

# PINECREST

SEPTEMBER 2024

THE NEWSLETTER OF YOUR VILLAGE GOVERNMENT



IN THE SPOTLIGHT  
**ZOMBIE RUN**



# A MESSAGE TO THE VILLAGE

## FROM THE MAYOR

The Village is currently in the budgeting process for the Fiscal Year 2024-25, with public hearings scheduled for September 11 at 6 pm and September 17 at 5 pm. Despite challenges such as international economic turbulence, the proposed budget remains focused on Pinecrest's core mission. The budget and Capital Improvement Program aim to utilize resources effectively to meet both short-term and long-term goals outlined in the Village Council's Strategic Plan. A proposed millage rate of 2.35 mils per \$1,000 of taxable value reflects a fiscally conservative approach.

Pinecrest is recognized as the 2024 "Best Managed Communities" by Business View Magazine, aligning with its strategic goal to educate residents on the value of their tax dollars. The Village prioritizes enhancing community character and quality of life, providing high levels of service, and maintaining open communication with residents.

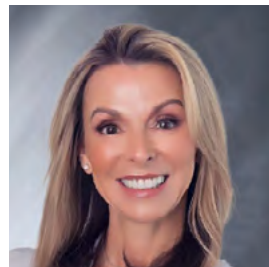
Recent accomplishments include expanding potable water services, implementing a stormwater master plan, increasing pedestrian accessibility, supporting local businesses, and developing new parks such as Gary Matzner Park and Aleyda Mas Park. Additionally, Pinecrest has introduced innovative programs like the highly successful free community composting initiative and the Happy Pinecrest People Initiative (HaPPI) to enhance community well-being.

The Village's achievements and strategic initiatives underscore its commitment to being a model community that continues to innovate and lead. The dedication of elected officials, staff and residents plays a crucial role in Pinecrest's ongoing success and recognition.

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS



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## IN MEMORIAM

This issue is dedicated to the father of Pinecrest, Gary C. Matzner. Matzner passed away on July 20, 2024, just over a week after the Village held a groundbreaking ceremony for Gary C. Matzner Park, 6610 N. Kendall Drive. The park is a testament to his enduring legacy and vision for Pinecrest. The event was a significant milestone in the Village's history and was attended by his family, former Mayor Evelyn Greer, Village officials, and numerous community members.

"Mayor Matzner's vision for the Village has come true. Three decades later, we are all thriving because of his wisdom, courage, and leadership," said Mayor Joseph M. Corradino. "We are deeply grateful and want his legacy to live on as a champion of our community."



**PINECREST**

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12645 Pinecrest Parkway  
Pinecrest, FL 33156  
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# RECYCLING AT HOME



## RECYCLING TIPS

Eco-conscious people everywhere incorporate recycling into their daily lives. To help you do your recycling right and easily, here are three recycling tips:

### NO FOOD RESIDUE

Food waste such as cheese, oil, and grease should be kept away from recycling containers. Pizza boxes, food boxes, plastic containers, and aluminum foil can all be recycled as long as they are grease and oil-free. Small bits of food are fine, but an oil-sopped pizza box will not only draw ants and other pests to your bin, but it is also not recyclable.

### COMPRESS

When possible, flatten your recyclable materials as far as they will go. This helps to create more space in your recycling bin for other items. Crush soda cans and plastic bottles to make them somewhat flat. Flatten cardboard boxes, unravel paper towel tubes, and anything else you can safely compress.

### EASILY ACCESSIBLE

Place your recycling bin in an accessible location so all household members can easily access them. To help people remember to recycle as much as possible, place the bin in plain sight of the garbage can.

Recycling is a crucial instrument for resource conservation and waste management. If you do it correctly, it may be enjoyable and rewarding.

### RECYCLING CONTAMINATION ENFORCEMENT

Don't be alarmed if you see a Miami-Dade County solid waste worker looking through your recycling bin. The Miami-Dade County Department of Solid Waste Management launched a program to reduce recycling contamination. Waste collectors will ensure recyclables are not contaminated. Only paper, cardboard, glass, cans, cartons, and certain plastics are accepted in recycling bins. For more information visit [www.pinecrest-fl.gov/recycling](http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/recycling).

# PINECREST SCHOOLS

## EXCELLENCE IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

Congratulations to the Miami Palmetto Senior High School (MPSH) Class of 2024 on its incredible college acceptances. The class of 2024 not only achieved remarkable college acceptances, but also secured over \$21 million in scholarships. Go Panthers!

