
This Month at the Museum

April 2026

A Note from the Director

Dear Friends:

April is always one of the busiest—and most exciting—months of the Museum year, and 2026 is no exception. There is truly something for everyone, from our garden and nature event, *Springing the Blooms*, to the celebration of Atlantic Beach's first 100 years. We also continue our long-standing tradition of honoring Fletcher, our island's only high school, and kick off the 34th *Springing the Blues* Festival with a special Chapel Concert.

Preserving, sharing, and celebrating our community's history and culture is at the heart of everything we do, and that mission is on full display throughout April.

We are able to offer these events, exhibits, and programs because of your generosity. Thank you for your continued support through your membership, sponsorship, and commitment to the Beaches Museum.

We look forward to seeing you around the Museum!

Sincerely,



Chris Hoffman
Executive Director





WOMEN ARTS EXCHANGE



In a continued celebration of local artists, the Beaches Museum is proud to present five artists in partnership with Women Arts Exchange. Visit our Dickinson Gallery to view the work of artists Amanda Holloway, Anne Cullum, Kim Hurt, Balsam Abo Zour, and Susanne Schuenke for a limited time. **Sunday, April 12** is the last day to catch this exhibit--see it before it's gone!

Opening Reception - Atlantic Beach 100
On exhibit April 17, 2026 - August 23, 2026



Join Museum members, supporters, and patrons for a first look at Atlantic Beach 100, an updated history of Atlantic Beach in celebration of the city's centennial year, over light drinks and appetizers.

From its beginnings as a bustling center of beachfront activity for vacationers in the early 1900s to the vibrant coastal community it is today, this exhibit highlights the photos, artifacts, stories, and people that shaped the city. Discover its role in national golf tournaments, the preservation of its cherished parks, and the rich history behind the familiar names that still appear in the community today. Join us as we celebrate Atlantic Beach's centennial and honor 100 years of coastal history and community pride.

All events are free to Museum members with a \$5 suggested donation for non-members. Because space is limited, registration is encouraged.

Funding for this exhibit and its opening reception was provided in part by the City of Atlantic Beach.

On exhibit April 17, 2026 through August 23, 2026.

REGISTER



Member Moment: Use Your NARM Benefits!

MEMBER MOMENT **DID YOU KNOW?** A Beaches Museum **Family Membership** is your ticket to the following museums...



American Heritage Museum **Naticum**
um **National Civil War Naval Museum**
Military Heritage Museum **Paul Revere**
ardens **National Veterans Memorial**
Mount Vernon **Historic New England**
...and more!

Are you a Family Member with the Beaches Museum? If so, take a look at your membership card. You should see a North American Reciprocal Museum Association sticker, and that sticker is your ticket to **free or reduced admissions at over 1,400 participating museums nationwide!** Visit the NARM website and [search by location or institution](#) to discover how far your Beaches Museum Family Membership can take you!

The Beaches Museum also participates in the Southeastern Reciprocal Membership Program. Present your membership card at [participating SERM institutions](#) and receive free admission as well as gift shop discounts!

Not a member? Join today and enjoy the benefits of NARM and SERM!

START OR RENEW A
MEMBERSHIP

ASK ABOUT EXISTING
MEMBERSHIPS

Member Deal of the Month: Hatching Plush Critters

Springing the Blooms MUSEUM MEMBER DEAL PRODUCT OF THE MONTH 15% OFF

plush hatchlings with reusable glow in the dark egg

~~\$12.50~~
\$10.62

SEA TURTLE EGG HATCHLING

Proceeds help support sea turtle rescue, rehabilitation, and nest protection through conservation partners and Call For The Wild's wildlife protection initiatives.

These cuddly critters are our newest bestsellers in the gift shop! Pick up a cute hatching sea turtle or gator and help it hatch. Each critter comes with a resealable egg and an educational card with information about the critter's life-cycle and habitat. Call for the Wild proceeds help fund wildlife rescue research and habitat conservation initiatives, so your purchase supports conservation as well as the Beaches Museum!

For this month only, **our members** get an exclusive 15% off discount on these cute plush critters! Simply show your membership card at checkout.

MEMBERSHIP

Chapel Concert: Blair Crimmins and the Hookers
Thursday, April 9 - 7:00 p.m.



