

Media Advisory/ Photo Opportunity

For High Res photos for the collection, additional information or a Press Pass, please contact: Kathryn Peterson
Administrative Director/ Marketing Director, Museum of Florida Art
peterston@MuseumofFloridaArt.com (386)734-4371

Museum of Florida Art hosts Advanced Placement (AP) English Educators from across the US

On June 13, 2008, the Museum of Florida Art will host a *Legendary Florida: the Florida History Paintings of Jackson Walker* gallery talk with Advanced Placement (AP) English educators from across the United States.

"This is an excellent opportunity", said Pam Coffman, Education Curator at the Museum of Florida Art. "Our goal is to help the educators connect visual and verbal literacy in an effort to enhance their student's comprehension of critical thinking and analytical skills"

This is only the second year AP High School students nationwide will be expected to interpret a visual source and then integrate that analysis into an argumentative composition in testing. This testing emphasis reflects a trend whereby the College Board understands the importance of visual literacy.



Jewell Dickson, Museum of Florida Art's Tour Coordinator stated, "Visual information, as communicated by an artist, is best interpreted by understanding the language of art, including: line, color, shape, form, etc. We seek to share our interpretive strategies with these teachers in hopes that they may use their own galleries and museums at home as a resource for learning."

The 150 teachers visiting the *Legendary Florida* Collection will be using the engaging images as the content to learn visual analysis and compositional writing strategies for their students. This will help their students in taking the AP exam, in which they will be asked to develop a position and utilize various sources to reinforce the position established utilizing visual imagery and works of art.

The *Legendary Florida* exhibition tour programs reinforces vocabulary, descriptive exercises of works of art and guides students through the process of interpretive review and analysis in writing exercises. Tour programs of the Museum are aligned with the Florida Sunshine State and National Education Standards.

"We need to encourage our language arts teachers to partner with visual arts instructors, museum educators and even artists themselves as a resource to teach our students about visual literacy. We are surrounded by visuals all of the time. We become passive consumers of visual images, as they are background for our lives. We need to help students consider critical analysis of visual symbols so as to consider what influences they may hold and what these images communicate." Dr. Gary Hatch, Professor of English at Brigham Young University, Chief Reader Designate for the College Board

The *Legendary Florida: the Florida History Paintings of Jackson Walker* collection is owned by the Museum of Florida Art with a new commission added to the collection each year. The collection is offered on view, free to the public at the Volusia County Historic Court House at 120 W. Indiana Ave. in DeLand, Florida and can also be viewed online at www.MuseumofFloridaArt.com with a model education curriculum available free

for students statewide and beyond.

The Museum of Florida Art is located in the Cultural Arts Center at 600 North Woodland Blvd. DeLand, FL 32720. For more information, Please contact (386) 734-4371 or visit us online at www.MuseumOfFloridaArt.com.

The Museum of Florida Art offers a venue where: creativity is fostered, appreciation of art is nurtured, all people are welcomed. The mission of the Museum of Florida Art is to promote and showcase Florida Art and emerging and established Florida Artists through exhibitions and educational and interpretive programming made available to a diverse statewide audience of all ages; to collect and preserve works of art for this purpose; to publish books and other materials concerning the foregoing; and to make such resources available for the public.

Featured above: "The Guns of Anastasia" by Jackson Walker
On extended loan from the permanent collection of the Museum of Florida Art.

-###-