Congratulations are also in order for MPSH, which once again earned an "A" rating from the State of Florida. With a robust offering of 33 AP classes and the largest athletic program in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, MPSH continues to excel both academically and athletically. Over 1,000 students participate in at least one AP course and one sport, showcasing the school's commitment to a well-rounded education. In addition to their academic and athletic achievements, MPSH boasts top-rated arts programs, consistently earning high marks in state competitions. Its academic teams compete at various levels, from local to regional and beyond. With more than 60 clubs available, MPSH provides ample opportunities for student involvement, community building, leadership development, and exploration of diverse interests.

MPSH is one of five public schools within Pinecrest. The other schools include Palmetto Elementary, Pinecrest Elementary, Howard Drive Elementary, and Palmetto Middle School. For more information about our schools, please visit [dadeschools.net](http://dadeschools.net). The Village also hosts Education Advisory Council (EAC) meetings throughout the school year, open to the public. Check the Village calendar for meeting dates.

## MIAMI PALMETTO SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

# STAY CLOSE. GO FAR.

Our Class of 2024 earned admission to the following highly selective state and national colleges and universities:

Babson	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of California, Davis	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Binghamton	Michigan State	University of California, Irvine	University of Pennsylvania
Boston College	North Carolina State	University of California, Los Angeles	University of Pittsburgh
Boston University	Northeastern	University of California, San Diego	University of Rochester
Carnegie Mellon	Northwestern	University of California, Santa Barbara	University of South Florida
Columbia	Parsons	University of Central Florida	University of Southern California
Davidson	Penn State, University Park	University of Connecticut	University of Texas, Austin
Duke	Princeton	University of Florida	University of Virginia, Charlottesville
Fashion Institute of Technology	Purdue	University of Georgia	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Florida A&M	Rutgers University, New Brunswick	University of Maryland, College Park	Vanderbilt
Florida State	Santa Clara	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	Villanova
Florida International University	Spelman	University of Miami	Virginia Tech
George Washington	Stony Brook	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	Wake Forest
Georgetown	Swarthmore	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities	Washington University in St. Louis
Georgia Tech	Syracuse		Yale
Hamilton	Tulane		
Harvard	The Ohio State University		
Howard	University of California, Berkeley		
Indiana University, Bloomington			

In addition, we are proud to announce that our seniors were accepted to over 250 prestigious institutions of learning. Please visit [www.palmettopanthers.org](http://www.palmettopanthers.org) for the complete list.

CHOOSE EXCELLENCE IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD.



# POLICE SAFETY SCHOOL ZONE CAMERAS



## PINECREST TO PREMIERE A NEW PUBLIC SAFETY INITIATIVE: **THE SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY CAMERA PROGRAM.**

In an ongoing effort to improve road safety, Pincrest is partnering with RedSpeed USA to launch the School Zone Safety Camera Program, which is dedicated to protecting children on their way to and from school. The initiative has received widespread support from notable organizations, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Transportation Safety Board. As Pincrest leads this initiative, there is an expectation for the program to expand across the county and into neighboring municipalities.

South Florida, known worldwide, faces significant challenges in maintaining the safety and efficiency of its roads and public transportation systems. The growing population and influx of tourists place considerable pressure on the infrastructure, calling for immediate and creative solutions. According to the Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Crash Dashboard, from January 1 to June 6, 2024, Miami-Dade County recorded 25,435 crashes, resulting in 8,484 injuries and 125 fatalities. These statistics include 818 pedestrian incidents, with 33 resulting in death. As of June 2024, Pincrest has reported an average of 48 monthly traffic accidents on its internal roads, excluding Pincrest Parkway. These numbers underscore the need for specialized, innovative strategies to bolster existing law enforcement efforts.

Historically, traffic enforcement in Pincrest has relied on the physical presence of police officers, with the Pincrest Police known for stringent traffic monitoring. However, officers cannot keep up with the increasing demands of traffic control. Technological advancements and new legislation have led to the implementation of automated speed enforcement in school zones, offering a cost-effective and efficient method to enhance road safety. Florida's HB 657, passed on May 31, 2023, allows for camera-based monitoring of speed violations during school hours. Pincrest has effectively implemented this technology, utilizing it to bolster its policing capabilities.

