Architecture is a conversation between the generations, carried out across time.

-- Vincent Scully
Dear Friends of the Polasek,

I am struck by the power of Providence. In the year 2000, the Polasek Foundation Board took an enormous leap of faith and secured a loan to purchase the Kalmanson Garden property. There was no immediate plan for additional revenue, only the sure belief that it was the right path to follow. That Board of Trustees innately knew that it was a defining moment. Then within ten years our Board, with the support of friends like you, found a way to complete the loan requirements and again become debt-free. That is an important attribute for sustainability. During that time, we upgraded our museum experience and saw Mr. Polasek inducted into the Florida Artists Hall of Fame. As I write this message, we are again at a clearly defining moment. The Capen House Project is a perfect fit for The Polasek. By bringing this historic structure to the Museum grounds and placing it on the Kalmanson Garden site, we will increase our exhibit space, create programming and educational experience opportunities we do not currently enjoy, and open up our campus for the Winter Park community to create even more memories in a uniquely inspiring place of memories. Weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs, community functions and so much more will bring those yet-to-be-made memories to life. We have a plan we are confident meets our mission and will work. I am urging you to please find a way you can contribute to help us secure this great community asset by logging onto our website or coming to the Museum in person and making a donation toward our effort. We have already met the generous matching-grant challenge given by The Galloway Foundation totaling over $200,000 in commitments to date, but we need another $450,000 to complete the project. You may ask yourself: why not just take another loan out? The answer is quite simple. If we were to do that, we would negate any opportunity for grants we will surely need.

This is an historic effort with all surviving mayors of Winter Park, three major community institutions (The Winter Park Historical Association, Casa Feliz and The Polasek) and many, many community advocates like Lawson Lamar and Thaddeus Seymour rolling up their sleeves and meeting this challenge. Won’t you please join me in joining them?

Time is limited. Let’s make this happen.

Mark Terry, President

Enrich lives through the power of inspiration, which people experience in The Polasek’s STORY, SETTING and ART.
A few months ago, the Polasek Museum was presented with a truly unique opportunity: a chance to save Winter Park’s historic 1885 Capen-Showalter House, a Victorian home endangered with demolition. The catch? The house must be sailed to safety across Lake Osceola as it cannot be moved by land. With the help of Casa Feliz, the Winter Park Historical Association, and a league of preservation advocates, the Museum is coming close to achieving its goal to re-establish this gracious home on the grounds of its lakefront gardens. Operating as Preservation Capen, the project team and preservation advocates have raised the $400,000 for Phase I of the project. We are now going ahead with securing the services of more than thirteen subcontractors, reporting to our old-house expert and head of construction Frank Roark, and moving forward with the detailed plans needed to lift the house from its original foundation, cut it in half, and launch it by barge onto the water, thereby clearing the Interlachen Avenue site for new construction. “It’s going to be full steam ahead every day from now on through the completion of the project,” said Debbie Komanski, Executive Director of the Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens. “Now, more than ever, we need the people of this community, the corporations, and the small businesses to contribute to save an irreplaceable part of our Winter Park heritage.”

Now, we are moving into Phase II: re-establishing the home on a new foundation and opening it up to the public. The good news? We are more than halfway there! Preservation Capen has started Phase II fundraising with a goal of $250,000.

Clyde Moore, the blogger behind “I Luv Winter Park” and a co-host of the recent “Rally to Save the Capen House” held in Central Park, affirmed his enthusiasm for the house move and support for the effort to save this one-of-a-kind building. “This is a celebration of the old, the new, the past and the future. Now is our chance to participate in an amazing challenge and succeed in something monumental, much like the move of Casa Feliz became a landmark event in Winter Park history.”

