

- 442 [Florida's People](#)
- 467 [Symbols of the State](#)
- 492 [The Florida State Photographic Archives](#)
- 494 [Public Education](#)
- 503 [Sports in Florida](#)
- 511 [Florida Literature](#)
- 519 [Women in Government](#)
- 523 [Women's Hall of Fame](#)
- 528 [Artists Hall of Fame](#)
- 531 [Great Floridians](#)



Florida's People

Florida has been in the top four states of the nation in percentage increase in population every decade from the 1920s through 2000. From 2000-2010, Florida ranked eighth in percentage increase in population. In 1950, Florida ranked twentieth in size of population. Florida became the fourth most populous state in 1987 and is projected by the Census Bureau to be third by 2015.

Florida's population topped 15 million in 1998. By 2000, population was 15,982,824, an increase of 3,044,898 over the 1990 census. The 2010 census counted 18,801,310 Floridians and projects 20 million by April 2016.

During the 1980s, the number of people in the state rose by 3.2 million, the largest increase in Florida's history and the second largest in the United States. This represents nearly a 33% increase in population over that decade.

In the 1990s, Florida experienced population growth in excess of 20%, compared to a 10.7% growth rate for the U.S. as a whole. Five counties (Flagler, Sumter, Collier, Wakulla, and Osceola) had more than a 60% increase in residents. In the 2000s, Flagler and Sumter Counties were Florida's fastest-growing counties, with Flagler County growing by 92% and Sumter County growing by 75%.

The 2000-2010 period was the fourth consecutive decade in which Florida population grew by more than 2.8 million residents.

During the 2000s, natural increase accounted for 18.4% of the state's growth compared to 14.7% in the 1990s. Over 40% of net migration from 2000 to 2010 was due to international migration with the remainder due to movement from other states.

While the nation's median age rose from 30.2 in 1950 to 37.2 in 2010, Florida's median age increased from 30.9 in 1950 to 40.7 in 2010. Estimates project Florida's median age will be 44 in 2030.

In 1990, the youth population (ages 0-19) was 25% of Florida's population. By 2000 their numbers had increased to 25.3% but dropped to 24% of the total state population in 2010.

Florida's unemployment rate was 8.1% in November 2012, down from the historical high of 11.4% in February 2010, and up from the historical low of 3.3% in August 2006. The percentage of the Florida population that was employed was 60.4% in 2000 and 54.9% in 2010.

The 1990 census counted 2,355,926 persons over age 64 in Florida (18.2% of the total population). In 2000, the number was 2,807,597 (17.6%). By 2010, the number was 3,259,602 (17.3%).



Florida State Archives

Sunbathers fill the landscape at Pensacola Beach, 1952.

The population aged 85 and older was one of the fastest growing age segments during the 1980s, increasing by 75.1%. The population aged 85 and older increased by 61.2% in the 1990s and by 31% in the 2000s.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census; Florida Consensus Estimating Conference

Hispanics in Florida

The Hispanic population increased by 70.4% between 1990 and 2000 and by 57.4% between 2000 and 2010. The Federal census estimated that 4,223,806 persons of Hispanic origin lived in Florida on April 1, 2010, compared to 2,682,715 persons in Florida on April 1, 2000. In 2010, in 27 counties 10% to 65% of the population was Hispanic and in 20 counties the Hispanic population was 5% to 9.99%. In 2011, the University of Florida’s Bureau of Economic and Business Research estimated that Florida’s Hispanic population was 22.5% of Florida’s 18.8 million residents, up from 16.8% of Floridians in 2000. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race; the term includes persons of Latino or Spanish origin.

Source: Florida Statistical Abstract 2011; Bureau of Economic and Business Research, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Florida

Composition of the Population of Florida 1950–2000

Year	Total	Male	Female	White		Non-White		Black
	Number	Percent	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
1950	2,771,305	49.1	50.9	2,166,051	78.1	605,254	21.9	21.8
1960	4,951,560	49.2	50.8	4,063,881	82.0	887,679	18.0	17.8
1970	6,789,443	48.2	51.8	5,719,343	84.2	1,070,100	15.7	15.3
1980	9,746,342	47.9	52.0	8,178,387	83.9	1,567,955	16.1	13.8
1990	12,937,926	48.2	51.8	10,971,995	84.8	1,965,931	15.2	13.7
2000	15,982,378	48.7	51.3	12,462,678	77.9	3,532,106	22.1	16.3

2010

Total	Male	Female	White		Black		Hispanic (of any race)		Asian	
Number	Percent	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
18,801,310	48.9	51.1	14,488,435	77.1	3,200,663	17.0	4,223,806	22.5	573,083	3.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

States Ranked by Median Age 2010
(including District of Columbia)

Rank	State	Median Age	Rank	State	Median Age
1	Maine	42.7	27	Minnesota	37.4
2	Vermont	41.5	27	Arkansas	37.4
3	West Virginia	41.3	27	North Carolina	37.4
4	New Hampshire	41.1	30	Washington	37.3
5	Florida	40.7	31	Indiana	37.0
6	Pennsylvania	40.1	31	North Dakota	37.0
7	Connecticut	40.0	33	South Dakota	36.9
8	Montana	39.8	34	Wyoming	36.8
9	Rhode Island	39.4	35	New Mexico	36.7
10	Massachusetts	39.1	36	Illinois	36.6
11	New Jersey	39.0	37	Nevada	36.3
12	Michigan	38.9	38	Nebraska	36.2
13	Ohio	38.8	38	Oklahoma	36.2
13	Delaware	38.8	40	Colorado	36.1
15	Hawaii	38.6	41	Mississippi	36.0
16	Wisconsin	38.5	41	Kansas	36.0
17	Oregon	38.4	43	Arizona	35.9
18	Iowa	38.1	44	Louisiana	35.8
18	Kentucky	38.1	45	Georgia	35.3
20	New York	38.0	46	California	35.2
20	Maryland	38.0	47	Idaho	34.6
20	Tennessee	38.0	48	District of Columbia	33.8
23	Missouri	37.9	48	Alaska	33.8
23	South Carolina	37.9	50	Texas	33.6
23	Alabama	37.9	51	Utah	29.2
26	Virginia	37.5			

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The Aging of Florida and the U.S.

Date	Median Age Florida	Median Age U.S.
1950	30.9	30.2
1960	31.2	29.5
1970	32.3	28.0
1980	34.7	30.0
1990	36.0	32.8
2000	38.7	35.3
2010	40.7	37.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Florida Statistical Abstract 2011

States Ranked by Number and Increase in Households* 2010

Rank	Number of Households 2010	Numerical Increase in Households 2000-2010
1	California	Texas 1,345,310
2	Texas	California 903,605
3	New York	Florida 697,139
4	Florida	North Carolina 538,846
5	Pennsylvania	Georgia 476,051
6	Illinois	Arizona 432,723
7	Ohio	Washington 335,465
8	Michigan	Colorado 302,347
9	North Carolina	Virginia 293,559
10	Georgia	Nevada 238,646

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

*A household consists of all the persons who occupy a housing unit. A household consists of a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living expenses.

Top 10 State Populations

Florida's phenomenal population growth is evidenced by the rapid climb up the ranking of the states. Florida was twentieth in 1950, tenth in 1960, ninth in 1970, seventh in 1980, and fourth from 1987-2010.

The resident populations for the top 10 states on July 1, 2010, were:

California	37,253,936	Pennsylvania	12,702,379
Texas	25,145,561	Ohio	11,536,504
New York	19,378,102	Michigan	9,883,640
Florida	18,801,310	Georgia	9,687,653
Illinois	12,830,632	North Carolina	9,535,483

Source: Book of the States, 2011

Florida and the World

Florida has a larger population than many countries. Compared to countries with at least 10 million people in 2010, Florida has more residents than 20 countries including: Cambodia, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Greece, Guatemala, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Niger, Portugal, Senegal, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Source: *Florida Statistical Abstract 2011*; Worldatlas.com

STATE POPULATION BY AGE GROUP, RACE, AND SEX April 1, 2000 and April 1, 2010

Census 2000

	All Races			White			Black			Hispanic		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	15,982,378	7,797,715	8,184,663	10,591,456	5,159,630	5,431,826	2,358,124	1,131,682	1,226,441	2,682,747	1,340,140	1,342,606
0-17	3,646,342	1,870,988	1,775,354	2,067,668	1,064,286	1,003,383	790,276	401,724	388,552	702,535	361,624	340,911
18-34	3,414,702	1,734,485	1,680,217	1,948,222	988,602	959,620	614,058	295,085	318,973	751,570	401,193	350,377
35-64	6,113,723	2,975,581	3,138,142	4,239,257	2,082,991	2,156,266	783,096	367,223	415,873	949,987	461,361	488,626
65-79	2,068,883	936,698	1,132,185	1,700,335	778,213	922,122	133,196	55,783	77,413	216,803	94,776	122,027
80+	738,728	279,963	458,765	635,974	245,538	390,436	37,498	11,867	25,631	61,851	21,186	40,665

Census 2010

	All Races			White			Black			Hispanic		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	18,801,310	9,189,355	9,611,955	14,109,162	6,908,034	7,201,128	2,999,862	1,443,269	1,556,593	4,223,806	2,086,858	2,136,948
0-17	4,002,091	2,046,991	1,955,100	2,616,093	1,342,890	1,273,203	863,432	438,947	424,485	1,104,624	565,858	538,766
18-34	4,029,202	2,039,222	1,989,980	2,750,694	1,400,591	1,350,103	796,751	389,031	407,720	1,094,850	568,364	526,486
35-64	7,510,415	3,652,716	3,857,699	5,838,931	2,862,941	2,975,990	1,086,540	510,981	575,559	1,588,134	771,340	816,794
65-79	2,343,454	1,086,188	1,257,266	2,061,358	963,097	1,098,261	197,966	85,776	112,190	326,790	140,805	185,985
80+	916,148	364,238	551,910	842,086	338,515	503,571	55,173	18,534	36,839	109,408	40,491	68,917

Florida Population Growth 1900-2010

Year	Population	Decade Change	Percent Change
1900	528,542	N/A	N/A
1910	752,619	224,077	42.4
1920	968,470	215,851	28.7
1930	1,468,211	499,741	51.6
1940	1,897,414	429,203	29.2
1950	2,771,305	873,891	46.1
1960	4,951,560	2,180,255	78.7
1970	6,791,418	1,839,858	37.2
1980	9,746,342	2,954,924	30.3
1990	12,937,926	3,191,602	32.7
2000	15,982,824	3,044,452	19.0
2010	18,801,310	2,818,486	15.4

Fastest Growing Metro Areas

Florida had eight of the nation's top ten fastest growing metropolitan areas between 1980 and 1990. In the 1990s, only Naples-Marco Island was in the top ten. In the 2000s, Cape Coral, Ft. Myers, and Port St. Lucie were in the top ten.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Florida Metropolitan Areas

Metropolitan Area	Population 2010
Cape Coral, Ft. Myers	618,754
Deltona, Daytona Beach, Ormond Beach	494,593
Ft. Walton Beach, Crestview, Destin	180,822
Gainesville	264,275
Jacksonville	1,345,596
Lakeland-Winter Haven	602,095
Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, Miami Beach	5,564,635
Naples, Marco Island	321,520
Ocala	331,298
Orlando, Kissimmee, Sanford	2,134,411
Palm Bay, Melbourne, Titusville	543,376
Palm Coast	95,696
Panama City, Lynn Haven, Panama City Beach	168,852
Pensacola, Ferry Pass, Brent	448,991
Port St. Lucie, Ft. Pierce	427,107
Punta Gorda	159,978
Sarasota, Bradenton, North Port	702,281
Sebastian, Vero Beach	138,028
Tallahassee	367,413
Tampa, St. Petersburg, Clearwater	2,783,243

Source: Florida Statistical Abstract 2011

**Urban and Rural Population of the State
Earliest Census to 2010**

Census year and date	Total Number	Change from preceding census		Urban		Rural	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Current urban definition							
2010 (April 1)	18,801,310	2,818,486	17.6	17,139,844	91.2	1,661,466	8.8
2000 (April 1)	15,982,824	3,044,898	23.5	14,270,020	89.3	1,712,358	10.7
1990 (April 1)	12,937,926	3,191,602	32.8	10,970,445	84.8	1,967,481	15.2
1980 (April 1)	9,746,324	2,954,906	43.5	8,212,385	84.3	1,533,939	15.7
1970 (April 1)	6,791,418	1,839,858	37.2	5,544,551	81.6	1,244,892	18.3
1960 (April 1)	4,951,560	2,180,255	78.7	3,661,383	73.9	1,290,177	26.1
1950 (April 1)	2,771,305	873,891	46.1	1,813,890	65.5	957,415	34.5
Earlier urban definition							
1940 (April 1)	1,897,414	429,203	29.2	1,045,791	55.1	851,623	44.9
1930 (April 1)	1,468,211	499,741	51.6	759,778	51.7	708,433	48.3
1920 (Jan. 1)	968,470	215,851	28.7	353,515	36.5	614,955	63.5
1910 (April 15)	752,619	224,077	42.4	219,080	29.1	533,539	70.9
1900 (June 1)	528,542	137,120	35.0	107,031	20.3	421,511	79.7
1890 (June 1)	391,422	121,929	45.2	77,358	19.8	314,064	80.2
1880 (June 1)	269,493	81,745	43.5	26,947	10.0	242,546	90.0
1870 (June 1)	187,748	47,324	33.7	15,275	8.1	172,473	91.9
1860 (June 1)	140,424	52,979	60.6	5,708	4.1	134,716	95.9
1850 (June 1)	87,445	32,968	60.5	0	0.0	87,445	100.0
1840 (June 1)	54,477	19,747	56.9	0	0.0	54,477	100.0
1830 (June 1)	34,730	None	None	0	0.0	34,730	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

**ESTIMATES OF POPULATION BY COUNTY
AND MUNICIPALITY IN FLORIDA: 2000-2010**

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
ALACHUA	247,336	29,381	217,955
Alachua	9,059	2,961	6,098
Archer	1,118	-171	1,289
Gainesville	124,354	28,907	95,447
Hawthorne	1,417	2	1,415
High Springs	5,350	1,487	3,863
LaCrosse	360	217	143
Micanopy	600	-53	653
Newberry	4,950	1,634	3,316
Waldo	1,015	194	821
Unincorporated	99,113	-5,797	104,910

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
BAKER	27,115	4,856	22,259
Glen Saint Mary	437	-36	473
Macclenny	6,374	1,915	4,459
Unincorporated	20,304	2,977	17,327
BAY	168,852	20,635	148,217
Callaway	14,405	172	14,233
Cedar Grove ¹	0	-5,367	5,367
Lynn Haven	18,493	6,042	12,451
Mexico Beach	1,072	55	1,017
Panama City	36,084	67	36,417
Panama City Beach	12,018	4,347	7,671
Parker	4,317	-306	4,623
Springfield	8,903	93	8,810
Unincorporated	73,160	15,532	57,628
BRADFORD	29,520	2,432	26,088
Brooker	338	-14	352
Hampton	500	69	431
Lawtey	730	74	656
Starke	5,449	-144	5,593
Unincorporated	21,503	2,447	19,056
BREVARD	543,376	67,146	476,230
Cape Canaveral	9,912	1,038	8,829
Cocoa	17,140	728	16,412
Cocoa Beach	11,231	-1,251	12,482
Grant-Valkaria ²	3,850	3,850	0
Indialantic	2,720	-224	2,944
Indian Harbour Beach	8,225	73	8,152
Malabar	2,757	135	2,622
Melbourne	76,068	4,686	71,382
Melbourne Beach	3,101	-234	3,335
Melbourne Village	662	-44	706
Palm Bay	103,190	23,777	79,413
Palm Shores	900	106	794
Rockledge	24,926	4,756	20,170
Satellite Beach	10,109	532	9,577
Titusville	43,761	3,091	40,670
West Melbourne	18,355	8,531	9,824
Unincorporated	206,469	17,551	188,918

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
BROWARD	1,748,066	125,048	1,623,018
Coconut Creek	52,909	9,343	43,566
Cooper City	28,547	633	27,939
Coral Springs	121,096	3,547	117,549
Dania Beach	29,639	9,578	20,061
Davie	91,992	16,272	75,720
Deerfield Beach	75,018	10,433	64,583
Ft. Lauderdale	165,521	13,124	152,397
Hallandale Beach	37,113	2,831	34,282
Hillsboro Beach	1,875	-288	2,163
Hollywood	140,768	1,400	139,357
Lauderdale-by-the-Sea	6,056	2,835	3,221
Lauderdale Lakes	32,593	888	31,705
Lauderhill	66,887	9,302	57,585
Lighthouse Point	10,344	-432	10,767
Margate	53,284	-625	53,909
Miramar	122,041	49,302	72,739
North Lauderdale	41,023	8,759	32,264
Oakland Park	41,363	10,397	30,966
Parkland	23,962	10,127	13,835
Pembroke Park	6,102	718	6,299
Pembroke Pines	154,750	17,323	137,427
Plantation	84,955	2,021	82,934
Pompano Beach	99,845	21,654	78,191
Sea Ranch Lakes	670	-64	734
Southwest Ranches ²	7,345	7,345	0
Sunrise	84,439	-1,348	85,779
Tamarac	60,427	4,839	55,588
Weston	65,333	16,047	49,286
West Park ²	14,156	14,156	0
Wilton Manors	11,632	-1,065	12,697
Unincorporated	16,357	-113,999	129,437
CALHOUN	14,625	1,608	13,017
Altha	536	30	506
Blountstown	2,514	70	2,444
Unincorporated	11,575	1,508	10,067
CHARLOTTE	159,978	18,351	141,627
Punta Gorda	16,641	2,297	14,344
Unincorporated	143,337	16,054	127,283

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
CITRUS	141,236	23,151	118,085
Crystal River	3,108	-377	3,485
Inverness	7,210	421	6,789
Unincorporated	130,918	23,107	107,811
CLAY	190,865	50,051	140,814
Green Cove Springs	6,908	1,530	5,378
Keystone Heights	1,350	5	1,345
Orange Park	8,412	-669	9,081
Penney Farms	749	169	580
Unincorporated	173,446	49,016	124,430
COLLIER	321,520	70,143	251,377
Everglades	400	-79	479
Marco Island	16,413	1,534	14,879
Naples	19,537	-1,439	20,976
Unincorporated	285,170	70,127	215,043
COLUMBIA	67,531	11,018	56,513
Ft. White	567	158	409
Lake City	12,046	2,066	9,980
Unincorporated	54,918	8,794	46,124
DE SOTO	34,862	2,653	32,209
Arcadia	7,637	1,033	6,604
Unincorporated	27,225	1,620	25,605
DIXIE	16,422	2,595	13,827
Cross City	1,728	-47	1,775
Horseshoe Beach	169	-37	206
Unincorporated	14,525	2,679	11,846
DUVAL	864,263	85,384	778,879
Atlantic Beach	12,655	-713	13,368
Baldwin	1,425	-209	1,634
Jacksonville (Duval)	821,784	86,167	735,617
Jacksonville Beach	21,362	372	20,990
Neptune Beach	7,037	-233	7,270

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
ESCAMBIA	297,619	3,209	294,410
Century	1,698	-16	1,714
Pensacola	51,923	-4,332	56,255
Unincorporated	243,998	7,557	236,441
FLAGLER	95,696	45,864	49,832
Beverly Beach	338	-209	547
Bunnell	2,676	554	2,122
Flagler Beach (part)	4,424	-454	4,878
Marineland (part)	16	10	6
Palm Coast	75,180	42,448	32,732
Unincorporated	13,062	3,515	9,547
FRANKLIN	11,549	1,720	9,829
Apalachicola	2,231	-103	2,334
Carrabelle	2,778	1,475	1,303
Unincorporated	6,540	348	6,192
GADSDEN	46,389	1,302	45,087
Chattahoochee	3,652	365	3,287
Greensboro	602	-17	619
Gretna	1,460	-249	1,709
Havana	1,754	41	1,713
Midway	3,004	1,558	1,446
Quincy	7,972	990	6,982
Unincorporated	27,945	-1,386	29,331
GILCHRIST	16,939	2,502	14,437
Bell	456	107	349
Fanning Springs (part)	278	5	273
Trenton	1,999	382	1,617
Unincorporated	14,206	2,008	12,198
GLADES	12,884	2,308	10,576
Moore Haven	1,680	45	1,635
Unincorporated	11,204	2,263	8,941
GULF	15,863	1,303	14,560
Port St. Joe	3,445	-199	3,644
Wewahitchka	1,981	259	1,722
Unincorporated	10,437	1,243	9,194

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
HAMILTON	14,799	1,472	13,327
Jasper	4,546	2,766	1,780
Jennings	878	45	833
White Springs	777	-42	819
Unincorporated	8,598	-1,297	9,895
HARDEE	27,731	793	26,938
Bowling Green	2,930	38	2,892
Wauchula	5,001	633	4,368
Zolfo Springs	1,827	186	1,641
Unincorporated	17,973	-64	18,037
HENDRY	39,140	2,930	36,210
Clewiston	7,155	695	6,460
La Belle	4,640	430	4,210
Unincorporated	27,345	1,805	25,540
HERNANDO	172,778	41,976	130,802
Brooksville	7,719	455	7,264
Weeki Wachee	12	0	12
Unincorporated	165,047	41,521	123,526
HIGHLANDS	98,786	11,420	87,366
Avon Park	8,836	294	8,542
Lake Placid	2,223	555	1,668
Sebring	10,491	824	9,667
Unincorporated	77,236	9,747	67,489
HILLSBOROUGH	1,229,226	230,278	998,948
Plant City	34,721	4,961	29,915
Tampa	335,709	32,262	303,447
Temple Terrace	24,541	3,623	20,918
Unincorporated	834,255	189,432	644,668
HOLMES	19,927	1,363	18,564
Bonifay	2,793	128	2,665
Esto	364	8	356
Noma	211	-2	213
Ponce de Leon	598	141	457
Westville	289	68	221
Unincorporated	15,672	1,020	14,652

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
INDIAN RIVER	138,028	25,081	112,947
Fellsmere	5,197	1,384	3,813
Indian River Shores	3,901	453	3,448
Orchid	415	275	140
Sebastian	21,929	5,748	16,181
Vero Beach	15,220	-2,485	17,705
Unincorporated	91,366	19,706	71,660
JACKSON	49,746	2,991	46,755
Alford	489	23	466
Bascom	121	15	106
Campbellton	230	18	212
Cottdale	933	64	869
Graceville	2,278	-124	2,402
Grand Ridge	892	100	792
Greenwood	686	-49	735
Jacob City	250	-31	281
Malone	2,088	81	2,007
Marianna	6,102	-128	6,230
Sneads	1,849	-70	1,919
Unincorporated	33,828	3,092	30,736
JEFFERSON	14,761	1,859	12,902
Monticello	2,506	-27	2,533
Unincorporated	12,255	1,886	10,369
LAFAYETTE	8,870	1,848	7,022
Mayo	1,237	249	988
Unincorporated	7,633	1,599	6,034
LAKE	297,052	86,525	210,527
Astatula	1,810	512	1,298
Clermont	28,742	19,404	9,338
Eustis	18,558	3,452	15,106
Fruitland Park	4,078	892	3,186
Groveland	8,729	6,335	2,394
Howey-in-the-Hills	1,098	142	956
Lady Lake	13,926	2,098	11,828
Leesburg	20,117	4,161	15,956
Mascotte	5,101	2,414	2,687
Minneola	9,403	3,968	5,435

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
Montverde	1,463	581	882
Mount Dora	12,370	2,952	9,418
Tavares	13,951	4,251	9,700
Umatilla	3,456	1,242	2,214
Unincorporated	154,250	34,121	120,129
LEE	618,754	177,866	440,888
Bonita Springs	43,914	11,117	32,797
Cape Coral	154,305	52,019	102,286
Ft. Myers	62,298	14,090	48,208
Ft. Myers Beach	6,277	-284	6,561
Sanibel	6,469	405	6,064
Unincorporated	345,491	100,519	244,972
LEON	275,487	36,035	239,452
Tallahassee	181,376	30,752	150,624
Unincorporated	94,111	5,283	88,828
LEVY	40,801	6,351	34,450
Bronson	1,113	149	964
Cedar Key	702	-88	790
Chiefland	2,245	252	1,993
Fanning Springs (part)	486	22	464
Inglis	1,325	-166	1,491
Otter Creek	134	13	121
Williston	2,768	471	2,297
Yankeetown	502	-127	629
Unincorporated	31,526	5,825	25,701
LIBERTY	8,365	1,344	7,021
Bristol	996	151	845
Unincorporated	7,369	1,193	6,176
MADISON	19,224	491	18,733
Greenville	843	6	837
Lee	352	0	352
Madison	2,843	-218	3,061
Unincorporated	15,186	703	14,483

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
MANATEE	322,833	58,831	264,002
Anna Maria	1,503	-311	1,814
Bradenton	49,546	42	49,504
Bradenton Beach	1,171	-311	1,482
Holmes Beach	3,836	-1,130	4,966
Longboat Key (part)	2,398	-193	2,591
Palmetto	12,606	35	12,571
Unincorporated	251,773	60,699	191,074
MARION	331,298	72,382	258,916
Belleview	4,492	1,014	3,478
Dunnellon	1,733	-165	1,898
McIntosh	452	-1	453
Ocala	56,315	10,372	45,943
Reddick	506	-65	571
Unincorporated	267,800	61,227	206,573
MARTIN	146,318	19,587	126,731
Jupiter Island	817	197	620
Ocean Breeze Park	355	-108	463
Sewalls Point	1,996	50	1,946
Stuart	15,593	960	14,633
Unincorporated	127,557	18,488	109,069
MIAMI-DADE	2,496,435	242,656	2,253,779
Aventura	35,762	10,495	25,267
Bal Harbour	2,513	-792	3,305
Bay Harbor Islands	5,628	482	5,146
Biscayne Park	3,055	-214	3,269
Coral Gables	46,780	4,531	42,249
Cutler Bay ²	40,286	40,286	0
Doral ²	45,704	45,704	0
El Portal	2,325	-180	2,505
Florida City	11,245	3,402	7,843
Golden Beach	919	0	919
Hialeah	224,669	-1,750	226,419
Hialeah Gardens	21,744	2,447	19,297
Homestead	60,512	28,603	31,909
Indian Creek	86	53	33
Islandia	18	12	6
Key Biscayne	12,344	1,837	10,507

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
Medley	838	-260	1,098
Miami	399,457	36,987	362,470
Miami Beach	87,779	-154	87,933
Miami Gardens ²	107,167	107,167	0
Miami Lakes ²	29,361	29,361	0
Miami Shores	10,493	113	10,380
Miami Springs	13,809	97	13,712
North Bay Village	7,137	404	6,733
North Miami	58,786	-1,094	59,880
North Miami Beach	41,523	737	40,786
Opa-locka	15,219	268	14,951
Palmetto Bay ²	23,410	23,410	0
Pinecrest	18,223	-832	19,055
South Miami	11,657	916	10,741
Sunny Isles Beach	20,832	5,517	15,315
Surfside	5,744	835	4,909
Sweetwater	13,499	-727	14,226
Virginia Gardens	2,375	27	2,348
West Miami	5,965	102	5,863
Unincorporated	1,109,571	-95,134	1,204,705
MONROE	73,090	-6,499	79,589
Islamorada, Village of Islands	6,119	727	6,846
Key Colony Beach	797	9	788
Key West	24,649	-829	25,478
Layton	184	-2	186
Marathon	8,297	-1,958	10,255
Unincorporated	33,044	-2,992	36,036
NASSAU	73,314	15,651	57,663
Callahan	1,123	161	962
Fernandina Beach	11,487	938	10,549
Hilliard	3,086	384	2,702
Unincorporated	57,618	14,168	43,450
OKALOOSA	180,822	10,324	170,498
Cinco Bayou	383	6	377
Crestview	20,978	6,212	14,766
Destin	12,305	1,186	11,119
Ft. Walton Beach	19,507	-466	19,973

