OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CARROLLWOOD VILLAGE PHASES I & III DECEMBER 2020

CARROLLWOOD

A Legacy Community | "Best of the Best" award from Hillsborough County

VILLAGE VOICE

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A Message from Suzanne & Lindsey

As 2020 comes to a close we would never have predicted the events of this year last year at this time.

We even have new words in our daily vocabulary as well as new skill sets. I saw this great message on a friend's Facebook page – "it is not what you gather, but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you have lived" Enjoy the holidays, stay safe and along the way make someone's day with an act of kindness. See you next year!

Suzanne and Lindsey

SUZANNE FERNANDEZ, CHRIS WOJCIK AND ANDY TITEN



GIANNA TRIMARCO, BUNNY MARKARIAN, MARY MARKARIAN, AND CHARLES TRIMARCO

MEMORIAL BENCH DEDICATION: MARKARIAN BENCH AT SUSSEX WY. BASKETBALL COURT

On Saturday, November 28, 2020, the Markarian family along with members of the Phase III Homeowners Association dedicated a memorial bench in honor of their parents, Carnick (Mark) and Irene Markarian. We appreciate their generous gift and hope many people will come to enjoy it. The Markarians were early residents on Chestersall Dr. Their daughters still own the house. Mr. Markarian enjoyed shooting hoops and watching other basketball players on the Sussex Way court. He played guard at St. Bonaventure and was a lifelong lover of basketball. His daughters, Mary and Bunny wanted to memorialize his love of the sport and our neighborhood. They approached the Phase III homeowner's association about donating a bench at the Sussex Wy. Basketball court in their parent's memory.

The Markarian Family's request led to the establishment of the Phase III Giving Committee. The committee members were Jack and Susie Crutchfield, Andrew Titen, Jill Betz, Leah Wooten and Suzanne Fernandez. The mission of the Giving Committee is to establish guidelines and processes for gift giving to Phase III and to serve as an approver of potential donors and their gifts.

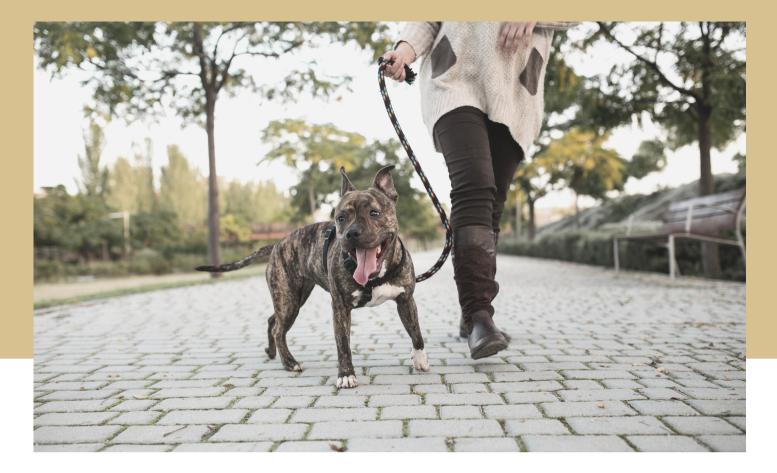
The Committee developed the Gift Guidelines in the following three categories:

- 1. A bench from Upbeat to match the other benches in the community with 3-line dedication plaque. Gift to include taxes, shipping, and installation.
- 2. Trees from the approved list provided by Landscape and Environmental committee. Tree must be Florida friendly, non-invasive, cold hardy, and does not need special care and trimming. Gift to include tree of acceptable size, planting and irrigation line. (gifts of Palms are not accepted)
- 3. Playground equipment from same vendor or comparable vendor as current playground equipment. Gift to include taxes, shipping and installation.

If you would like to give a gift to your community or donation in memory of someone, please

email the Giving Committee at Communications@carrollwoodvillage.com.





