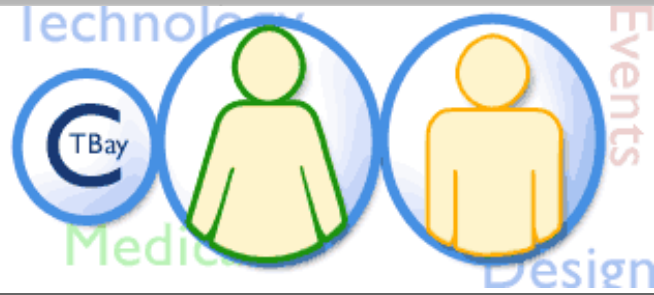


"I often tell my clients: 'Do what you can do, not what you can't.' One thing cities can do is be authentic."

Carol Coletta - Host and Producer, "Smart City" public radio show, and president of Coletta and Company



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- [Creative Principles](#)
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- [Creative Info](#)
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Creative Tampa Bay Buzz

Tampa Bay's Weekly Creative Digest

For the Week Beginning Monday, February 14, 2005

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CREATIVE COMMUNITIES

Tampa Downtown Partnership Vision Plan Update



Affordable Housing
Revitalization
"Cafe District"?

The Tampa Downtown Partnership and city officials unveiled their vision for downtown last Monday. Over 100 people turned out at the Tampa Theatre to hear plans calling for affordable housing, renovation of dilapidated landmarks, and ideas for a new "Cafe District." Read the full story in the Tampa Tribune: <http://www.tampatrib.com/MGB6RQ7OX4E.html>

Emerge Tampa Leaders Profiled in St. Petersburg Times

Emerge Tampa Co-Chairs Jessica Muroff and Mike Griffin are getting noticed for their energy and leadership at the helm of the new organization. EmERGE Tampa, launched in the Tampa Chamber of Commerce to attract and connect young professionals, now boasts over 500 paid members. Read the full story on Jessica and Mike here: http://www.sptimes.com/2005/02/07/Business/Duo_push_Tampa_s_char.shtml

CREATIVE

Help Wanted: Artistic, Empathetic, Right Brain Thinkers to Lead in the Conceptual Age



Look out all you Left Brain types--the Right Brainers are the next "It" group. Daniel Pink, author of *Free Agent Nation* and the forthcoming *A Whole New Mind: Moving from the Information Age to the Conceptual Age*, argues that empathy, artistry, and creativity are the most desirable traits in the post Information Age. Pink's argument is parallel in some ways to Richard Florida's exaltation of creativity as the new driver of economic growth.

Check out Pink's theory in this month's Wired Magazine:

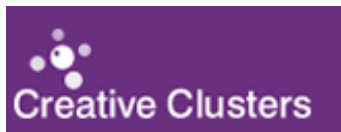
<http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/13.02/brain.html?pg=1&topic=brain&>

EDC of Sarasota County Announces Dates for Innovation Summit

The Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County scheduled its first Innovation Summit for October 5 – 8, 2005. The summit, being planned by the Creative Services cluster, will attract business executives from across the country to Sarasota County to learn creative problem-solving techniques and ways to foster an innovative culture in their business environments. Unlike traditional conferences, the two-day summit will offer a variety of hands-on, interactive workshops individually customized for each attendee and taught by local experts. The committee is seeking sponsorship for the event. For information, please contact Diane Andrews at dandrews@edcsarasotacounty.com.



Creative Clusters 2005 Conference Dates Announced



Creative Clusters, one of the best international conferences on creative industries, is hosting its third conference in Belfast, Northern Ireland October 24th – 26th, 2005.

Belfast is a city in transformation and the hub of the creative industries in Northern Ireland. It is home to internationally successful design, media and architecture clusters, a thriving visual arts scene, a rich industrial heritage and the highlight of Ireland's cultural calendar - the Belfast Festival. Taking place at the same time as Creative Clusters 2005, the annual Belfast Festival attracts over 50,000 visitors and features the very best international and local theatre, dance, visual arts, music and comedy.

Over three days the Creative Clusters 2005 conference will feature speakers and presentations on creative industry development from the UK and around the world, supported by an exciting program of networking and entertainment events.

To find out more about Creative Clusters 2005 go to www.creativeclusters.com.

Tampa Jaycees to Sponsor Best Business Plan in Tampa Bay Competition



The Tampa Jaycees are sponsoring a business plan competition for Tampa Bay entrepreneurs under the age of 40. Entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to submit their business plans for review and advice from a panel of local business leaders.

Judging will be limited to the first 50 plans and all plans must be received by April 1. Winners will be announced at an awards luncheon to be held at the end of April.

