

Silk Scarf Painting Class with Artist Marie Dyer

April 05, 9am - 2:30pm

If you need some time to relax and unwind, join us for a silk scarf painting class with Marie Dyer surrounded by Edison's gardens. You will leave the class with a silk scarf that can be worn or hung as a piece of artwork. All materials are included in the fee.

No experience is required. Space is limited so register online today!

Members: \$90, non-members: \$100

Breakfast with the Birds

April 05, 7:30-9:30 a.m.

Join our plant curator and an experienced Audubon birding guide on an easy walk through our grounds.

Afterward, enjoy a drink and pastry from the on-site Banyan Café while you chat with fellow birders and the guides. This tour is outdoors and subject to cancellation due to weather.

Registration is limited. Tour includes a beverage and sweet treat afterward from the Banyan Café. Does not include admission to the museum, laboratory or homes. It is recommended that participants bring binoculars and drinking water, and wear closed-toe shoes. Park and meet in the parking area directly across from 2153 Larchmont Avenue (Estates overflow parking).

Registration is required.

Cost: Edison Ford members: \$15; non-members: \$20

Garden Tour (Registration Required)

April 09, 10am - 11:30am

The Edison and Ford Winter Estates botanical gardens contain more than 1,700 plants from six continents including flowering plants and trees, fruit trees, palms, bamboo, cycads, vines, roses, orchids, and Florida natives. On this tour, experienced garden staff lead visitors through the 20-acre site and highlights the different types of plants and their importance to the Edison and Ford families. Visitors will see the Moonlight Garden, many rare plants and get to go behind-the-scenes in the propagating nursery. Some of the plants in the gardens are available for sale in the on-site Garden Shoppe.

The garden tour is offered the second Wednesday of the month, and tickets go on sale online the first of each month for that month's tour. Registration is limited so register online today!

Members: \$30, non-members: \$35

Step Into History Digital Edition: In Defense of Fort Myers

April 09, 10:30 a.m.

Join Lead Historian Isaac Hunter for the next digital Step into History. Isaac will be discussing the fort of Fort Myers; the military encampment that saw battle and would grow to become the city we are today.

Step Into History archive available on Edison and Ford Winter Estates YouTube channel.

Homeschool Classes at Edison Ford

Transportation Engineering Marvels “Channel Tunnel”

April 09 & 10, 10AM - 12PM

Students will study the engineering behind the Channel Tunnel. They will engage in the “Balloon Cars” activity, where they design and build cars powered by balloon propulsion. This project teaches students about propulsion, aerodynamics, and the engineering principles involved in creating efficient transportation methods.

Join us and explore the “living laboratory” of the Edison and Ford Winter Estates. Our Wild Wizards will challenge your mind and foster collaboration in this homeschool science and engineering series. Classes take place in an outdoor classroom environment (weather permitting). Homeschool classes at Edison Ford are aligned with Next Generation Science and Florida State Standards. Classes are a combination of instruction and hands on activities that are designed to facilitate homeschool or virtual science education. Become a family member of Edison Ford and receive discounted registration!

April 9 & 17: grades 1-3

April 10 & 16: grades 4-6

Grow Fort Myers: Rare & Historic Plant Sale & Orchid Symposium

April 12 & 13, 9 a.m. — 4 p.m.

A fun day filled with plants and FREE Presentations (tours, museum or lab not included)!

Presentation topics

Saturday:

My Favorite Orchids – John Hampton, SWFOS & AOS

Unusual Staghorn Ferns – John Cassani, Owner, Cassani Nursery

Growing Vandas – Mickey Parnell, Owner, Blue Pagoda Orchids

Native Cacti – Reed Gilmore

Care of Epiphyllums (Jungle Cactus) – Graciana Parker, Owner, Florida Greenery

Sunday:

Conversations with My Orchids – Jim Davison, Owner, Jim-N-I Orchids

Fun with Orchids – Gary Sims, SWFOS & AOS

Growing Hoyas – Graciana Parker, Owner Florida Greenery

Caring for Tillandsias & Cryptanthus – Anthony Warfield, Grower, Tropiflora

Amazing Aspidistras – Karen Maxwell, Horticulturist, EFWE

Acrylic Landscape Painting Class with Marie Dyer

April 13, 9am - 2:30pm

Come spend the day with impressionistic local artist Marie Dyer as she guides you in this plein air acrylic landscape painting workshop. She will cover the fundamentals of composition and structure, color creating mood, mixing paints, and assist in developing a pallet that speaks to you! Students will be inspired by the lush surroundings on site in this one-of-a-kind class.

