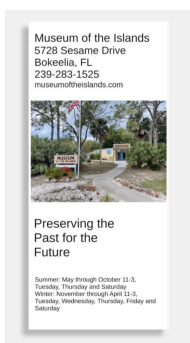


Museum of the Islands Fall 2026 Newsletter

Fall 2026

by Karen Hartshorne, President

Football and school have started, so you know the season is here. Time to Fall into Island life.



We are open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 11-3 until November 1st. Then, we go into our Fall hours of Tuesday through Saturday, 11-3, closed on Sunday and Monday. Please let us know if you have any special requests for tours. Having a family reunion, or relatives visiting here on the island? Call us for a special tour!

Please feel free to pass our newsletter on. Past years newsletters are on our website archives. Sit back and see them [here](#).



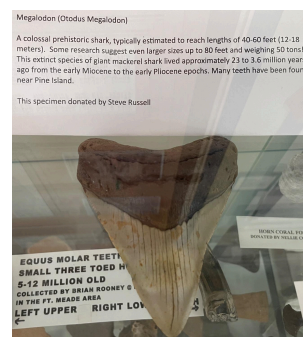
Looking for a way to get to know the islands better? Volunteer at the museum. We would love to have you join our Team. You will meet people, hear stories and learn the history of Pine Island and the surrounding islands.

THIS Summer's TOP STORIES

We've Been Busy



Our exhibits now include a reproduction of a Confederate-era revolver and a Megalodon Shark Tooth.



Think you've been in and seen it all? I guarantee you new discoveries each time you walk into the museum. Hard to believe the space the museum is in was the first library.

We went to the FT Myers Beach arches plaque unveiling September 19th. It was wonderful! The arches will be recreated later at Bowditch Point Beach Park, Ft Myers Beach.

Our June membership drive went well. Thank you to all of our new and renewal members! Your support for the museum is essential.

If you would like to renew your membership you may visit the museum, or [mail in your form](#).



We've been stocking our Gift Shop



Countdown to Christmas...this early? Yes! We just got a new shipment of afghans in and Security is guarding them for you. Our exclusive Pine Island afghans are 10% off through Christmas for all members. We will ship to you if you are not on island. There are also other weekly sales going on. Books, jewelry, t shirts...watch for them on our sandwich board in the front of the museum, inside the door.

We've been having fun

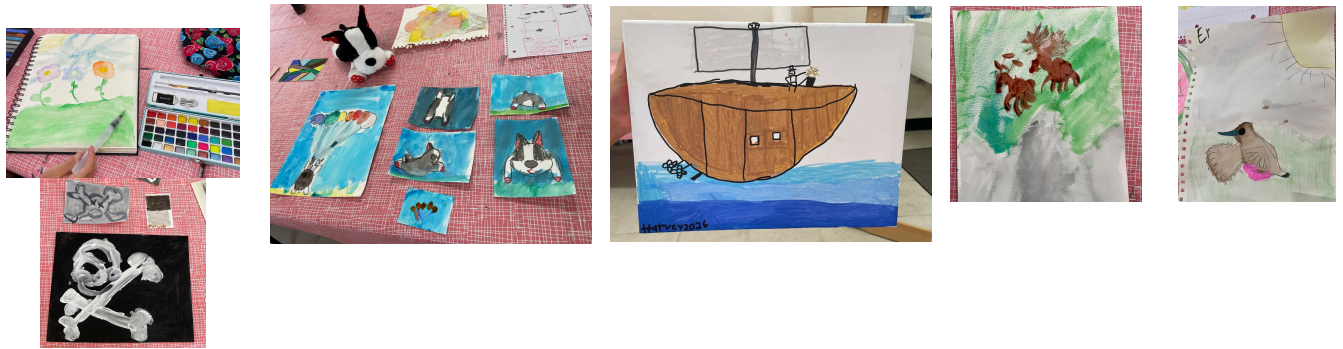


The pop up art show we had showed local places painted and generated lots of stories about the places depicted in the paintings. A couple of the children from their art class were there too selling art and learning about how the other side of the art world business works.