# POLICE SAFETY SCHOOL ZONE CAMERAS



RedSpeed's enforcement system, already operational in other states, utilizes high-resolution video technology to capture photographic evidence of speeding violations. The collected data is encrypted and transmitted to a secure central processing server, where it is digitally signed to protect against interception and tampering. A Pincrest police officer reviews the digital evidence and, if the data confirms the offense, issues a notice of violation.

In the upcoming months, Pincrest Police will continue to provide educational materials regarding the School Zone Safety Camera Program, working in partnership with school officials and public representatives. Upon program launch, a 30-day warning period will commence, during which the vehicle's registered owner will receive a warning notice for speeding. After this period, violators will have two options: pay a \$100 fine within 30 days or request a hearing. The registered owner of the vehicle is liable for the Notice of Violation unless an affidavit is submitted showing the car was under someone else's care, or the driver has been cited for the same offense. A Notice of Violation does not impact the driver's license or insurance. However, failure to address the Notice of Violation within the 30-day window will result in a Florida Uniform Traffic Citation.

The \$100 Civil Penalty is allocated to various entities, including local municipalities, the State General Fund, local school districts, the FDLE Criminal Justice Standards & Training Fund, and the School Crossing Guard Recruitment and Retention Program. For a comprehensive breakdown, please visit [www.pinecrest-fl.gov/schoolzone](http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/schoolzone) or call School Zone Safety Camera Program representatives at 305.234.2109. The School Zone Camera Safety Program will further ensure the safety of our children and residents.





## PROTECTION & PRESERVATION OF PINECREST TREES

The removal of trees destroys shade and animal habitat and negatively impacts the environment. However, in some cases, it may be necessary to remove a potential hazard that could cause safety concerns. Each tree permit application is carefully reviewed by staff to determine if removal or relocation of a tree is warranted, and if a permit is required. A tree removal permit is required for the removal or relocation of any tree not specifically exempted by Pinecrest.

## EXCEPTIONS

### *Invasive Trees*

- When removing invasive trees such as Bishopwood, Laurel Fig, Carrotwood, Brazilian Pepper, Mahoe, Schefflera, or Hong Kong Orchid, the Village does not charge a permit fee but requires inspection and confirmation of the invasive species by a Village arborist.
- Replacement or mitigation may be required. Fill out a tree removal/relocation application at [www.pinecrest-fl.gov/removetree](http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/removetree), if you suspect a tree on your property is invasive. A complete list of exempt trees is included in the application.

### *Hazardous Trees*

- Hazardous trees may be removed without a permit from Pinecrest residential districts following an onsite assessment and submittal of documentation performed in accordance with the tree risk assessment procedures outlined in Best Management Practices – Tree Risk Assessment, Second Edition by an arborist certified by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) or a Florida licensed landscape architect.
- Documentation must be signed by the certified arborist or licensed landscape architect.

## REPORT ILLEGAL TREE CUTTING

To request an inspection of your tree(s) or to report a suspected cutting or removal of trees without a permit, please contact the building and planning department at [building@pinecrest-fl.gov](mailto:building@pinecrest-fl.gov) or call 205.234.2121 or report it via the MyPinecrest app at [www.pinecrest-fl.gov/app](http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/app).

## TREE PRUNING

- A permit is required to trim or prune trees adjacent to Pinecrest Parkway (US 1) or anywhere within the Village's commercial zoning districts.
- In residential areas, a tree trimming permit is not required.
- Trees must be properly trimmed in accordance with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 Second Edition Tree Care Standards to avoid fines.
- Property owners will be required to replace the canopy lost by improper pruning.
- Improper tree trimming - also known as hat racking - is when a tree has been flat-cut, or simply when any branch three inches or greater is removed.
- It is illegal to hat rack a tree.
- No more than one-fourth of a tree's living canopy may be removed within a one-year period. Hire a qualified and registered arborist or landscaper, when trimming trees.

## COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPER REGISTRATION

Commercial landscapers are required to register with Pinecrest. Registration forms are available at [www.pinecrest-fl.gov/landscaper](http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/landscaper) or from the building and planning department.



# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



## ALEYDA MAS PARK

Aleyda Mas Park’s renovation efforts have started with a landscape clean-up initiative. The Parks and Recreation landscape team is working hard to bring the landscape back to a manicured state by clearing overgrown vegetation, removing debris, and clearing pathways. This initial clean-up phase is the catalyst that will set the stage for a comprehensive transformation of Aleyda Mas Park into a spectacular green space for the community. The next step in the clean-up initiative will be to prepare the main building by removing any remaining debris and getting the facility ready for the upcoming renovation.

Simultaneously, the Village issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to solicit proposals from reputable firms for the crucial next step: the master planning process and the creation of construction documents for the park’s renovation. In June of 2024, Village Council authorized the Village Manager to negotiate an agreement for the Master Plan services which are expected to begin in September 2024.

# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



## GARY C. MATZNER PARK

Gary C. Matzner Park is currently in the construction document phase. The team expects the 90% construction documents to be completed in the fall. Once finalized, the project will be put out for construction bids, with construction expected to begin by mid-winter. This project is focused on quality and aims to create a cherished space for all residents. The final park design includes open spaces, natural play areas, a covered playground, a walking path, a restroom shelter, parking, preservation of specimen trees, and a welcoming park gateway. The landscape will feature native species, creating a natural environment for visitors to enjoy.

## SHARED-USE PATHS

As one of the adopted projects of the Village’s Transportation Master Plan approved in 2018, the Kendall Drive Shared Use Path (SUP) project will connect Ludlam Road to Red Road. The project consists of removing the existing five-foot-wide concrete sidewalk and constructing an 8-foot-wide asphalt path designed to accommodate two-way pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The path will be on the south side of Kendall Drive, with graded and sodded swales and additional street trees to beautify and add to the canopy. This project will enhance the SUP network in Pinecrest by adding connectivity to existing and future facilities. Miami-Dade County is considering a SUP along the north bank of the C-2 canal between US 1 and Ludlam Road, providing another connection point to this network. The Village will advertise for a contractor and construction is expected to begin early 2025.

The Village Council authorized the design of the Ludlam Road SUP and the Florida Department of Transportation granted \$1M for its construction. This project will provide a SUP on Ludlam Road from Howard Drive to the C-2 canal. The Village will advertise to acquire engineering design services, with design expected to begin in 2024. Design and permitting are anticipated to take up to twelve months.



# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

## CORAL PINE PARK PHASE 2

In 2014, the Village Council adopted the Coral Pine Park Master Plan and divided the construction of the approved improvements into two phases. Phase 1 was completed in 2016 with the construction of the tennis center. Phase 2 includes a new multi-purpose room, an updated restroom facility, a walking path, an exercise station, and covered walkway to the tennis and pickleball courts. This project is expected to be complete in 2025.

## PINECREST GARDENS LAKEVIEW TERRACE & RAMP RENOVATION

The investigative phase and design conducted by an architecture firm specializing in historical properties is complete. The Village advertised an invitation to bid and a contract was awarded in July. Construction is set to begin in August 2024.

## STORMWATER

The Village commissioned a Stormwater Master Plan (SMP) in 2014 and adopted the plan in 2015. An SMP adopted by the Village Council is needed to obtain funding for projects from all levels of government agencies - county, state, and federal. The SMP analyzed the Village's drainage needs and provided a priority list of 15 basins (one being the highest priority). The Village has the five highest priority basins under design. The Village successfully obtained funding from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and continues to seek additional funding from different agencies to offset construction and construction engineering inspection costs. The projects will be constructed according to their priority in the SMP.

## POTABLE WATER LATERAL CONNECTION INSTALLATION PROJECT

This project will provide lateral connections from the potable water mains to new meter boxes for about 150 homes. The local utility, Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) will perform the work of tapping the main lines and installing the laterals and meter boxes. The Village will provide any needed restoration to the pavement, swale, and sidewalks. Each connection will require a permitted design and the Village has contracted with a professional engineering firm to provide those services. The final necessary studies and approvals are in progress. The Miami-Dade Environmental Quality Control Board (EQCB) provided a reprieve for homeowners who were provided a Notice of Required Connection (NORC) from the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM). These residents now have 24 months to connect to adjacent water mains after the Village completes the Lateral Connection Project.

The Public Works Department notifies affected residents once the work is completed. It provides step-by-step instructions on connecting to WASD potable water and applying for plumbing permits from the Pinecrest Building Department.



