



MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

Volume 23, Issue 1 ~ January 2023

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Commemorative Commission Committee**
THE DREAM IN ACTION! UNITY IS UP TO ALL OF US!

Schedule of Events

Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, January 14, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.
Mary Sue Rich Center at Reed Place
1812 NW 21st Ave., Ocala, FL 34475
Contact: Loretta Jenkins - (352) 351-0824

Wreath Ceremony

Saturday, January 14, 2023 - 11:30 a.m.
Martin L. King Jr. Park
500 SW MLK Jr. Ave., Ocala, FL 34471
Contact: Cassandra Boston - (352) 209-2973

MLK Youth Day

Saturday, January 14, 2023 - 1:00 p.m.
Mary Sue Rich Center at Reed Place
1812 NW 21st Ave., Ocala, FL 34475
Contact: Dwanette Dilworth - (352) 207-6036

Ecumenical Services

Sunday, January 15, 2023 - 5:00 p.m.
Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church
55 S.W. 3rd Ave., Ocala, FL 34471
Contact: Shirley Wright - (352) 732-0097

The Historic March

8:00 a.m. (line-up downtown)
9:00 a.m. (the march begins)
Downtown on the square to the
Dr. MLK Complex
Contact: Ire Bethea
(352) 208-0819 or ibethea2008@cox.net

Buses and vans will be running
from the MLK Complex
raquetball court
to downtown 7:00am - 8:30am
Contact: Kelvin B. Richardson
(352) 207-9558

Day in the Park

(Activities & Vendors)
Contact:
Dr. Dwanette Dilworth
(352) 207-6036
drdilworth@gmail.com

(Performance Space)
Derek Ponder - (352) 857-4118
derek.pondero@gmail.com
Te'Sha Jackson - (352) 426-0861
entconsultantbyteshaj@gmail.com

MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

3482 N.W. 10th St. Ocala, FL 34475 Phone: (352) 438-5990 Fax: (352) 438-5994 www.mcchildrensalliance.org

Board of Directors

Mike Balken
Lori Boring
John Cooper
Craig Curry
Pastor John Delcamp
Michael Greiner
Dr. Diane Gullett
Scott Hackmyer
Mark Lander
Adam Lombardo
Rep. Stan McClain
Kevin McDonald
Jim McCune
Pamela Michell
Scot Quintel
Randy Reynolds
Brad Rogers
Charles Scherer
Billy Woods

Our Vision

For all of Marion County's Children to have a safe, healthy and nurturing environment in which to grow.

Our Mission

"To improve the lives of Marion County Children"

~ Partners in Excellence ~

Barrett, Liner & Company; City of Ocala, Community Coalition Alliance; Cox Communication; Dept. of Children and Families; Dept. of Juvenile Justice; Drug Free Communities; Duke Energy; Florida Blue; Florida Department of Health in Marion County; Friends Recycling, LLC; Jenkins Auto Group; Kids Central, Inc.; Macy's; Marion County Board of County Commissioners; Marion County Hospital District; Marion County Public Schools; Marion County Sheriff's Office; Ocala Police Department; Paddock Mall; Palmer Family Foundation; Radiology Associates of Ocala; Renasant Bank; Signature Brands; Tri-Eagle Sales; United Way of Marion

Staff

E-mail: mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org

Executive Director Beth McCall executivedirector@mcchildrensalliance.org
Family Violence Prevention Coordinator Monica Bryant Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org
Prevention Coordinator Hilary Jackson Hilary@mcchildrensalliance.org
Supporting Kids, Involving Parents Coordinator (S.K.I.P) .. Kelley Windham .. Kelley@mcchildrensalliance.org
Outreach Specialist Tanya Ousley Tanya@mcchildrensalliance.org

Notice: The Children's Alliance informs readers of current events in the nonprofit and social service fields. Opinions expressed by the writers are not necessarily those of the Marion County Children's Alliance. Inclusion or exclusion of any agency does not imply either endorsement or disapproval by the Alliance. MCCA reserves the right to edit **ALL** submissions. Information should be e-mailed to Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org by the **FIRST** Friday of each month for the following months publication.



FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK COMING SOON

The First Friday Art Walk will take place in downtown Ocala
Friday, Jan. 6, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

First Friday Art Walk occurs on the first Friday of each month, September through May. The following activities will be included in January's event:

- Hands-on art activities and demonstrations for all ages provided by local non-profit arts and cultural organizations.
- Local artists selling their works throughout downtown.
- Extended shopping hours at participating businesses.
- Buskers stationed throughout the downtown area, including My Uncle's Friend, Pres-tine Allen, and Sean T Music.
- Live musical performance will be on the downtown square, featuring Ecliff Telford.