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
Laurel Hill	537	-12	549
Mary Esther	3,851	-204	4,055
Niceville	12,749	1,065	11,684
Shalimar	717	-1	718
Valparaiso	5,036	-1,372	6,408
Unincorporated	104,759	3,910	100,849
OKEECHOBEE	39,996	4,086	35,910
Okeechobee	5,621	245	5,376
Unincorporated	34,375	3,841	30,534
ORANGE	1,145,956	249,612	896,344
Apopka	41,542	14,900	26,642
Bay Lake	47	24	23
Belle Isle	5,988	457	5,531
Eatonville	2,159	-273	2,432
Edgewood	2,503	602	1,901
Lake Buena Vista	10	-6	16
Maitland	15,751	3,732	12,019
Oakland	2,538	1,602	936
Ocoee	35,579	11,188	24,391
Orlando	238,300	52,349	185,951
Windermere	2,462	565	1,897
Winter Garden	34,568	20,217	14,351
Winter Park	27,852	3,762	24,090
Unincorporated	736,657	140,493	596,164
OSCEOLA	268,685	96,192	172,493
Kissimmee	59,682	11,868	47,814
St. Cloud	35,183	15,109	20,074
Unincorporated	173,820	69,215	104,605
PALM BEACH	1,320,134	188,943	1,131,191
Atlantis	2,005	0	2,005
Belle Glade	17,476	2,561	14,906
Boca Raton	84,392	9,628	74,764
Boynton Beach	68,217	7,828	60,389
Briny Breeze	601	190	411
Cloud Lake	135	-32	167
Delray Beach	60,522	502	60,020
Glen Ridge	219	-57	276

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
Golf Village	252	22	230
Greenacres City	37,573	10,004	27,569
Gulf Stream	786	70	716
Haverhill	1,873	419	1,454
Highland Beach	3,539	-236	3,775
Hypoluxo	2,588	573	2,015
Juno Beach	3,176	-86	3,262
Jupiter	55,156	15,828	39,328
Jupiter Inlet Colony	400	32	368
Lake Clarke Shores	3,376	-75	3,451
Lake Park	8,155	-566	8,721
Lake Worth	34,910	-223	35,133
Lantana	10,423	1,019	9,404
Loxahatchee Groves	3,180	3,180	0
Manalapan	406	85	321
Mangonia Park	1,888	605	1,283
North Palm Beach	12,015	-49	12,064
Ocean Ridge	1,786	150	1,636
Pahokee	5,649	-336	5,985
Palm Beach	8,348	-1,328	9,676
Palm Beach Gardens	48,452	13,394	35,058
Palm Beach Shores	1,142	-127	1,269
Palm Springs	18,928	7,229	11,699
Riviera Beach	32,488	2,604	29,884
Royal Palm Beach	34,140	12,617	21,523
South Bay	4,876	1,017	3,859
South Palm Beach	1,171	-360	1,531
Tequesta	5,629	356	5,273
Wellington	56,508	18,292	38,216
West Palm Beach	99,919	17,816	82,103
Unincorporated	587,844	66,397	521,447
PASCO	464,697	119,929	344,765
Dade City	6,437	249	6,188
New Port Richey	14,911	-1,206	16,117
Port Richey	2,671	-350	3,021
Saint Leo	1,340	750	590
San Antonio	1,138	454	684
Zephyrhills	13,288	2,455	10,833
Unincorporated	424,912	117,577	307,335

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
PINELLAS	916,542	-4,953	921,495
Belleair	3,869	-198	4,067
Belleair Beach	1,560	-72	1,632
Belleair Bluffs	2,031	-212	2,243
Belleair Shore	109	-34	75
Clearwater	107,685	-1,104	108,789
Dunedin	35,321	-370	35,691
Gulfport	12,029	-498	12,527
Indian Rocks Beach	4,113	-1,014	5,127
Indian Shores	1,420	-285	1,705
Kenneth City	4,980	580	4,400
Largo	77,648	8,277	69,371
Madeira Beach	4,263	-248	4,511
North Redington Beach	1,417	-57	1,474
Oldsmar	13,591	1,681	11,910
Pinellas Park	49,079	3,421	45,658
Redington Beach	1,427	-112	1,539
Redington Shores	2,121	-217	2,338
Safety Harbor	16,884	-319	17,203
St. Petersburg	244,769	-3,463	248,232
St. Petersburg Beach	9,346	-583	9,929
Seminole	17,233	6,343	10,890
South Pasadena	4,964	-814	5,778
Tarpon Springs	23,484	2,481	21,003
Treasure Island	6,705	-745	7,450
Unincorporated	270,494	-17,459	287,953
POLK	602,095	118,171	483,924
Auburndale	13,507	2,475	11,032
Bartow	17,298	1,958	15,340
Davenport	2,888	964	1,924
Dundee	3,717	805	2,912
Eagle Lake	2,255	-241	2,496
Ft. Meade	5,626	-65	5,691
Frostproof	2,992	17	2,975
Haines City	20,535	7,361	13,174
Highland Park	230	-14	244
Hillcrest Heights	254	-12	266
Lake Alfred	5,015	1,125	3,890
Lake Hamilton	1,231	-73	1,304
Lake Wales	14,225	4,031	10,194

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
Lakeland	97,422	18,970	78,452
Mulberry	3,817	587	3,230
Polk City	1,562	46	1,516
Winter Haven	33,874	7,387	26,487
Unincorporated	375,647	72,850	302,797
PUTNAM	74,364	3,941	70,423
Crescent City	1,577	-199	1,776
Interlachen	1,403	-72	1,475
Palatka	10,558	525	10,033
Pomona Park	912	123	789
Welaka	701	115	586
Unincorporated	59,213	3,449	55,764
ST. JOHNS	190,039	66,904	123,135
Hastings	580	59	521
Marineland (part)	0	0	0
St. Augustine	12,975	1,383	11,592
St. Augustine Beach	6,176	1,493	4,683
Unincorporated	170,308	63,969	106,339
ST. LUCIE	277,789	85,094	192,695
Ft. Pierce	41,590	4,074	37,516
Port St. Lucie	164,603	75,834	88,769
St. Lucie Village	590	-14	604
Unincorporated	71,006	5,200	65,806
SANTA ROSA	151,372	33,629	117,743
Gulf Breeze	5,763	98	5,665
Jay	533	-46	579
Milton	8,826	1,781	7,045
Unincorporated	136,250	31,796	104,454
SARASOTA	379,448	53,487	325,961
Longboat Key (part)	4,490	-522	5,012
North Port	57,357	34,560	22,797
Sarasota	51,917	-798	52,715
Venice	20,748	2,884	17,864
Unincorporated	244,936	17,363	227,573

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
SEMINOLE	422,718	57,519	365,199
Altamonte Springs	41,496	296	41,200
Casselberry	26,241	2,803	23,438
Lake Mary	13,822	2,364	11,458
Longwood	13,657	-88	13,745
Oviedo	33,342	7,026	26,316
Sanford	53,570	15,279	38,291
Winter Springs	33,282	2,422	30,860
Unincorporated	207,308	27,417	179,891
SUMTER	93,420	40,075	53,345
Bushnell	2,418	368	2,050
Center Hill	988	78	910
Coleman	703	56	647
Webster	785	-20	805
Wildwood	6,709	2,785	3,924
Unincorporated	81,817	36,808	45,009
SUWANNEE	41,551	6,707	34,844
Branford	712	17	695
Live Oak	6,850	370	6,480
Unincorporated	33,989	6,320	27,669
TAYLOR	22,570	3,314	19,256
Perry	7,017	-170	6,847
Unincorporated	15,553	3,144	12,409
UNION	15,535	2,093	13,442
Lake Butler	1,897	-30	1,927
Raiford	255	68	187
Worthington Springs	181	-12	193
Unincorporated	13,202	2,067	11,135
VOLUSIA	494,593	51,250	443,343
Daytona Beach	61,005	-3,107	64,112
Daytona Beach Shores	4,247	-52	4,299
DeBary	19,320	3,761	15,559
De Land	27,031	6,127	20,904
Deltona	85,182	15,639	69,543
Edgewater	20,750	2,082	18,668
Flagler Beach (part)	60	-16	76

County and City	April 1, 2010 (Census)	Total Change	April 1, 2000 (Census)
Holly Hill	11,659	-460	12,119
Lake Helen	2,624	-119	2,743
New Smyrna Beach	22,464	2,416	20,048
Oak Hill	1,792	414	1,378
Orange City	10,599	3,995	6,604
Ormond Beach	38,137	1,836	36,301
Pierson	1,736	-860	2,596
Ponce Inlet	3,032	519	2,513
Port Orange	56,048	10,225	45,823
South Daytona	12,252	-925	13,177
Unincorporated	116,655	9,775	106,880
WAKULLA	30,776	7,913	22,863
St. Marks	293	21	272
Sopchoppy	457	31	426
Unincorporated	30,026	7,861	22,165
WALTON	55,043	14,442	40,601
De Funiak Springs	5,177	88	5,089
Freeport	1,787	597	1,190
Paxton	644	-12	656
Unincorporated	47,435	13,769	33,666
WASHINGTON	24,896	3,923	20,973
Caryville	411	193	218
Chipley	3,605	13	3,592
Ebro	270	20	250
Vernon	687	-56	743
Wausau	383	-15	398
Unincorporated	19,540	3,768	15,772
FLORIDA	18,801,310	2,818,486	15,982,824
Incorporated	9,453,648	1,549,245	7,904,403
Unincorporated	9,347,662	1,269,241	8,078,421

¹Cedar Grove was dissolved in 2008.

²Established between April 1, 2000, and April 1, 2010.

Explanation of Terms

April 1, 2000: The permanent resident population enumerated in the 2000 Census.

Total change: The total change in population between April 1, 2000, and April 1, 2010, including the effects of natural increase (or decrease), net migration and changes in geographic boundaries.

April 1, 2010: The permanent resident population enumerated in the 2010 Census.

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida; Florida Population: Census Summary 2010

Vital Statistics

Marriages and Dissolutions of Marriage, Rates per 1,000 Population and Dissolutions per 100 Marriages

Year	Marriages	Rate	Diss. Of Marriage	Rate	Diss. Per 100 Marr.
1930	17,147	11.6	3,632	2.5	21.1
1940	32,709	17.2	11,186	5.8	34.2
1950	27,588	9.9	18,033	6.5	65.3
1960	39,315	7.9	19,554	3.9	49.7
1970	70,110	10.3	37,465	5.5	53.4
1980	108,344	11.0	71,578	7.3	66.1
1990	141,816	10.9	81,119	6.2	57.2
2000	145,300	9.0	81,493	5.0	56.0
2005	158,192	8.8	81,287	4.5	51.3
2006	158,167	8.6	85,955	4.7	54.3
2007	155,998	8.3	84,386	4.5	54.0
2008	147,888	7.9	79,868	4.2	54.0
2009	139,127	7.4	78,752	4.2	56.6
2010	137,250	7.3	84,342	4.4	61.4
2011	140,900	7.4	84,785	4.5	60.2

Florida Deaths for Highest Causes and Rates per 100,000 Population, by Race 1990, 2011

Cause of Death	Year	Rank	Total	White	Non-White
Cancer	1990	2	33,541	30,374	3,160
	2011	1	41,221	36,353	4,793
Heart Disease	1990	1	45,437	41,702	3,725
	2011	2	40,522	36,103	4,349
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	1990	4	5,660	5,330	330
	2011	3	10,241	9,632	602
Accidents	1990	5	5,125	4,304	821
	2011	4	8,475	7,528	934
Stroke	1990	3	8,442	7,448	993
	2011	5	8,327	7,083	1,238
Diabetes Mellitus	1990	7	2,952	2,434	516
	2011	6	5,044	3,958	1,078
Alzheimer's Disease	2000	7	3,257	3,088	167
	2011	7	4,470	4,183	286

Cause of Death	Year	Rank	Total	White	Non-White
Nephritis	2000	10	1,896	746	1,060
	2011	8	3,041	2,495	545
Suicide	1990	9	2,073	1,949	124
	2011	9	2,765	2,571	194
Chronic Liver Disease & Cirrhosis	1990	10	1,688	1,531	157
	2011	10	2,572	2,358	212
Pneumonia & Influenza	1990	6	3,476	3,135	339
	2011	11	2,418	2,143	269
Septicemia	1990	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	2011	12	1,936	1,614	321
Hypertension	1990	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	2011	13	1,798	1,424	371

Florida Births By Race 1925-2011

Year	Total	White	Nonwhite
1925	29,403	20,160	9,243
1930	26,993	18,602	8,391
1940	33,696	23,805	9,891
1950	64,370	5,699	18,671
1960	115,610	84,402	31,208
1970	114,440	86,373	28,067
1980	132,186	95,745	36,424
1990	178,018	146,770	51,150
1995	188,535	141,848	46,555
2000	204,030	150,115	53,622
2001	205,800	151,623	53,827
2002	205,580*	152,127	53,071
2003	212,243*	157,402	54,566
2004	218,045	160,132	57,477
2005	226,219	166,181	59,608
2006	237,166	174,147	62,687
2007	239,120	174,597	64,090
2008	231,417	167,487	63,411
2009	221,391	159,186	61,565
2010	214,519	153,480	59,905
2011	213,237	152,007	60,461

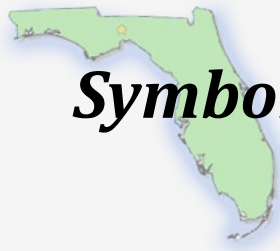
*Unknown race included in total.

Florida Deaths By Race 1920-2011

Year	Total	White	Nonwhite
1920	12,674	7,528	5,146
1930	18,215	11,032	7,183
1940	21,458	13,741	7,717
1950	26,525	19,443	7,082
1960	47,937	38,837	9,100
1970	74,779	63,840	10,839
1980	104,479	92,591	11,851
1990	133,294	118,304	14,949
1995	151,619	134,232	17,356
1996	152,697	135,773	16,858
1997	153,830	136,900	16,696
1998	157,160	139,940	17,009
1999	162,122	144,303	17,649
2000	162,839	144,774	17,740
2001	167,181	148,714	18,425
2002	167,702*	148,945	18,694
2003	168,459*	149,523	18,892
2004	168,364*	149,215	19,086
2005	170,300	150,102	20,103
2006	169,365	148,994	20,345
2007	167,708	147,305	20,386
2008	170,473	149,966	20,465
2009	169,854	149,190	20,631
2010	172,509	151,589	20,724
2011	172,856	151,836	20,781

*Unknown race included in total.

Source: Florida Dept. of Health, Florida Vital Statistics Annual Report 2011.



Symbols of the State

Flags over Florida

At least sixteen flags have flown over Florida. The flags of five countries (Spain, France, Great Britain, the United States, and the Confederate States of America) and seven state flags, as well as several ceremonial flags, have all flown over Florida.

National Flags

Spain, 1513:

Research indicates Spain had no national flag in 1513 when Juan Ponce de León landed on Florida shores, but the Castle and Lion flag of the King was recognized as the flag of the country.



The Burgundian Saltire, 1565-1763:



The Castillo de San Marcos at St. Augustine and San Marcos de Apalache at St. Marks fly a white flag with the red Cross of Burgundy, being among the Spanish flags used during the years of the construction of the Castillo and its outpost. The white field is for the Burgundy region of France, for the French nobility of Philip (Felipe I), and for the traditional color of French royalty. The knotted saltire, or X-shaped red cross, signifies the roughly-pruned branches of the tree on which Saint Andrew, patron saint of Burgundy, was crucified. As with Spanish flags generally, the Burgundian cross appeared in a number of designs and colors. On religious occasions, the field was blue with images of the Virgin Mary in the quarters formed by the cross. On other occasions, the Spanish coat of arms was added at the ends of the arms of the cross.

France, 1564-1565:

The French flag flew over the short-lived settlement of Fort Caroline near present-day Jacksonville. The French flag of the 1500s had fleur-de-lis both on white and blue backgrounds, but the flag flown in Florida almost surely was the gold fleur-de-lis on blue.



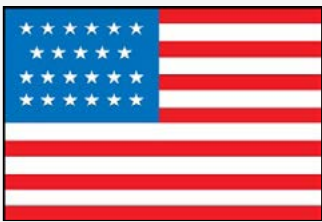


Great Britain, 1763-1783:

During the English period in Florida, the mother country’s flag was the Union flag of Great Britain, reflecting the merger of England and Scotland.

Second Spanish Occupation, 1783-1821:

In 1785, King Charles III decreed the national flag would henceforth be the red and gold-striped ensign which flew when the United States acquired Florida from Spain.



United States, 1821:

The flag of the United States had twenty-three stars when the Treaty with Spain, which ceded Florida to the United States, was ratified and proclaimed on February 22, 1821.

Florida’s Star:

By 1845, when Florida was admitted to statehood, the custom had been established of adding a star on the following Fourth of July for each new state. Following the ratification of Florida’s statehood on March 3, 1845 the United States flag gained its twenty-seventh star on July 4, 1845.



The Confederacy, 1861-1865



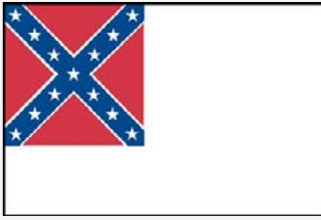
First National Flag:

The first national flag of the Confederacy, used from March 1861 until May 1863, was adopted without a formal vote. The circle of stars in a blue canton, combined with three horizontal bars, led to the nickname “Stars and Bars.”

Battle Flag:

Confederate field commanders began using the square “Southern Cross” as a battle flag in the latter part of 1861. In 1863, a rectangular version without a white border became the official Confederate naval jack. This later banner was also used as a battle flag in the western theater of the war.





Second National Pattern:

Because of its rough similarity to the United States flag, the Confederate legislature officially replaced the “Stars and Bars” with a second national pattern in mid-1863. From May 1863 until March 1865, the official national flag, sometimes called the “Stainless Banner,” incorporated the design of the army’s battle flag of a canton on a field of white cloth.

Third National Pattern:

Since the large white field could be confused with a flag of truce or surrender, a vertical red bar was added to the flag in March 1865 during the closing weeks of the war, creating what is now called the third national pattern.



State Flags

State Flag, 1845:



This flag was unfurled at the inauguration of William D. Moseley as first Governor of the State of Florida on June 25, 1845. The Florida House of Representatives agreed to a joint resolution on inauguration day adopting the flag as “the Colors of the State of Florida, till changed by law.” The Senate, however, objected to the motto “Let Us Alone,” and it was not until December 27, during the adjourned session that year, that a Senate resolution “consented to and adopted” the flag and its motto “as the Flag of the State of Florida.” Because one house acted through a joint resolution and the other through a simple resolution, it would seem that this flag was never officially adopted although it received the approval of both houses of the General Assembly (Legislature).

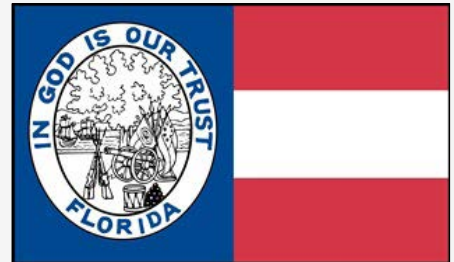
The Lone Star Flag, 1861:

After the flag of the United States was hauled down at the Pensacola Navy Yard on January 12, 1861, Colonel William H. Chase, commanding the Florida troops, prescribed a secession flag to serve until another could be decreed by the lawmakers at Tallahassee. This flag had thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, and a blue field with a single large star in the center. This flag served for eight months, from January 13, 1861, to September 13, 1861. Interestingly, Colonel Chase’s lone star flag was the same design as the flag used by the Republic of Texas navy from 1836–1845.



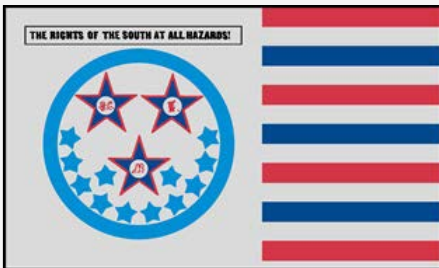
State Flag, 1861:

After Florida left the Union on January 10, 1861, a number of unofficial flags flew until February 1 when the General Assembly (Legislature) completed action to provide a State uniform and flag. The act directed the Governor, “by and with the consent of his staff,” to adopt “an appropriate device for a State flag, which shall be distinctive in character.” Six months later, Governor Madison S. Perry had the Secretary of State record the description of the flag adopted in compliance with this act. Governor Perry added, “The flag has been deposited in the Executive Chamber.” Whether it was ever raised over the Capitol or elsewhere is not known.



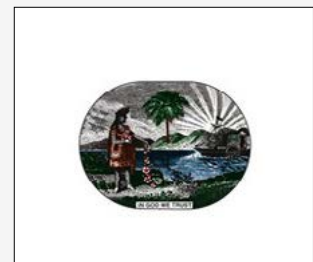
Secession Flag, 1861:

The Ladies of Broward’s Neck, a community in Duval County, presented Governor Madison S. Perry with a flag of their design symbolizing Florida’s withdrawal from the Union. The flag, never officially adopted, was proffered as an emblem of Florida’s sovereignty. Governor-elect John Milton presented the flag to the Florida Secession Convention at Tallahassee in 1861 after the signing of the Ordinance of Secession. The stars represent South Carolina, Mississippi, and Florida, the first three states to leave the Union. Mrs. G. E. Ginder, great-niece of one of the ladies of Broward’s Neck, in an interview in the Florida Times-Union in 1961 said the flag was displayed on the rostrum of the House of Representatives at the Capitol in Tallahassee during the Civil War. Afterwards, it was displayed at the Confederate Museum in Richmond, Virginia, until it was returned to Florida in 1961.



State Flag, 1868:

The Constitutional Convention of 1868 was the first to make a constitutional provision for a State flag. The adopted Constitution provided that the Legislature should, as soon as convenient, “adopt a State Emblem having the design of the Great Seal of the State impressed upon a white ground of six feet six inches fly and six feet deep.” The Constitution further directed the Legislature to adopt the seal at its first session. This was done on August 6, 1868, and completed the design prescribed for the flag.



State Flag, 1900:

Because the flag lacked color when furled, the 1899 Legislature submitted to the electorate for ratification in 1900 an amendment to the Constitution adding diagonal red bars.

State Flag, Present:

The voters ratified an amendment to the Constitution in 1966 that caused the dimensions of the State Flag to conform to the shape of flags generally. The former size of the Florida flag had presented a problem to flagmakers, who were being called upon to furnish Florida flags in ever increasing number because of legislative requirements for its display at schools and other public buildings. In the rewriting of the Constitution in 1968, the dimensions were dropped and became statutory language. The flag is described in these words: "The seal of the state, of diameter one half the hoist, in the center of a white ground. Red bars in width one fifth the hoist extending from each corner toward the center, to the outer rim of the seal." The current state flag shows the official state seal, which was modified in 1985 and now includes a Seminole (rather than a Plains Indian) woman.



Flags During Mourning

The Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Executive Board of the Department of General Services, on November 23, 1971, reaffirmed a policy for the flying of United States and State flags at half-mast upon the death of ranking public officials and former officials.

For the Governor, a United States Senator from Florida, or a member of the State Cabinet, the flags are flown at half-mast for two weeks from the day of death.

For a Supreme Court Justice, a Congressman from Florida, a former Governor, or a former United States Senator from Florida, half-mast lasts one week from the day of death. For a State Senator, a member of the State House of Representatives, a former member of the State Cabinet, a former member of the Supreme Court, or a former Congressman it lasts from the day of death until interment.

For an unspecified National or State official, the duration of the flags at half-mast is at the discretion of the governor but is not to exceed a period from the day of death until interment.

Flying the Flag of Canada

After the rescue of six Americans from Tehran by the Canadian Ambassador to Iran in February, 1980, Governor Bob Graham ordered the flying of the Canadian flag from four poles at the Capitol until the remaining hostages were freed from the American Embassy in Tehran. The six rescued were those who had escaped when the militants took over the Embassy. The Canadian flags were lowered for the last time at noon on January 26, 1981, as bands played in the presence of the public and dignitaries headed by Governor Graham.



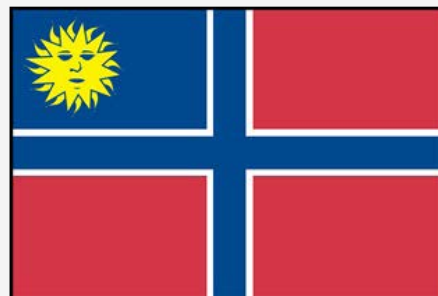
Display of P.O.W.-M.I.A. Flag

The 1990 Legislature decreed a P.O.W.-M.I.A. (Prisoner of War, Missing in Action) flag shall be displayed at each State-owned building which displays the Flag of the United States if the P.O.W.-M.I.A. flag is available free of charge to the agency which occupies the building.

Other Flags

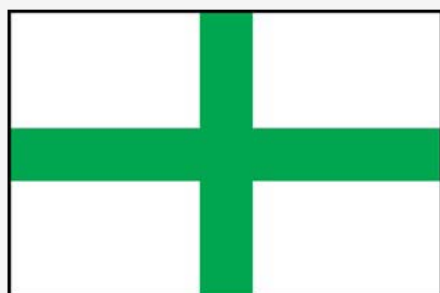
State of Muskogee:

The English adventurer William Augustus Bowles, elected “Director General of the State of Muskogee” by a congress of Creeks and Seminoles in 1799, designed a flag to raise over the state’s capital, a Seminole village near the later site of Tallahassee. An agent of the United States government seized Bowles and delivered him to Spanish authorities in 1803. He died in prison in Havana, and so did the “State of Muskogee.”



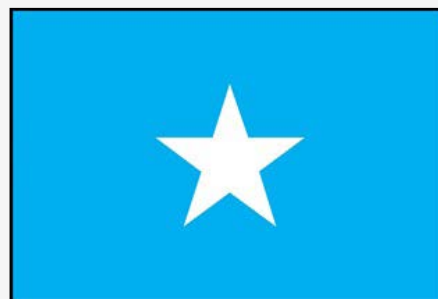
Spanish-American Border Flags:

Border friction in the declining days of Spanish rule in Florida saw three flags raised over Amelia Island between 1812 and 1817. The first of these, the so-called Patriots Flag, bore the Latin legend, “Salus populi lex suprema,” or “Safety, the supreme law of the people.” This flag was hoisted by a force of seventy Georgians and nine Floridians who crossed the St. Marys River on March 13, 1812, to establish the independent “Territory of East Florida.” The movement failed with its repudiation by President James Madison. Next, on June 20, 1817, an expedition headed by Gregor MacGregor pushed onto Amelia Island and raised a white flag with a green cross. MacGregor, a veteran of several Latin-American revolutions, was forced to flee from Amelia Island four months later. Luis Aury, a pirate and reputed general of the Mexican independence movement, raised what has been described as the Mexican flag over Amelia Island on October 4, 1817. Aury surrendered the island to American forces on December 23, 1817. What his flag was no one can say. It was probably green, white and red, but it could not have been the official flag of the Republic of Mexico for Mexico did not gain its independence until 1821.