# EXPLORING THE FUTURE ARCHITECTURE & ESPORTS



## KIDS' ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM: BUILDING DREAMS, CREATING FUTURES

Kids' architecture programs, such as "Building Dreams, Creating Futures," introduce children to the world of architecture, fostering creativity and critical thinking. These programs encourage kids to design dream homes and miniature cities, enhancing their spatial awareness and problem-solving skills.

### Benefits of Kids' Architecture Programs:

- Creativity: Hands-on design projects stimulate imagination.
- Critical Thinking: Develops spatial problem-solving abilities.
- Collaboration: Promotes teamwork through group activities.
- Real-World Application: Teaches practical design and planning skills.

### What to Expect:

Participants engage in activities like model building, exploring architectural styles, and learning about sustainable design. These experiences inspire children to think critically about their environments and the future of architecture.

## KIDS' ESPORTS PROGRAM: PLAY, LEARN, COMPETE

eSports has emerged as a global phenomenon, merging entertainment with skill development. Programs for kids turn their gaming passion into a structured learning experience, teaching strategy, teamwork, and digital literacy in a supportive environment.

### Benefits of Kids' eSports Programs:

- Strategic Thinking: Enhances decision-making and tactics.
- Digital Literacy: Improves tech proficiency.
- Teamwork: Encourages collaboration and communication.
- Focus and Discipline: Builds concentration and perseverance.

### What to Expect:

Participants engage in organized gameplay with experienced mentors focusing on skill development and sportsmanship. Programs often include tournaments and leagues for children to showcase their abilities.

# SENIOR HEALTH AND ACTIVITIES



Being socially active enhances cognitive functions and may reduce the risk of cognitive decline in seniors. Engaging in various activities, clubs, and community groups is crucial for their health and happiness.

At the Pinecrest Community Center, we offer numerous programs tailored for seniors. For more details, email [gzogzhi@pinecrest-fl.gov](mailto:gzogzhi@pinecrest-fl.gov) or call **305.284.0900**.

#### Tips for Staying Engaged

- Walk outside and smile at others.
- Call a neighbor to check in.
- Reach out to a friend or family member daily.
- Minimize distractions, like phone usage, during meals.
- Join fitness, hobby, religious, or service groups.
- Reduce time spent on activities that feel isolating, such as excessive social media use.

Research supports that good social connections can slow cognitive decline. Regular interactions with family and friends, as well as community engagement, are particularly beneficial.

#### THIRD ANNUAL PINECREST SENIOR GAMES

The Pinecrest Parks and Recreation is hosting the third annual Pinecrest Senior Games. This is a multi-sport event held annually for athletes of all levels ages 50 and older. It's part of the National Senior Games, encouraging older adults to stay active and competitive in various sports. Participants can compete in various events, including pickleball, basketball, tennis, table tennis, bag toss, racewalk, bowling, and billiards. The games promote health, fitness, and camaraderie among seniors across Florida, fostering a spirit of competition and sportsmanship. Register at [www.pinecrest-fl.gov/seniorgames](http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/seniorgames).

# SEPTEMBER FITNESS RESET



As summer concludes, September emerges as a prime time for renewal and fitness. This month symbolizes a return to structure, making it ideal for establishing or revitalizing exercise habits.

Here are some steps to kick-start your fitness journey:

- **Set Clear Goals:** Define your fitness objectives, whether it's weight loss, muscle toning, or stress reduction. Specific and realistic goals will keep you focused.
- **Start Slowly and Be Consistent:** Begin with enjoyable activities like brisk walking or yoga. Establish a routine before increasing workout intensity.
- **Mix Up Your Routine:** Incorporate a variety of exercises to challenge different muscle groups. Explore new classes or alternate between cardio and strength training.
- **Find Accountability and Support:** Share your goals with friends or join a fitness community for motivation and encouragement.
- **Prioritize Recovery and Rest:** Allow time for recovery between workouts, prioritize sleep, and incorporate stretching to prevent injury.
- **Track Your Progress:** Use a journal or fitness app to monitor achievements and celebrate milestones.

September is an opportunity to embrace a vibrant fitness journey, supported by local resources like the Pinecrest Community Center Gym, which offers classes and personal training to help you stay committed to your goals. Visit [www.pinecrest-fl.gov/fitness](http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/fitness) for more information on everything **#FitCrest**.