In the event of inclement weather, the First Friday Art Walk will be canceled.

For more information, contact the City of Ocala Cultural Arts and Sciences Division at **(352) 629-8447** or artinfo@ocalafl.org; or visit www.ocalafl.org/artwalk.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MARION COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Marion County Public Schools next Parent Partnership event will be held on January 21 at Belleview High Schools. Parent Partnership is a collaboration of district schools, departments, and community organizations to provide families opportunities to assist their child (ren) with strategies to be used at home and link families with community resources. The event will run from 9 a.m. to noon. More information can be found at **www.MarionSchools.net**

Marion County Public Schools recently launched a Launching Literacy in the Community campaign. Launching Literacy in the Community is a family and community engagement



initiative connecting standards-based literacy lessons in the elementary classroom with activities and conversations beyond the school day. By continuing literacy-based activities and conversations at home, families help reinforce and practice concepts learned in class. In addition to the reading resources found on our website, we have also partnered with several organizations to bring literacy activities into the community. You can learn more about this campaign by clicking on the "Launching Literacy in the Community" icon on the homepage of **www.MarionSchools.net**.

OUR MEETINGS ARE IN PERSON



Join Us!

for the

Alliance Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, January 4, 2023

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

at the MCSO Multi-purpose Room
3300 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL 34475

Agency Spotlight:

**Beth McCall, Executive Director,
Marion County Children's Alliance**

1. Monthly Meetings
2. 2023 Dr. Mike Jordan Award of Excellence and Vision Award
3. The Voice of Children - Legislative Topics for 2023

Guest Speaker:

**Joy Zedler, Founder/Executive Director
The Pearl Project**

"From Chaos to Calm:
How One Magic Question Changed Everything For Our Family"



CALL FOR PROPOSALS
College of Central Florida
34th Annual Early Childhood Conference
March 25, 2023
7:15 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dear Early Educator:

The College of Central Florida is now accepting proposals for the **34th Annual Early Childhood Conference** to be held March 25, 2023. The theme for this year's conference is "Family Reunion," bringing professionals back together. About 400 participants will enjoy two sessions of the opening keynote and more than 20 breakout sessions during this daylong conference. This year we are thrilled to have **Dr. Nekeshia Hammond**, licensed psychologist and owner of Hammond Psychology & Associates, P.A., as our opening keynote presenter. Dr. Hammond's focus is on completing psychological evaluations (gifted, learning disorders, ADHD, depression, anxiety, etc.). She has enjoyed traveling to speak to various groups about mental health and wellness.

The conference will take place at the College of Central Florida, Ewers Century Center, 3001 S.W. College Road, Ocala.

- **Only proposals received by Jan. 17 2023** are guaranteed to be reviewed.
- Proposals received after January will be reviewed if space is available.
- Notifications of acceptance will be **emailed** by **Jan. 31 2023**.
- Presenters who confirm, and provide requested paperwork **no later than Feb. 3 2023**, will be included in the brochure.
- **Please note this is a firm deadline.**

The conference tracks are: Infant/Toddler; Preschool; Primary (K to 3rd grade); Parent/Family; Faith-based; and Administration.

Each **primary presenter** will receive a complimentary registration to the conference, along with **one lunch voucher**. **Co-presenters are asked to register and pay for the conference. Make and Take** presenters are expected to furnish all required materials. We thank you for providing your own handouts. This year we will have two keynote sessions. The first 200 people to register, including presenters, will have a ticket for admission to **Session A** keynote. All other registrants will have a ticket to **Session B** keynote.

Primary presenters who indicate on the proposal form they will conduct a session **twice** are eligible for a \$80 honorarium. This honorarium can only be paid if all requested paperwork, provided after proposal acceptance, is **received no later than Feb. 15, 2023**.

Please complete and return the attached proposal form to Bebe Rahaman via email, rahamanb@cf.edu or fax, 352-873-5872. If you have any questions, please call me at 352-854-2322, ext. 1405.

Sincerely,

Bebe Z. Rahaman,
Teacher Education



College of Central Florida
34th Annual Early Childhood Conference
Proposal Form

Return to Bebe Rahaman, College of Central Florida, 3001 SW College Road, Ocala, FL 34474-4415, via email rahamanb@cf.edu or fax 352-873-5872.