The Republic of West Florida:

The “Bonnie Blue” flag was flown in the “Free and Independent State of West Florida,” which existed from September 23, 1810, until December 6, 1810, in the territory between the Pearl and Mississippi Rivers wrested from Spain by American settlers. While “West Florida” was the name given the area, it should be remembered that its easternmost boundary was 140 miles west of present-day Florida. Hence, the single-starred flag never flew over any of today’s Florida. The memory of the short-lived State of West Florida is preserved today in every allusion to the “Florida Parishes” of Louisiana. Long afterwards, during the Civil War, the Bonnie Blue flag was used unofficially throughout the South. The comedian Harry McCarthy, inspired by the lone star flag raised in Mississippi after its secession, composed the song “The Bonnie Blue Flag,” which achieved the status of a Confederate anthem. The Bonnie Blue flag also was the banner of the Independence Party of Texas in 1835–1836.



The Miccosukee Tribe:

The Miccosukees believe that life spins in a circle, beginning in the east, then moving north, west, and finally ending in the south. The bands of color in the Miccosukee flag symbolize the points of the compass: yellow for east, red for north, black for west, and white for south. The flag was adopted in 1962.



The Seminole Tribe:

The Seminole Tribe of Florida currently uses this flag, which features the four traditional colors of the Seminole and Miccosukee people. The central seal—with its fire and open, palm thatched hut, called a *chickee*—represents the tribal council.

Flying of Flags Required

The Legislature has, by law, required the flying of the United States and the State flags on the grounds of every public school and other educational institutions, the weather permitting, on each school day.

Use Prohibited for Advertising Purposes

The Legislature has forbidden the use of the American, Confederate, and State flags for advertising purposes. No person may “publicly mutilate, deface, defile, defy, trample upon, or by word or act cast contempt upon any such flag, standard, color, ensign or shield.”

It is, however, lawful to apply the flags to stationery, ornaments, jewelry, and the like for decorative or patriotic purposes, so long as no design or words encroach upon the flags.

Flags at the Museum of Florida History

The Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee has in its collection 21 Civil War flags, 19 of which were carried in battle. Some of the flags are on display in the permanent Civil War exhibit area.

Florida’s State Seals

Territorial Seal:

The Territory of Florida’s seal had an American eagle with outspread wings resting on a bed of clouds occupying the center of a circular field. In the right talon of the eagle were three arrows, in the left an olive branch. Above the eagle was a semi-circle of thirteen stars. Around the outer circle was the legend, “The Territory of Florida.” The diameter of the seal was two inches.

This seal was used as the seal of the state for more than a year after Florida’s admission to the Union in 1845. The Constitution of 1838, under which Florida was admitted, provided (Article III, Section 21), “There shall be a seal of the



Territorial Seal

State which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially, with such device as the Governor first elected may direct, and the present seal of the Territory, shall be the seal of State, until otherwise directed by the General Assembly."

The only action in regard to the seal taken by the General Assembly in 1845, or by any subsequent legislature until 1868, was to give the Secretary of State custody of the "Great Seal" and to make it the seal of his office (*Acts of Florida* 1845, Chapter 1, Sections 2, 4). The Secretary of State retained custody of the seal under this act until 1861. While there seems little doubt the Secretary of State had physical possession of the seal between 1861 and 1868, the Governor was constitutionally responsible for the seal during those years. The Secretary of State was once again designated as "custodian of the Great Seal of the State" by the Constitution of 1868. Deleted from the Constitution in the revision of 1968, his responsibility was carried over as statutory law.



First State Seal

First State Seal:

Governor William D. Moseley evidently exercised his constitutional prerogative as the Governor first elected and ordered a new seal made, for late in December, 1846, the first Great Seal of the State of Florida was delivered to the Secretary of State. The actual designer of the seal, whether it was Moseley or someone appointed by him, is not known, nor is a contemporary description of it available. The following description is from impressions on official documents.

An outline map of Florida occupies the top and right of a circular field. On an island in the lower left are one large and three small palm trees and an oak tree, under which sits a female figure with one hand outstretched to the Gulf of Mexico and the other holding a pike upon which rests a liberty cap. About her are casks and boxes and a variety of flowering shrubs. On the water are four ships—a three-masted square rigger under full sail, another under jibs and topsails, a schooner, and a fishing smack. The legend around the outer rim is "State of Florida—In God is Our Trust." The diameter of the seal is two and three-fourths inches.

This seal was in use as late as 1861 and probably until supplanted in 1868. The Constitution of 1861 simply stated (Article III, Section 12), "There shall be a seal of State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially," while the Constitution of 1865 provided (Article III, Section 13), "The State Seal last heretofore used (until altered by the General Assembly), shall continue to be the Great Seal of the State, and shall be kept by the Governor for the time being, and used by him officially." It does not appear that the General Assembly took any action on the subject.

The Second State Seal:

The Constitution of 1868 (Article XVI, Section 20) gave the following directive: "The Legislature shall, at the first session, adopt a seal for the State, and such seal shall be the size of the American silver dollar, but said seal shall not again be changed after its adoption by the Legislature." In compliance with this mandate, the Legislature of 1868 adopted a joint resolution, approved by Governor Harrison Reed on August 6, which provided: "That a Seal of the size of the American silver dollar having in the centre thereof a view of the sun's rays over a highland in the distance, a cocoa tree,

a steamboat on water, and an Indian female scattering flowers in the foreground, encircled by the words, 'Great Seal of the State of Florida: In God We Trust,' be and the same is hereby adopted as the Great Seal of the State of Florida."

Someone Else's Seal:

The unknown designer of the 1868 seal could hardly have known Florida. Florida has no mountains and Florida's Indians did not wear the headdress shown. As T. Frederick Davis pointed out, the headdress was characteristic of tribes farther north and those of the West, and it was an insignia of distinction of the headmen and warriors exclusively. Davis concluded: "When the 1868 artist put the crown of eagle's feathers on his Indian female he presented Florida with an unclassified savage having the head of a warrior and the body of a squaw."

There is an unconfirmed story that a Northern designer modified for Florida a seal previously prepared for use by a government in the West.

The Constitution of 1885 retained the seal of 1868 in the following words (Article XVI, Section 12), "The present Seal of the State shall be and remain the Seal of the State of Florida." The Constitutional Revision of 1968 permitted the design to be prescribed by law.

The 1970 Legislature defined the tree in the seal as a Sabal palmetto palm, rather than a "cocoa" tree. This change established the official State Tree as the tree of the State Seal.

As custodian of the seal, first by Constitutional authority and since 1968 by statute, the Secretaries of State have occasionally caused changes to be made to the seal, in accordance with the language of the Constitution and statute. Secretary of State R.A. Gray (1930–1961), for example, lengthened the skirt of the Indian.

The present State Seal was adopted by Governor Bob Graham and the Cabinet on May 21, 1985, upon its presentation by Secretary of State George Firestone.

Firestone had commissioned a revision of the Seal by Museum of Florida History artist John Locastro to remove inconsistencies, some of which had survived since 1868.

Among the anomalies of the old Seal are: a bag of coffee, never a staple crop in Florida; a cocoa palm instead of the state's Sabal (Palmetto) palm; an Indian maiden dressed as a Plains Indian; mountains in a state where the highest elevation is 345 feet; and the questionable seaworthiness of the side-wheel steamer.

The 1985 seal was minted from droplets of silver unearthed at the site near the Capitol of the Spanish mission of San Juan de Aspalaga, which was burned in 1704. Since 1868, the official Seal has been the size of a silver dollar.



Second State Seal (First Design)



Seal in use in years just prior to 1985



Today's Seal

Reproduction Limited

Only upon approval of the Department of State can any facsimile or reproduction of the great seal be manufactured, used, displayed, or otherwise employed by anyone.

Colors in the Seal

The Seal, as used by the Secretary of State to authenticate commissions and other documents, has no color since it leaves impressions on gold wafers or paper. Reproductions use the colors envisioned by the artist since these are not prescribed by law.

The State Song

In 1935 the Legislature, by House Concurrent Resolution 22, adopted Stephen Collins Foster's "Old Folks at Home," as Florida's official song.

The song about Florida's Suwannee river, which Foster called "Swannee" and spelled "Swanee," was written in 1851 for a minstrel show in a dialect that was supposed to be the voice of a black slave. The song started the tourist industry in Florida. Beginning in the 1880s, it drew millions of people from around the world seeking the symbolic river and idyllic home described in the song's words.

The State Folk Culture Center, at White Springs on the Suwannee, has eight dioramas depicting Foster's songs, a tribute to the nation's troubadour. The Center annually attracts thousands of visitors to the museum, bell tower, picnic grounds, and to special events like the Memorial Day weekend Florida Folklife Festival.

"Old Folks at Home"

*Way down upon de Swanee Ribber,
Far, far away,
Dere's wha my heart is turning ebber,
Dere's wha de old folks stay.
All up and down de whole creation
Sadly I roam,
Still longing for de old plantation,
And for de old folks at home.*

Chorus

*All de world am sad and dreary,
Eb-rywhere I roam;
Oh, darkeys, how my heart grows
weary,
Far from de old folks at home!*

2nd verse

*All round de little farm I wandered
When I was young,
Den many happy days I squandered,
Many de songs I sung.
When I was playing wid my brudder
Happy was I;
Oh, take me to my kind old mudder!
Dere let me live and die.*

3rd verse

*One little hut among de bushes,
One dat I love
Still sadly to my memory rushes,
No matter where I rove.
When will I see de bees a-humming
All round de comb?
When will I hear de banjo strumming,
Down in my good old home?*

Changes of the State Song

As early as 1978, at the dedication of the new Capitol on March 31st, the lyrics of the State Song, “Old Folks at Home,” printed in the official program substituted “brothers” for “darkeys” in the chorus.

Leon and Lynn Dallin in their 1980 book, *Heritage Songster*, used “dear ones” instead. The Dallins also eliminated all attempts at reproducing dialect.

Because of lyrics they considered racist, starting from 1983 different lawmakers tried to name a new state song. In spring 2007 Senator Anthony Hill and Representative Edward Homan sponsored a contest to choose a new state song. The 2008 Legislature voted to keep “Old Folks at Home,” with modified lyrics, as the State Song and to name the contest winner the State Anthem.

The official revised lyrics of “Old Folks at Home,” as adopted by the Center for American Music, Stephen Foster Memorial at the University of Pittsburgh are:

*Way down upon the Swanee River
Far, far away,
There's where my heart is turning ever,
There's where the old folks stay.
All up and down the whole creation,
Sadly I roam,
Still longing for my childhood's station,
And for the old folks at home.*

*Chorus
All the world is sad and dreary,
Ev'ry where I roam,
Oh! dear ones how my heart grows weary,
Far from the old folks at home*

*2nd Verse
All 'round the little farm I wandered
When I was young,*

*Then many happy days I squandered,
Many the songs I sung.
When I was playing with my brother
Happy was I,
Oh! take me to my kind old mother,
There let me live and die.*

*3rd Verse
One little hut among the bushes,
One that I love,
Still sadly to my mem'ry rushes,
No matter where I rove.
When will I see the bees a-humming
All 'round the comb?
When will I hear the banjo strumming
Down in my good old home?*

State Anthem

“Florida” (“Where the Sawgrass Meets the Sky”) written by Jan Hinton, a Pompano Beach music teacher, won an online contest (the Just Sing, Florida! contest) to decide on a new State Song. The Florida Music Educators Association conducted the Just Sing, Florida! contest. A committee screened the 243 submissions and cut the list to 20. Three finalists were posted online. Hinton’s song collected 4,600 votes of the 8,020 votes received and was named the State Anthem by the 2008 Legislature. The lyrics are as follows:

*Florida, where the sawgrass meets the sky.
Florida, where our hearts will ever lie.*

*Sitting proud in the ocean like a sentinel true,
Always shielding your own, yet giving welcome.*

Florida.

To hear Florida’s Anthem, visit Jan Hinton’s website at www.janhintonmusic.com/Florida_Anthem.html.

*Mocking birds cry and 'gators lie out in the sun.
Bridges span southward to the Keys and rockets skyward run.*

*The orange blossoms' sweet perfume and fireworks fill the air.
And cultures rich, our native people share.*

*Florida, where the sawgrass meets the sky.
Florida, where our hearts will ever lie.*

An Earlier State Song

Before “Old Folks at Home,” there was another State Song, “Florida, My Florida,” adopted by the 1913 Legislature. Written in 1894 by the Rev. Dr. C. V. Waugh, a professor of languages at the Florida Agricultural College at Lake City, the song was said by the Legislature to have “both metric and patriotic merit of the kind calculated to inspire love for home and native State.”

Sung to the music of “Maryland, My Maryland,” the opening verses were:

*Land of my birth, bright sunkissed land,
Florida, my Florida,
Laved by the Gulf and Ocean grand,
Florida, my Florida.*

*Will call thy children day by day
To learn to walk the patriot's way,
Firmly to stand for thee for aye,
Florida, my Florida.*

*Of all the States in East or West,
Unto my heart thou art the best;
Here may I live, here may I rest,
Florida, my Florida*

*The golden fruit the world outshines
Florida, my Florida,
Thy gardens and thy phosphate mines,
Florida, my Florida,*

*In country, town, or hills and dells,
Florida, my Florida,
The rhythmic chimes of the school bells,
Florida, my Florida.*

*Yield their rich store of good supply,
To still the voice of hunger's cry—
For thee we'll live, for thee we'll die,
Florida, my Florida.*

State Welcome Song

The 1985 Legislature, by House Concurrent Resolution 1143, designated “Florida,” by Lawrence Hurwit and Israel Abrams, as “an official state welcome song.”

The lyric reads:

*Florida is sunshine, waterways
and sand
Florida's a special kind of
promised land
Magic kingdom, the Sunshine
State, all these words are fine,
but words can never quite describe nature's
own design*

*Little drops of water, little
grains of sand
made the mighty ocean and
made this lovely tropic land;
So dream your dreams in Florida
and they will all come true,
then when you get sand in your shoes,
Florida will be home to you.*

Other State Symbols

State Motto

First inscribed on the Great Seal by the 1868 Legislature, “In God We Trust” has been considered the state motto although not officially designated in the statutes. In 2005, two Tallahassee fourth-graders, Andrew Killinger and Samuel Ard, were spurred by this fact to ask their parents, three of whom are lobbyists, to help them make the motto official. In 2006, bills were sponsored in the House and Senate by Representative Greg Evers (R-Baker) and Senator Mike Bennett (R-Bradenton), officially making “In God We Trust” the state motto. (15.0301, F.S.)

Poet Laureate

Dr. Edmund Skellings was the latest Poet Laureate of Florida, named by Governor Bob Graham on April 16, 1980, after an out-of-state committee screened some 400 nominations to narrow the field to Skellings and five others.

An instructor at Florida International University at the time of his designation, Skellings was a nominee for the 1979 Nobel Prize in Literature and two volumes of his trilogy, “Nearing the Millennium,” were nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

The Poet Laureate of Florida serves without term and without compensation. Skellings became the state’s third Poet Laureate. The first was Franklin N. Wood, appointed by Governor John W. Martin in 1929. The second was Mrs. Vivian Laramore Rader of Miami, who served from 1931 until her death in 1973 at age 83.

Skellings’ Florida

Florida
We are South looking North.
Or vice versa.
We are international
And exceptionally local.
From here you could go to the moon.
And we can prove it.
Even the natives are transients.
Arriving and departing,
We are of two minds.
Coast to coast here means
One hour through our cotton mountains.
The sun rises and sets under salt waters.
Knowing in the bones that space is time,
We are wise as any peninsula.
We mine the dried beds of forgotten seas.
Fresh mango and orange bloom from the silt.

Outside Gainesville once, I reached down
Into time and touched the sabre tooth of a tiger.
No atlas prepared me for the moist
Sweet smell of his old life.

Suddenly a flock of flamingos
Posed a thousand questions,
Blushing like innocence.
But the moon, perfectly above Miami
Like some great town clock, whispers,
“Now . . . yesterdays . . . tomorrows. . .”
And standing tropically and hugely still
At this port of meditation,
Reduced to neither coming nor going,
We are together on the way to somewhere.
In good time.

— Edmund Skellings

GEO Journal, The Magazine of Florida Natural Resources
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State Opera Program

In 1964, the Greater Miami Opera Association, the Orlando Opera Company, Incorporated, and the Florida State University School of Music, representing the professional and academic communities in the field of opera, were jointly designated by the Legislature as the official Florida State Opera Program. (s. 15.044, F.S.)

State Flagship

On April 28, 2012, Governor Rick Scott signed a bill naming a 73-year-old schooner the state's official flagship. The 130-foot Schooner Western Union is based in Key West where it's being turned into a floating museum. It served as a cable vessel for the Western Union Telegraph Co. for three decades and was later used as a charter boat.

State Play

The 1973 Legislature designated the historical play the "Cross and Sword," by Pulitzer Prize winner Paul Green, presented annually by the citizens of the City of St. Augustine, as the official play of the state. (s. 15.035, F.S.)

State Pageant

The pageant "Indian River," presented annually by the citizens of Brevard County, was designated an official state pageant in 1979. (s. 15.043, F.S.)

Chronicler Laureate

The 1927 Legislature authorized the Governor to appoint a Chronicler Laureate, who would serve without compensation. Governor John W. Martin designated Franklin N. Wood in 1927.

Governor Wayne Mixson appointed Allen Morris in 1987 in recognition of Morris having chronicled Florida life in *The Florida Handbook* and other publications for a half century.



Florida State Archives

Asolo State Theater Company members on stage in the Theater's 1974 production of "Ring Round The Moon" in the Ringling Museum's 18th century court playhouse in Sarasota, 1974.

State Theaters

The 1965 Legislature established the Asolo Theatre Festival as "the State Theater of Florida," with its major season each year at the Asolo Theatre of the Ringling Museums at Sarasota.

Administration of the State Theater was vested by the 1970 Legislature in the Department of State with an advisory board of trustees.

Time magazine described Asolo (pronounced *Ash-olo*) as "a theater unique in all of North America ... intimate, enchanting, with a triple tier of embossed balconies." The Asolo was the great actress Eleonora Duse's home theater, and playgoers to the original theater included Chopin, George Sand, and Robert Browning. The 18th century Italian theater was purchased by the estate of John Ringling and moved from Italy to Florida in the 1950s. Dismantled and stored for 20 years, the theater was housed in the main auditorium until a new building was constructed using much of the original theater. The Florida State University School of Theatre has been associated with Asolo since 1968 and in 1973 established the FSU/Asolo conservatory for Actor Training.

Subsequently, the Coconut Grove Playhouse in Miami and the Hippodrome Theatre in Gainesville were designated State Theaters.

The 1986 Legislature appropriated \$100,000 to bring the Caldwell Theatre Company at Boca Raton under the State Theater Program.

State Nickname

“Sunshine State” was adopted as the State Nickname by the 1970 Legislature. Previously, official sanction of this nickname could be inferred from the law requiring “Sunshine State” to be printed on motor vehicle licenses.

However, a report by the National Weather Service says five other states (Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico and Texas) are sunnier. (See also the section on Climate.)

State Fruit

The orange was adopted as the State Fruit by the 2005 Legislature under the following words: The orange (*Citrus sinensis* and hybrids thereof) is hereby designated the official fruit of Florida. (s. 15.0315, F.S.)



State Pie

After a short battle with north Florida legislators who proposed the pecan pie, the 2006 Legislature designated the Key lime pie as the official Florida State Pie. (s. 15.052, F.S.)

State Animal

The Florida panther (*Puma concolor coryi*) was designated Florida’s State Animal by the 1982 Legislature after a state-wide vote by students. In school elections throughout the state, the panther had defeated the manatee, alligator, and key deer. (s. 15.0353, F.S.)



The Florida panther is a subspecies of panther that once ranged the Western Hemisphere. It is usually a uniform rusty or tawny cinnamon-buff color (deer-colored) on the back and whitish underneath. The tip of the tail, back of the ears, and sides of the nose are dark brown to black.

Reduced from the 1,360 believed to have been roaming Florida in the 1500s, the Florida panther was close to extinction when the Legislature acted.

Panthers in south Florida may belong to two distinct stocks, those in the Everglades and those in Big Cypress. The Everglades panthers may be descended from seven captive South American pumas released into the Everglades National Park between 1957 and 1967. In the 1980s, it was estimated that only 20 to 30 Florida panthers were left in Southwest Florida. The animals’ numbers were weakened from inbreeding, loss of habitat, and mercury poisoning.

In 1995, eight female Texas cougars, the closest genetically and geographically to the Florida population, were released into the Everglades Fakahatchee preserve. These efforts reestablished a healthy and diverse Florida panther gene pool. As of 2011, there were believed to be 120 to 160 adults and sub-adults.

Before they were recaptured, studies of Texas cougars released in 1996 in rural North Florida determined that there was enough wilderness and prey to support a self-sustaining population of about 50 panthers, and that not only could Florida panthers adapt to North Florida, where they once roamed freely, but also would likely spread into other Southeastern states.

In February 2011, conservation groups asked the federal government to relocate some of the south-west Florida panthers to Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge along the Georgia-Florida state line or other nearby lands.

Unfortunately, many panthers are killed by cars (144 between 1972 and June 1, 2010). You can help these cats by making a donation to the Panther Fund established by The Wildlife Foundation of Florida. This fund was created to aid in the recovery of injured and orphaned Florida panthers. For more details on why this fund is so important visit <http://My-FWC.com/panther/fund.html>.

In *Florida Statute* 683.18 the Legislature designates the third Saturday of March as Save the Panther Day.

State Bird

A Senate concurrent resolution of the 1927 Legislature designated the Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) as the State Bird.



Florida shares its designation of the mockingbird with four other states: Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Texas. As an editorialist for the *Miami Herald* wrote on August 4, 1972, these states are a part of the region where a country fiddler inserts arpeggios of birdsong between the words. The following song is an example to which the editorialist is referring:

“Listen to the Mockingbird”

*I'm dreaming now of Hally, sweet
Hally, sweet Hally,
I'm dreaming now of Hally,
For the tho't of her is one that never
dies
She's sleeping in the valley,
The valley, the valley,
She's sleeping in the valley,
And the mocking bird is singing
where she lies.
Listen to the mocking bird,
Listen to the mocking bird,*

*The mocking bird still singing o'er
her grave,
Listen to the mocking bird,
Listen to the mocking bird,
Still singing where the weeping willows wave.*

— Alice Hawthorn, 1855

State Marine Mammals

The 1975 Legislature named the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*), also commonly known as the sea cow, as the State Marine Mammal, and the porpoise, also known as the dolphin, as the Florida State Saltwater Mammal. (s. 15.038, F.S.)

Scientists believe manatees are distant cousins of the elephant, who left land for water millions of years ago. They can weigh more than 2,000 pounds and range from 8 to 14 feet in length.

Herbivores, they can ingest in a day as much as a pound of aquatic grasses for every ten pounds of body weight.

Manatees have no natural predator and can live up to 60 years. While they have no predators, diseases such as pneumonia and cold stress contribute to their mortality rate. But by far the manatee's biggest threats are human-related, and their loss of habitat has led to increased run-ins between manatees and human paraphernalia, most typically watercraft. Thanks to widespread slow-speed zones and increas-



Photo by Julian Dimock

A.W. Dimock swimming with a manatee, 1908. A.W., and photographer Julian, authored a number of publications recounting their experiences fishing, canoeing, camping, and logging and describing wildlife in a variety of places from Florida to Quebec. This image was used in their book “Florida’s Enchantments.”

ingly stringent protections put in place by both state and federal regulations, manatee deaths have gone down somewhat in recent years. Up from the lowest count of about 600 in the 1960s, 4,840 manatees were counted in January 2011. In 2010, there were a record number of deaths (767), mostly from the cold.

State Butterfly

The 1996 Legislature designated the Zebra Longwing (*Heliconius charitoni*) as the State Butterfly. (s. 15.0382, F.S.)



State Heritage Horse

The Florida cracker horse was designated the official State Heritage Horse by the 2008 Legislature. (s. 15.0526, F.S.)



Largemouth Bass



Sailfish

State Fish

The 1975 Legislature designated the Florida Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides floridanus*) as the State Freshwater Fish and the Atlantic Sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*) as the State Saltwater Fish. (ss. 15.036 and 15.037, F.S.)

State Shell

The horse conch was designated by the 1969 Legislature as the State Shell. Its scientific name is *Pleuroploca gigantea*. *Pleuroploca* refers to the ribbed spiral shell and *gigantea* means giant.

The Department of Natural Resources says the horse conch is among the largest marine snails in the world. Some specimens attain two feet in length, and have a possible life span of 12 to 14 years. When very young, horse conch shells are greyish white to salmon. The DNR reports the horse conch has been described as “the toughest guy on the block,” feeding mainly on other mollusks but known to consume stone crabs and other relatively large animals. In South Florida, the horse conch can be a pest, sometimes damaging crab and lobster traps with its powerful foot.

Horse conchs have little commercial value. Once known as the pepper conch, the orange flesh is edible, but with a peppery taste. Collectors highly regard the larger shells, sometimes used as trumpets. (s. 15.033, F.S.)



State Reptile

The 1987 Legislature, through Senate Bill 565, designated the American Alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) as the State reptile. (s. 15.0385, F.S.)

State Saltwater Reptile

The loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) was designated the State Saltwater Reptile by the 2008 Legislature. (s. 15.0386, F.S.)



State Tortoise



Photo by Mary Lou Norwood

Orange blossoms

The 2008 Legislature designated the Gopher Tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) the state tortoise. (s. 15.03861, F.S.)

State Flower

Florida's State Flower is the Orange Blossom, designated by Concurrent Resolution No. 15 of the 1909 Legislature. It is one of the most fragrant flowers in Florida.



Florida State Archives

Coreopsis

State Wildflower

The flower of the genus *Coreopsis* was designated the State Wildflower by the 1991 Legislature, as species of this genus are found throughout the state and were used extensively in the paintings of the Florida Highwaymen and in the highway beautification programs. (s. 15.0345, F.S.)

State Tree

The sabal palm (*Sabal palmetto*) was designated the State Tree by the 1953 Legislature, concluding years of controversy. (s. 15.031, F.S.)

The 1949 House of Representatives endorsed the Royal Palm, but the Senate did not concur. There also was strong legislative support for the slash and longleaf pines. However, the Federation of Garden Clubs pressed its contention that palms are characteristic of Florida, and of those the sabal the most widely distributed over the state. The sabal had long appeared on the State Seal and it had been recognized as the State Tree by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Particularly in the early days, the Sabal furnished food and shelter. The bud was used as a vegetable and the fibrous trunk served as a wall for forts and cabins, affording good protection against weather and assault. The leaves provided thatching material for roofs and walls.

The name "palmetto" can cause considerable confusion in Florida because it is often applied to at least two distinct varieties of palms. A Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services publication explained: "The Florida State Tree is properly named the Sabal Palmetto, and is called that throughout its range up into the Carolinas. In Florida, at least, the name 'palmetto' also is applied to the ground-hugging dwarf palm identified by taxonomists as *Serenoa repens*, and commonly called the saw palmetto. It is the second member of the 'pine and palmetto' flatlands so common over Florida. Its trunk lies along the ground and rarely rears up to form a normal treelike stem, though occasionally it can be found standing erect in heavily shaded locations."



