

October and November events 2024

Annual Quilt Show

October 5, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates

2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

See the homes lined with quilts featuring intricate, whimsical designs. Dozens of quilts from the Southwest Florida Quilters Guild will be on display, suspended from clothes lines between the palms in front of the historic homes. Quilters Guild participants will also have quilts available for sale.

Certified quilt appraiser, Lars Cain, will be on site and conducting appraisals. Visitors may bring antique quilts for assessment. Verbal appraisals will be offered for \$25 and the fee for a written appraisal will be \$35 per quilt.

Included with admission. Admission is free for members.

239-334-7419

Silk Scarf Painting Class with Marie Dyer

October 6 and November 2, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates

2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

Craft your own style in our Silk Scarf Painting class with local artist, Marie Dyer! Participants will make 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. Advance registration is required. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$90; non-members: \$100

239-334-7419

Orchid Sale and Symposium

October 12-13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates

2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

Come discover all the fabulous things you can do with orchids during this fun two-day event! Presentations are free (does not include tours or admission to the museum, lab, or riverside). The Lee County Master Gardeners will have an advice table and several vendors will have orchids available for sale.

Presentation Schedule:

Saturday, October 12

10 a.m. – Stan Griski, President, SWFL Orchid Society – To Repot or Not

11 a.m. – Carly Pfalz, Jungle House Nursery – Orchids and Lighting

NOON – Jim Hopton, artist and hypertufa expert – Creating a Hypertufa Orchid Display (Jim's creation will be raffled off at the end of his presentation)

1 p.m. – Gary Sims, SWFL Orchid Society – Have Fun with Orchids

2 p.m. – Ashley Palmer, Palmer Orchids – Growing Beautiful Vanda Orchids

Sunday, October 13

10 a.m. – Debbie Hughes, EFWE – Choosing Orchids to Mount in your Trees

11 a.m. – Micky Carnell, Blue Pagoda – Orchids 101

NOON – LUNCH BREAK

1 p.m. – Aaron Apsley, Aaron Apsley Artwork – Painting Orchids in Watercolor

2 p.m. – John Hampton, SWFL Orchid Society – The Joy of Kikis

Participating Vendors (to date):

Bello Tropicals, Blue Pagoda Orchids, Florida Orchid House, FTE Studios, Hang-A-Pot, Jim-N-I Orchids, Jungle House Nurseries, Kreative Gardens, Krull Smith Orchids, OFE Orchid Supplies, Palmer Orchids, Pelican Coast Orchids, Red Hawk Nursery, Sierra Madre Orchids, Smiley's Orchids, So Orchids, Sunland Orchids, and Tropiflora.

239-334-7419

Fall Festival

October 26, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates

2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

Enjoy some fall things with us as you stroll along and shop craft vendor booths, get something to eat and drink and listen to music. Plus, there will be fun activities!

The festival is free to attend; however, there is a fee to participate in each activity and visitors are encouraged to bring cash. Admission to the site requires an extra ticket. Registration for the Banyan Climb will be available online at edisonford.org.

Sponsored by FNGLA.

239-334-7419

**Acrylic Landscape Painting Class with Marie Dyer
October 27 and November 16, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers**

Find your place in the landscape and understand your part in it with impressionistic local artist, Marie Dyer! She will cover the fundamentals of composition and structure, color, creating mood, mixing paints and assist in developing a pallet that speaks to you! Advance registration is required. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$90; non-members: \$100

239-334-7419

**Homeschool Series: Historical Engineering Marvels – Great Wall of China
Grades 1-3: November 6 and 14, 10 a.m.
Grades 4-6: November 7 and 13, 10 a.m.**

**Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers, FL**

Let's take a look at the Great Wall of China! Gather the enduring strength of those who built China and the prowess to go down in history with one of greatest architectural feats. Classes are for grades 1-6 and facilitate homeschool or virtual science education. Advance registration is required. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$15; non-members: \$25

239-334-7419

**Garden Talk: Grow a Tropical Tea Garden
November 9, 10 a.m.**

**Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers**

Plow your way to lots of unique tastes for culinary fun of the season! We will explore tropical herbs and edible plants and how to pair flavors and highlight scents to create hot and cold tea brews for different seasons.