DOG OWNERS: NEED TO KNOW RULES

Many of our neighbors are inadvertently breaking the rules (laws) by allowing their dogs off the leash while walking. This also applies to allowing them to run freely in the community green spaces. Over the Thanksgiving holidays we had a couple of incidents. One was a child that was bitten by an unleashed dog and another leashed dog being attacked by a loose dog whose owner had it off the leash in the HOA's green space. Be advised, the owners of any unleashed dog that attacks are legally and financially responsible for the damage done by their dogs to people and other pets. Please be a conscientious and responsible dog owner and have your dog firmly on a leash when off of your property. FYI - your property stops at the sidewalk! The portion of the grass between the sidewalk and the street is county property. If you would like your dog to enjoy running freely, please use your yard or take it to one of the wonderful dog parks at the Carrollwood Village Park.

Please familiarize yourself with following the pet ordinances:

Leash Ordinance

Any pet that is off its owner's property or in a public place, like a neighborhood sidewalk, farmers' market, or outdoor café, must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet, and its owner must have control at all times. If cited, the fines are at least \$100 and up to \$500 for multiple violations.

Vicious Animals and Aggressive Dogs Ordinance

Dogs are not allowed to approach or chase a person/pet in a way that makes them fear they will be bitten. Dogs are not allowed to bite or attack a person or pet unprovoked. If cited for vicious animal or aggressive dog, the fines start at \$450.



Dog Tethering Ordinance

By law, the unattended tethering of dogs is banned in Hillsborough County. Tethering is not allowed unless the owner of the dog remains outside with the dog while it is tethered, keeps the dog within sight while tethered, and the tether is of a size and weight that is necessary to safely restrain the dog and is connected to a buckle-type collar or body harness made of nylon or leather. If cited for a failure to properly confine, the fines are at least \$370 and up to \$1,000 for multiple violations.

Animal Waste Removal

Any feces deposited by your dog on public property, sidewalk, public walk, recreation area or the private property of others must be immediately removed by the person who has custody or control of the dog. The fines start at \$50 and the 3 rd offense has a mandatory court appearance.

So please be a good neighbor and adhere to the rules, they are for your safety and that of your furry family member.



A FOLLOW-UP ON FEEDING TAMPA BAY AT THE VILLAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 13115 S VILLAGE DR.

DON'T LABEL HUNGER. Hunger is usually stereotyped as homelessness, but hunger often looks like you and me. It affects kids, single moms, fathers trying to support their family, and seniors on a fixed income. Hunger happens to everyday people, every day. Due to Covid-19 the Food Pantry is experiencing a 272% increase in the number of families served each week, and the need continues to grow as more businesses reduce hours or suspend work.

The Community Food Pantry in North Tampa welcomes monetary or food donations, particularly canned meats, peanut butter, tomato products, canned fruit and vegetables, dried beans, rice, cereal, jelly and jams, boxed/bagged stuffing, cans of tuna, dried pasta, baking items, and juice during this critical time. Toiletries and laundry detergent are also needed.

Food donations of non-perishable, unopened and unexpired food items are accepted 9AM-3PM Monday -Thursday. Unfortunately, the need for donations will still be high in January. One of my friends drops off the second item of her BOGO purchases each week.

Visit thecommunityfoodpantry.com, email villagecommunityfoodpantry@gmail.com or call (813) 961-4115 for more information, volunteer, or inquire about receiving assistance.



THE VOTE IS IN: PHASE ONE'S DECLARATIONS ARE RENEWED!

There will be no purple houses in Phase 1, thanks to the mighty efforts of our HOA Board members to get the vote out! You might recall from the last newsletter that certain neighborhoods in our community had governing Declarations that would expire on December 31, 2020. The Board asked the affected homeowners to send their ballots approving the renewal of the Declarations. We needed 2/3 of the homeowners to agree how important this is to the health and value of our community.

As the deadline to receive the ballots neared, several Board members knocked on doors, sent emails, and made calls to their neighbors asking for their vote. Our appreciation goes to Kristine Glein (and her neighbor Emily North) in Cypress Run for their awesome actions, Steve Shirley for his excellent effort in Hayward, Scott Nelson for his fabulous focus in Pub Place/Mid Village, Susan Baxter Gibson (and her neighbor Alan Preston) for their wonderful work in Golf Crest Unit 6, Diana Rao and Jennifer Grebenschikoff for their terrific teamwork in Golf Crest Units 4-5-7, and Van Chandler and Sonja Seery at Greenacre Properties for their super support in creating and providing extra ballot packets.