## SPECIAL EVENTS



### EXPERIENCE PINETOBERFEST: WHERE BEER, MUSIC, AND FUN ARE CENTERSTAGE

Mark your calendar for September 21 and prepare yourself for an unforgettable journey into the heart of one of the most exhilarating beer festivals of the year—Pinetoberfest. This outdoor extravaganza promises an evening filled with hoppy delights, infectious beats, and thrilling field games.

But Pinetoberfest isn't just about the brews—it's a full-blown celebration of community and camaraderie. As you wander through the lively booths and interactive displays, local food trucks offer delectable treats that perfectly complement your beer-tasting experience.

As the beer flows, a talented DJ sets the rhythm for an electrifying evening of dancing and celebration. For those seeking a bit of friendly competition, Pinetoberfest has an array of field games. So, what are you waiting for? Get your tickets today at [www.pinecrest-fl.gov/pinetober](http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/pinetober) and join us at Pinetoberfest.

### ZOMBIE RUN

Get ready for an evening of thrills and excitement at Evelyn Greer Park on Saturday, October 19 as Pinecrest hosts the annual Zombie Run. This family-friendly event invites participants of all ages to embrace their inner zombies as they navigate a spooky two-mile course through the streets of the Village. Check-in is at 4:30 pm, followed by a spirited warm-up session at 5:45 pm to ensure everyone is ready for the 6 pm start time.

Whether you're sprinting away from zombies or transforming into one yourself, there's something for everyone at this adrenaline-pumping event. Don't miss the chance to conquer a 40-foot zombie maze, capture memorable moments at the photo booth, dance to lively music, and engage in entertaining games. Refreshments will be available for purchase to keep participants energized throughout the night. Costumes are encouraged. Mark your calendars and join us for an epic Zombie-themed adventure under the stars.

Early bird registration ends September 8, so get your tickets now. Register now on Eventbrite or visit [www.pinecrest-fl.gov/zombie](http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/zombie) for more information or to sign up as a zombie volunteer.

## GARDEN FESTIVALS



### NIGHTS OF LIGHTS

As we enter the holiday season, the air is filled with excitement as we look forward to experiencing an extraordinary holiday spectacle. Pinecrest Gardens will transform into a mesmerizing wonderland, adorned with shimmering lights on select nights from December 6 to December 29.

You will be greeted with the aroma of holiday treats and the joyful sounds of laughter and music. The spirit of the holiday will be all around you. Wander around, visit Santa, and explore the charming holiday bazaar, carefully curated to help you find the perfect holiday gifts while supporting local vendors.

Live performances at the historic Banyan Bowl stage will add to the magic of the evening, creating a truly remarkable holiday community celebration. Surrounded by the stunning beauty of Pinecrest Gardens, you will be filled with joy and gratitude. Visit [www.pinecrestgardens.org/nol](http://www.pinecrestgardens.org/nol) for tickets and information.

### PINECREST GARDENS ART & DESIGN FAIR

Saturday, January 25 & Sunday, January 26

CALL FOR ARTISTS: Pinecrest Gardens invites artists, artisans, and designers to participate in a juried fair with cash awards totaling \$10,000. For more information and to apply, visit [www.pinecrestgardens.org/adfair](http://www.pinecrestgardens.org/adfair).



# PINECREST GARDENS HORTICULTURE



## PINECREST GARDENS GAINS ARBORETUM RECOGNITION

Following a rigorous application process, Pinecrest Gardens received accreditation as an arboretum that identified trees and shrubs that are significant components of the collections, the landscape design, its programming, and the visitor experience. There are 2,548 arboreta registered worldwide. Of those, only 724 are accredited, forming the prestigious Arbnet network and collaborative community in 40 countries. Pinecrest Gardens is now one of them.

Arboreta are gardens that focus on woody plants via display, identification, education, and research. Some public gardens grow and display trees and shrubs to the exclusion of other plants, while many include them as part of their diverse collections.

Trees and woody shrubs form an essential component of Pinecrest Gardens' identity. Magnificent old-growth Bald cypresses, large Southern Live Oaks, and various native hammock species originally attracted the Scherr family as they searched for a possible public garden site. Parrot Jungle's landscaping concept quickly expanded, and so, too did the planting of exotic trees and shrubs. The growing tourist attraction became famous for its lush setting as much as for its bird shows.

