

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Lake Wales Museum Upcoming Events

### Presentation by Jeff Klinkenberg, Bus Tour, Exhibits & More



*Lakewood Plaza, outdoor living space. Long Beach, California. 1950s. Maynard L. Parker, photographer. Courtesy of The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.*

**LAKE WALES, Florida** – The Lake Wales Museum will host a range of new programs in November and December 2018.

**September 18 – November 24, 2018**

#### **Patios, Pools, & the Invention of the American Backyard**

The suburban backyard is an American original – an invention so familiar it hardly seems invented at all. This exciting traveling exhibit explores the mid-century backyard from the rise of the suburbs and tract houses, to the beauty of postwar garden design, and the birth of the environmental movement. Filled with vintage photographs, historic drawings, and fun period advertisements, the exhibition reveals how these spaces became such an integral part of American popular culture. Presented by the

Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the Smithsonian Gardens' Archive of American Gardens. Free to the public.



**November 15, 2018 at 6 PM**

#### **Florida Humanities Council Speaker Series Featuring Alligators in Florida Culture by Jeff Klinkenberg**

Few states have a relationship with an animal in the way that Florida does with the alligator. Whether it's a school mascot, being wrestled at a tourist attraction, or sunbathing on a golf course, these reptiles are ubiquitous to our state. After hearing Jeff Klinkenberg's lecture, and watching his accompanying video, you'll agree that there can be no Florida without alligators. Free to the public. Light refreshments. RSVP



*Mountain Lake Estate, exterior. Lake Wales, Florida. 1917. Photographer unknown. Courtesy of Nancy Hale Hoyt.*

**December 4, 2018 – February 16, 2019**

#### **Mountain Lake: A Look Inside Building a Legacy**

The Lake Wales Museum presents a historical exhibit about the story of Mountain Lake Estates, one of the oldest private golf and estate communities in the country, located in Lake Wales, Florida. This exhibit will feature stories, photographs, original illustrations, maps, and memorabilia about how the community of Mountain Lake has greatly contributed to the historic preservation, economic development and social causes of the small town of Lake Wales, Florida. Highlights will include displays of more

than a century of Mediterranean-style architectural designs, the development of the citrus industry, and building the first hospital. Free to the public.

**December 8, 2018 from 10 AM – 12 PM**

**Town & Country History Bus Tour**

Join us for a tour through old Florida history, driving through the heart of downtown Lake Wales and stopping at historic building of the Lake Wales Arts Center. Along the way, participants will learn about the historic district, buildings and lakes of Lake Wales. Enjoy an air-conditioned ride on the new History Bus! \$15/person. Seating limited. Reservations required.

**December 13, 2018 from 6 – 8 PM**

**Holiday History Happy Hour**

Be one of the first to see our new exhibit, talk to our curator and enjoy live music, holiday history trivia, complimentary food, donation bar with fine wines and craft beer. Free to the public. RSVP.

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**About SITES and Smithsonian Gardens**

SITES has been sharing the wealth of Smithsonian collections and research programs with millions of people outside Washington, D.C., for 65 years. SITES connects Americans to their cultural heritage through a wide range of exhibitions about art, science and history, which are shown wherever people live, work and play. Smithsonian Gardens care for living plant, artifact and archival collections. Its Archives of American Gardens collects and makes available for research use images of and documentation relating to a wide variety of cultivated gardens throughout the United States. In this way, AAG strives to preserve and highlight a meaningful compendium of significant aspects of gardening in the U.S. for the benefit of researchers and the public today and in the future.

**About the Florida's Humanities Council**

The Florida Humanities Council sponsors community based projects, facilitates important conversations among Floridians, and shines a spotlight on Florida's history, art, and culture. Established in 1973, we are an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. For over forty years we have developed and funded public programs that tell the stories of both Florida and those unique individuals that call this state their home. For more information, visit [www.floridahumanities.org](http://www.floridahumanities.org).

**About the Lake Wales Museum**

The Lake Wales Museum features historical exhibits, train cars, educational programs and group tours, and is open Tuesday – Saturday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission is free. Parking is free and the first floor is accessible for persons with disabilities, wheelchairs and strollers. For more information contact the Lake Wales Museum, 325 S Scenic Highway, Lake Wales, Florida 33853; 863-676-1759 or visit [www.cityoflakewales.com](http://www.cityoflakewales.com).