About Preservation Capen: www.preservationcapen.org

Preservation Capen is a long-term project with an immediate short-term goal: to move Winter Park’s historic Capen-Showalter House from its site on Interlachen Avenue to the grounds of the Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens. The home will be moved by barge across Lake Osceola in a one-of-a-kind effort planned for late 2013. The Preservation Capen team is led by Debbie Komanski, Executive Director of the Polasek Museum, and architectural historian Christine Madrid French, Project Director. Old house experts Frank Roark (Construction Manager) and Steve Feller (Consulting Architect) are working closely with the community to ensure smooth sailing during and after the move. Stephen and Kristin Pategas, of Hortus Oasis, are donating a landscape design to complete the site after the house is moved. Pam Paisley, Garden Volunteer Coordinator, and Byron Walker, Facilities Staff, are directing the care and maintenance of the grounds to ensure that the gorgeous plants already thriving in the garden are successfully saved and transplanted before the project begins. (Continued on page 5)
Albin Polasek and the Capen Connection
Trudy A. Furno

Did Albin Polasek realize that his best friends from the Chicago area, Percy and Charlotte Eckhart, had a Winter Park connection? The likely answer to this question was “yes!” but the passing of the years had obscured this link. It wasn’t until this past summer that a serendipitous moment of discovery revealed that Charlotte Briggs Capen Eckhart was indeed the niece of James Seymour Capen, one of the early settlers of Winter Park! Who could have guessed that the world was so small?

Charlotte’s father, Charles Laban Capen, was James’s brother, and was a well-respected lawyer in Bloomington, Illinois. Charlotte grew up in the Chicago area and earned her BA from the University of Chicago in 1898 and married Percy Eckhart in 1903. She was the mother of four girls: Eleanor, Marion, Charlotte, and Elizabeth. The Eckharts were staunch supporters of the Art Institute of Chicago, where Percy sat on the Board.

The Polasek Museum holds a number of sculptures depicting Eckhart family members. From archival letters and photos, it is easily seen that Polasek held great affection for this family and they for him. Heavily involved in each other’s lives, they corresponded, socialized, and even vacationed with each other both before and after his relocation in 1949 to Florida. It is fitting that this bond is highlighted in the quest to preserve the Capen House and to underscore the wonderful relationship between the artist and the extended Capen family.

The Collector’s Corner
Rachel Frisby, Curator

So you have your collection. Great, but now what? Collection storage is equally, if not more important, for you to invest in and consider than your collection itself. Take a lesson from us! Because the Polasek was built as a residential home well before the Museum was established, collection storage was not considered in the original design. Much of Mr. Polasek’s personal collection was on display through his house, no need for storage. However, as a nonprofit with day-to-day operations, much of his original living space has been converted to office space, public bathrooms, gift shop, landscape storage etc… any organization needs storage and a museum with a growing collection needs even more!

Thankfully, a serendipitous solution has presented itself in the form of the Capen House. The benefits there are really staggering; but as curator, I am most excited for the additional space that will be freed up or will be designated for collection storage in both the historic home and the Capen House. For those of you who have taken the docent tour through the historic home you may have noticed areas that are “off limits?” Tucked inside Polasek’s bedroom is a door leading to what was used as a bomb shelter, and has since been converted into art storage space. Albin’s personal bathroom in the next room over is bursting with easels, sculpture bases and other art supplies. Every inch of the historic home is currently being utilized for collections or operational storage of one kind or another. Large sculpture molds, files, and special event supplies unfortunately all need to be housed at a costly storage unit off site at present. And many of our archives are offsite as well. We need more space!!! Please help us properly care for the treasures in our collection by supporting the Capen House project!!!

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The Capen House was built in 1885 by one of Winter Park’s earliest residents, James Seymour Capen, and later owned by the Showalter family, leaders in Florida’s aviation community. The current owners, who delayed the demolition of the house at the request of community members, have accepted a letter of intent and are finalizing the details of the timeline. The Polasek Museum property, with a sweeping lawn to the water, can easily accommodate the 4,000 sq. ft. house which will be used for public events, educational programs and a wide variety of activities for the Museum, a critical need of the organization identified in 2001, as well as a community gathering space.