The eventual acquisition of Parrot Jungle by the Village of Pinecrest renewed emphasis on the gardens, and a profound effort was made to conserve and improve the condition of many of the old specimen trees, as well as to plant new species for public display. The gardens are now maintained as a living museum, with inventorying and labeling of plant collections. Recognition of specific collections is under development. The gardens have many different species that can be divided into narrow groups: crotons, palms, and bamboo, for example, but gathering them all into large, easily understood categories is also worthwhile.

# PINECREST GARDENS EDUCATION



## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Pinecrest Gardens has a full season of engaging children's programs designed to inspire and educate young minds.

**Paper Tree House Homeschool Co-op** invites homeschoolers ages 5 and up to join weekly adventures every Wednesday from 9 am to 2 pm. Participants will dive into logic games that enhance critical thinking, engage in STEAM activities featuring animal encounters, and enjoy physical activities like taekwondo. A new session begins on September 9.

For preschoolers aged 3 to 5, the **Micromolecules STEAM program** hosted by Discovery Lab runs Monday through Friday from 9 am to noon. This hands-on program focuses on STEAM principles fostering creativity and curiosity through collaborative projects and playful experiments. Session begins on September 9.

**Parent & Me** classes are offered by the Pinecrest Dance Project for toddlers ages 1 to 3. These 50-minute daily sessions include Music Mondays, Science Tuesdays, Gymnastics Wednesdays, Art Thursdays, and Dance Fridays, starting September 1. Learn more and register for Pinecrest Gardens Youth & Family Programs at [www.pinecrestgardens.org/learn](http://www.pinecrestgardens.org/learn).

## ADULT PROGRAMS

Discover the beauty of horticulture and creativity through our engaging programs designed for adult learners.

Join our horticulture and education team on select Saturdays for **Guided Garden Tours** that reveal the secrets of Pinecrest Gardens. Explore themes such as the Lower Gardens landscape, our Living Botanical Collection, and the History of Pinecrest Gardens. Our **Curious Gardener** workshops offer hands-on experiences on select Thursdays each month. Upcoming themes include Shibori dyeing with Indigo, Harry Potter terrarium making, and botanical jewelry crafting. Enjoy a complimentary beverage and all materials included in the price. For more information, visit [www.pinecrestgardens.org/adultprograms](http://www.pinecrestgardens.org/adultprograms).



# TROPICAL NIGHTS



## PINECREST GARDENS PROUDLY PRESENTS THE THIRD ANNUAL TROPICAL NIGHTS

Experience live salsa, mambo, jazz, soul, & funk rhythms with Chino Nuñez Orchestra, Gafieira Rio Miami and world-champion samba dancers, and an epic centennial tribute to Celia Cruz featuring a special appearance by Lucrecia as Celia Cruz accompanied by the Celia Cruz All Stars.

Live music shows are presented in the historic Banyan Bowl amphitheater, an acoustically stunning amphitheater under a spectacular geodesic dome.

Season subscriptions and ticket information available online at [www.pinecrestgardens.org/tropicalnights](http://www.pinecrestgardens.org/tropicalnights).

### **CELIA CRUZ CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 1925 - 2025**

January 31 and February 1, 2025\*

Experience a dazzling evening of glamour and tropical elegance, transporting you to 1950s Havana. Celebrate the centennial of Celia Cruz with an electrifying performance by Lucrecia and the Celia Cruz All Stars reimagining the golden era of Celia Cruz and La Sonora Matancera.

Spanish artist Lucrecia will embody Celia Cruz, accompanied by the Celia Cruz All Stars, in a night reverberating with the sounds of the Queen of Salsa and La Sonora Matancera's original music charts.

A companion multi-week documentary exhibition leading up to the concert will showcase historical photographs and memorabilia, including the famous Cucaracha Dress, transporting audiences to 1950s Havana. The exhibition will be on view from December 7, 2024, through February 2, 2025.

# TROPICAL NIGHTS



### **GAFIEIRA RIO MIAMI BRAZILIAN BIG BAND & FRIENDS**

February 28, 2025

Imagine Count Basie went to Rio de Janeiro and combined his big band with the powerful and joyous energy of samba. This captures the essence of Gafieira Rio Miami Brazilian Big Band. This phenomenal group features lively samba percussion, a swinging horn section, and the sensuous voice of Isa Duarte.

Gafieira Rio Miami fuses samba, jazz, and soul inspired by the joyous, 20th-century Rio de Janeiro ballroom dance music known as samba de gafieira. The band revives the gafieira style, and adds funk grooves and jazz improvisation.