Without these folks' commitment of time and energy, we would have had no governing rules and regulations going forward. A huge thank you too to the homeowners who sent in their ballots to ensure that our neighborhood remains one of the best places in Hillsborough County to live, play and work!



UPDATE FROM THE COUNTY ON THE PHASE III UNDER-DRAINAGE AND ROAD RESURFACING

In the next several weeks you can expect to see some activity on the second phase of underdrainage project. This is the Wolcott area. The contractor will be saw cutting pavement and doing some field investigation work. The heavy construction in the Wolcott area will start after the first of the year as to not impose on the residents during the holiday season. This will also allow the paving crews to not have to deal with the added construction vehicles. The paving contractor has been diligently working on phase one of the project (Sussex area). The contractors have moved from Sussex to the side streets. The contractor will finish the side streets and then complete the resurfacing of Sussex. This will give the best final look with less joints.



IT IS TIME TO SAY "GOODBYE"

Sadly, it is time to say "Goodbye" to Mama Oak on Sussex Wy. After consulting several arborist and heroic efforts over the past several years to keep Mama Oak alive have come to an end. The tree has been a gathering spot for residents over the years and family pictures taken over the years at the tree hang in many of our homes so she will live on in our memories.

She will be removed in the next week and will be missed by all of us. If you have a photo of the tree that you would like posted in our next newsletter please send it to communications@carrollwoodvillage.com.

In 2016 the residents along Sussex Wy went together and purchased "Baby Oak" which is planted just north of Mama Oak behind a stand of pines. Hopefully as it grows it will be as graceful and a great place for photo opportunities.



BABY OAK BEING PLANTED IN 2016





ARTIST BARBARA MOAK FROM DIAMOND HEAD

BEING GREEN FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Gift Giving time is here. Are you considering buying a new TV or computer for yourself or someone else? Or getting a new DVD player to replace that old VHS player? You are not alone. These items get replaced every few years by all of us. Tons of electronics will be thrown in the trash this year. Instead of throwing the old items in the trash, we would like to encourage our residents to think of the environmental concerns. The rule is if it contains a digital display or a circuit board, it may contain lead, mercury or other toxic materials that can leach into our water system.





Hillsborough County has a Household Hazardous Waste Program that is free to use. Just take your old electronics to the Community Collection Center (the CCC). The CCC is located at the "dump" located on at 8001 W. Linebaugh Ave. Their hours are 7:30 am to 5 pm, Monday through Saturday. If you have ever taken vard waste or construction debris - it is the same location - but NOT the same area. When you pull into the Linebaugh location drive straight ahead to the sign that says Community Collection Center. This area has special dumpsters for all of the different household hazardous waste items. The person will direct you to the different dumpsters for each different item - electronics, paint, tires, etc. For electronics or paint dumping you only need a photo id - no tax bill necessary. If you want to recycle items like tires, they must be 18" or less (no big truck tires) - these require tax bills. You are allowed up to 5 visits a month.

If you still have questions, please visit the Hillsborough County website at HCFLGOV.net/HHW.

Happy Recycling!



WHAT 3 THINGS CAN ALL VILLAGERS DO TO MAKE OUR VILLAGE SAFER?

- 1.Drive the speed limit! The maximum posted speed in the Village is 35 mph. In many areas of the Village the speed limit is reduced to 25 and 30 mph. If each of us would drive the posted speed limit the other drivers would be forced to slow down. Reducing speed starts with each and every one of us.
- 2. Secure our vehicles and do not leave valuables in the car. The thieves would quickly learn that spending time in the Village is a waste of their time!
- 3. Keep your garage door down at all times ... even if you are home or working outside. The community patrol is noting how many garage doors are up at all times of the day and night! This is an invitation for thieves to help themselves especially at the residences where the door into the house is not locked or the car in the garage has valuables inside and it is not locked.



THINGS MIGHT BE DIFFERENT, BUT WE'RE STILL DANCING: AN UPDATE FROM CARROLLWOOD CULTURAL CENTER

We are truly living during an interesting time. A year ago, the Center had just closed out a stellar financial year as we set our sights to becoming a million-dollar organization by the end of our 2020 fiscal year. But, as we have all learned, things can thwart even the best laid out plans.