Photo by Hampton Dunn

Sabal Palm planted on the Capitol grounds in memory of Governor Dan McCarty, who signed the bill naming the Sabal Palm the state tree, Tallahassee.

State Stone

Agatized coral was designated as the State Stone by the 1979 Legislature. Agatized coral is described as a "chalcedony pseudomorph after coral, appearing as limestone geodes lined with botrydoidal agate or quartz crystal, and drusy quartz fingers, indigenous to Florida." (s. 15.0336, F.S.)



State Gem

At a joint meeting of the 1970 Legislature, to mark the occasion of the appearance of two astronauts from the second team to land on the moon, the Legislature designated the “moonstone” as Florida’s State Gem.

The moonstone was described in the law as “a transparent or translucent feldspar of pearly or opaline luster.” Ironically, the moonstone is not found in Florida. (s. 15.034, F.S.)

State Soil

The 1989 Legislature passed a bill to designate Myakka fine sand (sandy, siliceous, hyperthermic Aeric Alaquods) as the State Soil. The bill declared the Myakka fine sand had more acreage (800,000) mapped than any other soil in the state. Sponsors said “by officially designating a state soil, Floridians are saying that they have a valuable heritage to protect and conserve.” (s. 15.047, F.S.)

State Mineral

Calcite, the major rock-forming mineral of limestone, occurring commonly as translucent crystals of vitreous luster, colorless to honey-colored, having the chemical composition of calcium carbonate, was designated the State Mineral by the 2006 Legislature. (s. 15.0338, F.S.)

State Railroad Museums

The State Railroad Museums are the Orange Blossom Special Railroad Museum in West Palm Beach; the Gold Coast Railroad Museum, Inc. in Dade County, and the Florida Gulf Coast Railroad Museum, Inc. in Tampa. (s. 15.045, F.S.)

State Transportation Museum

The Florida Museum of Transportation and History, located in Fernandina Beach, was designated as the State Transportation Museum by the 1985 Legislature. (s. 15.046, F.S.)

State Maritime Museum

The Admiral John H. Fetterman State of Florida Maritime Museum and Research Center, to be built in Pensacola, was designated by the 2006 Legislature as the State Maritime Museum, unless reviewed and reenacted by the Legislature before July 1, 2015. (s. 15.052, F.S.)



Florida State Archives

Gold Coast Railroad engines 153 and 113 at the Gold Coast Railroad Museum, Fort Lauderdale.

State Sports Hall of Fame

The Florida Sports Hall of Fame in Lake City, Columbia County, is designated as the State Sports Hall of Fame. (s. 15.051, F.S.)

State Moving Image Center

The Louis Wolfson II Media History Center, Inc. was designated as an official State Moving Image Center and Archive in 1989. (s. 15.0396, F.S.)

State Band

The St. John's River City Band was designated as an official State Band in 1990. (s. 15.049, F.S.)

State Air Fair

The Central Florida Air Fair was designated by the 1976 Legislature as the State Air Fair. (s. 15.039, F.S.)

State Renaissance Festival

The Italian Renaissance Festival presented at Vizcaya by the Renaissance Historical Society of Florida, Inc. was designated a State Renaissance Festival in 1994. (s. 15.0445, F.S.)

State Festival

The festival "Calle Ocho Open House 8," a Florida historical festival, presented annually by the Kiwanis Club of Little Havana, Miami and the Hispanic citizens of Dade County, was designated a State Festival in 1980. (s. 15.0395, F.S.)

State Fiddle Contest

The fiddle contest held annually by the Florida State Fiddlers' Association, in cooperation with the Department of State at the Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center, White Springs, was designated as the State Fiddle Contest by the 1989 Legislature. (s. 15.048, F.S.)

State Rodeo

The Silver Spurs Rodeo, a world class sporting event and the largest rodeo east of the Mississippi River, held biennially in Osceola County, was designated a State Rodeo in 1994. (s. 15.0391, F.S.)



Rodeo clowns face down a Brahma bull at the Silver Spurs Rodeo, Kissimmee, 1985.

Florida's American Folk Dance

The square dance, as symbolic of "our state character and pride," was designated the "American folk dance of the State of Florida" by the 1986 Legislature in House Concurrent Resolution 740. Square dancing was described by the Legislature as "called, cued, or prompted to the dancers, and includes squares, rounds, clogging, contra, line and heritage." The Legislature declared the square dance had been associated with the American people since 1651.

The State Day, "Pascua Florida Week"

April 2 was designated by the 1953 Legislature as State Day because Ponce de León first sighted Florida around that date in 1513. The designation by the lawmakers was at the suggestion of Mary A. Harrell, a teacher of social studies in the John Gorrie Junior High School of Jacksonville.

The Legislature also authorized the Governor to annually proclaim March 27–April 2 as "Pascua Florida Week" and to call upon schools and the citizenry for observance of this period as a patriotic occasion. Whenever April 2 falls on Saturday or Sunday, the Governor may declare either the preceding Friday or the following Monday as State Day.

Poetry Day

The 1947 Legislature decreed the 25th day of May of each year to be "Poetry Day in all of the pub-

lic schools” of Florida. House Concurrent Resolution No. 2 declared “a knowledge and enjoyment of poetry should be a part of the education of every person.”

State Office Holidays

These are holidays observed by the closing of State offices with employees paid (s. 110.117, F.S.):

New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans’ Day, Thanksgiving Day, the Friday after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. If any of these holidays fall on Saturday, the preceding Friday shall be observed as a holiday. If any fall on Sunday, the following Monday shall be observed.

The Department of Management Services may designate when it is appropriate to have a “State Day of Mourning” in observance of the death of “a person in recognition of services rendered to the state or nation.”

Ceremonial Days

The following is a list of the ceremonial days observed in Florida (ch. 683, F.S.):

- Florida Jewish History Month, January
- Three Kings Day, January 6
- Arbor Day, third Friday in January
- Florida Alzheimer’s Disease Day, February 6
- Ronald Reagan Day, February 6
- Save the Florida Panthers Day, third Saturday in March
- [The 1988 House of Representatives, by resolution, declared April to be Arbor Month]
- Pascua Florida Week, March 27–April 2
- Parents’ and Children’s Day, first Sunday in April
- Everglades Day, April 7
- Pascua Florida (or State) Day, April 2—(if this is a Saturday or Sunday, the Governor may declare the preceding Friday or following Monday as State Day)
- Pan-American Day, April 14 (if this is not a school day, local school authorities may designate preceding Friday or following Monday as Pan-American Day)
- Patriot’s Day, April 19 (first bloodshed in Revolution at Lexington and Concord, April 19, 1775)
- Law Enforcement Appreciation Month, May
- Law Day, May 1, and Law Week, week of the Sunday preceding May 1
- Child Welfare Professionals Recognition Day, second Monday in May
- Law Enforcement Memorial Day, May 15
- Armed Forces Day, May 15
- Teacher’s Day, third Friday in May
- Juneteenth Day, June 19
- Purple Heart Day, August 7
- Drowsy Driving Prevention Week, first week in September
- Grandparents’ and Family Caregivers’ Day, first Sunday after Labor Day
- Florida Missing Children’s Day, second Monday in September
- I Am an American Day, third Sunday in October
- Retired Teachers’ Day, Sunday beginning third week in November
- Bill of Rights Day, December 15
- Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day, December 21

Legal Holidays

The following is the list of legal holidays (s. 683.01, F.S.):

- New Year's Day, January 1
- Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, Birthday, January 15, Observance on the third Monday in January
- Robert E. Lee's Birthday, January 19
- Lincoln's Birthday, February 12
- Susan B. Anthony's Birthday, February 15
- Washington's Birthday, third Monday in February
- Shrove Tuesday, also known as "Mardi Gras," in certain counties
- Good Friday
- Pascua Florida Day, April 2
- Confederate Memorial Day, April 26
- Memorial Day, last Monday in May
- Jefferson Davis's Birthday, June 3
- Flag Day, June 14
- Independence Day, July 4
- Labor Day, first Monday in September
- Columbus Day and Farmers' Day, second Monday in October
- Veterans' Day, November 11
- General Election Day, first Tuesday after first Monday in November of even numbered years
- Thanksgiving Day, 4th Thursday in November
- Christmas Day, December 25
- All Sundays



Florida State Archives

Henry White playing guitar at an Emancipation Day celebration, circa 1935.

Emancipation Day

Emancipation Day, June 19, is observed in black communities as the anniversary of the news of freedom reaching the slaves in Texas in 1865. The celebration of June 19, or "Juneteenth Day," later spread to other states, including Florida. (The Emancipation Proclamation was issued by President Abraham Lincoln on September 22, 1862. The proclamation declared the slaves of the states in rebellion would be free on January 1, 1863.) "Juneteenth Day" was proclaimed Emancipation Day by the 1991 Florida Legislature.

In northern Florida and southern Georgia, the 20th of May is celebrated in black communities as Emancipation Day, because it was on this day in 1865 that the Emancipation Proclamation was announced in Tallahassee by General Edward McCook of the Union Army.

"Floridian" or "Floridan"?

Is a citizen of Florida a "Floridian" or a "Floridan"? Either is correct but "Floridian" has been more common in general usage since the 1920s.

William Roberts, in 1763, wrote of the "longevity of the Floridian Indians." William Bartram, in 1791, said "the Creeks subdued the remnant tribes of the ancient Floridians." In 1778, Jonathan Carver reported that "I must exclude the stories he has introduced of the Huron and Floridian women." The *Oxford English Dictionary* says of "-ian" (meaning "of" or "belonging to") that the suffix forms both the adjective and substantive in "modern formations from proper names, the number of which is without limit."

The 1925 House of Representatives adopted a resolution, which the Senate rejected, resolving that citizens of Florida by birth and adoption “shall henceforth be known as Floridians.”

The resolution declared there was need for a uniform pronunciation and spelling. “The word Floridian is musical, poetical, euphonious, and easily rolling off the tongue,” the House found, while “the word Floridan is harsh, unmusical and unjustified by precedent.”

Representative Victor of St. Johns County, sponsor of the resolution, declared the “word Floridian is in keeping with the romance and traditions and beauty of this state.” He pointed out that “the ‘i’ is used in Georgians, Mississippians, Kentuckians, etc.” The Senate Journal shows the Senate summarily disposed of the House resolution upon its first reading without even the usual reference to a committee.

Crackers and Conchs: Floridians’ Nicknames

Floridians are known as “crackers,” but Allen Morris and Ann Waldron in their book *Your Florida Government* suggest the nickname should be used with care. Its acceptance by Floridians depends upon the person and, in some measure, upon the section of the state. An historian illustrated the shadings of the word by saying that if, while out of the state, someone hailed her as a “cracker” she would respond affirmatively. If, however, someone in Florida described her as a “cracker,” she would want to think it over.

A number of origins for the term “cracker” are suggested. Francis R. Goulding, in *Marooner’s Island* (1869), thought the name was derived from Scotch settlers in whose dialect a “cracker” was a person who talked boastfully. John Lambert, in *Travels Through Lower Canada, and the United States of North America* (1810), wrote: “The waggoners are familiarly called *crackers* (from the smacking of their whip, I suppose).” Emily P. Burke, in *Reminiscences of Georgia* (1850), said crackers were called that “from the circumstance that they formerly pounded all their corn, which is their principal article of diet.” Two modern historians, A. J. and Kathryn Abbey Hanna, writing in their *Lake Okeechobee* (1948), said: “The name ‘cracker’ frequently applied to countrymen of Georgia and Florida is supposed to have originated as a cattle term.” Florida cowboys popped whips of braided buckskin, twelve to eighteen feet long. The “crack” sounded like a rifle shot and at times could be heard for several miles. The writer of the newspaper column “Cracker Politics” suggested it might be prudent to accompany the nickname with a smile.

Angus M. Laird, a Tallahassee scholar, traced the word “cracker” back to Barclay’s “Shyp of Folyes,” a play published in 1509 which made reference to “Crakers and Bosters,” apparently meaning traveling troubadours. Shakespeare in his “Life and Death of King John,” written about 1590, has the Duke of Austria saying, “What cracker is this that deafs our ears with this abundance of superfluous breath?” From these early usages, reported Laird, “the word has come to mean many things in the English language through the world.”

In his book *Cracker; The Cracker Culture in Florida History* Dana Ste. Claire (1998) quotes a response to a newspaper column by Robert Hunter “The definition of Florida Cracker that I heard when I went to DeLand in 1932 ... was that the term referred to “corn cracker” of whom there were many operating in the Florida backwoods, especially in Volusia County. ‘Corn crackers’ were moonshiners who used cracked corn mash, which after fermentation, they distilled into ‘white lightning’ which freely flowed at election campaign rallies of that time.”

Today’s Conchs are the direct descendants of the Bahamians who settled at Key West with the turn of the century in the 1800s. Many were Empire Loyalists displaced by the American Revolution and the transfer of Florida from Britain to the United States. Others were descendants of the Eleutheran Adventurers, a group of English political and religious dissenters who immigrated to Bermuda in 1647 and shortly afterward moved to the Bahamas. Classic examples of Bahamian homes, built by ship carpenters, remain in Key West.

Nowadays, “Conch” is applied generally to residents of Key West and adjacent keys. The original Conchs derived their nickname from the shellfish *Strombus gigas*, or conch, which early mariners and keys residents regarded as a delicacy.

First Theatrical Performance

Research by David D. Mays of the University of Central Florida leads to the reasonable assumption that a performance of *The Beaux' Stratagem* at British St. Augustine on March 3, 1783, was the first play in Florida, presented between 1513 and 1783. "In fact," wrote Mays in *Eighteenth-Century Florida: Life on the Frontier*, "the choice of this particular play was a happy one," as *The Beaux' Stratagem* was one of the most popular and best-known plays on the North American continent. Written by the Late Restoration Playwright George Farquhar, the play was, continued Mays, "a skillful amalgam of lusty double entendre, exciting plots and counterplots, tender romance, and broad comic characterizations."



Florida State Archives

Portrait of composer Frederick Delius, Jacksonville, 1899.

Florida in Music and Song

A two-year stay in Florida, first at an orange grove on the St. Johns River and then in Jacksonville, by the English composer Frederick Delius (1863–1934) is evident in his work. Delius's *Appalachia* recalls two Negro melodies, "No Trouble in that Land Where I'm Bound" and "Oh, Honey, I am Going Down the River in the Morning."

Delius, who was 21 when he came to Florida, returned to England in 1886 and visited Florida only once again but memories of his youth inspired his opera *Koanga* and an orchestral suite, *Florida*.

"In Florida," once wrote Delius, "through sitting and gazing at Nature, I gradually learnt the way in which I should eventually find myself."

Also on the classical side is the "Tallahassee Suite" by the British composer Cyril Scott. A recording by violinist Jascha Heifetz, made in 1937, appears to have been issued for the first time in 1975. It was included in RCA Victor's six-volume "Heifetz Collection." It is not known why Scott gave the name Tallahassee to the suite. The suite is divided into three descriptive movements—Bygone Memories, After Sundown, and Danse Negre—and has been

characterized as a "lightweight work which makes most pleasant listening."

Stephen Foster's "Old Folks at Home" gave world fame to Florida's Suwannee River.

The great land boom of the 1920s had "Moon over Miami" as its theme (although in Coral Gables the Jan Garber orchestra played "When the Moon Shines in Coral Gables").

In mid-century, Bing Crosby and the Andrews Sisters joined in singing Frank Loesser's "Tallahassee" from the Paramount movie, *Variety Girl*.

To their astonishment and utter delight, in 1947 the citizens of Apalachicola, Florida suddenly found themselves squarely in the national spotlight when Bob Hope and Bing Crosby crooned a Johnny Burke ditty in their latest road picture.

It didn't matter, of course, whether the country's top comics had ever set foot in the seaside community. All that mattered was that millions of people were hearing the town's name for the first time, and in a highly flattering light. Their day in the sun had finally arrived, and if it would be brief, the people of Apalachicola would relish every minute of it... *Florida State University Research in Review*, Frank Stephenson, Editor

*We're on our way
To AP-A-LA-CHI-CO-LA, F, L, A.
Magnolia trees in blossom and a
pretty southern gal,
It's better than the orange groves in
Cucamonga, Cal.
We're gonna stay
Along the Apalachicola Bay.
We may stop at Ochlackonee
for some hominy grits
Or pass through Tallahassee if the
weather permits
But we're on our way
to AP-A-LA-CHI-CO-LA, F, L, A.!*

— from *Road to Rio* (Paramount Pictures)

Early English Ballad

Research at Florida State University has turned up a good possibility of the earliest poem/song about Florida in an Elizabethan ballad called “Have Over the Water to Florida.” It was popular in the streets of London about the time that Shakespeare was born in 1564.

The voyage to Florida was organized by a courtier named Thomas Stukeley. Queen Elizabeth gave him a ship and the enterprising explorer came up with five others on his own. However, it turned out that Stukeley’s real plan was to pursue a course of piracy. As a result, his passengers never reached Florida. They spent the next two years plundering French, Spanish, and Portuguese ships instead.

The song was written by a would-be emigrant who lost his fortune supporting an expedition to

Florida. He envisioned it as a paradise far to the west where savage people bartered gold for trifles and where there were turkeys and tall cedar trees and pearls grew in oysters along the waterside.

Someone who heard the song copied it down by hand. This copy is now at the Bodleian Library at Oxford University England.

*Have over the water to Florida!
Farewell gay London now.
Through long delays, by land seas,
I have come, I know not how, To Plymouth
town in a threadbare gown,
And not enough money to tell.
With hy! a tryksy trym go tryksy.*
Wouldn't a wallet do well?*

*Regarded by translator as a meaningless refrain.

Diorama “Old Folks at Home” at the Stephen Foster Memorial Center, White Springs.

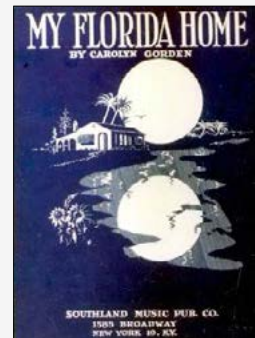
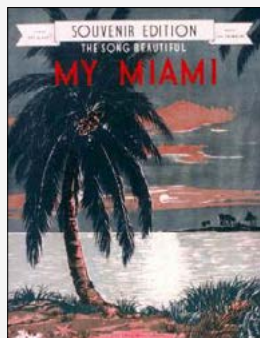


Florida State Archives

First Music

Dean-emeritus Wiley Housewright of the Florida State University School of Music said the “earliest European music heard in Florida was that of the Catholic church, sung by priests who accompanied such Spanish explorers as Ponce de León (1539), Pánfilo de Narváez (1520), Cabeza de Vaca (1528) and Hernando de Soto (1539).

“The soldiers of these explorers probably sang secular Spanish songs of the period. The first music teachers were the priests with the Tristán de Luna y Arellano company who came to Ochuse (Pensacola) in 1559.” Dean Housewright documented other early musicians in his 1991 book, *A History of Music and Dance in Florida, 1565–1865*.





The Florida State Photographic Archives

“Photography and Florida evolved on remarkably parallel courses that suggest the likelihood there still may exist pictures of people and places associated with the beginning of statehood in 1845.” Allen Morris first made this statement in the early 1950s, and although it seems less likely 50 plus years later, it is still a possibility.

Throughout his long career, from copy boy to photographer, to reporter, to author, photography fascinated Morris. The idea that there might have been a daguerreotypist at the Madison courthouse on April 14, 1845, when the Democratic convention nominated William D. Moseley for first governor of the state, or near the steps of the new Capitol building in Tallahassee for Moseley’s inauguration and address on June 23, 1845, seems reasonable.

The process, known from the inventor’s name as daguerreotyping, was first developed in France in 1839. On January 19, 1843, this advertisement appeared in the Tallahassee *Floridian*: “Andrew Scott gives notice that he is now prepared to take Daguerr[e]otype likeness. His room is on the cross street directly north of the Capitol, next to Captain Thomas Brown’s office. His charges will be moderate. No charge made unless satisfaction is given.”

The presence of daguerreotypists in Tallahassee and other Florida communities is apparent from similar advertisements in later months and years. Some were itinerants who advertised in advance of their visits; a few stayed in one place and also did other work (dentistry and carriage making, for example) to supplement their incomes.

Daguerreotypes gave way in the 1850s to less expensive ambrotypes and the so-called “tintype”

(really made on a thin sheet of iron), and then, by the 1860s, to photographs similar to a kind we know today, with negatives from which multiple prints can be made.

Had it not been for Morris’ interest in photography and his writing career, many historic Florida images would not be available to researchers all over the world. He conceived the idea of a collection of



Tintype of Mary Camilla Oakley and her tea set, Monticello, circa 1870.

Florida State Archives

Florida images while searching for illustrations for the first edition of *The Florida Handbook* in 1946. He proposed the idea to a few state and private agencies but was unsuccessful until 1952, when Dr. Doak Campbell, then president of Florida State University, agreed to give him space in the library and a part-time position to gather and organize whatever Florida images he could beg or borrow.

From that humble beginning has grown the collection of over a million images which is now part of the Florida State Archives in the R.A. Gray Building in Tallahassee.

The Photographic Archives spans a wide range of images from copies of mid-15th century maps to present-day government leaders. The photographic techniques used vary from daguerreotypes to digital. Most of the holdings in the collection have been obtained singly or in small groups. Together with images from commercial studios, news services, and newspaper photographers, they form the most comprehensive view of Florida available anywhere.

As of 2012, over 175,000 of the photographs have been scanned and placed on a website as part of the Archives' Florida Memory Project, online at:

<http://floridamemory.com/photographiccollection/>, with nearly 1,000 more being added every month.

Any photograph on the website may be downloaded free (see the copyright information and disclaimer), and copies are available for a nominal fee.

And remember, the collection has been built on donations. If you have Florida-related images you would be willing to give or loan for copying, use the website to contact the Archives staff. Who knows, a copy of that daguerreotype of the Moseley inauguration may turn up yet.



Left: Brothers and sisters.

Above: Men and boys on the porch of the Tallahassee general store.

These turn-of-the-century photographs of Floridians were all taken by Alvan S. Harper, who operated a portrait studio in Tallahassee from about 1885 to 1910.



Left: A Tallahassee teacher and her students.
Above: Portrait of infant Clara Lewis.

To see more photographs by Alvan Harper and learn about his life, see The Photography of Alvan S. Harper, by Joan Morris and Dr. Lee H. Warner, or visit the Florida Memory Project photography archive online at floridamemory.com.





Public Education

Source: Florida Department of Education

Public education in Florida dates back more than a century and a half to 1822, when Florida became a territory.

At that time, every sixteenth section of land in each township was reserved for the maintenance of primary schools. However, for 10 years there were no schools in Florida except a few private elementary schools.

In 1823, one year after Florida became a territory, Congress enacted legislation reserving townships of land—called “seminary lands”—for two higher education institutions. These early seminaries were the “ancestors” of today’s University of Florida and Florida State University.

Early Efforts

In 1831, the Florida Education Society was formed in Tallahassee and branch societies were organized throughout the state. In its first year the FES attempted to operate a free public school in St. Augustine and a manual-labor school in Tallahassee. Both schools were dependent on public subscription, which was unsteady, and the projects were abandoned.

But these early groups were pioneers in the concept of free public education, and they met strong opposition from people of wealth and influence who regarded public schools and pauper schools as one and the same.

In 1839, the territorial government attempted to establish a public school system. Three trustees in each township were named to oversee and lease school lands, using proceeds to support public

schools. A new law set aside 2 percent of the territorial tax and auction duties “for the education of orphan children of the county to which the funds belong.” But there is no record of the law being implemented.

Another attempt was made in 1844, with county sheriffs being given the authority and duties of the trustees. This did not work, and trustees were restored with provisions made for their election by the people. A year later, judges of probate were appointed as superintendents of common schools.

In a search for sources of revenue, the territorial assembly authorized the use of lotteries to raise funds for Quincy Academy and a school in St. Augustine, but not much is known of the results.

Until 1845, the only true public schools in Florida were in Franklin and Monroe counties. In 1845, when Florida became a state, interest in a state public school system gained impetus. Control of school lands was taken from the counties and reverted to the State Register of Public Lands, and in 1848 the state was authorized to sell school lands, using the proceeds to set up a permanent state school fund.

First System in 1849

In 1849, the first real state school system was authorized. The State Registrar of Lands was designated as State Superintendent, judges of probate were to be county superintendents, and local boards of trustees were to be elected by the taxpayers. In 1851, counties were authorized to levy taxes of up to \$4 per child for schools, but only Franklin and Monroe Counties are on record as taking advantage of the law.

In 1853, county commissioners were delegated to act as county school boards.

The Constitution of 1868 provided for a State Superintendent (now Commissioner) and a State Board of Education, composed of the Governor and Cabinet Members. In 1998, Florida voters amended the Constitution to make the Commissioner of Education an appointed rather than elected position. The composition of the State Board of Education changed also. As of January 3, 2003, a seven-member board selected by the Governor served as the head of the Department of Education. The commissioner served as executive director of the department.

The Constitution also set up a state school tax of one mill, with counties required to raise locally an amount equal to one-half of the State's contribution. It also provided that children could not be counted, for state fund distribution purposes, unless they attended school at least three months of each year. This was the first time a minimum school term was established, and the first time the State offered an incentive for raising local funds for schools.

In 1885, the drafters of the Constitution wrote:

“The Legislature shall provide for a uniform system of public free schools, and shall provide for the liberal maintenance of the same.”

A special state school tax, of one mill, was included in that Constitution, along with the following provision:

“Each county shall be required to assess and collect annually for the support of public free schools therein, a tax of not less than three mills, not more than five mills on the dollar of all taxable property in the same.”

Maximum county millage was raised to seven mills in 1904 and 10 mills in 1918. The Constitution of 1968 placed a 10 mills ceiling on board-levied millage. In 2010-2011, school board levies were as follows: (1) a levy required for participation in the

state finance program—5.380 mills (average of all districts); (2) a discretionary local millage of .748 mills; (3) a supplemental levy up to .25 mills; and (4) an optional capital outlay and maintenance levy—not to exceed 1.5 mills. Within the 10 mill cap, the school board may, with approval by the voters of the

district, levy an additional tax for a period not to exceed four years.

The options for voted millage continued essentially unchanged under the 1968 Constitution. District electors may vote to levy additional millage for the payment of bonds, which are generally paid serially over a 20-year pe-

riod. Taxes may also be voted for periods not longer than two years, for operations or capital outlay.

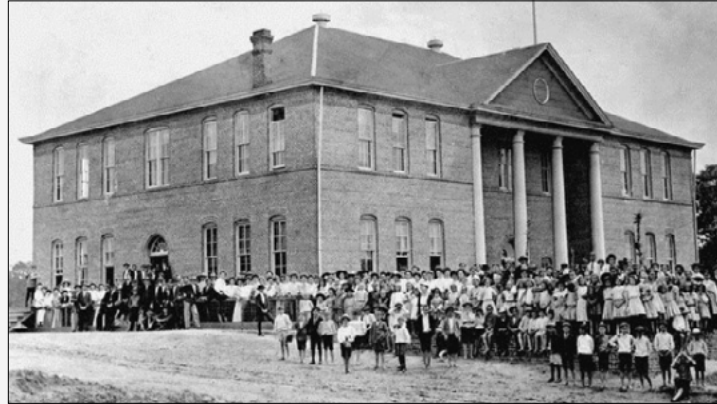
The “New School Law,” of 1889 spelled out the powers and duties of school officials, providing uniformity among county school systems.