This landmark effort is supported by key leaders in the community, including Thaddeus Seymour (president emeritus of Rollins College and co-chair of Preservation Capen), Lawson Lamar (former Sheriff of Orange County and State Attorney for Orange and Osceola counties, also a co-chair), all of Winter Park’s past mayors: Allen Trovillion, 1962-67; Daniel Hunter, 1967-72; David Johnston, 1987-93; Gary Brewer, 1993-97; Joseph Terranova, 1997-2000; Roland “Terry” Hotard, 2000-03; Kenneth “Kip” Marchman, 2003-06; and David Strong, 2006-09; who have served over the last fifty years.

Thank you to our generous donors:


Hugs to our Leadership Team and Volunteers for Preservation Capen!


Thank you!
Enrich lives through the power of inspiration, which people experience in The Polasek’s STORY, SETTING and ART.

Don’t Miss Out!! Here’s a Sneak Peek at our next exhibit and program offerings at the Polasek:

**Museum Day Live! Free Admission**

*Was a great success with over 400 visitors*

Saturday, September 28, 2013 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

The Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens opened its doors free for the Ninth Annual Smithsonian Magazine’s Museum Day Live! With a focus on the importance of Historic Preservation, complimentary art activities that the whole family loved! Visitors learned about preserving their family’s history with a “Life Casting” demonstration by President of the Central FL Sculptors Guild, Amy Wieck. Participants preserved part of themselves in this hands-on demo! At 11 am Christine Madrid French, The Maitland Art Center’s Curator of History, gave a special presentation on The Capen House Preservation Project.

Thank you to our staff, volunteers and visitors for a great Museum Day Live! 2013.

**Czechoslovakian Independence Day Free Admission**

Sunday, October 27, 2013 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Museum founder, Albin Polasek, was born and raised in the province of Moravia, in what is now the Czech Republic. In honor of his heritage, the historic residence, gallery, and gardens will be open for the public to self-tour. Bring the whole family in for a complimentary art activity based on Czech folk art and costumes. While you’re in the gallery, be sure to check out the current art exhibit, *Awakenings: The Art of Ursula Schwartz* for its final day running! View a collection of Czech heritage objects and art which will be on display in the historic home. Guaranteed to learn something new and make some great memories! Silk artist extraordinaire, Jamie Kirkell, will be doing a one-day-only “Trunk Show” of his exquisite silk artwork and gossamer scarves. Come see it first hand and snag a great gift! Jamie will give a presentation at 1:30 pm in the gallery with slides and batiks from Indonesia. While you’re at the Museum, don’t miss your opportunity to meet and greet renowned author Joanie Holzer Schirm. The author of the historically acclaimed book, *Adventurers Against Their Will*, an extraordinary collection of World War II stories of survival, escape, and connection – unlike any other. Joanie will be onsite for book signings throughout the afternoon and will give a special presentation at 3pm. Get your personal copy signed and learn the story behind the story!

Traditional Czech kolache (fruit-filled pastry) and refreshments will be served to visitors for a donation. Hand-crafted jewelry made in the Czech Republic by “Zivot” and fine Czech crystal and glassware by “Heart of Europe” will be available in the museum gift shop, along with Jamie Kirkell’s scarves.
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The Holy Art of Imperial Russia: Icons from the 17th C. -Early 20th C.
November 5, 2013- April 13, 2014
The sacred images on view in this exhibition are of a kind once readily found in even the humblest homes of Russia, as well as its churches and public shrines. Centuries-old artistic conventions are juxtaposed with new, Westernized formal elements and vernacular interpretations of these new forms. For Orthodox Russians, icons served as more than just religious paintings; they were relic-like objects directly linked to the holy figures they depicted. They were seen as comforters and powerful guardians. Icons were the direct line from the real world to the spiritual and appeared everywhere in pre-Soviet Russia. The exhibition will be on loan from Hollingsworth Fine Art.

Russian Icon Lecture
Wednesday, February 5, 2014   7:00 -8:30 pm
$5.00 Admission. Limited seating available. Must RSVP to reserve your seat. Call 407- 647-6294
Special Presentation/Lecture with renowned icon expert, James Jackson, President & CEO of Jackson’s International Auctioneers and Appraisers. Mr. Jackson has written and lectured widely on the subject of art and antiques and is a recognized leading authority on Russian arts with a specialty in Russian icons. He has traveled extensively visiting over 25 countries including over 18 trips to Russia alone to research his publications on icons. Mr. Jackson was an author for the International Society of Appraisers Fine Art Course and has been guest curator at numerous museums and galleries throughout the United States in connection with Russian icon exhibitions. The presentation will conclude with a walk-through tour of the Icon Exhibit.

