

Marianne Salas, Robin Patton, Francy Robertson and Leslie Pierpont

Spring has Sprung at Garden Club of Jacksonville

The Garden Club of Jacksonville, which has been in Jacksonville for nearly 100 years, had everything coming up roses...and irises, and lilies, and daisies...for flower lovers in Northeast Florida. Recently, the Garden Club hosted two large events at its Riverside Avenue location.

In late March, the Late Bloomers Garden Club (LBGC) presented its Garden Club of America Flower Show, titled "On a Clear Day You Can See Forever." The two-day show featured hundreds of flowers and plants, all grown and exhibited by garden club floral designers from Florida, Georgia and beyond. Submissions were judged by experts in their fields in four divisions: floral design, horticulture, photography and education, with the striking creations reflecting current trends in floral artistic design.

The Garden Club also hosted its own signature event the second weekend of April, the 2023 Blooms Galore & More, with a sprout sale, vendors, kid zone and food trucks. Blooms Galore & More kicked off with a preview party on April 7, which offered guests early shopping admission to the event, as well as live music, beverages, and a container display competition, with bidding on the competition entries.



LuAnne Gordon and Catherine Rieman



Wally Erics and Dan Hutton



Nicole Long, Leslie and Lucille Guzzone, Kim Collier and Dana Long



Bernice Parker, Duzanne Perritt and Gloria Thomas



Joe and Dawn Nackashi with Frances and Anthony Jabbour

CAP Holds Record-Breaking Event

Inspiration abounded at the 18th annual Spring for the Arts, held Friday, April 21, at Epping Forest Yacht Club, as the event raised a record-breaking nearly \$800,000 for Cathedral Arts Project (CAP) and its mission to elevate arts education. This year, the CAP's signature fundraiser honored Amy and Gary Norcross as its 2023 Guardians of the Arts.

"One of the great joys of my tenure has been getting to know people like our honorees, Amy and Gary Norcross, who consistently look out for the interests of others, especially our community's

children. It's people like the Norcrosses, and all our supporters, who have made it possible over the past 30 years for CAP to provide the kind of education that empowers every child's creative spirit and encourages them to share it with the world," said Kimberly L. Hyatt, CAP president and CEO.

More than 300 attended the event, which has generated more than \$7 million since its inception, and become one of the most visible for arts education in Northeast Florida. Stephanie and Tim Cost served as honorary chairs, Kristine Cherek and Kirk Larsen served as event chairs, and Darnell Smith was the evening's emcee. Spring for the Arts featured an auction, entertainment from Bold City Classics and décor from Harlow James Floral. Spirits were donated by Foley Family Wines and Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits.



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Melody Taylor, Rose Conry and Debbie Sapp



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