So, where are we now? Through the spring and summer, we were able to keep most of our classes going through virtual instruction. We have moved most of our classes back into the building, albeit with smaller class sizes to allow for social distancing, but some of our courses are still available online.

We also found a way to stream shows for our patrons with pre-recorded plays filmed either through Zoom or in small segments throughout the Center after hours. We started to welcome live events in September with a limited audience of 40 people. We are now offering live streaming events, which have both an in-person audience and an at-home audience viewing the show online in real-time.

Besides human safety precautions (wearing masks and maintaining proper social distancing while in the building), the building is currently receiving safety-related upgrades with COVID-19 in mind. Through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and funding administered through Hillsborough County, the Center is installing a commercial air purification system for the heating and cooling system, an electrostatic disinfecting machine, and touchless sinks and toilets. Also included in the CARES funding is equipment that will help us improve our virtual events' quality, helping to make virtual events a part of our permanent fabric.

I invite you to visit

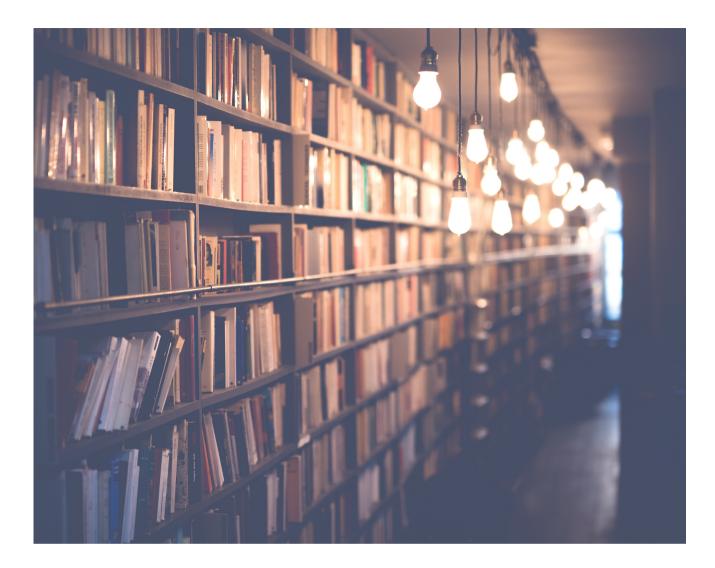
CarrollwoodCenter.org. See what we have to offer and read about what we are doing to make your visit safe. If you are not ready to visit us, I encourage you to discover what we can bring to you virtually. Also, please register to receive our weekly e-newsletters so you can stay current on all of our new developments.

The pandemic has hit all of us hard, but the ability to discover and invent new paths is how we will overcome. More connects us than separates us, and building bridges in the face of adversity is paramount. I ask that you continue to look out for the small businesses and non- profits that are often the heart of a community. Make an extra donation, offer to volunteer, shop locally – all of those things make a world of difference.

Yes, the steps might be a little different now, but we hear the music playing...and our dancing shoes are on.

See you at the Center,

Paul Berg Executive Director, Carrollwood Cultural Center



NOW OPEN: JIMMIE B. KEEL REGIONAL LIBRARY

Nine Hillsborough County libraries, including the Jimmie B Keel Regional Library, reopened with restrictions last month, giving patrons direct access to materials, including books and computers. The library has been closed since late March to comply with COVID-19 precautions.

The building is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays. Designated areas are available at 25 percent capacity, with required safety protocols such as the wearing of masks and social distancing. Other safety measures include limiting visits to one hour; children under age 17 must be with an adult and temperature checks.

Study rooms, meeting rooms, makerspaces, and recording studios are not available.

For more information, including virtual services and a complete list of open libraries, visit HCPLC.org.





MANY THANKS!

Many thanks to a new Phase III Board of Director for enhancing the holiday decorations at the Phase III entrances! One of the many benefits of lighting the individual subdivision entrances is we now have electricity at the entrances to do holiday decorations.



TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE 2021 ANNUAL CARROLLWOOD VILLAGE GARAGE SALE!