Lasting Impressions Workshop
Saturday, 11:00 am -3:00 pm, November 2, 2013
Saturday, 11:00 am -2:00 pm, November 9, 2013
Ever wish you could freeze time? Preserve a moment forever in this exclusive two-day Lifecasting Workshop. This is a fun family bonding art project where the attendees create precious keepsakes of themselves holding hands with their children/grandchild/spouses. Amy Wieck, artist and president of the Central Florida Sculptors Guild, will lead the class through the process of Lifecasting on Day 1 and finishing/painting the Lifecasting on Day 2. Lifecasting is a fun and relaxing process that can capture details right down to fingerprints and pores! The “Lifecasting” process has been used for centuries to capture the 3-Dimensional likeness of a person. Artists also use this process to create a model that they can reference for drawings or paintings. At the end of the two-day workshop each team will have a painted gypsum sculpture of their hands. The perfect memento or gift for Christmas!
Cost of class includes all materials. Children must be at least 7 yrs to participate. Please wear “art friendly” or old clothing, as this is a messy, hands-on class. The workshop will be held in a covered, outdoor classroom with views of the beautiful Polasek gardens.
Pre-registration required—sign up today as space is limited.
All classes will be held rain or shine.
Cost Per Team (a set of holding hands): $230.00
Register at www.polasek.org or by phone 407–647-6294

Continued page 10
Always a Garden Angel

The garden budget covers the basics, but occasionally there is an item needed that is just out of reach. That’s when Ann and John Polasek tell us, “Whatever you need, just ask!”

In the past two years they have provided funding for shade cloth on the fences which block visually offending chain link; our two equipment shelters, garden carts and most recently a custom made trellis to support our spectacular Petrea volubilis. Even a huge thank you seems a barely adequate response!

Thank You Ann and John, our garden angels!

The Critters of the Polasek Garden

The test of a lovely, healthy garden is not only the flowers and plants it supports, but the critters who choose to make it home. We have our share from almost every family: mammals, birds, reptiles, and insects.

We’ve got bunnies, including a pair who gave birth to a small litter this Spring. Despite the ravenous reputation of bunnies, they don’t seem to have eaten too much greenery in the garden. Are rabbits rare in Central Florida? I’ve only seen them here!

It’s wonderful knowing that the environment one creates is hospitable to songbirds. Despite the sometimes chaotic activity in and out of the Landscape Office, a Carolina Wren made her human eye-level nest in a succulent pot adjacent to the Landscape Office door. Thinking to clean out the debris that had collected in the pot, we met Mrs. Wren face to beak. And one morning she and her chicks had moved on.

Mrs. Cardinal chose a somewhat quieter location in the same neighborhood for her nest building. Her nest site, in the podocarpus around the corner, was about three feet from the ground. We worried about predators, but she hatched three chicks without any assistance from the obstetrics team standing by. Water birds abound; ibis, Great White and Blue herons, egrets and of course, our lovely Wood Ducks who deliver at least one clutch of ducklings every year.

Snakes are good guys who can be a wonderful asset to any garden. The Southern Ringneck Snake is shy and harmless preferring to spend its time under logs and rocks, where they eat earthworms, slugs, salamanders, lizards, and small snakes. Occasionally found in the house or pool, retrieve and release them in nearby shrubs, so that these harmless snakes can continue to eat your garden slugs!

The Southern Black Racer also known as the Eastern Racer, is the “black snake” most likely to surprise you in the garden. These long, slender snakes can grow to 4-5 feet in length, and have smooth gray/black scales on their backs and bellies and white chins and throats.