As part of the competition, the USF Small Business Development Center will offer business plan classes for those who wish to enter the competition. The class is offered to those who pay their registration fees before March 1 and will include an overview of how to write a business plan, as well as featuring special SBDC software to assist in the drafting of a comprehensive plan.

For more information, visit the Tampa Jaycees web site at www.tampajaycees.com and the STAR TEC web site, www.startecflorida.com.

CREATIVES SPEAK UP!

The Studio@620: St. Pete's Newest "Third Place"

by Elizabeth Leib



"Integration" and "Contextualization." These are the words Bob Devin Jones uses to describe what's unique about The Studio @ 620. "We integrate the arts as opposed to presenting a theatre show with art hung in the lobby," says Devin Jones. "For example, Grandma's Hands, 100 Years of African American Quilt Making, is presented with performers singing original slave songs." Local artist Neverene Covington is creating new work for an exhibit at The Studio that combines percussion, videography and dance.

It all started when several artists with work space at South Creek in SE St. Pete were losing their venue and looked to relocate. Investor Jamie Howell raised \$140,000 in 2 weeks to purchase a building that would meet their needs and provide space for a cluster of creative organizations. At the center of the action, Bob Devin Jones founded "What's on First" with Dave Ellis. Not satisfied with the name, the new artistic directors collaborated with fellow tenant Philip Gary on the name and logo for The Studio @ 620.

Initially, Jones and Ellis want to focus on the work of living playwrights. The proposed theatre season of 3 plays in repertory - Live From Death Row ...the Scottsboro Boys by Mark Stein, Tommy J and Sally by Mark Medoff, and Statement After An Arrest Under the Immorality Act by Athol Fugard - respond to the lack of African American plays in the community. But race relations will not be a defining feature. The classics and avant garde are on the horizon. Devin Jones suggests, "What about Waiting for Godot with an all female cast?" The show opening March 3, "Say What," features many locally known and nationally recognized artists such as poet Peter Meinke and performance artist Ijeoma Thomas. Conceived and planned by Davie Ellis, the 16-day event offers members of the community the chance to enjoy dance performances, poetry readings, enroll in instructional workshops and much much more.



Funding for the \$70,000 annual budget has come from selling "620" memberships and from individuals like Al May, also a supporter of LiveArts, The Palladium and American Stage. The Studio @ 620 staff, along with a Board of Directors led by Michele Rouse, is gearing up development efforts, applying for grants and looking for corporate sponsorships. With all the excitement in Tampa Bay about cool community for a hot economy, The Studio @ 620 is poised to lead the way!

CREATIVE EVENTS CALENDAR

2005 Downtown Real Estate Trends

Feb. 15, 8 to 9 AM

Downtown Real Estate Trends will be discussed at the University Club, One Tampa City Center, Suite 3800 (201 N. Franklin St.). The fee for admission is \$20 for Tampa Downtown Partnership members and \$25 for guests. [To register, visit the website at http://events.tampasdowntown.com/register.asp?e_id=5](http://events.tampasdowntown.com/register.asp?e_id=5)

La Familia de Comellas

Feb. 18, 7 to 11 PM



Chalet Zell is the featured artist at a Channelside art party – free and open to the public. Zell's paintings reflect details of his Hispanic roots and about his life growing up in Tampa. The event takes place at Artists Unlimited, 223 N. 12th St., at the corner of 12th and Kennedy, one block west of Channelside Drive. [For more information, call 813-229-5958 or visit www.artistsunlimited.org.](http://www.artistsunlimited.org)

Creativity, Marketing and Management: Two Workshops

Feb. 19

9:30 AM to 12:30 PM and 1:30 to 4:30 PM

Rebecca Bluestone will present two workshops: "Process and Creativity of the Artist" and "Marketing and Management: A

Workshop for the Professional Artist." Topics include the process of creating, discipline, focus, the role of the senses, intuition, the artistic statement and dealing with critical review. The marketing workshop will cover many facets of making a living as a professional artist. The workshops take place at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater. The fee for both workshops is \$45 for Florida Craftsmen members or \$55 for non-members. [For more information on either workshop or to register, call Florida Craftsmen at 727-821-7391 or visit www.floridacraftsmen.net.](http://www.floridacraftsmen.net)



Engineering Expo 2005

Feb. 18 and 19, 9 AM



This annual event is hosted by the University of South Florida's College of Engineering. Festivities will include laser light shows, chemical magic shows, fun with robots, biomedical engineering marvels, gumdrop and spaghetti tower competition, battlebots competition and much more. Engineering Expo 2005 is free and open to the public. [Visit the Web site for directions, more details or to register at: http://expo.eng.usf.edu.](http://expo.eng.usf.edu)