Fees:

- Individual Sellers = \$25
- Licensed Vendors = \$40

Important Dates:

- November 30, 2020 = Registration Opens for Carrollwood Village Residents
- December 30, 2020 = Registration Open for Non-Village Residents
- January 20, 2021 = Registration Closes

THIS YEAR YOU CAN REGISTER ONLINE AT CARROLLWOODCENTER.ORG under the Events tab. Select the menu item "Festivals, Movies and More". Once selected, scroll down to February 6, 2021 and complete the registration.

wide garage sale at the Carrollwood Cultural Center. The outdoor event will be held on Saturday, February 6 from 9am to 12pm. This gives you plenty of time to clean out your closets and garages. You can even make a few dollars and make your unwanted items someone's treasure! Spend the morning shopping, selling, listening to music on the outdoor stage and viewing original works of art on display inside the Center. Presented by the **Carrollwood Village Homeowner Associations**.

Join your neighbors and friends for a community-

Sell Your Stuff

In order to participate, you will need to register as a seller. Participants will receive a 20'x20' spot in the Center's green space on the corner of Lowell and Casey Roads. <u>Participants must provide their own</u> <u>tables and chairs</u>. We will work with participants to have you park your vehicle near your spot so you can use your trunk instead of a table if you wish.





The Boards of Directors do not meet the month of December. But keep your eyes out for the envelope with the invoice for your 2021 Homeowners Association Dues.





NOW we know what it's like

- ...to be without the arts. ...to be closed.
- ...to have to cancel.
- ...to stay away.
- ...to be missed.
- ...to start over.

Together we'll know what it's like ...to rebuild. ...to be stronger.

But we need your help.

Donate NOW.



IN THE GALLERY

Rebuilding Hope w. various artists: Main Exhibit

The Two of Us w. Bernard & Gwendolyn Aqui-Brooks: Lobby

Live at the Center.

Things to Do in January

(813) 922-8167 · CarrollwoodCenter.org

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

"Rebuilding Hope" Gallery Event

Fri., Jan. 8 • 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Free. To ensure social distancing, please RSVP with Michele Stone at curator@carollwoodcenter.org (PICTURED: "Our Children, Our Hope" by Babiette Arnold)



The Parchman Hour: Songs & Stories of the '61 Freedom Riders

Written by Mike Wiley

Watch it in person or online!

- 💻 Thu., Jan. 14 8 pm
- 💻 🛛 Fri., Jan. 15 🔹 8 pm
- 🔍 Sat., Jan. 16 8 pm
- 💻 Sun., Jan. 17 4 pm

See it In Person: \$25 Watch Online: \$10

Presented through special arrangement with Mike Wiley Productions.

Jazz with Jim

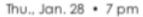
Watch it in person or online!

💻 Fri., Jan. 22 • 7:30 pm

See it in Person: \$13 member / \$18 general admission Watch Online: \$10

Murder High Reunion

Only 20 tickets avaiable for this interactive murder-mystery party!



Registration is required. Participants will receive an email from Aaron Washington (aaron@carrollwoodcenter.org) with his or her assigned character name and dossier.

Admission: \$25 This event is made possible through a special arrangement with ANIGHT OF MYSTERY.

😐 = Virtual Events

Microorganisms: A Visual Study

w. Dionne Seevers: Atrium

Art Has No Boundaries

w. Ray Peloquin: Corridor

Mouth Artist Overcomes Obstacles

w. Sara May: Upstairs Alcoves







BASIC INFO

Visit CarrollwoodCenter.org for class descriptions, faculty info and registration policies.