Adult Black Racers are commonly found sunning themselves on lawns, shrubbery, walkways and fences, and are occasionally found in houses (particularly after rains). Racers are harmless to people and are swift and agile (as their name implies), fleeing rapidly when approached. However, if they are cornered and feel threatened, they may vigorously shake their tail (making a rattling sound on the floor or dry leaves) and may release a foul smelling ‘musk’ on their captor or even strike if handled. Black Racers use their speed to catch a variety of prey, including frogs, lizards, small snakes, birds, and rodents. Byron found the shed skin of a big one on a shrub. And who could forget our bear? We received no visits from wayward cubs this year, though we are happy to recall his brief respite in the garden.
**Edible and Elegant**

The local food craze is big throughout Central Florida and the Winter Park Farmers’ Market is no longer the only game in town. Farmers’ markets have popped up everywhere. Our wonderfully talented chefs are growing their own or buying locally sourced produce for their restaurants. Homeowners are tearing out lawns and converting to vegetable gardens. No longer confined to the back yard, front yard gardens have made the local news. Not to be left behind this trend, the edible and elegant landscape will be a feature of our Fall plantings.

The lakeside beds will contain Lacinato Kale, long a staple in Tuscan cooking. This 24-inch tall kale has dark blue-green leaves, with an "embossed texture". Ribolita and minestrone soup feature Lacinato, but a more modern use is the healthful Kale chip!

Spicy mustard greens appear in cuisines around the world including African, Italian, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean. Red Giant, our decorative choice in the garden, is a deep and showy maroon. Baby leaves are used to add snap to salads. Sauté mature leaves with a ham hock. Mmmmm good!

For bright accent color, we choose Forellenschluss or “Flashy Troutback” lettuce which forms loose heads of chartreuse with maroon speckles. Sweet peas will adorn the three tuteurs. Lastly, pink petunias and white allysum will compliment our edible combinations.

**Man Carving** and, of course, the **Sower** will see an edible treatment as well. We will direct sow seeds of Bright Lights Swiss Chard, nasturtiums and parsley. Don’t despair if you see bare beds. Seeds will germinate in 7-14 days, maturing to edible size in about 70. Watch for them. We hope these gardens will be as pretty as they sound, but if not, we’ll eat them! Find our recipes at the Gallery reception desk.

We want to thank our friends at Edible Orlando magazine and the East End Market, especially Winter Park Urban Farmer, John Rife, who grew our lettuce and mustard to plantable size. Be sure to visit the Market on Corrine Drive when it opens in October.

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**Garden Volunteers Needed!!!**

With the relocation of the Capen House we will need to move and preserve existing plant materials. This will create greater demands on our devoted garden volunteers. Please help!!

**Garden Wish List:**

- A Lithium battery operated Hedge Trimmer: $175
- A Lithium battery operated Pole Saw: $179
- Extra battery $100
Ayako Yonetani at the Polasek:
Exclusive Chamber Concert Series, 2013-14
The Museum’s 9th annual three-concert music series features internationally acclaimed violin/viola player Ayako Yonetani and a variety of guest instrumentalists. Held in the elegant salon of the Polasek residence, concertgoers experience acoustic perfection in an intimate setting. Limited to 50 seats, the performance is followed by a private reception.
**Sunday, November 10, 2013, 2:00 pm** Guest artist, Dr. Mauricio Cespedes, Viola, Viola Principal of the Orlando Philharmonic, and Mr. Scott Kluksdahl, cello, USF’s Theodore and Vennette Askounes-Ashford Distinguished Scholar.
**Sunday, January 19, 2014, 2:00 pm** Guest artist, Mr. Lyman Brodie, Vice Provost of UCF, and also principal trumpet of the Orlando Philharmonic.
**Sunday, March 23, 2013, 2:00 pm** Guest artist to be announced.