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

239-334-7419

**Garden Class: Palm Reading
November 12, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers**

The bliss of palms rustling in the wind in a beautiful paradise is just a sliver of all these is to these amazing tropical landscape marvel! This class will teach you how to select an appropriate palm species for your garden, the physiology of palms, their unique care, and what you need to know to maintain them at their beautiful best! In addition to time in the classroom, the discussion will continue with a tour of Edison's palm collection. Participants will each receive a copy of the teaching materials covered in class, as well as a 20% discount coupon good toward plants in our Garden Shoppe.

Advance registration is required. Class will be held at the Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council building on Larchmont Avenue (across from the Estates' overflow parking lots).

Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$45; non-members: \$60

239-334-7419

**Garden Tour
November 13, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

**Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers**

Tour Edison's vast gardens with different botanicals from landscapes all over the world! The 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 Garden Shoppe.

Members: \$25; non-members: \$30

239-334-7419

Fall Floral Arrangement Workshop
November 17, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

The true essence of fall manifests itself in landscapes and beautiful elements of the earth! Led by designer, Anita Singh, this hands-on workshop will guide you through the process of selecting and arranging fall-related flowers to create a unique and eye-catching centerpiece. All flowers and materials will be provided. Guests will be able to take home their arrangement. Advance registration is required. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$75; non-members: \$85
239-334-7419

Autumn Garden Festival
November 23-24, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

Elevate gardening to whole new lifestyle with troves of outstanding plants, music, food and casual outdoor vibes! More than 60 vendors from around the state will have tropical and native plants and trees for sale, in addition to food trucks and live music. Vendors will have many types of trees, **including** air plants, bromeliads, butterfly plants, cacti, fruit trees, herbs, hibiscus, orchids, palms, succulents, and many hard-to-find species. The Garden Shoppe will be open and have unusual tropical and Florida native plants that thrive in Southwest Florida.

A limited number of garden carts will be available, so guests are encouraged to bring a cart or wagon for transporting plants. Parking and admission to the festival is free (tours of the homes, museum and lab are not included).

239-334-7419

Green Science Camp
November 25, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

Explore ingenious ways to implement the elements of nature to create energy and electricity using solar panels and electric motors! This camp is focused on teaching the physics of energy and electronics. Advance registration is required. Register online at edisonford.org.

Edison Ford members: \$135; non-members: \$150

239-334-7419

49th Annual Holiday Nights Celebration
Opening night: November 29, 6 p.m.
Nightly celebration runs through January 5, 2025 (closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

Glistening lights are coloring our town and cheer is permeating the air as the holidays approach! Guests will have the opportunity to ring in Holiday Nights in the countdown with Dave Elias from NBC-2 when the Christmas tree on the Ford property is lit with thousands of animated lights choreographed to holiday music. Female vocalists, the American Sirens, will perform shortly after the lighting.

Guided Holiday Tradition tours will be offered at 6 and 7 p.m. every night except opening night or visitors can choose to meander at their own pace on a self-guided tour. Holiday Nights tickets for adults are \$20, teens (13-19) \$10, children (6-12) are \$2, and \$10 for Edison Ford members. Guided Holiday Tradition Tours are \$30 for adults, teens are \$25, children \$18, and \$15 for Edison Ford members. To purchase tickets or view the nightly schedule, visit the website at edisonford.org.

239-334-7419

Ongoing Programs:

Yoga by the River

Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates

2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

Although yoga has been around for more than 5,000 years, it has become increasingly popular during the past decade. Aside from the health benefits, it offers us a deeper connection to our inner self, nature and the community. This one-hour yoga class allows you to step away from all the 21st century gadgets and focus on the moment.

All skill levels are welcome. This class is taught by Bonnie D'Angelo, a certified yoga instructor. Bonnie started her journey as a yoga teacher to further support her own spiritual growth. She is RYT200 certified with Yoga Alliance and working toward RYT300. She is certified in Reiki 1 and Reiki 2 and will continue the path toward Reiki Master and Energy Worker.

Tickets can be purchase online at edisonford.org or at the ticket counter. Bring a yoga mat, water and towel. Admission to the site is not included.

Edison Ford members: \$15; non-members: \$20 per class
239-334-7419

Step into History Presentations

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates

2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

Each week, Edison Ford Historians present an in-depth look at a topic related to our site. This program is held in the 15,000-square-foot museum. Included with admission.
239-334-7419

Piano Performances

Every Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates

2350 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers

Join Curatorial Registrar, Chet, for a special piano performance. He will play Mina Edison's 1932 George Steck piano in the guest house. Included with admission.

239-334-7419