

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS ST. PETE

Spring Blossoms: Art in Bloom Returns to the MFA Featuring Stunning Floral Interpretations

*Art in Bloom will be presented at the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg from
April 4 through April 7, 2024.*



PRESENTED BY THE MARGARET ACHESON STUART SOCIETY
AND THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, ST. PETERSBURG

ST. PETERSBURG, FL (March 26, 2024) — Embracing the essence of springtime, the [Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg](#) (MFA) proudly announces the much-awaited return of **Art in Bloom**, a vibrant celebration blending art and nature. From Thursday, April 4 to Sunday, April 7, visitors are invited to indulge in the breathtaking beauty of floral interpretations inspired by masterpieces from the MFA Collection.

This annual tradition brings together a diverse array of floral designs crafted by a mix of seasoned professionals, talented hobbyists, and esteemed members of The Margaret Acheson Stuart Society. Each arrangement offers a unique perspective, breathing new life into iconic artworks and inviting viewers to see them through fresh eyes. Art in Bloom is presented annually by the Margaret Acheson Stuart Society and the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg. The 2024 co-chairs are Stuart Society members Donna Mainguth and Rebecca Malowany.

"Art in Bloom invites visitors on a captivating journey where our galleries and gardens blossom into vibrant showcases of color and creativity," expresses Darcy Schuller, Chief Strategy Officer. "From meticulously crafted bouquets to imaginative installations, this event promises a sensory feast that beautifully captures the essence of the season."



Professional florists, members of garden and Ikebana clubs, along with skilled DIY flower arrangers, bring their expertise to interpret works of art through floral designs. The process starts with the museum curator selecting specific artworks throughout the museum. Subsequently, each floral designer submits their preferred choice for interpretation. Each year, the featured art changes, and therefore the flowers change, creating a new exhibit.

"Art in Bloom has long been heralded as the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg's most vibrant and bustling weekend," stated Rebecca Malowany, President of the Stuart Society. "With thousands of guests in attendance, the event transforms the museum campus into a floral wonderland, with carefully curated arrangements adorning every corner. This year, we are thrilled to welcome over 40 florists, comprising both seasoned professionals and passionate hobbyists, who will showcase their exceptional talent to the Tampa Bay community."

The **Margaret Acheson Stuart Society** (named after the museum's founder) is a separate non-profit organization that supports the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg. The Society hosts several large fundraising events each year in pursuit of its mission. Over \$7 million has been raised since the inception of The Margaret Acheson Stuart Society in 1962. Funds donated have supported major exhibitions, art acquisitions, art restorations, educational programs, capital improvements, and operating expenses.

This year's featured guest florist is **Canaan Marshall**. His work can be found in the pages of Southern Living, Modern Luxury, Flower Magazine, Traditional Home, and Macon Magazine. His lineup of sophisticated events includes ADAC's To Live & Dine, Historic Macon Foundation's Design Wine & Dine, and Atlanta Symphony Associates' Decorators' Show House & Gardens opening party. Marshall is also a contestant on Season Two of Full Bloom on HBO Max. He makes extraordinary appear simple, yet always with a fabulous, fun flair. Marshall is the featured guest florist at the sold-out "Palm Beach Retreat" luncheon and will be designing a special floral arrangement live in the Mary Alice McClendon Conservatory on Thursday, April 4 at 11:00 am.



Art in Bloom is included with the cost of museum admission. As a highlight of the event, visitors are invited to attend "Conversations with the Designers" on Sunday, April 7, from 2-4 pm. This special session offers a unique chance to engage directly with the talented individuals behind the floral masterpieces, gaining insights into their creative process and inspirations.

Event Details: Art in Bloom

Dates: Thursday, April 4 – Sunday, April 7

Location: Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, 255 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Admission: Included with museum admission

Special Events:

Art in Bloom exclusive Press Preview (by invitation only) on Thursday, April 4, 9:00-10:00 am

[Flowers After Hours: "Flamingle"](#) on Thursday, April 4, 6:00-8:30 pm

[Palm Beach Retreat Luncheon](#) [SOLD OUT] on Friday, April 5, 10:30 am-1:00 pm

[Explore More! Days: Fun & Flowers](#) on Saturday, April 6, 10:00 am-12:00 pm

[Conversations with the Designers](#) on Sunday, April 7, 2:00-4:00 pm

More information and advance tickets available at mfastpete.org

Press images available [here](#).



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ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, ST. PETERSBURG

The Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg (MFA) has an encyclopedic collection of art from around the globe and across the centuries, with almost 5,000 years of civilization represented in thousands of objects extending from antiquity to the present. The collection includes works by Georgia O'Keefe, Claude Monet, Berthe Morisot, Auguste Rodin, Kehinde Wiley, Jacob Lawrence, and many others, as well as ancient Greek and Roman, Asian, African, Art of the Americas and Native American art. The Museum's photographic collection is one of the largest and most well-respected in the Southeast. The museum's rotating exhibition galleries feature a diverse selection of temporary exhibitions from all over the world, as well as exhibitions curated from the museum's extensive collection. In addition to its robust exhibition program, the MFA engages the community through exciting public programs and events and serves students through youth programs and a partnership with the Pinellas County School System.

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