Conference for Education

Between 1892 and 1920, many changes occurred in education, and much of this progress was sparked by the Conference for Education in Florida, an organization of laymen and teachers whose aim was the improvement of all schools in Florida.

The first state compulsory attendance law was enacted in 1919, and in the same session the Legislature passed a uniform public curriculum law setting minimum requirements. Florida's program of vocational education expanded with passage of the federal Smith-Hughes Act of 1917, and, in 1927, the state's program of vocational rehabilitation began.

In the early 1930s, Florida schools, like those in most states of the nation, suffered financially during the Depression years. Increased state aid could not offset the losses from local sources, and many school systems were unable to meet their current operating costs, with some counties defaulting on school building bonds when local revenue declined.



Florida State Archives

Students posed in front of Madison High School, Madison, 1900.

The 1937 Legislature authorized preparation of the School Code of 1939, which removed old conflicts in school laws and also approved other laws relating to education that reorganized and improved the school program.

Following World War II, Florida schools faced a multitude of accumulated crises. Salaries were too low, buildings were in need of repair, and additional classrooms were desperately needed. Enrollments were expanding rapidly, and a breakdown in the state's school system threatened unless speedy action was taken.

Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) in 1947

A Florida Citizens Committee on Education was given the task of figuring out a solution. Appointed by the Governor and approved by the 1945 Legislature, the committee made an intensive, 2-year, study. Their study and leadership resulted, in 1947, in enactment of a comprehensive school financing plan—the Minimum Foundation Program—which operated with changes and improvements through 1972–1973.

In 1955, the Junior College Advisory Board was created and charged by the Legislature with recommending a long-range plan for establishment and coordination of a system of 2-year post-high school institutions.

In 1957, the State embarked on a statewide, planned program to bring junior college educational

opportunities to every area in the state. Funds were provided for four existing junior colleges and for establishment of six new ones. Today there are 28 community colleges in the state.

In early 1968, a special session was called for the improvement of education following a “crash” study by the Governor’s Commission for Quality Education. Immediately following the end of that session, the Florida Education Association called for a statewide teacher walkout, based on FEA complaints about the legislative program. The walkout lasted about three weeks, and by the end of a month, most of the state’s teachers were back in their classrooms.

Unified System

The 1969 Legislature, in its general reorganization of state government, placed all of Florida’s tax-supported schools in a single, unified system of public education.

The State Board of Education, under the 1969 reorganization, was made responsible for the entire state education system. The Commissioner of Education, a member of the Board of Education, was made the chief education officer.

The new Constitution, approved by the voters in 1968, provided that the Board of Education would consist of the Cabinet and the Governor (seven members, instead of the previous five members, adding the Comptroller and the Commissioner of Agriculture). The Constitution also eliminated the title of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and created the title of the Commissioner of Education in a broader role.

This changed again in 1998 when the Constitutional Revision Commission proposed sweeping alterations, which the voters approved in the general election that year. All public education sectors were merged into the same agency. K-12 public education, the 28-member community college system and the state’s 11 public universities were put under the State Board of Education. The State Board of Community Colleges and Board of Regents, which governed the public universities, were abolished.

However, in 2002, voters approved another constitutional amendment that removed the State University System from under the State Board of Education and placed it within a new university gov-



Florida State Archives

Students with Professor Robert Sharpton, Miami-Dade Junior College, Kendall Campus, 1970.

ernance system, led by a 17-member Board of Governors.

Another 1998 amendment states that, “The education of children is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida. It is, therefore, a paramount duty of the state to make adequate provision for the education of all children residing within its borders. Adequate provision shall be made by law for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high quality education...”

Efforts Toward Reform

Standards for student performance, pupil progression, and graduation from high school were established and a statewide program of student assessment testing began in 1977. A test to measure high school students’ ability to apply basic communications and computations knowledge to practical life requirements was instituted and, after successfully withstanding legal challenges, passage of the test was applied in 1983 as a criterion for the award of a standard high school diploma.

Incentives programs were established to stimulate and provide recognition for achievement through academic competition and to encourage outstanding students to remain in Florida by providing scholarships to students for Florida colleges and universities.

College sophomores were required to pass the College Level Academic Skills Test in order to earn an Associate of Arts degree or be fully admitted to the upper division of a state university. Passage of the Florida Teacher Certification Examination became a requirement for certification of new teachers.

Concurrently, more stringent entry requirements to colleges of education, strengthened requirements for state approval of teacher preparation programs, and higher standards for graduation from colleges of education were established. An intensified beginning teacher internship program was implemented to further guarantee adequacy of preparation of teachers for Florida classrooms.

Extension of the education reforms of the 1970s and significant new initiatives marked sessions of the Legislature in the 1980s. The Florida Primary Education program to expand services for kindergarten

through grade three students was funded through a decade. The Florida Progress in Middle Childhood Education Program and preschool projects received significant funding. Dropout prevention was given emphasis by funding through the basic finance formula and by special projects. Stringent high school graduation requirements and teacher certification requirements were set. Scholarship programs were enhanced. Instruction in the prevention of AIDS was made a curriculum requirement for all students.

As the last decade of the 20th century dawned, the focus of education reform shifted to preparing the work force for the next century. To do so would require Florida to tackle a growing dropout problem. The best long-term solution to the dropout dilemma, ensuring that all students come to school ready to learn, was addressed with the implementation of Pre-kindergarten Early Intervention for disadvantaged preschoolers, the funding for which has steadily increased.

The 1996 Legislature authorized the creation of charter schools and required school districts to develop open enrollment programs to provide parents with opportunities in the selection of schools for their children. Florida currently ranks third in the nation both in the number of charter schools and in charter school enrollment. In the 2012-13 school year, over 203,000 students were enrolled in 579 charter schools in 44 Florida districts.

The following year, the Florida Virtual School (FLVS) was initially funded as a grant-based pilot project, pioneering Florida’s first Internet-based public high school. The FLVS courses are free to Florida middle and high school students, including public, private, and home-educated students. Funding for FLVS is based primarily on successful course completions, which grew to 303,329 half-credit completions and 148,000 students in the 2010-11 school year.

The 1997 Legislature created the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program with funding from a portion of lottery proceeds. This program combined the two existing merit scholarship programs—Florida Academic Scholars and the Vocational Gold Seal Scholarship—with a new Florida Merit Scholars Program. This program greatly expanded the availability of higher education scholarships and provides a new incentive for high achievement in public schools.

In 1997, a special session of the Legislature was called to address the increasing need for classrooms. This need had risen to crisis proportions in many districts. The response to this situation was the creation of the Classroom First Program, which provided approximately \$2.5 billion through bonding of a portion of public school lottery proceeds. Additional funding was provided through several programs emphasizing construction of functional and thrifty schools.

In 2000-01, the Florida Legislature expanded the educational options of parents to include scholarships for students from low-income families and students with disabilities. In 2011-12, the Corporate Tax Credit Program provided \$147.4 million in scholarships to 40,248 students to attend private school or assist with transportation costs to attend a public school in a neighboring district. Two years prior, the John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program issued 20,926 scholarships, which allowed parents of students with disabilities the option of choosing the best academic environment for their child(ren).

Magnet schools and rigorous programs for the best and brightest students were expanded, including the Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Advanced International Certificate of Education programs. Standardized testing was reformed, eliminating minimum competency testing, and a writing component and a science component were added to statewide testing.

Florida's System for High-Quality Schools

The 1991 School Improvement and Accountability Act set a new course for education in Florida. The legislation called for sweeping changes in public schools and returned the responsibility for education to those closest to students, parents, teachers, community members, and business representatives. A system of school improvement and accountability was established to encourage change while setting high standards, allow flexibility for achieving the standards, and hold schools accountable for expected results, specifically, improved student performance. The state provided financial awards to schools that greatly improved or sustained high student performance and provided intervention and assistance to schools with low student performance.



Photo by Gregory Hansen

Erma Celzo giving a Philippino cooking demonstration of Pancit at John E. Ford Elementary School, Jacksonville, 1992.

In 1999, the Florida Legislature took the next step by enacting bold new legislation to transform all public schools into centers of excellence. Underlying the new legislation was the fundamental principle that every child should gain at least a year's worth of knowledge each school year. The legislation increased standards and called for greater accountability for students, schools, and teachers. Students were now assessed more often and took tougher tests. All schools received performance grades (A-F) based mainly on student performance, and these grades were and are still widely publicized. Educators are evaluated based, in part, on student performance.

The original components of school improvement and accountability remain the cornerstone for high-quality schools. These components include school improvement planning, standards and assessment, local flexibility, reporting, rewarding success, and correcting failure. Collectively, the components create a system for schools to ensure that every child has the opportunity to succeed.

Financing Public School Education

Financial support for Florida public school education comes from Federal, State, and local sources. At the state level, the major sources of money for operations are the General Revenue Fund (the sales tax, corporate income tax, beverage tax, documentary stamp tax, cigarette tax, insurance premium tax, intangible tax, estate tax, service charges, parimutuels tax, and other taxes) and the Educational Enhancement (Lottery) Trust Fund. At the school

district level, the sources of funds for operations are primarily from ad valorem (property) taxes and from adult student fees.

During the 1947–48 school year, public schools received 45 percent of their total revenue from local sources, 52.3 percent from the State and 2.7 percent from the federal government. By 2010-11, this had changed to 54.15 percent from the local sources, 35.68 percent from the State and 10.17 percent from the federal government

From 1947–48 through 1972–73, the core of financial support for the instructional program was provided through the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP): allocations for salaries, materials, facilities, and student transportation. As needs changed, legislation was passed which amended the MFP to provide the legal and financial bases for additional programs and services. In 1973–74, state support of public school education was provided through enactment of the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), and the MFP was repealed.

Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP)

Like the MFP, more than a quarter century earlier the FEFP was the product of various studies and recommendations by a citizen’s committee. Formally known as the Governor’s Citizens Committee on Education, the 22-member group representing individuals from all walks of life met each month for two years. With the aid of professional staff to prepare materials and conduct research, much of the final committee report was incorporated into the “Florida Education Finance Act of 1973” which established the Florida Education Finance Program.

The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) changed the focus for funding public school education. Traditionally, State agencies have distributed dollars to school districts by formulas based upon instruction units. The key feature of the FEFP is to base financial support for education upon the individual student participating in a particular program. FEFP funds are generated by multiplying the number of full-time equivalent students (FTE’s) by weight factors (program cost factors) to obtain weighted FTE’s which are then multiplied by a base student allocation fixed annually by the Legislature.

The 2000 Legislature sustained the evolution of policy established to provide operating funds for grades kindergarten through 12th through the FEFP. However, adult education was provided through the Workforce Development Program.

Program Cost Factors

Educators have recognized that certain grade levels and special programs require more money to operate than others. The FEFP provides for this through use of program cost factors. These factors are modified each year based on actual expenditures. Funded programs are grouped in four categories: Basic Education, Exceptional Student Education, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), and Vocational Education. A cost factor is set for each program within these groups. For the 2008-2009 school year there were seven program cost factors included in the appropriations act: Basic, three programs (kindergarten through grade 3, grades 4-8 and grades 9-12); Exceptional Student Education, two programs representing relative level of support needed by each student; ESOL students, one program; and Vocational Education for secondary students, one program. Cost factors for these programs vary from a low of 1.000 for Basic, grades 4-8, to a high of 4.970 for the highest support level for exceptional education students.



Photo by Gregory Hansen

Leon High School students Elvy Carter and Leonard Bell taking vocational agricultural studies in livestock enterprise, Tallahassee, 1957.

District Cost Differential (DCD)

The FEFP recognizes that the purchasing power of the dollar is not the same throughout the State. The district cost differentials, which were fixed by the Legislature each year from 1973 through 1976, are now determined based upon the average of the last three Florida Price Level Index Studies. In computing the differential index, this average is factored to apply to 80 percent of each district's FEFP. The rationale is that approximately 80 percent of costs relate to employment of staff. Application of the differential tends to neutralize the effects of high and low cost areas in the employment of educational personnel.

Base Amount for Current Operations

The base amount for current school district operations under the FEFP is determined as follows:

- The full-time equivalent student membership (FTE) in each program; multiplied by
- The cost factor of each program equals the weighted full-time equivalent membership (WFTE); multiplied by
- The base student allocation (BSA); multiplied by
- The district cost differential (DCD) equals the Base Funding.

Required Local Effort

After each district's total FEFP entitlement has been determined, the required local effort is deducted. A dollar amount for statewide required local effort is specified in the Appropriations Act each year. The Department of Revenue provides the Department of Education with an estimate of each district's property tax roll. The Department of Education then computes the millage rate, which when applied to 95 percent of the tax roll, yields the local effort for each district. The statewide average millage rate for 2010-11 was 5.380 mills. However, the millage varies by district due to application of assessment ratios which reflect the Department of Revenue's most recent determination of the assessment level for each district. Assessment ratios were first applied in 1984-85. In 2010-11, the resultant required local effort millages

ranged from a high of 5.731 mills to a low of 5.063 mills. Millage rates are also adjusted so that the state financed portion of the FEFP is at least 10 percent. This provision applied to seven districts in 2010-11 with the result that their required local effort millage rates ranged from 1.916 to 4.984 mills. The 1997 and 1998 Legislatures established a new policy and process for funding adult job training and adult literacy programs. Workforce Development focused funding on completion of adult vocational and adult general education programs and placement of students in employment.

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)

First implemented in 1998 and covering grades 3-11, the FCAT measures student progress toward meeting the Sunshine State Standards benchmarks. During the 2011-2012 school year, the state began a transition from the FCAT to the FCAT 2.0 and Florida End-of-Course Assessments. For more information on the new FCAT, visit the Florida Department of Education website at <http://fcat.fldoe.org/fcat2/>.



Photo by Elizabeth Higgs

South Hamilton Elementary School students playing with a Maypole, White Springs, 1992.

Constitutional Class Size Maximums

In 2002, Florida voters approved an amendment to S. 1, Article IX of the State Constitution establishing maximum class sizes for core-academic courses in grades K-3, 4-9, and 10-12.

Workforce Development Education

Workforce Development programs include: adult general education programs, technical certificate programs, applied technology diploma programs, apprenticeship programs, and continuing workforce education programs. The distribution of state funds for school districts and colleges is by specific appropriation to each school district and college. Funding includes required student fees.

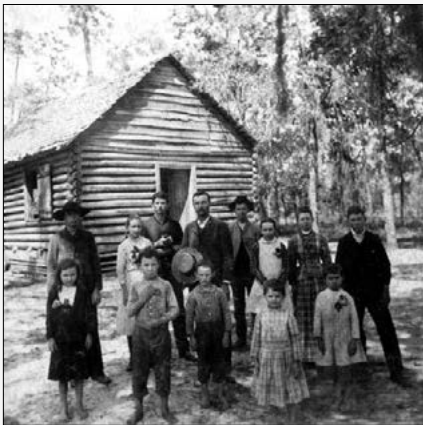
More Funding Information

The Department of Education publication “Funding Florida School Districts” can be found at <http://www.fldoe.org/fepp/pdf/feppdist.pdf>. This document provides a complete description of the FEPP, Workforce Development, other state sources, uses of Florida Lottery proceeds, funding of virtual school instruction, and school board taxing authority.



Photo by Mark T. Foley

Speaker-Designate Marco Rubio, R-Miami, has the full attention of his colleagues on the House floor while closing debate in support of the class size amendment, HJR 467, Tallahassee, 2006.



Florida State Archives

The one-room schoolhouse in North Volusia County, circa 1900.



Florida State Archives

Administrators and students of the Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys, a high risk residential commitment facility operated by the Department of Juvenile Justice, Marianna, circa 1955.

Florida Public School Statistics from 1901-1902 to 2009-2010

School Year	Number of Schools	Enrollment/ Membership†	High School Graduates‡
1901-1902	2,336	112,384*	136**
1911-1912	2,702	157,161*	305**
1921-1922	2,597	237,770*	1206**
1931-1932	2,583	367,758*	6,140**
1941-1942	2,589	402,009*	14,171
1951-1952	2,034	556,936*	17,888
1961-1962	1,940	1,136,937*	43,717
1971-1972	1,921	1,473,728	78,296
1981-1982	2,296	1,488,073	89,199
1991-1992	2,730	1,932,131	93,368
2001-2002	3,683	2,495,426	119,233
2005-2006	4,193	2,668,337	137,613
2006-2007	4,137	2,662,701	136,076
2007-2008	4,054	2,652,684	140,023
2008-2009	3,990	2,628,754	143,947
2009-2010	4,040	2,634,382	156,382

*Enrollment

**Estimated

†Prior to 1960, separate schools existed for black and white students. The decrease in the number of schools in the 1970's was due to desegregation.

‡Includes standard diplomas and special diplomas.

Source: Department of Education, Profiles of Florida School Districts, Students and Staff Data; the Florida Statistical Abstract 2011

Home Schooling in Florida 1995-1996 to 2010-2011

Year	Families	Children
1995-1996	14,964	22,285
1997-1998	21,507	31,440
1999-2000	26,656	37,196
2001-2002	29,417	44,460
2002-2003	29,892	45,333
2003-2004	32,166	47,151
2004-2005	35,377	51,110
2005-2006	36,149	52,613
2006-2007	38,939	55,822
2007-2008	39,100	56,650
2008-2009	42,431	60,913
2009-2010	42,754	62,567
2010-2011	48,254	69,281

Source: Florida Dept. of Education: <http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org>; the Florida Statistical Abstract 2011.

The National Center for Education Statistics, part of the U.S. Department of Education, reported that the main reasons for home schooling are (1) concerns about the environment of school (anxiety about terrorism, weapons in school, etc.) (2) the desire to teach religion and moral lessons, and (3) lack of confidence in the academic instruction in local schools.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Thomas D. Bailey examining a book on Communism with Ms. Modl and Dr. Fred Turner, Tallahassee, 1962. The book was one of three textbooks dealing with Americanism versus Communism that the state Board of Education adopted for use in Florida's public schools.



Florida State Archives

Students at the Pine Crest Preparatory School, Fort Lauderdale, 1969. This photo was taken for a fund-raising brochure (Forward Fund) to raise money for classroom additions.



Photo by Roy Erickson



Sports in Florida

Gerald V. Ensley*

It can be argued sports in the United States began in Florida. For St. Augustine, founded by the Spanish in 1565, was the first permanent settlement in the portion of North America that became the United States. And by the early 17th century, Spanish missionaries in Florida were writing about the “ball games,” played by the Apalachee, Creeks, Timucucans and other Native American tribes.

Though there are records of at least three types of games—including a game played by women with cane rackets—the most important was the “ball game” played between large teams from rival villages.

The game featured a musket-sized ball made of buckskin which players could advance only by hitting with their feet or hands. The object was to knock the ball into a goal consisting of a tall pole topped by an eagle’s nest. Teams, consisting of 40 to 50 players per side, received one “strike” for each time the ball hit the pole and two “strikes” for each time it lodged in the eagle’s nest. The first team to get 11 strikes was the winner.

The games were played in mid-afternoon on hot summer days and were preceded by rituals, including a pregame night of ribald drinking and sex by the players.

Even then, 350 years ago, sports were considered prestigious and the best players were pampered. Skilled players were given houses, their fields were planted for them and their misdeeds were winked at by tribal authorities.

Gradually, the games were stamped out by Spanish authorities, who blamed them for fostering paganism and immorality. Gradually, for a variety of reasons, Florida was eclipsed as an important New World colony, falling into relative isolation throughout most of America’s colonial and antebellum days.

Thus, it was not until the 20th century that Florida began to grow in population and importance, and with that growth came the return of sports.

Auto Racing

Daytona Beach was one of the nation’s first centers of auto racing, as early daredevils were drawn to the wide, flat sand of the “World’s Most Famous Beach.”

Ransom Olds, the father of the Oldsmobile car company, held the first celebrated race in 1902. He and a friend, Alexander Winton, marked off a course on nearby Ormond Beach and raced to a tie—climb-



Florida State Archives

Ralph Hepburn, starting second with a time of 141.9 mph, speaks with official starter Barney Oldfield as the field readies for the green flag, Fulwood Speedway, Miami Beach, 1926.

**Gerald V. Ensley is a senior writer for the Tallahassee Democrat. This work was originally published in the 1997-1998 edition of The Florida Handbook. Recent simple updates have been made by the editor.*

ing to speeds of 50 mph. Winton returned the next year to set a land speed record of 68 mph.

That began an annual contest in Daytona Beach and Ormond Beach that advanced the land-speed record 15 times before the event ended in 1935—when Sir Malcolm Campbell set a land-speed record of 276 mph.

The next year, 1936, a former Washington, D.C. banker who had settled in Daytona Beach, Bill France, began staging stock car and motorcycle races on the beach. The events were halted during World War II, but in 1947, France and 18 others formed the National Association of Stock Car Racing (NASCAR) and started holding races on a course that used the beach and Highway A1A.

In 1949, NASCAR inaugurated an annual calendar of stock car races around the nation. In 1959, beach racing ended when France opened the 2.5-mile Daytona International Speedway, and held the first Daytona 500 race. Five decades later, Daytona Beach remains the headquarters of NASCAR, which stages three series of racing each year. Its most popular series, the Sprint Cup, has 36 races, including the Daytona 500 every February. Despite a slumping economy, more than seven million spectators attended Sprint Cup races in 2010. According to Nielsen Media Research, more than 35 million Americans tuned their televisions to the Daytona 500 in 2012.



Photo by Mark T. Foley

Dale Earnhardt (left) comes in second behind Neil Bonnett in the Firecracker 400 at the Daytona International Speedway, 1979.



Florida State Archives

A young fan gets an autograph at the St. Louis Cardinals spring training, Saint Petersburg, 1977.

Baseball

Like the rest of America, Florida took up baseball in earnest after the Civil War. Local competition led to intercity rivalries. In 1874, the first recorded games were played between teams from Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Fernandina Beach, Lake City and Palatka.

By the 1890s, the game had spread to sparsely settled South Florida and rivalries were so fierce that “ringers,” or professional ball players, were often imported into a community to improve the play of the local nine. One of the more notable early ringers was John McGraw. The future Hall of Fame major league manager was hired to play for a Gainesville team, earning room, board, laundry and “one cigar a week.”

The game really began to boom in the early 1900s when teams were established at state high schools and colleges. St. Petersburg High fielded a team as early as 1904 and Stetson University had a squad by 1910.

The biggest boost came when professional baseball teams began to hold “spring training” in Florida, following a practice begun in other Southern cities as early as 1870. The first professional team to train in Florida was a Washington team, which spent three weeks training in Jacksonville in 1888. In 1903, The Philadelphia Athletics—whose manager, Connie Mack, had been a catcher on that Washington team—

renewed the practice by spending several weeks in Jacksonville. The Athletics' example was followed by the Cincinnati Reds (1905), Boston Braves (1906), Brooklyn Dodgers (1907), Pittsburgh Pirates (1918) and New York Yankees (1919), though it was 1914 before more than two teams trained in Florida at the same time.

As of 2011, 15 major league teams had spring training headquarters in Florida, playing a slate of exhibition games each March-April in what is known as the Grapefruit League.

Florida got its first full-time major league team in 1993, when the Florida Marlins began play in the National League. In 1998, the Tampa Bay Devil Rays joined the American League. The Marlins won World Series titles in 1997 and 2003. In 2008, Tampa Bay shortened its name to Rays and made its first World Series appearance, losing to the Philadelphia Phillies.

Basketball

Basketball was invented by James Naismith at a Massachusetts YMCA in December, 1891, and within a year was played throughout the nation. The first professional team was organized in 1895 and the first five-player college games were played in 1896.

The first college basketball team in Florida appears to be Stetson, which rang up a 9-2 record in 1913-1914 playing mostly against high school teams. The University of Florida began its program in 1915.

Ten Florida college basketball teams (Central Florida, Florida, Florida A & M, Florida Atlantic, Florida International, Florida State, Jacksonville, Miami, South Florida and Stetson) have made appearances in the men's NCAA Division I post-season tournament that produces a national champion. Jacksonville (1970), Florida State (1972) and Florida (2000, 2006, 2007) have appeared in the NCAA title game—with Florida winning consecutive national championships in 2006 and 2007.

In 1982, the NCAA Division I women's basketball tournament was begun. Six Florida universities have appeared in that tournament (Central Florida, Florida, Florida A & M, Florida International, Florida State and Miami) although none have made it to the championship game.

Florida's first professional basketball team was the Miami Floridians, who played four seasons, from 1968-72, in the old American Basketball Association. Florida now has two teams in the National Basketball Association: the Miami Heat (formed in 1988) and the Orlando Magic (1989). The Heat were NBA Champions in 2006, and claimed back-to-back championships in 2012 and 2013.

Boxing

Though boxing traces to man's earliest times, the regulated sport with padded gloves rose to popularity in the late 19th century.

The first major bout in Florida occurred in Jacksonville, when heavyweight champion James J. Corbett defeated Charley Mitchell in three rounds on January 25, 1894.

The most celebrated early fight was in Miami on February 27, 1929, when Jack Sharkey out-pointed Young Stribling in a bout that drew 40,000 fans and a gate of \$405,000—both records at the time.



Photo by Gleason W. Romer

Young Stribling, (right), training for the Sharkey fight, Miami, 1929.

The most famous fight in Florida occurred on February 25, 1964, in Miami Beach, when Cassius Clay won the heavyweight championship for the first time by beating Sonny Liston who refused to come out of his corner for the seventh round. After that victory, Clay—who lived up to his promise to “float like

a butterfly, sting like a bee”—changed his name to Muhammed Ali and became one of the most famous athletes of all time.

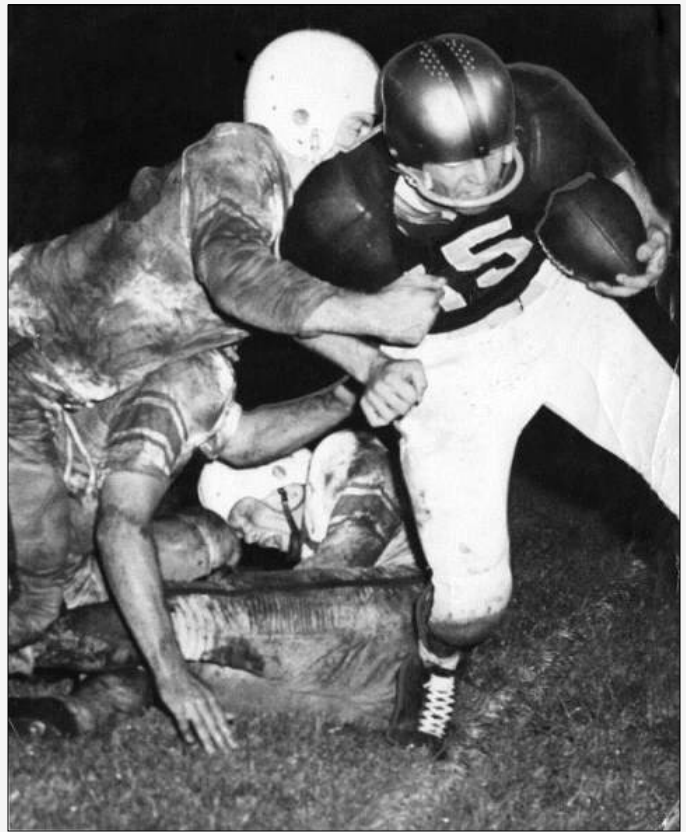
Football

Football began as an organized activity between college teams in 1869. It gained in national popularity in the 1880s, with players organizing community and high school teams.