Visit the website for details about:

- supplies lists (≫),
- required books (III)
- required attire/items (*)
- instrument info (1)

ART

Experimental Painting

🖳 Sat. • 5 – 7 pm

►3-WK MINI Jan. 30, Feb. 6 & 13 \$50 member / \$58 non-member No Materials Fee / >/ Ages 18+

Art Studio (Independent Study)

Wed. • noon – 2 pm⁻ \$100 member / \$115 non-member No Materials Fee / X/ Ages 18

CERAMICS

Wheel Throwing

Mon. • 6 – 8:30 pm - Tue. • 1 – 3:30 pm - Tue. • 6 – 8:30 pm - Wed. • 1 – 3:30 pm

"No Class Jan, 18 \$120 member / \$140 non-member \$50 Materials Fee /%/ Ages 15+

Hand Building

Fri. • 10 am – 12:30 pm \$120 member / \$140 non-member \$50 Materials Fee /%/ Ages 18+

Assisted Ceramics

Sat. • 9:30 am – noon Sat. • 2 – 4:30 pm

► 3-WK MINI Jan. 30, Feb. 6 & 13 \$85 member / \$100 non-member \$50 Materials Fee /≫/ Ages 18+ Caymust be purchased thru the Center for the virtual class.

Find your Center. Adult Class Schedule (Winter I) Starting the week of Jan. 4 (813) 922-8167 • CarrollwoodCenter.org

Virtual classes have a 🗐 symbol. All other classes will be held at the Center.

All classes run once a week for six weeks unless otherwise noted.

Private lessons are also available. Contact the Center for details.

PLEASE REGISTER ONE WEEK BEFORE CLASS STARTS.

CERAMICS CONTINUED

Mudslingers Studio Pass

Tue. • 10 am – 12:30 pm -and-Wed. • 10 am – 12:30 pm -and-Thu. • 10 am – 12:30 pm

\$140 member / \$155 non-member \$50 Materials Fee / X/ Ages 15+

CREATIVE WRITING

Fiction: Form & Technique (Advanced)

Tue. • 6 – 7:30 pm \$85 member / \$100 non-member No Materials Fee /X/Ages 18+

DANCE

Adult Ballet (1x per week)

Mon. • 5 - 6:30 pm

*No Class Jan. 18 \$85 member / \$100 non-member No Materials Fee / */ Ages 18+

Adult Ballet (2x per week)

Tue. & Thu. • 10 - 11:30 am

\$130 member / \$145 non-member No Materials Fee /*/ Ages 18+

Just Dance

Mon. • 6:45 – 8 pm - ar Wed. • 11:45 – 1 pm

*No Class Jan. 18 \$68 member / \$80 non-member No Materials Fee /#/ Ages 18+

THEATRE

Sharing the Stage

Tue. • 11:45 am – 1 pm

\$85 member / \$100 non-member \$10 Materials Fee / Ages 18+

WELLNESS

Gentle Hatha Yoga

🖳 Mon. • 11 am - 12:30 pm

5-WKS (No Class Jan, 18 / No Make-Up) \$55 member / \$65 non-member No Materials Fee /*/ Ages 13+

Hatha Flow Yoga

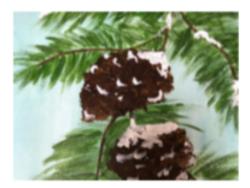
Wed. • 6:30 – 8 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member No Materials Fee /*/ Ages 13+

Power Yoga

🖵 Thu. • 6:30 – 8 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member No Materials Fee /*/ Ages 13+





BASIC INFO

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Visit the website for details about:

- supplies lists (≫),
- required books (III)
- required attire/items (*)
- instrument info (1)

Winter I: Starting the week of Jan. 4

ART

Monet's Apprentice

Wed. • 2:30 – 3:30 pm \$68 member / \$80 non-member \$20 Materials Fee / Ages 5-7

Lil Rembrandts

Wed. • 3:45 - 4:45 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member \$20 Materials Fee / Ages 5-7

Jr. Artist

Wed. • 5 – 6 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member \$20 Materials Fee / Ages 8-10

Drawing Basics

Wed. • 7 – 8 pm \$85 member / \$100 non-member No Materiais Fee / %/ Ages 11-13

DANCE Creative Dance

Mon. • 3:45 - 4:30 pm

No Class Jan. 18 \$68 member / \$80 non-member No Materials Fee // Ages 3-5 Virtual classes have a 🗏 symbol. All other classes will be held at the Center.

All classes run once a week for six weeks unless otherwise noted.

Private lessons are also available. Contact the Center for details.

PLEASE REGISTER ONE WEEK BEFORE CLASS STARTS.

