a part of it.

Your investment in the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art is not only an investment in the cultural arts offerings for our community, but in the lives of those that call the Tarpon Springs campus home. As a municipality, you know better than most the significance of making wise and prudent investments. Your contribution to LRMA is an investment in the thousands of children, college students, residents, and tourists that visit us every year. Thank you for your ongoing support and consideration of this proposal.
For 14 years, the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art has provided imaginative, culturally diverse programming to Tarpon Springs.

• Helps define Tarpon Springs as a cultural destination.

• Year-round exhibitions and home to works of Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall, and Joan Miro, as well as local, regional, and southeastern artists.

• Programming for everyone from children and students to families and residents that are “young at heart”.

• Providing the needed access to arts education for our community.
• Economic and cultural impact on the Tarpon Springs community.

• Partnerships with local businesses and community groups.

• Field trips and afterschool programming for area schools and organizations including Tarpon Springs Elementary, Tarpon Springs Fundamental, R’Club, Citizens Alliance for Progress (CAP), and the Boys and Girls Club.
• The City of Tarpon Springs’ partnership is an investment in the vital programming of LRMA, our city’s cultural identity, and the opportunities for those visiting our community.

• Enhances the educational opportunities for the 6,000 students at the St. Petersburg College - Tarpon Springs campus.

  • Showcases the City of Tarpon Springs’ commitment to the arts!

Thank you for your support!
Into The Third Dimension
Sculpture from the Collection
May 29 - Sept. 13, 2016

YOUTH GONE WILD
The History And Art Of Pinball
June 5 - Sept. 13, 2016