The first recorded college team in Florida was the Florida Agricultural College in Lake City in 1899. Students organized a 15-player team but could not find any opponents for two years. Thus the first college game in Florida was played November 22, 1901 in Jacksonville between FAC and Stetson College. Stetson won 6-0, when Florida Agricultural’s most serious drive was stymied by a tree stump on one side of the field. FAC would go on to play four seasons, during which time it played Florida State College at Tallahassee three times from 1902-1904. Before becoming a women’s college from 1905 to 1947, the Tallahassee school, a precursor of Florida State University, won two of three contests with FAC, the precursor of present-day rival University of Florida.

In 1905, FAC merged with East Florida Seminary of Ocala and moved to Gainesville to become the University of Florida. The U of F established its first football team in 1906, the same year the state school for blacks, now Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University, began playing football. The University of Miami began playing football in 1926 and Florida State University took up the sport in 1947, when Florida State College for Women became coed to accommodate the flood of returning World War II veterans. From those beginnings, college football blossomed in Florida.

Though the famed Rose Bowl in California began in 1902, Miami was one of the early entrants in the “bowl game” business. The University of Miami hosted a New Year’s Day game after each of its first three seasons (1926-28). Those games, plus a short-lived annual “Palm Bowl” (1932-33), were the predecessors to the famed Orange Bowl, which began in 1935 and is the second oldest continuous bowl game in the nation.



Florida State Archives

Florida State University football player #15 George Michael “Mike” Norman fends off a muddy tackle, Tallahassee, 1954.

The Orange Bowl is now one of six played in Florida. The others: Jacksonville’s Gator Bowl (begun in 1946), Orlando’s Capital One Bowl (1947), Tampa’s Outback Bowl (1986), Orlando’s Champs Bowl (1990) and St. Petersburg’s Beef O’ Brady’s Bowl (2008).

Through 2013, Florida teams had won 10 NCAA Division I-A college football national championships: five by the University of Miami (1983, 1987, 1989, 1991, and 2001), three by the University of Florida (1996, 2006 and 2008) and three by Florida State University (1993, 1999, and 2013). Florida A & M has won 11 black college championships and a Division I-AA championship (1978).

The first professional team in Florida was the Miami Seahawks of the short-lived All American Conference in 1946. The team folded after one season because of financial difficulties. The Seahawks have been followed by members of the National Football League: Miami Dolphins (1966), Tampa Bay Buccaneers (1976) and Jacksonville Jaguars (1995).

The Super Bowl, the championship of the National Football League, was played in Florida for the

15th time in February 2010, when Miami hosted the game for the 10th time. There have been four Super Bowls played in Tampa and one in Jacksonville.

The Miami Dolphins won consecutive Super Bowl championships in 1973 and 1974, and they were the losing team in 1972, 1983 and 1985. In 1973, the Dolphins were the only team in the modern history of pro football to achieve an undefeated season. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers won their only appearance in the championship game, beating the Oakland Raiders in Super Bowl XXXVII (2003).

Golf

John Reid, who created a three-hole golf course in a pasture in 1888 in Yonkers, N.Y., is considered by some to be the father of American golf. But John Hamilton Gillespie, a Scotsman, built two golf holes in Sarasota in 1886. Gillespie, who later became mayor of Sarasota, soon added two more holes to the pair and in 1904 he built a separate nine-hole course and clubhouse.

In 1916, premier golf course designer Donald Ross constructed the Ponce de Leon Resort and Country Club course in St. Augustine, which was the oldest continuously operating course in the state until it closed in 2003. With the Florida land boom of the 1920s, golf courses sprung up around the state, mainly in resort towns such as Miami, Bradenton and Sarasota.

Through 2010, Florida continued to lead the nation in the number of golf courses. According to the National Golf Foundation, Florida had 1,055 golf courses, ranking ahead of California (928), New York (832), Michigan (825) and Texas (808). There are 15,890 courses nationwide.

In 1979, the men's professional golf organization, the PGA Tour, moved its headquarters to Ponte Vedra, near Jacksonville. That organization is one of several major golfing organizations headquartered in Florida, including the Ladies Professional Golf Association (Daytona Beach), Professional Golf Association of America (West Palm Beach) and the National Golf Foundation (Jupiter).

The state hosts dozens of tournaments each year, ranging from professional to top-level amateur tournaments.



Photo by William A. Fishbaugh

Women on the Coral Gables Country Club golf course, 1926.

Greyhound Racing

Greyhounds were probably first raced about 2500 B.C. in Egypt with legend holding that Cleopatra owned and raced greyhounds. The first greyhound racing in the United States was in 1848, with the first scheduled meets held in 1878.

In March 1922, the first full-time track in Florida opened in Hialeah, a track that lasted until 1926. In January 1925, the St. Petersburg Kennel Club opened Derby Lane, which today remains the oldest continuously operating greyhound track in America. In 1931, Florida was the first state to legalize wagering on greyhound racing.

As of March 2012, the nation has 23 dog tracks, 17 of which are in Florida. Fans and betting have declined in recent years due to competition from other gambling and leisure activities.

High School Sports

High schools were among the first organizations in Florida to organize regular teams and competition. Most state championships began in the 1920s, and were exclusively for boys' sports. Track and field led the way with a state meet in 1915, followed by state championships in swimming and diving (1920), tennis (1922), baseball (1922), basketball (1922), golf (1927), cross country (1947), football (1963), wrestling (1965) and soccer (1977).

Girls' sports were mostly confined to intramural contests until the 1970s. The first girls state cham-



Florida State Archives

Group portrait of Leon High School's 200-yd freestyle relay team, L-R (front): John Ray, Paxton Briley, and Mark Calhoun; (back): Buster Ennis, Ivan Monroe, and Frank Gamblin, Tallahassee, 1956.

pionships were in swimming and diving (1920), followed by tennis (1938), golf (1947), volleyball (1974) cross country (1974), track and field (1975), softball (1976), basketball (1976) and soccer (1982).

Hockey

Though no child ever grew up playing hockey on a frozen pond in Florida, the ability of modern indoor arenas to provide ice rinks allowed professional hockey to spread to Florida in the 1990s.

In 1992, the National Hockey League added the Tampa Bay Lightning franchise. In 1993, the NHL added Miami's Florida Panthers. Along the way, minor league hockey teams sprang up in Fort Myers, Jacksonville, Orlando and Tallahassee.

In 1996, the Panthers became the first Florida team to advance to the finals of the NHL's Stanley Cup championship, losing to the Colorado Avalanche in four games. In 2004, the Tampa Bay Lightning became the first Florida team to win the Stanley Cup, defeating the Calgary Flames in seven games.

Horse Racing

Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto and his soldiers reportedly raced horses in Cuba before his expedition through Florida in 1539-40, raising the possibility of races in Florida. The first verified horse racing in the state was at tracks in Tallahassee,

Apalachicola and the defunct community of St. Joseph from 1841-1843. Modern-day horse racing in Florida began in Miami, with the opening of Hialeah Park in 1925. Hialeah was followed by Tampa Bay Downs (1926), Tropical Park (1931-1971), Gulfstream Park (1939) and Calder Race Track (1971). Florida currently has three thoroughbred horse race tracks. A fourth facility, historic Hialeah Park, which had closed in 2001, reopened as a quarter horse race track in 2009.

Thoroughbred breeding, centered in the Ocala area, also has a long history in Florida and has produced numerous champion horses. Needles was the first Florida-bred horse to win the Kentucky Derby (1956), followed by Carry Back (1961), Foolish Pleasure (1975), Affirmed (1978)—the only Florida-bred winner of horse racing's Triple Crown (Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont Stakes), Unbridled (1990), and Silver Charm (1997).

Jai alai

Jai alai began in the 1400s among the Basque people of Europe, who gave the sport its name (which translates as "joyous festival"). The Basques took the game everywhere they migrated, though it was not until the late 1800s that the game began to achieve popularity outside of Basque communities. The game came to America from Cuba, where it had been viewed by soldiers in the Spanish-American War. The first major exposure



Florida State Archives

Calder Race Course, Miami, 1975.

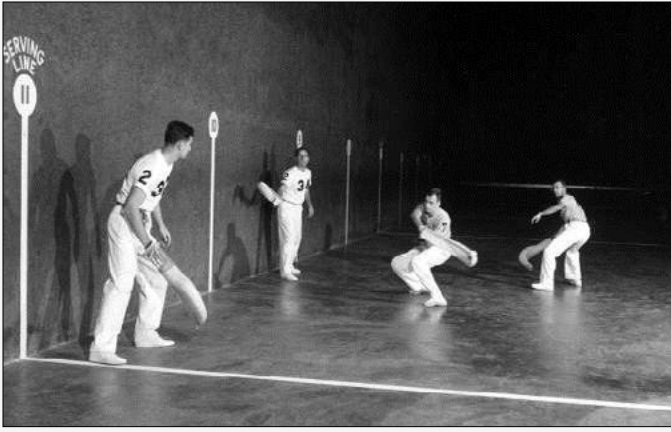


Photo by Charles Barron

Jai alai players, Tampa, 1957.

in the United States was at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904.

The first fronton in Florida was built in 1924, in Miami, on the site of what is now the Hialeah horse race track parking lot. The building was destroyed by a hurricane in 1926 but rebuilt in 1928. During its heyday, the Miami fronton attracted numerous celebrities, including baseball star Babe Ruth, who played the game several times on an amateur level, and actor Desi Arnaz, whose first job in the U.S. was singing for fans between jai alai games.

The state's second permanent jai alai fronton was built in Dania in 1953. With the influx of Cuban refugees to Florida in the early 1960s, the game grew in popularity. Frontons were built all over the state and most of the players were from the Basque region (an area of Spain and France), plus Cuba and Mexico. Today, Florida has the only eight jai alai frontons remaining in the United States, including the first new pari-mutuel facility (Hamilton Jai Alai and Poker, opened in 2005) added in Florida in 35 years.

Poker

Card playing may not seem like a sport to some. But a nationwide boom in the game of poker has fueled an industry of poker tournaments and televised poker

shows on sports television channels. The boom has been spurred largely by a version of seven-card stud poker known as Texas Hold 'Em, which has become popular among everybody from housewives to Hollywood actors. The boom led to a 1996 Florida law that allowed card rooms at Florida pari-mutuel facilities. As of 2010, there were card rooms at 27 of Florida's 30 pari-mutuel facilities. In 2010, the card rooms drew \$104 million in betting—continuing a steady upward climb since the inception of card rooms.

Following the success of card rooms, the Florida Legislature in 2006 approved the installation of slot machines at pari-mutuel facilities by local option.

Shuffleboard

Florida is considered the birthplace of modern shuffleboard. Robert Ball built the first court in 1913 at a hotel he owned in Daytona Beach, expanding on a game that he and his wife had played on an ocean cruise ship.

By 1923, two courts had been built in St. Petersburg. The Shuffleboard Club was formed in 1924 in St. Petersburg. In 1928, the Florida Shuffleboard Association was formed, providing the model on which a national shuffleboard association was created in 1958.

The Mirror Lakes Shuffleboard Club, founded in St. Petersburg in 1923, bills itself as the nation's oldest and largest shuffleboard club. Home now to 65 courts, it once had 110 courts and 5,000 members and produced such Hall of Famers as Carl Spillman and Mae Hall.

Tennis

Tennis, once confined to the eastern seaboard, spread south at the beginning of the 20th century. One of the first places it took root in Florida was in Miami, when Northerners pursuing the land boom of the 1920s began building courts.



Florida State Archives

Carolyn Brown and Harry Cassie play shuffleboard, St. Petersburg, 1952.

Tennis legend Gardnar Mulloy, who was born in Miami in 1913 and won a record 109 American tennis championships, recalls that developer Carl Fisher built an indoor court on Miami Beach in the early 1920s. That was followed by the construction of four clay courts at Miami's Henderson Park.

In 1933, Mulloy organized the state's first college tennis team at the University of Miami. A decade later, Pancho Segura, from Ecuador, won three consecutive NCAA singles championships (1943, 1944, 1945) while playing for the University of Miami - the only college player ever to win three college singles titles.

In the late 1930s, Mulloy and another Miamian, Eddie Herr, organized the state's tennis players into an affiliation with the U.S. Tennis Association. In 1949, the group became the Florida Tennis Association (now the USTA/Florida Section).

In 1948, Herr established the Junior Orange

Bowl International Tennis Championships. Held each December in Miami, the event is the premier junior tennis tournament in the world, and has featured such future greats as Arthur Ashe, John McEnroe, Jimmy Connors, Bjorn Borg, Ivan Lendl, Steffi Graf and Chris Evert.

Evert, Mulloy and Doris Hart, who won the 1951 Wimbledon championship, headline the roster of native Floridian tennis greats, which also includes Jim Courier, Chris Evert, Serena Williams, Venus Williams and Mary Joe Fernandez.

Today, Florida is a hotbed of tennis. Roughly a fifth of the nation's 240,000 tennis courts are in Florida. The state hosts more than 800 USTA sanctioned junior and adult tournaments for amateurs. In 2011, Florida hosted two major professional tennis tournaments, the Delray Beach International Tennis Championships and the Sony Ericsson Open.

Future Miss Universe, Sylvia Hitchcock, playing tennis at Miami-Dade Junior College, 1966. An alumna of Miami Palmetto High School, she later became Miss Alabama, Miss USA, and Miss Universe in 1967.



Florida State Archives



Florida Literature: Where Does It Begin and End?

Helen Muir and Kathleen Laufenberg*

What exactly is a Florida writer? A native son or daughter who publishes, a longtime resident writing in the fields of history or nature, an entrenched scholar? Is it a winter visitor or occasional drop-in who picks up pen to describe the scene? Or is it a non-resident, who writes fiction about the long peninsula, making frequent trips to the library in search of background materials? Could it even be a 13-year-old boy from Cartagena, carrying \$25,000 in gold to see him through his education in Spain and being shipwrecked off the Florida Keys in 1545? The answer is: any or all of the above. Florida writers present a bulky package of work. In the case of the boy from Cartagena, because Chief Carlos of the Calusas saw fit to spare his life, he spent 17 years among the Indians before being rescued by a Spanish expedition. This provided him with material for the first piece of literature about Florida. His name was Domingo Escalante de Fontaneda and his 15th Century work is known as *Fontaneda's Memoir*.

It gave Florida a head start in accumulating its literature. Each succeeding century has provided dramatic additions, none more than the 20th Century.

Whether it was the late E. B. White, writing an essay called *What Do Our Hearts Treasure?* during a Christmas spent in Florida, or the late John D. Mac-

Donald producing a bestselling novel such as *Condominium* from his home on Siesta Key off Sarasota, it was, more often than not, the Florida touch caught in the work that encourages Florida to claim it.

The fact that Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings wrote *South Moon Under* and *The Yearling*, which won her the 1939 Pulitzer Prize, transcends where she was born or lived. Yet we understand that nobody could have written those books without having been close to north central Florida and the scrub country, with its clear call to the writer in the name of love. The fact that her house stands as a museum today is fitting homage to this writer who, arriving in 1928, caught the region at a particular time, held it, then gave it to the world.

In *Cross Creek* (1942), Ms. Rawlings rapped the knuckles of a fellow writer who ended a poem like this: "There is no Spring in Florida." Rising to the defense of her adopted land, she wrote: "A very clever poet, Wallace Stevens . . . did not know Florida. He came as a stranger, a traveler . . . and could not differentiate."

The chastised poet would himself win a Pulitzer prize for his *Collected Poems* in 1954.

Often, there has been interplay between writers, and the same Wallace Stevens had an encounter of a

*Mrs. Muir came to Miami in 1934 from the New York Journal and wrote for both the Miami Herald and the Miami News. She is the author of MIAMI USA, Frost in Florida: a Memoir, and The Biltmore: Beacon For Miami. In 1984 Mrs. Muir received the Trustee Citation of the American Library Association and was elected to the Florida Women's Hall of Fame. The American Library Association placed her on its Honor Roll 2000.

*Kathleen Laufenberg is a writer, journalist and associate editor at the Tallahassee literary journal Apalachee Review.

different sort when he had his nose bloodied in a fist fight with Ernest Hemingway.

The same year that brought Ms. Rawlings to Florida saw Mr. Hemingway's arrival in Key West.

The Hemingway stamp is on Key West forevermore although the only novel he wrote with that setting was *To Have and Have Not*. When he arrived that April day in 1928, he was a quarter of a century away from the Nobel prize. He and his second wife, Pauline, arrived by boat from Havana after an 18-day crossing from France on the mail packet Orita. He was carrying the beginning of a novel that had



Florida State Archives

Ernest Hemingway at his desk.

started out in March as a short story. When it was finished, he would call it *A Farewell To Arms*. The Hemingways came because Pauline wanted the baby she was carrying born in the United States and Ernest was eager to come home again after writing *The Sun Also Rises*. John dos Passos, who had hitchhiked through the region, praised Key

West, calling his ride on the train "dreamlike."

Mr. Hemingway found the island city perfectly suited to his taste: writing in the morning early and fishing-swimming-wandering about the wharves the rest of the day. They stayed six weeks and returned after the birth of their son Patrick to stay for a dozen years. Ernest Hemingway called it one of his favorite places to work and moved only at the breakup of his marriage. He even met his third wife, Martha Gelhorn, there. Mr. Hemingway was seated on a stool in his favorite bar the day she and her mother poked their heads in as tourists.

When Mr. Hemingway left, another literary giant appeared in Key West.

Tennessee Williams, whose official name was Thomas Lanier Williams, burst on the scene as a dramatist with *The Glass Menagerie* (1945), then moved on steadily and surely to create *A Streetcar Named Desire*, which brought him the 1947 Pulitzer prize. The brilliant dialogue of his plays, the eloquence of his poetry, marked him as an extraordinary talent from the first. He created his own geography of

the universe but Key West claimed him as one of its citizens. He died in 1983.

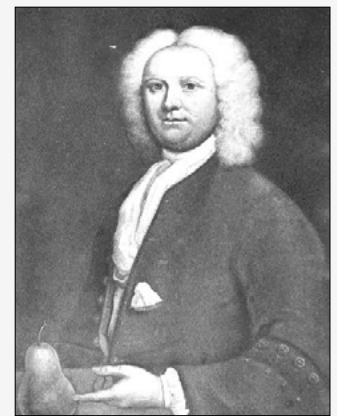
Florida's first bid for international literary attention occurred way back in the 17th Century with a book called *Jonathan Dickinson's Journal or God's Protecting Providence*.

It describes another shipwreck, this one off Hobe Sound, in which a young Quaker merchant, his wife and infant son, as well as a small number of Quakers, slaves and sailors returning to Philadelphia from Jamaica in 1696, were captured by Indians.

The Indians treated this band sadistically, tearing the clothes from their backs and then taunting them with torn pages of the Bible with which to cover their nakedness. Beaten and starved, the party was eventually freed to walk barefoot the 230 miles to St. Augustine. Five members died.

Yale University has brought out two modern editions of this work, which was widely translated in the 17th Century.

Understandably, much of Florida's literature has been built on its natural beauty. When King George III named John Bartram "Botanist For The Floridas," it caused him to make a trip to the St. Johns River to survey his domain. That was in the winter of 1765-66 and he brought along his son, William. Portions of that trip were published, but it remained for William Bartram's *Travels* (1791), to capture the world's attention as the 18th Century waned.



Florida State Archives

Oil painting of John Bartram.

This book reached out across the broad Atlantic to catch the senses of Coleridge and Wordsworth, as well as the French romantic Chateaubriand. Each seized on it to create descriptions and figures of speech highly recognized as stemming from Bartram.

In the 19th Century writers poured into Florida.

John James Audubon came in 1831 to investigate bird life, and his writings speak as eloquently as the gorgeous paintings. He was followed by naturalists of the quality of John Muir, who made his march from Fernandina to Cedar Key as a young man, note-

book swinging from his belt, jotting down observations to be later published in *A Thousand Mile Walk to the Gulf*. He tramped through cypress swamps to see a palm forest and found “tall palms which told me grander things than I ever got from a human priest.”

The naturalists would keep coming, well into the 20th Century: Charles Torrey Simpson, David Fairchild, John C. Gifford, and Thomas Barbour among others. They would write the books to leave behind when they were gone and “no more seen.”

So would the fiction writers.

Henry James, novelist and critic, never married, and travel and literature were his two vital interests. He waited for the railroad to transport him but he, too, looked on the palm tree and reported: “I found myself loving quite fraternally the palms which had struck me at first for all their human-headed gravity as merely dry and taciturn but which became finally as sympathetic as so many rows of puzzled philosophers.”

Stephen Crane was shipwrecked on the *Commodore* on January 1, 1897 off New Smyrna but made it to Daytona Beach in a dinghy which broke up coming ashore. The author of *The Red Badge of Courage* wrote a short story for *Scribner's Magazine*, *The Open Boat*, turning the experience into a lasting piece of literature.

William Cullen Bryant wrote *A Tour of the Old South*. Georgia poet Sidney Lanier created *Song of the Chattahoochee*. Even Ralph Waldo Emerson enthused about Florida.

Magazine fiction flourished. As early as August, 1821, *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine* published *The Florida Pirate* by M. M. Ely in Scotland. Next in time of publication came four stories by the great American writer Washington Irving which included *The Early Experiences of Ralph Ringwood* and *The Conspiracy of Neamathla*, in *Knickerbocker Magazine*.

James Fenimore Cooper's *Jack Tier, or, The Florida Reef* appeared first in *Graham's Magazine*. All the stories mentioned were later published in book form as were the stories Constance Fenimore Woolson sold steadily to *Lippincott's*, *Appleton's Journal* and *The Atlantic Monthly*.

Travelling writers left a trail of record. Some settled in.

Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* behind her, wrote *Palmetto Leaves* and helped stir the tourist boom along the St. Johns. And, when tourists came to gape at her Mandarin farm, they found a visit would cost them twenty-five cents.

Kirk Munroe, an editor of *Harper's Magazine*,

became so enamored of the region he wrote boy's adventure stories continuously during this period, then settled in South Florida permanently.

His wife, Mary Barr, was the daughter of Amelia Barr, who wrote *Remember the Alamo*. The Kirk Munroes put a literary stamp on early Coconut Grove, and started the first library.

This is where Marjory Stoneman Douglas lived, where she wrote *The Everglades: River of Grass*, now in its 12th printing, the classic which begins: “There is no other Everglades in the world.” Hodding Carter compared it to William Bar-

tram's *Travels*.

There is scarcely a Florida road that this intrepid writer missed in the intervening years while piling up a literary reputation and establishing herself as a formidable opponent in an environmental fight. She won an O. Henry Award for one of her *Saturday Evening Post* short stories, *He-Man*, another prize for a play, *Gallows Gate*. A juvenile, *Freedom River* and a boom-time novel, *Road To The Sun* are among her published works. On her 96th birthday on April 7, 1986, Ms. Douglas attended a dinner in Washington, D.C. where the National Parks and Conservation As-



Florida State Archives

Marjory Stoneman Douglas

sociation named an award for her. The week before, she was in Seattle receiving the National Wildlife Award. Shortly before that she was elected to the Florida Women's Hall of Fame.

Another measure of the way she is viewed in Florida was indicated when the state named its Department of Natural Resources Building for her. A series of celebrations marked her 100th birthday, but on her 102nd birthday in 1992 the State outdid itself by purchasing her home for \$140,000 to establish an environmental study center following her death and giving her a life estate. And when she was 103 she travelled to the White House to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Clinton.

In the Fall of 1994, when she was 104, Valiant Press brought back *Freedom River*, a 1953 youth book by Ms. Douglas, to loud applause. When she died at the age of 108 on May 14, 1998, Marjory Stoneman Douglas had achieved the status of a world icon, and when her ashes were scattered over that section of the Everglades that bears her name hundreds of individuals drove to the memorial service. It was her own request that the memorial service be without any religious references.

Death would not still her voice, as it turned out. A month after her death, the University Press of Florida announced that it was pushing for a 1998 publication of *A River in Flood and Other Florida Stories*, a companion volume to the 1990 *Nine Florida Stories*, edited by Kevin M. McCarthy and containing Ms. Douglas' *Saturday Evening Post* fiction pieces dealing with Florida.

Ms. Douglas would no doubt look with favor upon the work of journalist Michael Grunwald, an award-winning reporter for *The Washington Post*. In 2006, Mr. Grunwald transformed what must have been a mountain of exhaustive research into a stunning narrative of environmental history. His book, *The Swamp: The Everglades, Florida and the Politics of Paradise*, won the gold medal for nonfiction in the 2006 Florida Book Awards and was deemed an editor's choice by the *New York Times Sunday Book Review*.

Why Mr. Grunwald undertook a detailed examination of the Everglades is unclear, but it was Hervey Allen who persuaded Ms. Douglas to write her *Everglades*. Mr. Allen was also the author of *Carolina Chansons*, a volume of verse written with

DuBose Heyward and also wrote an acclaimed biography of Poe, *Israfel*, before the bestseller, *Anthony Adverse*.

Mr. Allen proved a catalyst among South Florida writers and served as friend and encourager to Charles H. Baker, Jr. who dedicated his naturalistic novel, *Blood Of The Lamb*, which is laid in Central Florida, to Hervey. He talked his friend Robert Frost into purchasing five acres of land close by his own home, *The Glades*. Mr. Frost, a four time Pulitzer prizewinner for his poetry, followed his friend's idea of placing pre-fabricated houses on his place, calling it *Pencil Pines* and settled in for a couple of decades until his death. He arrived punctually each late January after lecturing at the University of Florida at Gainesville and became a familiar figure in Coconut Grove and South Miami, tending his fruit trees, shopping around, once arriving at his favorite fishmonger's by taxi, dressed in a bathrobe, after having been put to bed by his physician.

Hervey Allen even had a hand in *Generation of Vipers*, the Philip Wylie book which the American Library Association in 1950 declared one of the major non-fiction works of the first half century. Mr. Allen, who had emerged from World War I as a poet, saw in the 1940s a Mother 's Day Army formation of soldiers spelling out the word "Mom." He sputtered in the presence of Mr. Wylie, a highly successful fiction writer, with a devoted following for his Crunch and Des deep-sea fishing stories in the *Saturday Evening Post*. He had just begun to write *Vipers*. Next day Mr. Wylie included the chapter on "Mom."

Mr. Wylie was deeply involved in the environment and used the word ecology when many were just beginning to look it up in the dictionary.

It was 1925 when Philip Wylie landed a job on *The New Yorker*. That was the year Zora Neale Hurston landed at Barnard College as a Franz Boas anthropology student. By the 1930s both were on their way to building literary reputations.

Hurston was raised in Eatonville, a rural community near Orlando and the nation's first incorporated black township. It was during the Harlem Renaissance period of the 1930s when Hurston wrote three novels, plays, essays, stories and two social anthropology works. Her writing was electric with vitality and joy.

Lewis Gannett, writing in the *New York Herald Tribune Weekly Book Review* of October 11, 1935 had this to say concerning *Mules and Men*. “I can’t remember anything better since *Uncle Remus*.” Thanks to African American studies, there has been a resurrection of printed material and reprinted books of this talented writer who put the all-black Eatonville on the map.

Ms. Hurston wrote *Jonah’s Gourd Vine*, *Mules and Men* and the lyrical *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, today considered a seminal work in both African-American and women’s literature. Set around Lake Okeechobee migrant camps, it’s the story of Janie Crawford’s evolving sense of self through three marriages.