Hernando County Fine Arts Council Workshop

Feb. 19, 8 AM to Noon

A workshop to identify the needs of Hernando County and to determine the role of the council takes place at the Country Kitchen restaurant located on the 50 Bypass in Brooksville. [Please RSVP to Betty Weinman at 352-688-9880.](mailto:bettyweinman@hernadocountyfla.com)

The Floridians

Feb. 18 - 20, 7:30 PM



Ruth Eckerd Hall's Eckerd Theater Company and the LiveArts Peninsula Foundation present Florida-inspired scripts commissioned by LiveArts Foundation. Florida themes are explored in Doug Cooney's Live Alligator Wrestling, David F. Smith's Wallace Stevens at Key West and Jeff

Whipple's The Cutting Edge of Amenities. [Tickets for this celebration of Florida plays are \\$15 and available for purchase by calling 727-791-7400 or by visiting \[rutheckerdhall.com\]\(http://rutheckerdhall.com\).](#)

New York Radio Host Michael Lasser

Feb. 20, 2 PM

The Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art hosts a conversation with New York's Michael Lasser, host of Fascinat' Rhythm, a nationally syndicated public radio show. He will talk with guests about flapper songs of the 1920s. [Admission is \\$5 for museum members and students, \\$8 for non-members. For information or directions, call 727-712-5762.](#)

Funding Your Cultural Institution Workshop

Feb. 25, 8:30 to 11:15 AM

The Tampa Bay Business Committee of the Arts and the Arts Council of Hillsborough County invite interested individuals to a free seminar led by speakers from the National Center for Social Entrepreneurs. Discussions will focus on social entrepreneurship, a new concept promising innovative ways to augment financial resources. This event will be held at the Tampa Museum of Art, 600 N. Ashley Dr. Space is limited. [Contact Kelly Prata at 813-221-2787 or email her at \[kelly.prata@tbca.org\]\(mailto:kelly.prata@tbca.org\).](#)

Sustainable Wine Tasting & Earth Charter Exhibit

Feb. 25, 5:30 to 8:30 PM

The Tampa Earth Charter organization and the Museum of Science and Industry present an exhibit produced by Earth Charter International of 14 panels, each 6 feet by 3 feet, showing examples of ongoing Earth Charter work in several countries. Guests will have the chance to view large panel photos taken at different community summits around the world including photos by Nobel Peace Prize Winner Wangari Maathai. Features of the event include world music, appetizers from Mise en Place Restaurant and a sustainable wine tasting. A donation of \$3 is requested. [Call 813-254-8454 for more information.](#)

Say What?

March 3 - 19

A gathering of poets, visual artists, dancers and musicians devoted to celebrating words is planned and presented by The Studio @ 620 in St. Petersburg. The varied program includes open mic nights, visual art, improvisational dance, film, a poetry competition, a show of poetry in fashion, photography improv, theater, and a look back in history ranging from Shakespeare to Jazz to Hip Hop. [For more information regarding program dates and times, performers, and admission, visit the web site \[www.thestudioat620.com\]\(http://www.thestudioat620.com\).](#)



WORTH REPEATING, worth repeating, worth repeating, worth repeating

Platform Florida Art Party #5

Feb. 18, 6 to 10 PM

Guests are invited to Platform Florida's Art Party #5 which will include fashion, film, sound, performance and art. Lakeland Electric's Music on the Promenade will feature an outdoor blues concert at the Lake Mirror Amphitheatre. The event takes place at the Peggy Brown Center (215 S. Lake St.) on Lake Mirror, in downtown Lakeland. Ticket price is \$12



and includes beer, wine and soft drinks. General admission tickets are available for \$6. [For more information, visit www.platformflorida.com](#).

Drum Magic

Feb. 19, Noon to 4 PM



The public is invited to a unique, engaging, physical and primal vehicle for fun, learning, self-expression and team building – drumming! The event is free, sponsored by the Hillsborough Arts Council and takes place at the Lowry Park Bandshell in Tampa. Drums are provided; all ages are encouraged to participate. For more information, call Jana Broder at 813-361-4667 or visit www.drummagic.net.

For a complete calendar of creative events for young professionals, hosted by Verve Tampa Bay, go to www.vervetampabay.com/calendar.

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10. [June 14, 2004](#)
11. [July 26, 2004](#)
12. [August 09, 2004](#)
13. [August 16, 2004](#)
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16. [September 07, 2004](#)
17. [September 20, 2004](#)
18. [September 27, 2004](#)
19. [October 4, 2004](#)
20. [October 11, 2004](#)

21. [October 18, 2004](#)
22. [October 25, 2004](#)
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29. [January 03, 2005](#)
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32. [January 24, 2005](#)
33. [January 31, 2005](#)
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