
This Month at the Museum

December 2025

A Note from the Director

Dear Friends:

The holidays are HERE, and with them come some of our favorite annual traditions! Fun fact: our signature event *usea* to be called the “Polar Express” — until we received a cease-and-desist letter from Hollywood. True story, and now a bit of Museum legend! Even with its updated name, Beaches North Pole Express remains a beloved experience for local families and grows bigger and better each year. With record attendance last year, visitors enjoyed festive activities set against the backdrop of our historic buildings and locomotive.



Christmas at the Cabin offers a similarly magical experience. After all, how many people can say they’ve been to a Christmas party in a 152-year-old cabin? (Unless they’re joining *you* at ours!)

We hope you enjoy the season surrounded by buildings that have witnessed generations of holidays at the beach.

And don’t forget the gift-giving possibilities! From original artwork by Scotie Cousin to books and photographs in our Museum Store, to commemorative bricks or the gift of membership, we have something for every art and history lover on your list.

We hope to see you this holiday season and we THANK YOU for your support all year!

Sincerely,

Chris

Current Exhibit - *The World Thru Scotie Cousin's Eyes*
On exhibit November 21, 2025 - March 1, 2026



In a continued celebration of local artists, the Beaches Museum is proud to present the work of Scotie Cousin.

Step into *The World Thru Scotie Cousin's Eyes*, a dynamic exhibit that showcases beloved works aside explorations into new mediums, all united by his unmistakable signature style. Come experience Scotie's energy, creativity, and vision firsthand, and you won't see the world the same way again.

Artwork is available for purchase with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Beaches Museum.

On exhibit until March 1, 2026.

Member Deal of the Month:
Beaches Museum Ornaments



Give the Gift of Membership
This Holiday Season!

DID YOU KNOW? ONE BEACHES museum family membership can get you into...

Florida Quilt Museum Abroms-Engels Institute for the Blind and Visually Impaired Florida State Museum Florida State Museum of Art Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Florida State Railroad Museum Kodiak Historical Society and Arte Nacional Dana Point Ocean Institute Norfolk Arts Gallery Everglades Wonder Garden Florida Botanical Garden Davis Arboretum Patrick Ranch Museum Florida Dinosaur Ridge Florida Mineral Museum **AND MORE**

This month, Museum members can enjoy 15% off each of our new holiday ornaments. We have three designs in the gift shop: a locomotive, a beachy directional sign, and a sea turtle. Stop by the Museum to pick up an ornament or two as a gift (or for yourself)!

Need another gift idea? A Beaches Museum Membership makes a great gift. Family Members and above receive NARM and SERM benefits, including reciprocal free and reduced admissions to a variety of Museums! See lists of participating museums here: [\(NARM\)](#) [\(SERM\)](#)

MEMBERSHIP

Giving Tuesday
Tuesday, December 2



This Giving Tuesday, consider supporting the Beaches Museum! As a nonprofit, the support of our community is integral to our success. When you make your donation, select 'Giving Tuesday' from the dropdown menu.

Want to spread the word? Share our social media post about #GivingTuesday or make your own post about your donation and encourage your friends and family to support the Museum to with a donation of their own!

DONATE

Chapel Concert: Backtrack Blues Band
Thursday, December 11 - 7:00 p.m.



BEACHES MUSEUM
CHAPEL CONCERT SERIES

BACK TRACK BLUES BAND

12.11.25 - 7:00 p.m.

The Beaches Museum Concert Series continues with Backtrack Blues on Tuesday, **December 11, 2025** at 7:00 p.m.

Experience the next generation of Blues! Join us for an unforgettable evening with David Julia — a Central Florida guitarist, singer-songwriter, and entertainer who's already made his mark at festivals like Springing the Blues and the International Blues Challenge in Memphis. With soulful vocals, fiery guitar work, and a deep love for the Blues, David brings energy and heart to every performance. His debut album, *Inspired*, pays tribute to the Blues masters who shaped his sound with original songs showcasing his fresh and modern edge.

The Chapel Concert series, now in its 11th year, has featured a wide variety of musical genres, nationally and internationally known artists, and award-winning music. The Chapel Concerts benefit the Beaches Museum.

Check-in and refreshments begin at 6:30 p.m. and the show will start at 7:00 p.m. No physical tickets will be issued but your name will be on the list at check-in. Thank you for your support!

TICKETS

Beaches North Pole Express
Friday, December 12 - 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 13 - 1:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



All aboard: the **Beaches North Pole Express** is back in town! Ride the trackless train, ring the bell and meet the conductor, see the North Pole Express model train, and so much more at this beloved family holiday event!

Visitors are invited to write and send a letter to Santa at the 1903 Post Office, meet Santa at the 1900 Foreman's House, and enjoy cookies, hot cocoa, and train-related holiday festivities throughout the park.

Beaches North Pole Express is **free** to Museum Members with a suggested \$5 donation from non-members. Registration is required to attend.

[REGISTER](#)

Community Menorah Lighting with Chabad at the Beaches
Monday, December 15, 6:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY
MENORAH LIGHTING
 MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025 • 6:00 PM
 THE BEACHES MUSEUM
 381 BEACH BLVD. JAX BEACH



Featuring
AFRICAN HIGH FLYERS
America's got Talent

MENORAH LIGHTING
 HOT LATKES
 FAMILY ACTIVITIES

RSVP:
 CHABADBEACHES.COM • FOR MORE INFO: 904-770-0502
 CHANUKAH GIFT WITH RSVP BY DECEMBER 9TH

REGISTRATION THROUGH CHABAD

Christmas at the Cabin
 Thursday, December 18 - 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.