Otto Junior discovered the blues at just 12 years old and quickly emerged as one of the genre's rising stars. He has toured extensively across Europe and Japan, with U.S. festival and club performances on the horizon—including an appearance this year at the Springing the Blues Festival! This Chapel Concert is your chance to see the star at a more intimate venue before he takes to the stage at Springing the Blues this year.

The Otto Junior Band features Otto on vocals and guitar, Jacob Theis on bass, and Ola Grindbakken on drums—two seasoned musicians whose versatility helps shape a dynamic sound spanning blues, soul, funk, and blues-rock. Together, they deliver high-energy performances that honor blues classics while pushing the genre forward.

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

Springing the Blooms
Presented by Springing the Blues Festival
Saturday, April 11 - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Join Beaches Museum for a day of springtime fun presented by Springing the Blues at the annual Springing the Blooms celebration! Stroll through the beautiful History Park and gardens as they come to life with hands-on art activities and engaging educational presentations by nature experts.

Kids can enjoy live childrens' music on the historic Foreman's House front porch, explore and learn about nature from experts like the Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol and Master Gardeners, and try out creative spring-themed arts and crafts activities. Don't miss the chance for an animal meet-and-greet, and remember to take home a free tomato plant courtesy of our sponsors at Rockaway! Plus, **artist Scotie Cousin** will lead a special interactive workshop where kids can collaborate on a unique group art piece.

At 10:30, Kevin Brown of the Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol will give speak on sea turtle rescue and conservation, and at 11:45, Jody Willis of the Florida Native Plant Society will give a talk on our local native plants! You can catch these experts in the Chapel at their designated times. Don't miss the presentations!

Admission is free, but registration is required! Click the link below to register.

[BUY YOUR TICKETS](#)

Thank you to our sponsors!

**Springing
The Blues
FESTIVAL** 

Presented by **Sawgrass Asset Management** | Powered by **AVL Productions**



Fletcher All-Class Block Party
Presented by HFG Wealth Advisors
Saturday, April 25 - 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.



Join us for the
Fletcher All-Class Block Party!
This year's theme is
Stars, Stripes, and Purple Pride!

Celebrate Fletcher, toast to the Beaches Museum, and enjoy a party that brings grads together! In addition to the company of your fellow grads and a limited Fletcher history exhibit, you'll be able to enjoy **live music** by The Mosquitos, freshly popped popcorn, drinks from our fundraiser bars, and delicious tacos and more from El Agave Azul's food truck!

The purpose of the Fletcher All-Class Block party is to celebrate decades of graduates, faculty, and supporters of Fletcher, the Beaches' only high school in support of the Beaches Museum, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Music from a local band, dancing, food trucks, gathering of classmates and much more will be on-hand for party guests. The theme is "Stars, Stripes, and Purple Pride!"

All proceeds from ticket sales benefit the Museum and contribute to the continued success of our mission "to preserve and share the distinct history and culture of the Beaches area."

[BUY YOUR TICKETS](#)

Thank you to our sponsors to-date!



HFG
WEALTH ADVISORS



Partner Spotlight: Springing the Blues Festival

The Beaches Museum is proud to partner with Springing the Blues Festival for a pair of great spring events!



This month, our Chapel Concert will feature Springing the Blues artist Otto Junior for a special pre-festival show! We are honored to share an artist with Springing the Blues and share in the excitement of the legacy of blues at the Beaches as Springing the Blues Festival celebrates its 34th year!

We are just as grateful for the festival's presenting sponsorship of Springing the Blooms, our all-ages spring event that shares Saturday with the blues festival! Stop by the History Park on your way to the main stage and say hello!

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!



May 2
Upcycle Fashion Show
This is a Third Party Event
Proceeds Benefit the Museum



May 9
Stories from the Mayors
of Atlantic Beach



Save our Right Whales
... before they go extinct

May 15
Right Whales of Amelia Island



BEACHES MUSEUM
Chapel Concerts

May 19
Chapel Concert:
Jim Bickerstaff
and the White Knuckle Flyers

[View Full Calendar](#)

About the Beaches Museum

The Beaches Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with the mission "to preserve and share the distinct history and culture of the Beaches area."

A thriving creative economy enhances the quality of life for us all. Supported in part by the Merit-Based Cultural Service Grant Program, administered by the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville with funding from the City of Jacksonville and our elected officials, we extend our gratitude to all partners who make this possible.



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

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