### **CHINO NUÑEZ ORCHESTRA**

April 4, 2025

Experience a dynamic orchestral performance led by Chino Nuñez and his 14-piece orchestra. Multi-Grammy, Latin Grammy, and Billboard Award-winning Chino Nuñez presents the evolution of salsa music, tracing its roots through the rich tapestry of jazz, mambo, merengue, and cha-cha.

With over fifty years of experience in arranging and composing Latin music, Nuñez masterfully illustrates how these vibrant genres merged to create salsa, captivating audiences with the history and rhythms of Latin America and New York City's iconic 1970s nightlife.

\*The February 1 concert is not part of the series subscription. Tickets sold separately.

*Sponsorship Opportunities Available for the 2025 Tropical Nights at Pinecrest Gardens*  
Contact Cristina Blanco at [cblanco@pinecrestgardens.org](mailto:cblanco@pinecrestgardens.org).



# ART IN THE GARDENS



## ART EXHIBITIONS, ART CONVERSATIONS, AND ART COLLECTIBLES MARKETS

### UNRAVELING SURREALISM: CELEBRATING WOMEN'S NARRATIVES THROUGH CONTEMPORARY FIBER ART

On view September 9 through October 24  
Preview Opening: Sunday, September 8 at 11:30 am

This exhibition celebrates 100 years of surrealism and pays homage to the incredible legacy of women in art, reimagining their narratives through the lens of contemporary textile art. The artists' works explore the magic and strange beauty of the unconventional medium of fiber art, forging new connections between past and present, tradition and innovation.

### ARTISTS ARE PRESENT

On view November 3 through March 2  
Preview Opening: Saturday, November 2 at 5 pm

This exhibition features a selection of photographs and still images from videos in which the artist's presence is the subject, object, and medium of their work. It aims to showcase the presence of local women artists, trace their artistic journeys through video works, installations, photography, and performances, and make their ephemeral, time-based, and media-based works accessible to the community.

### INTIMATE VISIONS OF NATURE

On view November 2 through 29  
Preview Opening: Saturday, November 2 at 5 pm

Intimate Visions of Nature presents local artists whose work explore how we experience, consider, and interact with nature on a direct and human scale. These elemental and personal interpretations provide an authentic perspective of the natural world's details. The artists' unique visions of nature inspire powerful works that highlight the form and surface of nature's intricate details.

# ART IN THE GARDENS



### EXHIBITION PROGRAMMING – ART CONVERSATIONS

Join artists featured in the corresponding exhibitions for an art talk relating to the exhibition theme.

- **Conversation: Surrealism and Fiber Art**  
Saturday, October 5 at 11:30 am to 1 pm
- **Conversation: The Presence of Artists in their Work**  
Saturday, November 23 at 11:30 am to 1 pm
- **Conversation: Intimate Visions of Nature**  
Sunday, January 12 at 11:30 am

The 2024 Art in the Gardens exhibitions, related programs and design market are curated by hARTvest Project at Pinecrest Gardens in collaboration with local artists and art collectives.

### HARTVEST COLLECTIBLES DESIGN MARKET

Shop for handmade wearable, edible and displayable art products made by local artists and artisans at Pinecrest Gardens. All apparel, handmade items, art items and gifts are curated by hARTvest Project.

- Sunday, September 15, 10 am to 4 pm
- Sunday, November 16, 10 am to 4 pm

For more information, please visit [www.pinecrestgardens.org/aig](http://www.pinecrestgardens.org/aig).

### About hARTvest Project

The hARTvest Project came out of a personal dream by its founder Carola Bravo, with a mission to inspire as many people as possible to appreciate, enjoy, love and collect art. In 2014, Bravo created an art venture dedicated to "planting art seeds" and offering the experience of enjoying art. Being a practicing artist herself and a longtime educator, hARTvest Project started offering "art immersive experiences" that quickly created a group of fascinated participants.





PINECREST

**Village of Pinecrest**

12645 Pinecrest Parkway

Pinecrest, FL 33156

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# PINECREST GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THE BALLOT

Get ready and mark these key dates on your calendar. Your vote counts.  
Don't forget to check all the way to the bottom of your ballot.

**IMPORTANT MUNICIPAL ITEMS ARE UP FOR VOTE.**

**Deadline to Register**

October 7, 2024

**Early Voting**

October 26 - November 2, 2024

**Election Day**

November 5, 2024