Yet blacks had certainly made their mark in literature long before Ms. Hurston arrived on Florida’s literary scene.

There was poet and novelist Paul Laurence Dunbar, whose parents had been slaves and who contributed highly popular work before his death in 1906.

Then there was James Weldon Johnson of Jacksonville, a remarkable man who taught school, became the first black man admitted to The Florida Bar and was very much on the New York scene as collaborator with his brother, J. Rosamond Johnson, of popular songs and light opera. He wrote *Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man*, a piece of fiction published anonymously, served as U.S. Consul in Venezuela and became the first executive secretary of the NAACP.

Ms. Hurston took a position counter to the NAACP and her onetime collaborator Langston Hughes. She insisted on “not being tragically colored” and, impishly, took to calling fellow writers “Negrotarians” and “nigerati.”

To the end, Ms. Hurston bridled at the idea of race as an issue. In 1950, she turned up as a maid in a Miami Beach home. When one of her stories was published in the *Saturday Evening Post*, she was fired. It made her employers uncomfortable to learn of her literary standing.

When she died in 1960, she was out of fashion and penniless, and was buried in an unmarked grave. Then, in 1973, writer Alice Walker came to Fort Pierce to find her grave. Walker, who won a Pulitzer for her novel, *The Color Purple*, paved the way for a



Photo by Carl Van Vechten

Portrait of writer, anthropologist and folklorist Zora Neale Hurston, who was the most widely published African American woman writer of her era.

new generation to discover Hurston when she compiled and edited *I Love Myself When I Am Laughing . . . and Then Again When I Am Looking Mean and Impressive: A Zora Neale Hurston Reader*.

Another Floridian, Robert Olen Butler won his Pulitzer for a collection of powerful stories featuring Vietnamese narrators. In reviewing *A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain*, George Packer, in *The New York Times Book Review*, called it “remarkable . . . for how beautifully it achieves its daring project of making the Vietnamese real.” Butler currently lives in Monticello and teaches creative writing at Florida State University.

A fellow FSU professor, James Kimbrell, won the gold medal in poetry from the very first Florida Book Awards the first year the honors were established, 2006, for his work, *My Psychic*.

No mention of contemporary North Florida poets would be complete, however, without mention of David Kirby, Barbara Hamby, Rick Campbell, Reginald Shepherd, Sidney Wade and William Slaughter.

Mr. Kirby, famous for his fabulously dry wit, Ms. Hamby (who is married to Mr. Kirby) and Mr. Shepherd have all had their work in Best American Poetry. They are also Pushcart prize winners, as is Mr. Campbell.

Ms. Hamby’s wonderful *The Alphabet of Desire* was also selected as one of the best 25 books of 1999 by the New York Public Library. Mr. Campbell, an English professor at Florida A&M University, is the director of Anhinga Press in Tallahassee and the author of the award-winning poetry collection, *Setting*

The World In Order.

Mr. Shepherd, of Pensacola, was the editor of *The Iowa Anthology of New American Poetries*, and a graduate of the University of Iowa. Ms. Wade, of Gainesville, teaches at the University of Florida and is the author of four poetry collections.

In this skeleton of the literary movement in Florida, certain books and writers cry out for mention: Stephen Vincent Benet's *Spanish Bayonet*, Theodore Pratt's *The Barefoot Mailman* and Cecile Hulse Matschat's *Suwannee River*; later works such as Patrick D. Smith's *Forever Island*, the Zachary Ball Joe Panther series, Robert Wilder's writings, so many more. Historians like Rembert Patrick, Kathryn Abbey Hanna and Alfred Jackson Hanna, Charlton Tebeau and writer James Branch Cabell, who combined with Dr. Alfred Hanna to write *The St. Johns*, leap to mind. So does Nixon Smiley who wandered the state gathering stories and photographic studies for his books. Nor can we forget Dr. Frank G. Slaughter of Jacksonville whose French publisher called him "The American Balzac." The death of Gloria Jahoda removed a vibrant voice from the Florida scene.

A solid contribution to the growing roster of history books is *Key Biscayne, A History of Miami's Tropical Island and the Cape Florida Lighthouse* (Pineapple Press). Joan Gill Blank devoted herself to ten years of research all over the world for this 1996 volume.

Nicholas N. Patricios has written *Building Marvelous Miami* (University Press of Florida), outlining the architectural traditions of the City of Miami. It contains photographs of historical and modern buildings as well as a section on damage done by Hurricane Andrew in 1992.

Understandably, the 1996 Miami Centennial ushered in a flock of history publications with the Arva Moore Parks publishing house in the middle of it all. A native Miamian, Ms. Parks left teaching to become a writer and publisher. Her first book, *The Forgotten Frontier: Florida Through the Lens of Ralph Middleton Munroe*, brought back the era of the Biscayne Bay wilderness world in the magnificent photographs of Commodore Munroe. *Miami: The Magic City* is a standard, and for the Centennial, she and Gregory W. Bush of the University of Miami, assisted by Laura Pincus, prepared *Miami: The American Crossroad*. Published by Prentice Hall,

which offered thousands of free copies for school-children, this book will be around for some time. Another native Miamian, Paul S. George, has become a popular historian by reason of his walking tours, to say nothing of boat and train tours in both Dade and Broward Counties. He is also deep in writings, such as *A Journey Through Time, A Pictorial History of South Dade*.

In 1981, Howard Kleinberg, the editor of the now defunct Miami News began to delve back in the files of the newspaper, originally called *The Metropolis*, to reprint a series of stories as a regular feature.

When compiled in book form, they launched him on a new career as an historian. His book *Miami Beach: A History* was published in 1994.

Native daughter Diane Roberts has also chronicled Florida's history, but with a wickedly comic twist. With familial affection, her 2004 book, *Dream State*, is part family memoir, part political commentary and lays out the history of eight generations of Floridians, from swamp lawyers to swashbucklers. Ms. Roberts, a creative-writing professor at Florida State University, is a frequent commentator on National Public Radio.

It is nice to know that attention is paid and in Florida attention has been paid to a large number of fine writers beginning with Michael Shaara of Tallahassee, an inspired teacher whose haunting recreation of the Battle of Gettysburg, *The Killer Angels*, won him the Pulitzer Prize and after his death was turned into a smashing motion picture *Gettysburg*. In one of those happy family occurrences Michael Shaara's son, Jeff Shaara, has carried on his father's work with two more volumes, *Gods and Generals* and *The Last Full Measure*, turning this work into a magnificent father-son trilogy.

Dr. Edwin Granberry was tapped for the O. Henry Collection with *A Trip to Czardis*.

In the field of children's literature winners abound. Jean Lee Latham of Coral Gables won the Newbery Medal for *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* (1955). The same medal went to Elaine Konigsburg of Jacksonville for *From The Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* (1968). Other Newbery winners are Irene Hunt of St. Petersburg (1966) for *Up A Road Slowly* and Lois Lenski for *Strawberry Girl* (1945). Evaline Ness of Palm Beach, a picture book illustrator, has won several honors, including the Caldecott

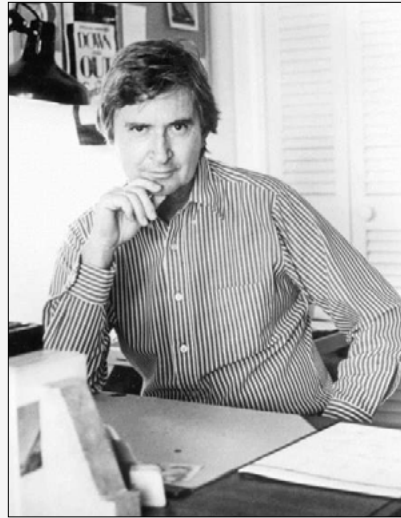
Medal for *Sam, Bangs and Moonshine* (1967).

When the 2010 Florida Book Awards were announced, the gold medal in children's literature went to Tallahassee writer Jan Godown Annino for her *She Sang Promise: The Story of Betty Mae Jumper, Seminole Tribal Leader*, published by the National Geographic Society. In 2006, two other talented children's writers from Tallahassee took home the gold: Julianna Baggott, a professor of creative writing at Florida State University, for *The Somebodies*, (written as N.E. Bode) and Adrian Fogelin, trained as an artist and sculptor, for her superb, *The Real Question*, which won the young-adult category. In 2009, the Florida Book award for popular fiction went to Tallahassee mystery writer Glynn Marsh Alam, for her *Moon Water Madness*, one of a series of mysteries set in North Florida.

Florida's claim to talent is long and wide, from Donn Pearce of *Cool Hand Luke* fame to Harry Crews, whose literary reputation advanced with each book, beginning in 1968 with *The Gospel Singer* and continuing for the next 14.

In Key West, where Thornton Wilder wrote *The Matchmaker* and the likes of Archibald MacLeish, S. J. Perelman and Hart Crane held forth, writers like James Leo Herlihy, who wrote *Midnight Cowboy*, Thomas McGuane, whose *92 In The Shade* caused a *New York Times* reviewer to speak of his "brave play of language at the brink of inexpressible horror," and Philip Caputo, whose *A Rumor of War* was awarded the Pulitzer, took their place. Novelist Evan Rhodes chose Key West in which to write *An Army of Children*. More Pulitzer Prize winners answering the call of the island city included Joseph P. Lash, Richard Wilbur and John Hersey. It has become the site of the annual Key West Literary Seminar and Festival with the well-known writers and critics appearing in mid-winter to call attention to Hemingway, Tennessee Williams and other successful writers claiming ties to Key West including Ann Beattie (*Another You*), Laurence Shames (*Florida Straits*), Thomas Sanchez (*Mile Zero*) and Patricia Cornwell (*Body of Evidence*). In the spring of 1994 the first annual Robert Frost Poetry Celebration was launched.

Douglas Fairbairn, Coconut Grove novelist, arrived there as a boy, attended public schools, studied painting then went to Harvard. His books,



Douglas Fairbairn

Florida State Archive

Shoot and Street 8, sold to the movies. Two delightful volumes deal with taking a pet squirrel into his home. They are *A Squirrel of One's Own* and *A Squirrel Forever*. His last book, *Down and Out in Cambridge*, received critical acclaim and contains rich episodes of Florida during the depression.

The 1980s provided an outpouring of books on Florida with Miami the hot spot. Into the seething scene writers like John Rothchild (*Up For Grabs*) and David A. Kaufelt (*American Tropic*) were followed by a series of books dissecting events in the Magic City. They included Joan Didion's *Miami*, David Rieff's *Going to Miami* and T.D. Allman's *Miami: City of the Future*. The latter did so well it was decided to issue it in Spanish.

Easy in the Islands, by Tallahassee resident Bob Shacochis, won the 1985 National Book Award.

The *Miami Herald's* Edna Buchanan won a Pulitzer for her work as a crime reporter and became the subject for a profile by Calvin Trillin in the *New Yorker* magazine. Following that she wrote a book about crime in Miami, calling it *The Corpse Had a Familiar Face*. Other books followed.

Another *Herald* writer, Carl Hiaasen, a native-born Floridian schooled in investigative reporting, achieved fame and fortune in his early thirties. His biting wit and fine sense of irony is exhibited in the fast-moving *Tourist Season* and *Double Whammy*, both of which were received warmly by critics, as have later works such as *Stormy Weather* with its Hurricane Andrew background and *Strip Tease* opening the door to films. In his review for Book-

list, reviewer Bill Ott described Mr. Hiaasen's novel *Nature Girl*, (2006) as a "screwball thriller . . . a mix of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *As You Like It*."

Fortunately, Mr. Hiaasen continues to write insightful and sharp columns in defense of the environment and against political chicanery. Some his finest were compiled by editor Diane Stevenson in the 1999 release from the University Press of Florida, *Kick Ass*.

Books continue to flow from *Herald* writers and a recent one by Andres Oppenheimer, a Pulitzer Prize winning senior correspondent, is called *Bordering on Chaos: Guerillas, Stockbrokers, Politicians and Mexico's Road to Prosperity*.

The emergence of Stuart B. McIver on the scene struck a happy note for the readers of history, as he deals with his material in books (the latest *Dreamers, Schemers and Scalawags, Volume 1*, and *Murder in the Tropics, Volume 2*, Pineapple Press). In articles and books, he acquires honors as he proceeds. He is also editor of the South Florida History Magazine when he is not writing books, one of which is *Hemingway's Key West*.

Elizabeth Ogren Rothra gravitates between Florida and southwestern New York state, but it is Florida that caused her to write *On Preserving Tropical Florida, The John C. Gifford Biography and Anthology*. In 1995 the University Press of Florida published *Florida's Pioneer Naturalist, The Life of Charles Torrey Simpson*.

As history continues to be remade in rapid fire fashion in Florida it is a comfort to know that the past is also being recorded all over the state. The 1990s ushered in a much acclaimed first novel, *The Perez Family*, by Christine Bell about Cubans in Miami. In 1994 Evelyn Wilde Mayerson, a University of Miami professor, who had helped usher in the '90s with *Well and Truly*, received the nod from the Literary Guild for *Miami: A Saga*, her sixth novel. She has also written three works of nonfiction and two children's books. She is a Miami native.

Literature, like life, goes on. As Florida grows, so grows its literature. Writers, like everyone else,

are continually drawn to Florida by climate.

Today, the Miami Book Fair International attracts distinguished authors, droves of avid readers and book purchasers from all over the world, to the tune of half a million visitors. It has become the leading such event in the nation. Begun in 1984 as a dream of the Friends of the Miami Dade Public Library and library staffers, the fair has burgeoned into what book critic Margaria Fichtner has called "South Florida's cultural centerpiece."

It spreads out on the streets of Miami Dade College's Wolfson campus in downtown Miami and prospers under the leadership of Dr. Eduardo J. Padron of the college and bookseller Mitchell Kaplan. It is one of Miami's success stories.

The 2006 Book Fair showcased African American and Caribbean writers such as Edward P. Jones, who won the Pulitzer Prize for his novel *The Known World* and then U.S. Senator Barack Obama of Illinois, author of *Dreams from My Father* and *The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream*. Others accepting invitations to the Fair were: Elizabeth Nunez, celebrated author of *Prospero's Daughter*, bestselling author Pearl Cleage, cultural critic Paul Robeson Jr., son of the legendary actor Paul Robeson, speaking about freedom.

The Book Fair celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2008. Pulitzer Prize winner Art Spiegelman, that year's Fair poster artist, was one of over 400 international authors who participated. More than 250 publishers & booksellers exhibited and sold books in many languages.

One remembers the lad from Cartagena, being sent to Spain to be educated and carrying \$25,000 in pure gold but ending up in South Florida with Indians and then providing Florida with its first piece of literature.

Today there are writers in Florida, refugees from Castro's Cuba and elsewhere. They come without gold mostly but with glittering literary reputations. We call the names of only a few: the late Enrique Labrador Ruiz, the late Lydia Cabrera, Carlos Montenegro and poet Richard Blanco.

It makes a nice dramatic twist, doesn't it?



Women in Government

The women's suffrage amendment (19th) was declared by the U.S. Secretary of State on August 26, 1920, to have been ratified by 38 states and therefore a part of the Constitution. The amendment had been approved by the states in a remarkably short time, having been proposed to the legislatures by Congress on June 5, 1915.

In Florida, the Democratic primaries having already been conducted in June, and these then being the equivalent of election, it does not seem likely that any woman's name appeared on the November general election ballots.

(Ratification in Florida came in 1969 as a symbolic gesture in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the League of Women Voters in Florida.)

Search of newspapers on microfilm indicates two women were candidates for the Florida House of Representatives in the Democratic primary of 1922. (Electors then voted their first and second choices for an office, thus combining two elections in one.) The two candidates were Mrs. Katherine B. Tippetts of St. Petersburg, who was prominent in the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, and Miss Myrtice McCaskill of Perry, who had been elected reading clerk of the House for three sessions and of the Senate for one session. Neither was elected although Mrs. Tippetts finished second in a four-candidate contest. Miss McCaskill was defeated in a two-candidate race.

The 1922 newspapers also reported a sprinkling of female candidates for county school boards and one for supervisor of registration. If any were successful, their nominations went unreported.

In 1928, the first woman was elected to state-

wide office and the first woman was elected from a Congressional district. Mrs. Mamie Eaton Greene of Monticello was elected to the Railroad Commission. Mrs. Greene had been appointed to the Railroad Commission by Governor John W. Martin on March 23, 1927, upon the death of her first husband, R. L. (Bob) Eaton. Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen of Miami won the first of two terms as a member of Congress from the Fourth Congressional District, which at the time stretched along the East Coast from Jacksonville to Key West and inland to Orlando.

Mrs. Owen represented the Fourth District for the four years beginning March 4, 1929, but was defeated in 1932 when she sought election to a third term. Her attitude against legalizing the sale of beer is said to have contributed to her loss.

Mrs. Owen, afterwards Mrs. Borge Rohde, was the daughter of William Jennings Bryan, "the great Commoner." Before moving to Miami, Bryan had been three times the Democratic nominee for President and had served for a time as Secretary of State during the administration of President Woodrow Wilson. Af-



Ruth Bryan Owen

After her Congressional service, Mrs. Owen was the American Minister to Denmark, 1933-1936 and an alternate United States representative to the Fourth General Assembly of the United Nations in 1949. She was living in New York when she died on July 27, 1954.

The next woman after Mrs. Greene to be elected to statewide public office was Paula Hawkins, wife of a Maitland (Orange County) electronics engineer and businessman. She served the successor agency to the Railroad Commission, the Public Service Commission. She was no novice in politics, serving at the time of her election as a member of the Republican National Committee. She had campaigned unsuccessfully in 1970 for the Republican nomination for a seat in the Florida House of Representatives.

Mrs. Hawkins was elected to the Public Service Commission in 1972 after an incumbent had been turned out in the Democratic primary. In turn, Mrs. Hawkins defeated the Democratic nominee. Mrs.



Paula Hawkins

Hawkins was reelected in 1976. Under the resign-to-run law, she resigned from the Commission to serve as the running mate of Jack Eckerd, the Republican nominee for Governor. Eckerd had defeated Mrs. Hawkins in 1974 when each was a candidate for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate. In 1980, Mrs. Hawkins was elected to the United States

Senate. She was defeated for reelection in 1986.

Cuban born Ileana Ros-Lehtinen succeeded to the Miami district seat in Congress vacated by the death of Claude Pepper, on May 30, 1989, the first Hispanic woman to serve in Congress. Ros-Lehtinen, then a State Senator, received 49,298 votes as the Republican nominee to 43,274 for Gerald F. Richman as the Democratic nominee.

With her parents, she emigrated from Havana to Miami in 1960. She was elected to the State House of Representatives in 1982 and to the State Senate in 1986. While in the House, she met and married Dexter W. Lehtinen, a fellow Representative. He, too, was elected to the State Senate.

In December 1994, she became the first Cuban-American and first Hispanic woman to head a congressional subcommittee when she was named chairwoman of the subcommittee on Africa.

Orange County gave Florida its first female members of both the Florida Senate and House of Representatives. Mrs. Edna Giles Fuller of Orlando served in the five regular and special sessions of the 1929 and 1931 House of Representatives. Mrs. Beth (George W.) Johnson of Orlando was elected to the Senate in 1962, serving first in an extraordinary session of that year. Mrs. Johnson previously had been elected three times to the House.



Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

The first black woman ever to serve in the Florida Legislature, Mrs. Gwen Sawyer Cherry, was elected to the House from Dade County in 1970. She was born in Miami in 1923. A lawyer, teacher, and author, she received her law degree, *cum laude*, from Florida A&M University in 1965.

The first woman to serve as member of the Cabinet was Mrs. Dorothy W. Glisson, who was appointed Secretary of State by Governor Reubin O'D. Askew on July 8, 1974. Mrs. Glisson, a careerist in the Department of State, completed the term (serving until January 7, 1975) of Secretary of State Richard (Dick) Stone, who had resigned to run for the U.S. Senate. She was not a candidate for election.

Elizabeth B. "Betty" Castor was the first woman elected to the Cabinet. She served as Commissioner of Education from January 1987 until January 1994. Earlier, she had served as the first woman President Pro Tempore in the Florida Senate. She resigned her



Photo by Donn Dughi

Representative Gwen Cherry votes no on a bill in the Florida House.



Florida State Archives

New Secretary of State Mrs. Dorothy Glisson receiving the Great Seal from Governor Askew, Tallahassee, 1974.

of the group of gubernatorial appointees known as the “little cabinet.” Mrs. Thompson was an aunt of Senator Bob Graham.

Mrs. M. Athalie Range of Miami was the first black woman to serve as a member of the little cabinet, being appointed Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs by Governor Reubin O’D. Askew on January 14, 1971.

Women have served through the years in state and national agencies. A typical case is that of Dr. Charlotte Edwards Maguire. Between 1952 and 1970, Dr. Maguire helped create the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, now operating as the Department of Health and the Department of Children and Families. She founded the Irish and American Pediatric Society in 1965 and in 1970 was honored with the Distinguished Achievement



M. Athalie Range

Commendation by London’s Two Thousand Women of Distinction. She was one of the highest ranking women in the federal government under the Nixon Administration, acting as the assistant secretary of health and scientific affairs for the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Atlanta. She returned to Florida in

Cabinet position to become the first woman president of a major Florida university, the University of South Florida.

Mrs. Ina S. Thompson of DeFuniak Springs was the Motor Vehicle Commissioner during the six years of the administration of Governor LeRoy Collins. She was the first woman to be a member

Women’s Suffrage

The 1915 Florida Legislature came within two votes of allowing women to serve by election or appointment to certain public offices. The bill originated in the Senate where it was introduced by Senator John P. Jones of Pensacola, and passed by a vote of 15 yeas to 8 nays. In the House the bill was moved by Representative Robert H. Anderson of Pensacola but failed by a vote of 30 yeas and 32 nays.

The narrowness of the failure in 1915 of this bill, however limited its scope, evidently encouraged advocates of women’s suffrage to try for the right to vote at the next legislative session in 1917.

Mrs. Marjory Stoneman Douglas of Miami, later to earn recognition as an author (*The Everglades: River of Grass* and *Florida: The Long Frontier* being among her books) and conservationist, joined with Mrs. Frank Stranahan of Fort Lauderdale and former First Ladies, Mrs. William S. Jennings and Mrs. Napoleon B. Broward of Jacksonville to address a House committee.



First Lady May Mann Jennings

They spoke on behalf of House Bill 274, introduced by Representative W. H. Marshall of Fort Lauderdale. HB 274 would grant “equal suffrage in primary elections to women of Florida . . .”

Mrs. Jennings had been promised the Women’s Suffrage bill would be passed by the Senate, explained Mrs. Douglas, “so that we should not have to speak before the Senate committee. We understood the Senate’s gallant gesture, since they were sure it would not pass the House.” And the Senate was right, the House committee on Constitutional Amendments recommended that it “do not pass.” The vote was seven to one. The lone vote for the bill was cast by Representative William D. DeGrove of St. Johns County.

The 19th Amendment was voted in 1919 by Congress and ratified by the last necessary state, Tennessee, on August 18, 1920. Florida was not among the 38 ratifying states.

Equal Rights Amendment

Florida's Legislature was one of the first and one of the last states to consider the Equal Rights Amendment, but it never ratified the amendment.

ERA passed Congress on March 22, 1972. The ratifying resolution was adopted by the Florida House on March 24, 1972, by a vote of 84 yeas to three nays. It was not considered in the Senate because of a provision of the Florida Constitution, afterwards voided by a Federal court, which prohibited the consideration of amendments to the United States Constitution without an intervening general election.

The history of the ERA at subsequent sessions: 1973, failed to pass House, 54 yeas, 64 nays, killed in Senate committee. 1974, failed to pass Senate, 19

yeas, 21 nays, died in House committee. 1975, passed House 61 yeas, 58 nays, failed in Senate, 17 yeas, 21 nays. 1976, died in Senate and House committees. 1977, failed to pass Senate, 19 yeas, 21 nays, died on House calendar. 1978, died in House committee, died in Senate committee. 1979, died on House calendar, died in Senate committee. 1980, died in House committee, not introduced in Senate. 1981, died in House committee, not introduced in Senate. 1982, died in Senate and House committees. 1982, passed House, 60 yeas, 58 nays, killed in Senate, 16 yeas, 22 nays.

In a number of the years when the concurrent resolution died on the House calendar or in committee, it was by agreement that the resolution would not be called up for House floor consideration unless the Senate had passed the resolution.

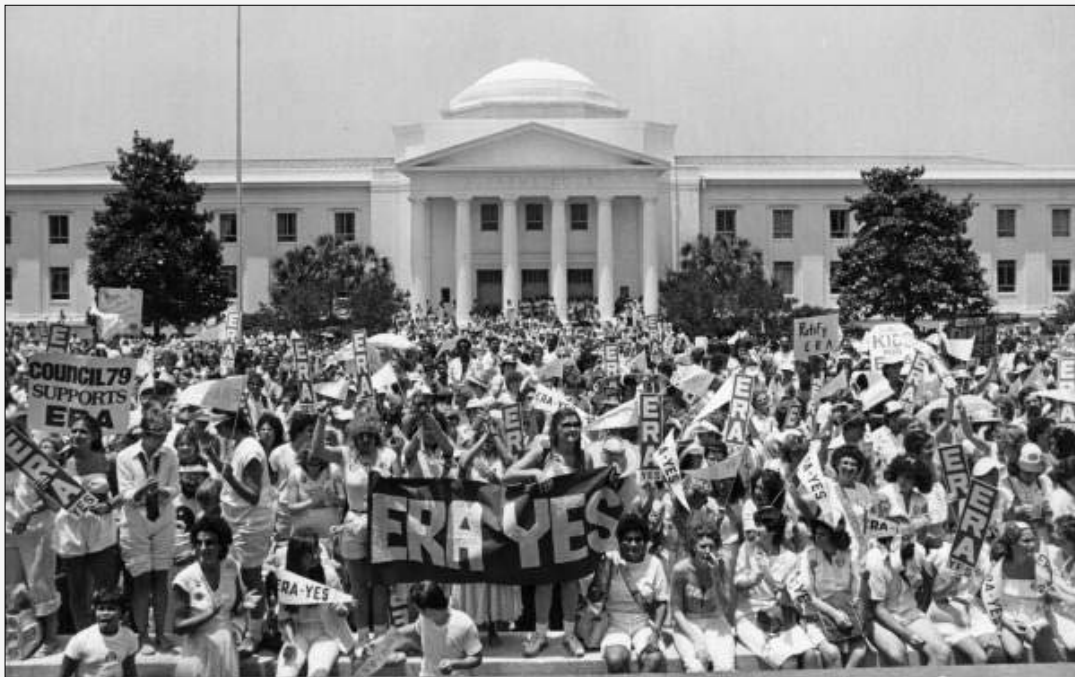


Photo by Phil Coale

An estimated 8,000 ERA supporters gathered for the Capitol March for ERA rally, January 6, 1982. The crowds overflowed the Capitol grounds as delegates spoke in favor of the amendment.



Women's Hall of Fame

The Florida Women's Hall of Fame was initiated in 1982 under the aegis of the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women, a body that was appointed by Governor Bob Graham.

In 1992, Governor Lawton Chiles proposed, and the Legislature passed a bill (CSSB 1148), that created a permanent Florida Women's Hall of Fame. Chapter 92-48 of the Laws of Florida now states: "It is the intent of the Legislature to recognize and honor those women who, through their works and lives, have made significant contributions to the improvement of life for women and for all citizens of Florida."