No experience is required. All materials are included; space is limited.

Members: \$90, non-members: \$100

Gardening Class: ABC's of Tropical Fruits

April 15, 1:30 p.m.

Now is the perfect time to plant fruit trees! Learn about avocados, bananas, and citrus. This class will cover recommended varieties to grow in our challenging soils; how to plant, how to prune, and develop the healthiest and most productive trees. Gardening in SW Florida also means one must be prepared to recognize common diseases and pests and be armed with the skills to address such problems in a timely manner. Since citrus greening is an on-going challenge, it is important to understand what it is, how to recognize it and how to choose and grow citrus. Our discussion will continue in the fruit groves following the classroom presentation.

Cost: EFWE members: \$45; non-members: \$60

Digital Discussion: The History of Women in Baseball

April 15, 10:30 a.m.

Expanding on our focus of a century of spring training we will explore the history of women in baseball. Women have been playing baseball for almost as long as men have. Learn about the players, executives, umpires, coaches, owners and the only woman in the Baseball Hall of Fame and their contributions to the game. Join museum manager Holly Shaffer for this free virtual presentation.

Visit our archives to see previous digital discussions.

Homeschool Classes at Edison Ford

Transportation Engineering Marvels “Channel Tunnel”

April 16 & 17, 10AM - 12PM

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Join us and explore the “living laboratory” of the Edison and Ford Winter Estates. Our Wild Wizards will challenge your mind and foster collaboration in this homeschool science and engineering series. Classes take place in an outdoor classroom environment (weather permitting). Homeschool classes at Edison Ford are aligned with Next Generation Science and Florida State Standards. Classes are a combination of instruction and hands on activities that are designed to facilitate homeschool or virtual science education. Become a family member of Edison Ford and receive discounted registration!

April 9 & 17: grades 1-3

April 10 & 16: grades 4-6

Science Fiction & Science Fact Day Camp

April 18, 2025 | 9am - 4pm

Join us as science and history come alive in our “living laboratory!” No experience is necessary to participate in these fun and fast-moving S.T.E.A.M. (science technology, engineering, art, and math) camps. For students currently in grades K-5, unless otherwise noted. Campers must bring lunches, and snacks if desired. Become a family member of Edison Ford and receive discounted registration!

In this one-day camp, students will explore the basic principles of science and test their skills through projects and experiments in this one day camp.

Space is limited and registration is required.

Easter Basket Floral Arrangement Workshop

April 19, 2025 | 10am - 12pm

Get into the Easter spirit with this fun-filled session where you’ll learn how to create a beautiful and eye-catching Easter basket centerpiece. Under the guidance of designer Anita Singh, you’ll discover the secrets to crafting a stunning centerpiece that will make your Easter celebrations truly memorable. Whether you want to create a centerpiece for your own home or gift it to a loved one, this workshop is the perfect opportunity to unleash your creativity and learn new

skills. All supplies and flowers will be provided. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to learn from a talented designer and create a stunning Easter basket centerpiece.

Space is limited and registration is required.

Members: \$75, non-members: \$85

Pre-K Class: "Architects of Tomorrow: Mastering LEGO Engineering."

April 24, 10am - 11:30am

Aspiring builders will explore engineering principles through collaborative LEGO projects, including the construction of a LEGO zip line. This hands-on experience encourages creativity, teamwork, and innovative thinking in future architects!

Back by popular demand, these classes are designed for children aged 18 months – 5 years.

Don't miss an excellent opportunity for curious children to learn more about science, the world around them, and socializing with others! Class sizes are limited and involve parent participation.

Members: \$15 per class; non-members: \$20 per class

Botanical Abstract Mono Prints Class with Artist Marie Dyer

April 27, 9am - 1:30pm

Artist Marie Dyer will teach you the basics to effective mono printing. You will use acrylic paints, plants, household items, and construction materials when experimenting and designing your art on paper. No experience is necessary and your one of a kind creations will be suitable for framing.

All materials included and no experience is needed. Space is limited and registration is required so register online today!

Members: \$90, non-members: \$100