Museum Members $80 for three-concert series or $30 per concert
General Public $90 for three-concert series or $35 per concert
Tickets available online [www.polasek.org](http://www.polasek.org) or by calling the museum 407-647-6294

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**Winter Park Boat Parade**
Saturday, December 14, 2013 4:30-7:00 pm Free Admission
(limited onsite parking for $5 donation)
In conjunction with the Rotary Club of Winter Park, the Polasek hosts the 9th annual Winter Park Boat Parade viewed from the lush Museum grounds on the shore of Lake Osceola. The Winter Park Boat Parade and Festival of Lights is a fun, community-wide water parade with holiday-themed and lighted boats along the lakes’ shorelines. The Polasek Museum is the location of the official viewing station and judging stand for the Winter Park Holiday Boat Parade, where the festivities continue with live music, face painting, a sculpture Christmas tree unveiling, and Santa, bringing the holiday spirit of the season to life. Boats will be judged at approximately 6:30 p.m.

**CALL FOR BOATS:**
Organizers of the event are seeking resident and business boat entries. For resident boats, there is no entry fee, and all local licensed area boat owners are invited to participate. Boat registration is required with applications available by contacting event@polasek.org or call 407-647-6492
Yes! I want to help RESTORE Capen House with my donation $___________

Name: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________ City/State/ZIP: ___________________________

Phone: _____________________________________________ Email: _________________________________

☐Cash Gift ☐ Check Gift ☐ Credit Card Gift: CC#_____________________________ Exp Date: ____________

Please return this form and your gift to
(make checks payable to Albin Polasek Museum with Capen House in the memo):
Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens, 633 Osceola Ave, Winter Park, FL 32789
You may also visit http://www.preservationcapen.org/donate/ or call at (407) 647-6294 to make your gift.

THE ALBIN POLASEK MUSEUM & SCULPTURE GARDENS IS A 501(c)3 PUBLIC CHARITY. ALL GIFTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS ALLOWED BY LAW. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR ORGANIZATION CH11467 MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE 1-800-435-7352. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

100% of your donation is received by this organization.

Please consider giving generously!

Chocolate Capen! Peterbrooke Chocolatier in downtown Winter Park is producing a charming chocolate bar in the shape of the house to help with public outreach and fundraising efforts. The limited edition chocolate bars will be sold at their shop 300 South Park Avenue, so stop by for a delicious way to contribute!

winterpark@peterbrooke.com

Are you thinking about becoming a member at The Polasek?

Or, has your membership lapsed? If you’re wondering what a Polasek Membership has to offer, here are the top 5 reasons to join today:

Exhibit Opening Receptions. You’ll be invited to at least three Exhibit Opening Receptions a year, which includes free admission, complimentary wine and beer, and catering by the finest chefs in Central Florida. These anticipated events are an exclusive benefit available only to members and are among the finest Exhibition Receptions in Central Florida.

Free Admission for a Year! You don’t have to pay to come to the Polasek and enjoy the serene paradise where so many people turn to view fine art and take in the tranquility of the exquisite gardens. Many suggest that unlimited access to The Polasek directly reduces stress levels and anxiety.

Reciprocal Benefits. You’ll continue to receive reciprocal benefits at American Horticultural Society garden locations and half-off discounts at Bok Tower Gardens in Lakes Wales and Kanapaha Gardens in Gainesville. Make a day trip or weekend out of it and enjoy these wonderful cultural experiences thanks to your Polasek membership.

Discounts. You’ll receive a 10% discount on select gift shop merchandise, as well as reduced pricing for seminars and classes.

You’re Making Our Community a Better Place. Your membership supports our mission to enrich lives through the power of inspiration found in Polasek’s story, setting and art. You’re also investing in the arts and culture, an industry that yields major economic benefits to our community, providing an attractive draw for families and businesses and enhancing our identity as a healthy and vibrant place to live! Visit www.polasek.org or call 407-647-6294 for more information.
Join The Polasek Volunteers!
A fantastic group of people regularly volunteer at the
Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens!
If you enjoy plants and camaraderie, volunteering in the gardens is for you.
If you enjoy history and art, you may want to learn about
Albin Polasek and his work and lead tours through his historic home and chapel.
Or, if hospitality and retail is your passion, you may enjoy welcoming guests in the Museum's Gallery & Gift Shop.
Many opportunities for fun & friendship await you at The Polasek Museum.

Call today 407-647-6294
or email volunteer@polasek.org