Winter II: Starting the week of Feb. 22

ART

Monet's Apprentice

Wed. • 2:30 – 3:30 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member \$20 Materials Fee / Ages 5-7

Lil Rembrandts

Wed. • 3:45 - 4:45 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member \$20 Materials Fee / Ages 5-7

Jr. Artist

Wed. • 5 – 6 pm \$68 member / \$80 non-member \$20 Materials Fee / Ages 8-10

Drawing Basics

Wed. • 7 – 8 pm
\$85 member / \$100 non-member
No Materials Fee / %/ Ages 11-13

DANCE

Creative Dance

Mon. • 3:45 – 4:30 pm \$68 member / \$80 non-member No Materials Fee / * / Ages 3-5

Kids' Dance

Tue. • 3:45 – 4:30 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member No Materials Fee /*/ Ages 8-10

Find your Center. Youth Class Schedule (Winter I&II)

(813) 922-8167 • CarrollwoodCenter.org



A NEW EXCLUSIVE 12-WEEK PROGRAM

Study the theatrical and cinematic producitons of WEST SIDE STORY and work with a stage director, vocal coach and choregorapher to perform and film a handful of scenes and songs from the musical.

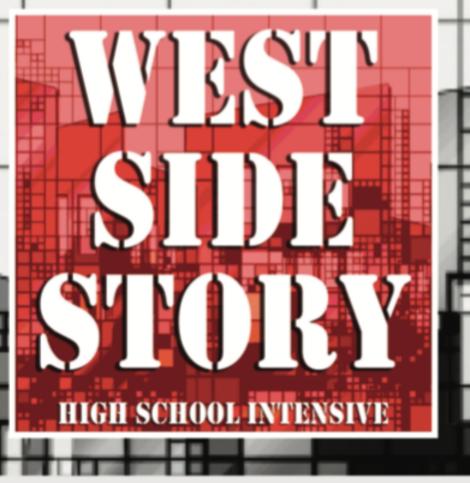
January -March 30 Meet twice a week: Tuesdays, 6-8 pm Saturdays, 10 am - noon

Tuition (for the entire 12 weeks): \$325 member / \$345 non-member

DANCE CONTINUED

Jazz/Hip Hop

Mon. • noon – 1:15 pm \$68 member / \$80 non-member No Materials Fee /*/ Ages 9-12



Stage-to-Screen & Back Again A 12-week course for high school students

Study the theatrical and cinematic productions of **WEST SIDE STORY** and work with a stage director, vocal coach and choregorapher to perform and film a handful of scenes and songs from the musical.

January 5 thru March 30

Meet twice a week: Tuesdays, 6-8 pm Saturdays, 10 am - noon Tuition: \$325 members / \$345 non-members

Contact Katie Castonguay at katie@carrollwoodcenter.org for details.



Register at CarrollwoodCenter.org / (813) 922-8167

LANDSCAPING TIPS FOR DECEMBER



WHAT TO PLANT AND WHAT TO DO

Bedding Plants: To add color to the winter garden plant masses of petunia, pansy, and snapdragon.

Bulbs: Amaryllis is a popular plant for the holiday season. It can be forced to bloom now or planted outdoors for spring blooms. The blooms die it can be planted in a sunny spot and it will bloom next year.

Herbs: Plant herbs that thrive in cool weather. Some examples include parsley, thyme, sage, dill, fennel, and cilantro.

Vegetables: Reliable cool-season vegetables to plant this month include celery, cauliflower, lettuce, cabbage, and carrot.



Poinsettias: Enjoy one of the most popular indoor holiday plants. Protect it from cold until spring, and then plant it in the garden for next year.

Cold protection: Prepare now to protect tender plants should cold weather threaten. Old bedsheets are the best!

Lawn disease: Continue to watch for brown patch and large patch, fungal diseases that cause areas of grass to turn brown. Since treatment is difficult, prevention with proper cultural practices is key. These diseases become active when the soil temperature, measured 2–4 in. deep, is between 65°F and 75°F and go dormant when the weather warms in May.

Compost/mulch: Use fallen leaves to provide the carbon ingredient needed for successful composting and also to make good mulch.

Landscape and garden pests: Continue monitoring and treat as needed. While cooler weather generally means fewer pests, some populations actually increase at this time of year.