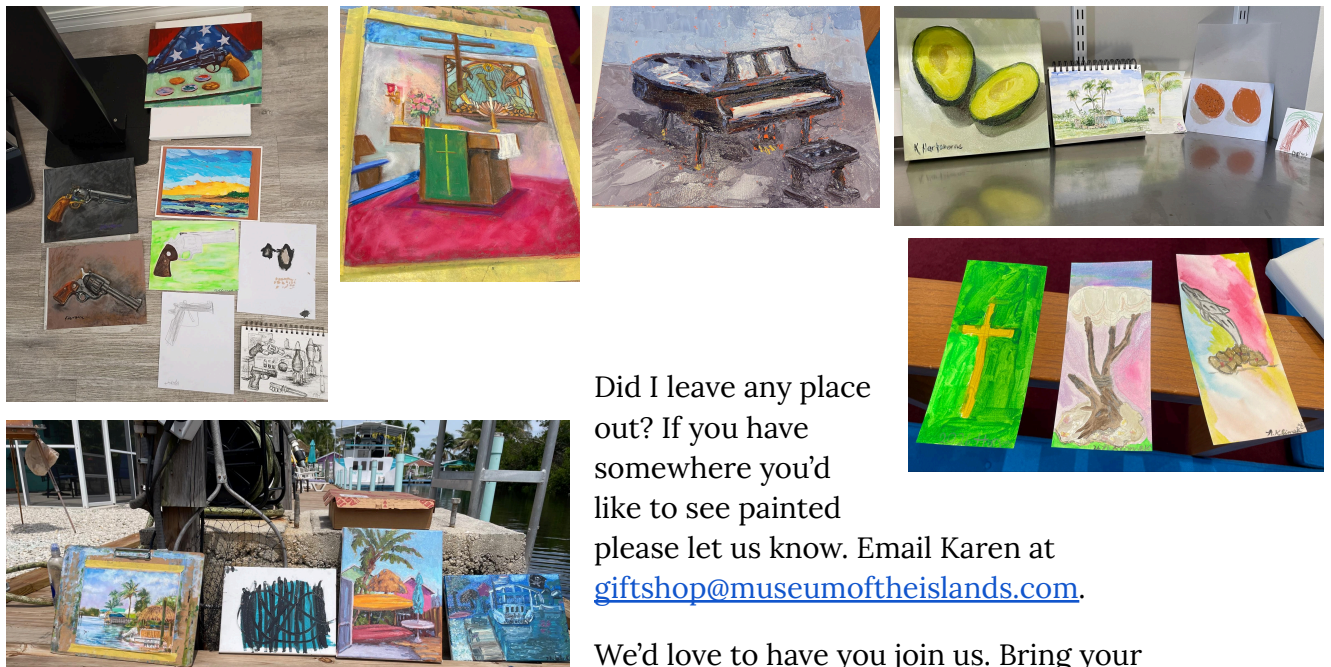
The free art lessons for children are continuing through September, 9:00-12:00, in the Pine Island Art Association building in Matlacha Community Park. The classes have been ongoing since April.





We've been painting history

The Pine Island Plein Air History Painting Group is always discovering new places. Over the summer we painted at Randell Research, The Master's Grove, Pineland Post Office, Green Beret Guns & Ammo, Angler's Inn, Fishers of Men Lutheran Church, Galt Preserve, and around Matlacha.



Did I leave any place out? If you have somewhere you'd like to see painted please let us know. Email Karen at giftshop@museumoftheislands.com.

We'd love to have you join us. Bring your supplies, it is free and all ages are welcome.

View our schedule at [Paint](#) on the museum's website and come have fun with us.

You may also join our group on Facebook, [Pine Island Plein Air Painters of History](#).



Later This Year 2026

We hope to see you at the Eagle's Nest October 11th 4-7pm for the mermaid auction put on by the Greater Pine Island Chamber of Commerce. This auction will benefit the Calusa Land Trust and various businesses around the island. Our mermaid entry is Nature Takes Back History, by Karen Hartshorne. Come join the fun!

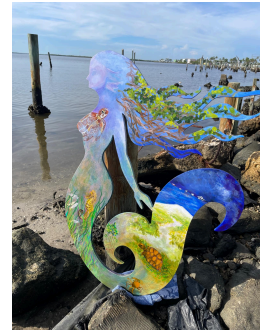
Our December Open House is on Saturday the 5th, 9am-1pm. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year. Please come show your support, and visit local island vendor's booths.

We still have booth spaces available for \$10. If you would like to be a vendor email info@museumoftheislands.com for a space.

If you are not a member, or would like to renew your membership you may visit our [page](#), come into the museum and see us, or mail it in to PO Box 103, Matlacha, FL 33993.

You may also purchase tickets to the museum for \$3 each to give to a friend or customer. We also have gift certificates.

Our all volunteer museum needs your help as a volunteer if you would like to join us. You'll meet people from all over the area, and some that have traveled far to get here. Make a difference, and be a part of the museum's legacy.



Need to get in touch with us?

Museum Phone	239-283-1525
Gift Shop	giftshop@museumoftheislands.com
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Mail	PO Box 103, Matlacha, FL 33993



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