Proposals received by Jan. 17 2023, will be reviewed.
Notifications of acceptance will be emailed by Jan. 31 2023.
Confirmation required by Feb. 3 2023.

Primary Presenter's Name: Last First

Mailing Address: Street/ P.O. Box City State Zip Code

Telephone: Home (include area code) Business (include area code) Mobile (include area code)

Email: Employer:

Position/Title:

Co-Presenter's Name: Last First

Mailing Address: Street/PO Box City State Zip Code

Telephone: Home (include area code) Business (include area code) Mobile (include area code)

Email:

Employer: Position/Title:

If selected, I (we) will present twice. I (we) understand that the honorarium is provided only if the presentation is selected, and only if all required paperwork is returned by the provided due dates. I (we) understand only the Primary Presenter will receive the honorarium.

Please note the honorarium is provided to only selected presenters.

Please check presentation track:

- Infant/Toddler, Parent/Family, Preschool, Faith-Based, Primary (K to 3rd Grade), Administration

Proposal Title:

Description:

Empty rectangular box for description.



College of Central Florida
34th Annual Early Childhood Conference
Vendor Form

To reserve a table, mail completed form with payment to:
College of Central Florida
University Center - ECE Conference
3001 S.W. College Rd. Ocala, FL 34474

Make checks payable to CF; personal checks must include a driver's license number.

Please type or print.

Business: _____

Please describe your business, and what your table will be promoting: _____

Electrical outlet needed: [] Yes [] No

Any special requests or accommodations? _____

Description of \$25 prize (one per table): _____

Primary Contact Name: _____

Name of Representative Attending the Conference: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street / PO Box City State Zip

Telephone: _____ Telephone: _____
Primary Contact (include area code) Representative Attending the Conference (include area code)

Email for Primary Contact: _____

Email for Representative Attending the Conference: _____

Number of tables requested: _____ @ \$ _____ per table = _____ Total Amount

Table with 2 columns: Location (Main Floor, 2nd Floor, 3rd Floor) and Price (\$125 and a \$25 door prize, \$100 and a \$25 door prize, \$75 and a \$25 door prize)

Lunch Voucher (optional) \$10

Check No: _____ Driver's License No: _____
(if using a personal check)



Please join us for the ribbon cutting ceremony for the

MARY SUE RICH COMMUNITY CENTER

at Reed Place

Tuesday
January 10
2023

11 a.m.

1812 NW 21st Ave.
Ocala, FL 34475

bit.ly/2023Marion



2023 MARION COUNTY

World's Greatest Baby Shower



TOBACCO FREE EVENT

FRIDAY JANUARY 27

@ Kingdom Revival Church
(3318 East Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala)

No COST



Session **1** 2:00-4:00pm

Session **2** 5:00-7:00pm

Choose ONE Session

Preregistration Not Required

Expecting a baby? Come to our community Baby Shower!

Parents of infants up to one year old are also invited.

EXHIBITORS • GAMES • SCAVENGER HUNT
PRIZES • FATHERS ENCOURAGED

WE SUPPORT



PROUD SPONSORS:



Howard Academy Community Center
presents their annual

*Black History
Museum Archives
Awards Gala*

Friday, February 24, 2023

7:00 pm

Mary Sue Rich Community
Center at Reed Place

1812 N.W. 21st Avenue
Ocala, Florida 34475

This will be a night to remember! This formal gala will acknowledge the accomplishments of several individuals who have made contributions to the Ocala/Marion County Community.

Nomination forms are available at our office and can be picked up from 8:30am to 4:00pm or emailed.

For more information, please call (352) 671-4175

HOWARD ACADEMY COMMUNITY CENTER presents



FINANCIAL *Literacy Classes*

Learn how to manage and budget your money wisely.
Learn how to maintain your budget for the future!
Join us at one of the classes below:

November 17, 2022
January 26, 2023
March 23, 2023
May 25, 2023
July 27, 2023
September 28, 2023

WHERE:

HOWARD ACADEMY COMMUNITY CENTER
306 N.W. 7TH AVENUE
OCALA, FL 34475

TIME:

5:30 PM TO 7:30 PM



Marion County Public Schools
"Helping Every Student Succeed"

TOPICS TO DISCUSS:

- Budgeting
- Banking
- How To Get Out Of Debt
- How to Increase Credit Scores
- How to save and much More!