CHRISTMAS AT THE CABIN

Please join us as we experience the warmth of the holiday season at the Beaches Museum's 1873 Oesterreicher-McCormick Cabin for the Museum's

annual holiday open house event, "Christmas at the Cabin."

This year's annual festival will be bustling with twinkling lights and carolers. There will also be music and dance performances at the historic Beaches Museum Chapel along with period décor, lights on display throughout the history park, and an open fire for roasting marshmallows! The event will take place rain or shine.

Admission for Museum members is free. A \$5 admission fee is requested for non-members to support the Museum.

[REGISTER](#)

History Haunt with Corbin Bentley
Friday, December 19 - 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



Join paranormal investigator Corbin 'yo.retro' Bentley for a haunted tour of the history park after dark! Guests and employees have long reported supernatural experiences on the Museum grounds. Is there any truth to these accounts? It's up to you to decide on this ghost investigation.

This event is hosted by a third party. Proceeds benefit the Museum.

Admission is \$30 per person and attendance is limited to 15 slots per tour.

[VISIT EVENT WEBSITE](#)

Please Note
Upcoming Holiday Hours

The Beaches Museum will be closed for the following holidays:

Christmas Eve
Christmas Day
New Year's Eve
New Year's Day

Don't worry! We will otherwise remain open for our regular operating hours this holiday season. See you at the Museum!



Museum visitors, please note that we will be on **Christmas Eve** and **Christmas Day!** However, we will resume our regular operating hours on Friday the 26th. We will additionally be closed on **New Year's Eve** and **New Year's Day**.

Excluding these holidays, the Beaches Museum will remain open for its regular operating hours. We hope to see your visiting friends and family from out of town at the Museum!

Partner Spotlight: Chao Framing

We are proud to call locally-owned and operated [Chao Framing](#) a trusted partner of the Beaches Museum.

Chao produces the colorful and sturdy custom panels we use for our temporary history exhibits! If you stopped in to take a look at Beach Front Home Front: War at the Beaches, you've seen their work.



They also produce the oversized 'postcard' signs displayed above the front desk! These rotate with each exhibit, and right now, their giant Scotie Cousin postcard is on display. Scotie is known for sustainably repurposing signage in his pieces, so we see a Chao and Scotie collab in our future!

We're grateful for Chao's partnership and dedication to helping us share the diverse art, history, and culture of the Beaches with the whole community.

Birdies for Charity



You Could Win \$10,000 By Giving Back!

To participate in **THE PLAYERS Championship Birdies for Charity** contest, donate to a local nonprofit and guess the number of birdies that will be made during the 2025 tournament.

The individual who guesses correctly will receive a chance to win \$10,000!

Contest runs NOVEMBER 18, 2024 - MARCH 12, 2025

Visit THEPLAYERS.com/birdies to participate
& for more information.

OPEN ONLY TO LEGAL RESIDENTS OF THE 50 UNITED STATES AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
(EXCLUDING NEW YORK) WHO ARE 18 YEARS OR OLDER AS OF THE DATE OF ENTRY. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.

Contest runs Nov. 18, 2024 – March 12, 2025

Five minutes and a \$20 donation could earn you \$10K! The Birdies for Charity campaign invites you to enter a contest by making a minimum donation to a local nonprofit like us and guessing the number of birdies during THE PLAYERS Championship 2025. Enter any time now through Wednesday, March 12, 2025. PLAYERS covers credit card fees so that all donations go to your selected charity.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Leave Your Mark! Buy a Brick!

Show your Beaches Museum pride, memorialize a loved one, or celebrate something special by having your message displayed on a commemorative brick to be installed inside our Train Enclosure.



Engraved on your brick could be a name, a message, a business, or something else entirely! Whatever you decide, your brick will serve as a visible reminder of your commitment to the Museum and the Beaches area.

Every brick has a story. Write yours and make your mark as a part of the Beaches Museum. History is in the making, and this is your chance to memorialize the things that matter most to you. Your brick will be a place where the past meets the future in a perfectly preserved moment as a permanent part of Beaches history.

The 4"x 8"x 2 1/4" bricks are engraved using state-of-the-art laser technology and they are all guaranteed for life. Each brick is \$100, and each purchase supports the Museum in our mission to preserve and share Beaches history.

Support the Museum through Membership!

Membership at the Beaches Museum is a great way to show your support!



Join us in preserving, understanding, and celebrating the history of the Beaches – become a member of the Beaches Museum. Join now, and you receive all the benefits of membership, including access to historic buildings, the Beaches Museum, and rotating exhibits showcasing the colorful heritage of our Beaches communities.

You can become a member of Beaches Museum on our [website](#). You can also [donate](#) directly to the Museum. When you choose to donate, you can select a project that most interests you, including the Chapel Preservation Fund, the Jean McCormick Founders Fund, or the Museum's General Fund.

Join or Renew!

Beaches Museum Legacy Circle

Help ensure a future for our past by making a planned gift or a gift to our endowment!

To learn more about remembering the Museum in your will or contributing to the future sustainability of our organization, please contact Chris at 904-241-5657 x 113 or director@beachesmuseum.org.



Save the Date!



January 17
Children's Art Day
with Scotie Cousin



January 25
Florida Chamber
Music Project



January 31
Gallery Tour:
The World Thru Scotie
Cousin's Eyes

About the Beaches Museum

Beaches Museum's mission is "to preserve and share the distinct history and culture of the Beaches area."

The Beaches Museum is generously supported by The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville and Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs.



Beaches Museum
381 Beach Boulevard
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
(904)241-5657

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