In addition to creating clear criteria for additions to the Hall, this legislation mandated the inclusion of women who had been honored in the previous decade. The project became a responsibility of the Florida Commission on the Status of Women, which consists of appointees of the Governor, Cabinet members, the Speaker of the House, and the President of the Senate.

In 1994, the Commission unveiled plaques bearing engraved likenesses and short biographies of inductees on the plaza level of the Capitol.

Since 1992, up to three women have been inducted into the Hall each year. Nominations may be made between April 1 and July 15. For more information call (850) 414-3300, write Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, PL-01, Tallahassee, FL, 32399-1050 or visit www.fcsw.net/.

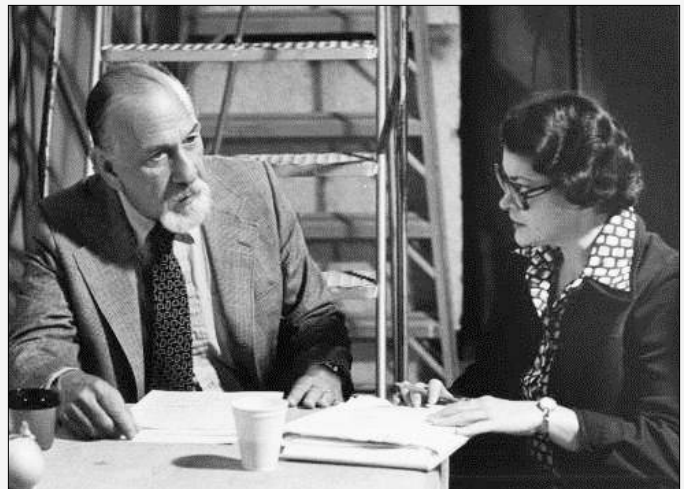
Inductees are:

1982

- Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, civil rights leader
- Helene S. Coleman, volunteer
- Elaine Gordon, former legislator, women's advocate
- Wilhelmina Celeste Goehring Harvey, educator, civic leader
- Paula Mae Milton, poet, dramatist, filmmaker
- Barbara Jo Palmer, pioneer in the development of women's athletic programs

1984

- Roxcy O'Neal Bolton, women's advocate
- Barbara Landstreet Frye, journalist



Florida State Archives

Actor Jose Ferrer talking with Dr. Paula Mae Milton at the Miami-Dade Community College North Campus, 1977.



Barbara Landstreet Frye

- Lena B. Smithers Hughes, horticulturist, developed Valencia orange
- Zora Neale Hurston, anthropologist, writer
- Sybil Collins Mobley, dean of FAMU’s School of Business and Industry
- Helen Muir, historian, writer
- Gladys Pumariega Soler, medical doctor devoted practice to poor children
- Julia DeForest Sturtevant Tuttle, a Miami founder, known as “Mother of Miami”

1986

- Annie Ackerman, political leader, environmentalist
- Rosemary Barkett, first woman Chief Justice of Florida Supreme Court
- Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry, first black woman attorney in Dade County, Florida legislator
- Dorothy Dodd, state’s first archivist
- Marjory Stoneman Douglas, environmentalist, author
- Elsie Jones Hare, educator
- Elizabeth McCullough Johnson, first woman in Florida Senate
- Francis Bartlett Kinne, first woman president of a Florida university (Jacksonville University)
- Arva Moore Parks, writer, filmmaker.
- Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, author
- Florence Barbara Seibert, biochemist, developed tuberculosis skin test.
- Marilyn K. Smith, volunteer
- Eartha Mary Magdalene White, educator, founder of a mission, clinic, and other facilities for Jacksonville’s poor



Florence Barbara Seibert

1992

- Jacqueline Cochran, aviator, commanded Women’s Army Air Corps in World War II
- Carrie P. Meek, first black woman in Congress from Florida
- Ruth Bryan Owen, first woman elected to Congress from the South

1993

- Betty Skelton Frankman, race-car driver, aviator
- Paulina Pedroso, fought for Cuban independence from Spain
- Janet Reno, first woman attorney general of the United States



Betty Skelton Frankman Erde

1994

- Nikki Beare, advocate for women’s issues and mentor to women in Florida government
- Betty Mae Jumper, first woman elected as head of the Seminole Tribe of Florida
- Gladys Nichols Milton, a north Florida midwife for 35 years who represented black health issues

1995

- Sarah “Aunt Frances” Brooks Pryor, teacher, businesswoman, postmaster
- Evelyn Stocking Crosslin M.D., doctor who worked almost 50 years for Volusia County’s poor
- JoAnn Hardin Morgan, first woman in a senior management position at the Kennedy Space Center

1996

- Marjorie Harris Carr, environmentalist
- Betty Castor, first woman elected to the Cabinet, first woman president of a major Florida university
- Ivy Julia Cromartie Stranahan, Fort Lauderdale pioneer, advocate for women and Native Americans

1997

- Alicia Baro, activist for Hispanics, women and other minorities in politics, education, and employment
- Carita Doggett Corse, author, advocate for women’s rights and state director of the Federal Writers Project
- M. Athalie Range, first black person to serve as the head of a Florida State agency

1998

- Christine Fulwylie-Bankston, poet concerned for societal ills, she established her own press to publish works on women and children
- Helen Gordon Davis, legislator for almost two decades, who championed the civil rights of women and minorities
- Mattie Belle Davis, first woman judge of the Metropolitan Court of Dade County. The first Florida woman (second nationally) to be elected as a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation

1999

- Althea Gibson, Florida A&M University graduate, first black woman tennis player to compete and win at Forrest Hills and Wimbledon.
- Sister Jeanne O’Laughlin, OP, Ph.D., who advanced Barry University (the state’s only women-founded institution) from a small college to a thriving university while serving two decades as president.
- Dessie Smith Prescott, Florida pioneer

2000

- Major General Marianne Mathewson-Chapman, Ph.D., first woman in the Florida Army National Guard to achieve that rank
- Chris Evert, ranked number one in women’s tennis for seven years
- Senator Paula Fickes Hawkins, first woman to represent Florida in the U.S. Senate



JoAnn Hardin Morgan



Helen Gordon Davis



Photo by Roy Erickson

Chris Evert



Florida State Archives

Toni Jennings with Jeffrey Kottkamp, Tallahassee, 2007.

2001

- Jesse Ball duPont, philanthropist
- Lenore Carrero Nesbitt, first woman judge appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida
- Lynda Keever, publisher of *Florida Trend* magazine

2002

- Victoria Joyce Ely, R.N., Florida's first licensed nurse midwife
- Toni Jennings, Senate President and first Florida woman Lieutenant Governor
- Frances Langford Stuart, entertainer

2003

- Sarah Ann Blocker, founder, in 1879, of Florida Memorial College for African-Americans
- Gloria Estefan, Grammy Award-winning singer, actress, songwriter, philanthropist and humanitarian
- Mary R. Grizzle, first Republican woman to serve in the Legislature A pioneer in passing laws to expand the rights of women and protecting the environment

2004/2005

- Shirley D. Coletti, national leader in the development of community-based addiction and treatment resources
- Judith Kersey, advocate for women in science who spent most of her career at the Kennedy Space center and played key roles in the Saturn V and Space Shuttle programs
- Marion P. Hammer, nationally renowned gun-rights, gun-safety advocate and former president of the National Rifle Association



Mary Grizzl

2005/2006

- Lucy W. Morgan, Pulitzer Prize winning St. Petersburg Times reporter and capital bureau chief
- Tillie Kidd Fowler, former congresswoman.
- Caridad Asensio, whose medical clinic in Palm Beach County provides free care for migrant farm workers and their families

2006/2007

- Maryly VanLeer Peck, educator, engineer, and missionary
- Justice Peggy A. Quince, first black woman to serve on the Florida Supreme Court

2007/2008

- Justice Barbara J. Pariente, Florida Supreme Court Justice
- Dr. Pallavi Patel, pediatrician and philanthropist
- Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, U. S. Representative



Florida's 79th Supreme Court Justice Peggy Ann Quince

2008/2009

- Louise H. Courtelis, successful international businesswoman, noted philanthropist and long-time supporter of higher education and veterinary care in Florida
- State Senator Gwen Margolis, longtime elected official who paved the way for many other women and first woman in the United States to serve as President of any Senate
- Betty Schlesinger Sembler, dedicated fighter in the war on drugs for more than three decades

2009/2010

- Dr. Eugenie Clark, Ph.D., an explorer, marine biologist and teacher, known worldwide as “The Shark Lady”
- Claudine Dianne Ryce, an advocate for legislation and policies across the nation that deal with missing children
- Dara Grace Torres, the fastest female swimmer in America who competed in five Olympic Games and won 12 medals

2010/2011

- Mary Brennan Karl, educator and founder of the Mary Karl Vocational School in Daytona Beach which became Daytona State College
- Anna Rodriguez, founder and director of the Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking

2011/2012

- Dr. Ruth Alexander, pioneer in the field of women’s Sports. Under her leadership, the South Eastern Conference for University Women’s (SEC) competition and championships were organized
- Elizabeth “Budd” Bell, advocate of children, women, the elderly, and the mentally ill and disadvantaged. Crafted the legislation known as the Baker Act
- Vicki Bryant Burke, established PACE center for girls, the only non-residential program for troubled adolescent females in Florida.

2012/2013

- Clara C. Frye, nurse who committed her life to providing medical care to Tampa’s black citizens
- Aleene Pridgen Kidd MacKenzie, formed a



Florida State Archives

Representative Elaine Gordon (right) congratulates Senator Gwen Margolis on being elected the first woman Senate President, 1989. Elaine Gordon was herself the first woman elected as House Speaker pro tempore.

statewide network of relationships with women from every walk of life

- Lillie Pierce Voss, pioneer woman and dynamic individual who participated in some of the watershed events in the development of Southeast Florida

2013/2014

- Dottie Berger MacKinnon, tireless advocate for women and children, one of the founders of Joshua House, a safe haven for abused, abandoned, and neglected children
- Louise Jones Gopher, first female member of the Seminole Tribe to earn a college degree and a champion of education for all members of the tribe
- Susan Benton, first female sheriff elected in a general election and first female president of the Florida Sheriff’s Association



Artists Hall of Fame

Established by the Legislature in 1986, the Florida Artists Hall of Fame recognizes persons who have made a significant contribution to the arts in Florida as a performer, a practicing artist, or as a benefactor of the arts. The individual may be a native of the state or one who adopted Florida as home. Recipients of this award demonstrate the diversity of artistic accomplishment that comprises the cultural tapestry of this state.

The State of Florida recognizes that the individual artist and benefactor are paramount and fundamental to cultural development. Through the Florida Artists Hall of Fame Program, these individuals, whose extraordinary achievements significantly contribute to the arts, are honored. These individuals also contribute to Florida's reputation as a state with a strong and sustained commitment toward the development of cultural excellence.

Inductees receive a commemorative bronze sculpture commissioned by the Florida Arts Council. The sculpture, *La Florida*, was created by Enzo Torcoletti, of St. Augustine. Inductees are also honored on the Florida Artists Hall of Fame Wall in the Plaza Level rotunda of the State Capitol. Information on the Florida Artists Hall of Fame is located in the 22nd floor gallery of the Capitol.

Inductees are:

1987

- Ernest Hemingway, author
- Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, author
- John N. Ringling, patron, collector

1988

- George Firestone, patron

1989

- Tennessee Williams, playwright

1990

- Zora Neale Hurston, author, folklorist

1991

- John D. MacDonald, author
- Robert Rauschenberg, visual artist

1992

- Ray Charles, musician, performer
- Duane Hanson, sculptor

1993

- George Abbott, actor, director, playwright
- A. E. "Bean" Backus, artist
- Marjory Stoneman Douglas, environmentalist, author
- Burt Reynolds, actor

1994

- Ralph H. Norton, patron
- Jerry N. Uelsmann, photographer
- Hiram D. Williams, artist
- Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, composer

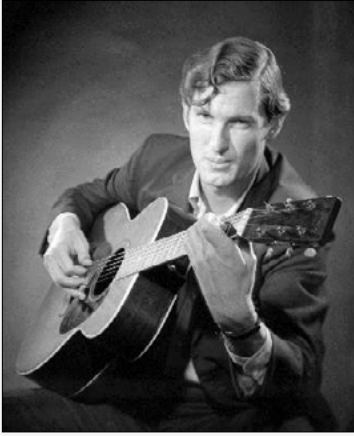


Photo by Richard Parks

Roger Gamble

1995

- Martin Johnson Heade, artist

1996

- Will McLean, singer, songwriter

1997

- Edward Villella, ballet dancer, artistic director

1998

- Clyde Butcher, photographer
- Gamble Rogers guitarist, storyteller, playwright and actor

1999

- Doris Leeper, sculptor, painter
- Patrick D. Smith, author

2000

- Jimmy Buffett, singer, songwriter, author
- James Weldon Johnson, writer, composer
- Elaine L. Konigsburg, author, illustrator

2001

- Addison Mizner, architect
- James Rosenquist, visual artist

2002

- Fernando Bujones, ballet artist
- Lou Jacobs, Barnum & Bailey's King of Clowns

2003

- Earl Cunningham, folk artist
- Dr. William P. Foster, Florida A&M University band director

2004

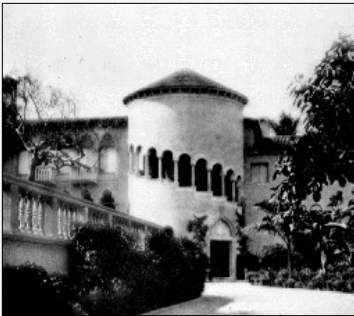
- Albin Polasek, sculptor
- Alfred Hair and The Florida Highwaymen, Florida landscape artists

2005

- Stetson Kennedy, human rights activist, folklorist and historian

2006

- W. Stanley "Sandy" Proctor, sculptor, internationally recognized for life-size and monumental figurative and wildlife subjects
- John Rosamond Johnson, composer, conductor, actor, and music virtuoso. Brother of James Weldon Johnson



Florida State Archives

Casa Nana front entrance and stair tower designed by architect Addison Mizner and built in 1926.



Photo by Joseph J. Steinmetz

Circus clown Lou Jacobs

2007

- Lawrence Hankins “Hank” Locklin, country music artist

2008

- Victor Nuñez, writer, director, cinematographer, producer and professor in the Florida State University College of Motion Picture, Television and Recording Arts
- Augusta Savage, sculptor

2009

- Mel Tillis, country music recording artist and songwriter
- Harry Crews, novelist and professor of creative writing

2010

- Bo Diddley, born Ellas Otha Bates MacDaniel, internationally renowned musician, songwriter, performer and music industry pioneer
- Christopher M. Still, painter internationally known for his innovative techniques and uniquely Florida subject matter

2011

- James F. Hutchinson, award winning painter known for his images of Florida’s back country, native wildlife, and documentation of Indian culture
- Johnny Tillotson, internationally known songwriter, entertainer, and recording artist who represents the bedrock of early pop music

2012

- Jacqueline Brice, native Florida painter, recognized for her ethereal landscapes of Florida
- Robert C. Broward, renowned architect and author
- Ricou Browning, filmmaker, writer, and producer
- Louis Roney, international opera, concert, and movie star

2013

- Gloria Estefan, singer, author, philanthropist, and winner of seven Grammy Awards
- Frank Thomas, singer/songwriter and historian, known as “The Dean of Florida Folk”
- Laura Woodward, painter and publicist who brought national attention, as well as Henry Flagler, to Florida in the late 19th and early 20th centuries

For more information on the Florida Artists Hall of Fame and to see biographies of inductees, visit the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs website at <http://www.florida-arts.org/programs/ahf/>.



Photo by Richard Parks

W. Stanley “Sandy” Proctor

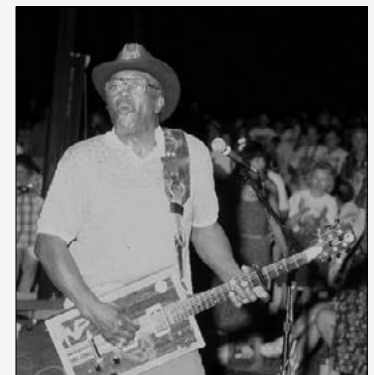


Photo by Harvey E. Slade

Bo Diddley at the Florida Folk Festival, White Springs, 1995.



Florida State Archives

Ricou Browning was a Florida-based film maker. His credits include “Flipper”, “Thunderball”, “Never Say Never Again”, and television’s “Sea Hunt.”



Great Floridians

Source: Florida Department of State

In 1981 the Department of State established the Great Floridian designation to memorialize the unique and historic achievements of remarkable men and women who made Florida their home. Under s. 267.0731 of the *Florida Statutes*, an ad hoc committee, comprised of representatives of the Governor, each member of the Florida Cabinet, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Florida Secretary of State, meets to nominate citizens for designation as a *Great Floridian*. Following that, the Secretary of State selects no fewer than two nominees to be officially named a Great Floridian. Since the program began, 89 persons have been designated Great Floridians.

Floridians so designated are:

1981

- Governor LeRoy Collins

1984

- Jake Gaither, Florida A. & M. University football coach

1987

- Ben Hill Griffin, Jr., legislator, citrus grower
- Marjory Stoneman Douglas, environmentalist, author

1988

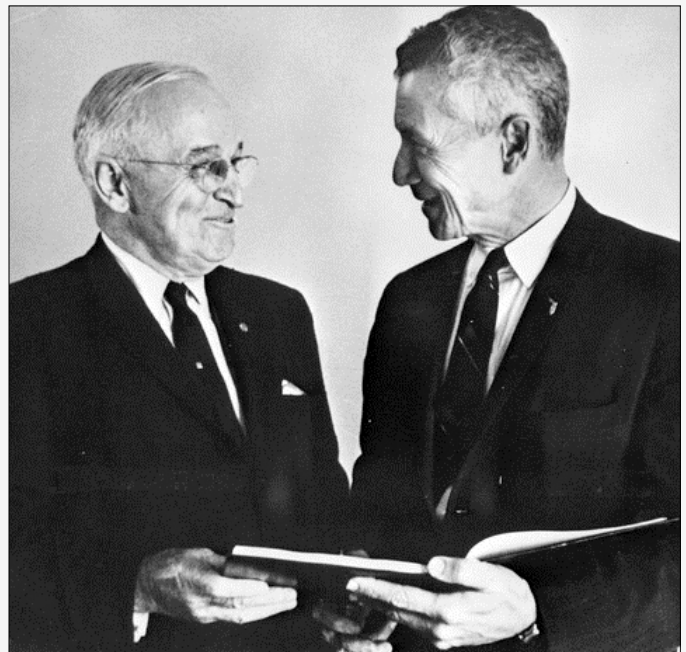
- Chester Howell Ferguson, attorney
- Claude Denson Pepper, Congressman

1990

- B. K. Roberts, Florida Supreme Court Justice

1993

- Stephen C. O'Connell, Florida Supreme Court Justice, University of Florida President



Florida State Archives

Former President Harry S. Truman (left) with Governor LeRoy Collins, who received the first Great Floridian award.

1994

- Governor Cecil Farris Bryant
- U.S. Senator George A. Smathers

1997

- E.T. York, University of Florida President, Chancellor of the State University System of Florida
- Chesterfield Smith, attorney

1998

- William P. Foster, Florida A. & M. Director of Bands
- Governor Reubin O'D. Askew

2001

- Lawton M. Chiles, U.S. Senator, Governor
- Horacio Aguirre, founder/owner of the Spanish language newspaper *Diario Las Americas*

2002

- General James Van Fleet
- Mary McLeod Bethune, educator
- Dr. John Gorrie, physician, inventor
- William Henry Getty "Big Bill" France, NASCAR organizer
- Dick Pope, developer of Cypress Gardens
- Mallory E. Horne, Florida Senate President, Florida House Speaker

2003

- Mary Call Darby Collins, Florida's First Lady 1955-1961
- Henry Morrison Flagler, Florida East Coast Railway and hotel owner
- Zora Neale Hurston, author
- Henry B. Plant, railroad, steamship and hotel magnet

2004

- Governor Spessard Holland
- Governor Fuller Warren

2005

- Governor William Pope Duval
- Al Hoffman, founder and chairman of the Board of WCI Communities, Inc.

2006

- Richard Keith Call, third and fifth territorial Governor
- Julia Tuttle, the "Mother of Miami"

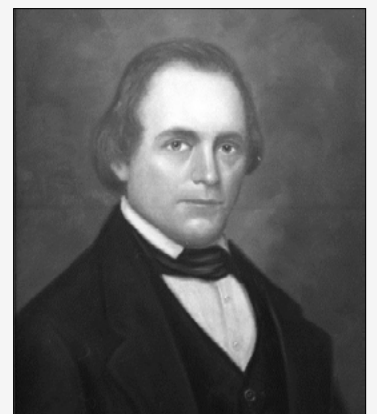


Photo by Harvey E. Slade

Dr. William P. Foster, creator and band director of the internationally acclaimed Florida A & M University (FAMU) "Marching 100" Band.



Mary McLeod Bethune



Richard Keith Call



Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings



Florida State Archives

Captain Eddie Rickenbacker signs an autograph for a girl scout. Captain Rickenbacker was America's WWI Ace of Aces and author of "Fighting the Flying Circus" (1919).



Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte

2007

- Harry T. Moore, civil rights leader who, with his wife, was murdered in 1951
- U.S. Senator Connie Mack

2008

- May Mann Jennings, First lady of Florida 1901-1905, activist and conservationist
- E. Clay Shaw, Jr., U.S. Congressman 1981-2007

2009

- Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, author
- Pedro Menendez de Aviles, first Spanish colonial governor (1565), founded St. Augustine
- Robert "Bob" Martinez, Florida's first American governor of Hispanic heritage
- Dr. Mae McMillan, Fort Lauderdale educator
- Eugene Patterson, St. Petersburg Times editor
- Charles W. Pierce, south Florida's "barefoot mailman"

2010

- Eddie Rickenbacker, commercial aviation pioneer, and America's World War I ace
- Captain David McCampbell, U.S. Navy's all-time ace and Medal of Honor recipient
- Dr. Sarah McKay, business, cultural and civic leader, and philanthropist
- Tony Jannus, pilot of the world's first scheduled commercial flight
- Archbishop Joseph P. Hurley, preserver of the East Florida Papers, and civic leader of St. Augustine
- Paula Hawkins, Florida's first woman U.S. Senator, consumer rights and children's and family advocate
- Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte, State Representative, American Bar Association President, Florida State University President and Dean of the FSU College of Law

2011

- Thomas Alva Edison, inventor, scientist
- D. Robert "Bob" Graham, U.S. Senator, Governor
- George W. Jenkins, founded Publix Supermarkets
- Toni Jennings, Representative, Senator, Lieutenant Governor
- Governor Harrison Reed
- Nathaniel Pryor Reed, environmentalist
- Marshall E. Rinker, Sr., philanthropist
- James C. "Jim" Smith, Attorney General and Secretary of State
- Governor Park Trammell

2012

- Lt. General Albert Hazen Blanding
- Coach Bobby Bowden, second winningest coach in major college history
- Caroline Mays Brevard, researcher, teacher, author of *The History of Florida*
- Governor Jeb Bush
- Bernardo de Gálvez, aided the thirteen colonies against Britain in the Revolutionary War
- Hamilton Disston, paved the way for railroad development in South Florida
- Lt. General James M. Gavin
- Frederick Brennan Karl, State Representative, State Senator, Florida Supreme Court Justice

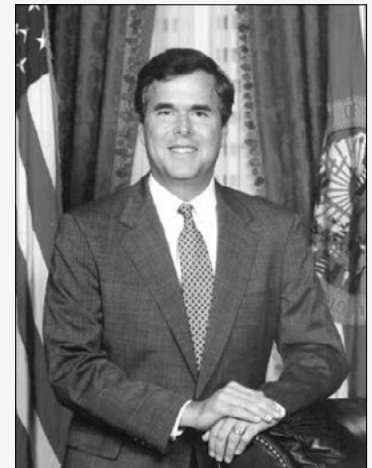
2013

- Justice Alto Lee Adams, Sr., Florida Supreme Court Justice 1940-1951 and 1967-1968
- Derrick Brooks, Pensacola native considered one of the best linebackers in NFL history
- Charles H. Bronson, a fifth-generation Florida cattle rancher, Agriculture Commissioner 2001 to 2010
- Dr. James Robert Cade, developer of Gatorade, the first shock-dissipating football helmet, and a method for treating autism and schizophrenia through diet modification
- Walter Elias “Walt” Disney, co-founded Walt Disney Productions
- Tony Dungy, Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Indianapolis Colts coach, he became the first African American coach to win a Super Bowl
- Justice Richard W. Ervin, Jr., Florida Supreme Chief Justice, helped create the Florida Highway Patrol, implemented Florida’s desegregation process during the 1960s
- Dr. Pedro Jose Greer, Jr., physician and founder of the Camillus Health Concern and the St. John Bosco Clinic, which serve homeless and disadvantaged people
- Bill Gunter, state senator 1966 to 1972, United States Representative 1973 to 1975, and Florida’s insurance commissioner, treasurer and fire marshal 1976 to 1989
- Wayne Huizenga, businessman and entrepreneur, founder of three Fortune 500 corporations
- Juan Ponce de León, Spanish explorer and adventurer, waded ashore on the east coast of Florida on or around April 2, 1513
- Charlotte McGuire, MD, recognized today as the “Mother of the FSU Medical School,” served as a delegate to the 1957 World Health Conference in London and as one of the highest ranking women in the federal government under the Nixon Administration
- General Craig McKinley, retired four-star general, military adviser to the President
- Lilly Pulitzer, founder of Lilly Pulitzer, Inc., a company producing clothing and other wares featuring bright, colorful, floral prints



Florida State Archives

George W. Jenkins chats with customers at a Publix Supermarket, 1961.



Jeb Bush



Richard W. Ervin



Florida State Archives

Painting of explorer Juan Ponce de Leon on postage stamp.



Florida State Archives

Portrait of Ruth Wedgworth during celery harvesting at Wedgworth Farms, Belle Glade, 1960.

- General Norman Schwarzkopf, four-star general and commander of the U.S. Central Command, commanding forces in Grenada and the Persian Gulf War. Schwarzkopf helped found Camp Boggy Creek in Eustis, a camp for seriously ill kids and their families
- Betty Sembler, founding member of a nonprofit drug treatment program
- Don Shula, coach of the Miami Dolphins from 1970 to 1995, led his team to two Super Bowl victories and to the National Football League's only perfect season. He holds the NFL record for most career wins with 347
- Emmitt Smith, considered one of the greatest running backs in NFL history, inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2010
- Patrick D. Smith, author of four novels set in Florida, nominated three times for the Pulitzer Prize
- Steve Spurrier, led the University of Florida Gators football team to six Southeastern Conference championships and a consensus national championship in 1996
- Tim Tebow, first college sophomore to win the Heisman Trophy, led the Florida Gators to their second national championship in three years
- Gerry Lester "Bubba" Watson, Jr., professional golfer, won the 2012 Masters Tournament after defeating Louis Oosthuizen on the second sudden death playoff hole
- Ruth Springer Wedgworth, came to Palm Beach County in 1930, built a small family farm into one of the state's most prominent agribusinesses

For more information, visit the Division of Historical Resources at <http://www.flheritage.com/preservation/floridian/>.



Photo by Mark T. Foley

Emmitt Smith pushes forward to make a touchdown during a University of Florida vs. Indiana State football game, Gainesville, 1988.