SPECIAL GUEST EACH SESSION

Registration will be available
two weeks prior to each
class on eventbrite

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
(352) 671-4175

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS EVENT

Hosted by Marion County's Human Trafficking Task Force
at Ocala Police Department Community Room

 January 12, 2023
6:00 PM to 07:30PM

DISCUSSIONS AND INSIGHTS

EDUCATION

Learn tools that will help identify digital dangers, signs of Human Trafficking, online safety and parent resources.

PREVENTION

By educating the community, we are providing knowledge to hopefully help prevent Human Trafficking from ever happening in the first place.

CASE STUDIES

Hear the real life stories of victims and what steps were taken by different agencies.

RSVP to this FREE event via Eventbrite. Limited registrations. Only for 18 years and older. Light refreshments will be provided.

REGISTRATION

[link eventbrite](#)



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



For more information email
Cblanton@ocalapd.gov

LEGACIES -of- LOVE

Legacies of Love honors those who have made our community great! Celebrate the legacies of these fabulous 5 people!

*Whit Palmer
Carlyle Ausley
Toro Townley
Doug Oswald
Nick Nikkinen*



**Wednesday, February 8th
at the Reilly Art Center**

Become one of our honored sponsors!

Legacy Sponsor \$2,500

Supporting Sponsor \$1,000



Presenting Sponsor:



For more info or to become a sponsor: Karla@iesmarion.org



GEORGE ALBRIGHT
MARION COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
PRESENTS THE



13TH ANNUAL CHARITY CAR SHOW

PROCEEDS SUPPORT MARION COUNTY CHARITIES



- * TOP 25 TROPHIES * PEOPLES CHOICE TROPHY * MUSIC * KIDS BOUNCE HOUSE
- * FOOD AVAILABLE ON-SITE * CRAFT VENDORS * ANTIQUE VENDORS
- * CAR PARTS SWAP SPACES

**SHOW OPEN TO ALL VEHICLES
- PAST & PRESENT -**

MCPHERSON GOV. COMPLEX

503 SE 25TH AVE OCALA, FLORIDA

9:00AM-3:00PM FEB 25th 2023

Make checks payable to MCTC Employee Fund \$15.00 Pre-registration by February 15th, 2023 \$20.00 at the gate
Mail to: PO BOX 63 all vehicle and car part swap spaces same price.
Ocala, FL 34478

Name _____ E-mail _____ Vehicle Make _____
Address _____ Year/Model _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

By execution of this form I hereby release the Marion County Tax Collector's Office from any or all damages during this event.

Signature _____ Date _____
For more information contact Jacob Wicklein at 352-368-8206 or e-mail at jwicklein@mariontax.com



DEEP: DIABETES EMPOWERMENT EDUCATION

DEEP™ is a free 6-week education series designed to help people with pre-diabetes and diabetes gain a better understanding of self-care.

1/11/2023 -2/15/2023

1:30pm-3:30pm

The program will cover topics like:

- Understanding the human body and how to monitor it,
- The importance of meal planning and physical activity.
- Identifying and preventing diabetic complications.

To register for the next class call us at

352-671-4186

Community Home Project-Howard

Academy Community Center

306 NW 7th Ave Ocala FL. 34475



FREE Clinical Screenings Sponsored by AdventHealth

CALL TO ARTISTS: ART IN CITY SPACES

The City of Ocala is currently accepting proposals for the Art in City Spaces program, which exhibits artwork in six gallery spaces:

- **City Hall** – First and Second Floor Lobbies, 110 SE Watula Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471
- **City Clerk’s Office** - City Hall, First Floor, 110 SE Watula Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471
- **Recreation and Parks Administration Building and the Eighth Avenue Adult Activity Center** – 828 NE Eighth Avenue, Ocala, FL 34470
- **Barbara Gaskin Washington Adult Activity Center** – 210 NW 12th Ave., Ocala, FL 34475
- **Ocala International Airport** – 1770 SW 60th Avenue, Suite 600, Ocala, FL 34474
- Future site: **Mary Sue Rich Community Center at Reed Place** – 1821 NW 21st Ave.

The program provides the opportunity for artists and art organizations to exhibit their artwork in a public City space. Interested parties must first submit an application and undergo a review process. Upon approval, an exhibit agreement is executed, and an exhibition time is scheduled.

Applications may be found online at: **www.ocalafl.org/artincityspaces**.

Please submit an application as well as a résumé, artist biography and high-quality image files to:

Ocala Cultural Arts and Sciences Division

Attention: Art in City Spaces

**7 E Silver Springs Blvd, Suite 503,
Ocala, FL 34470**

Phone: (352) 629-8447

Email: artinfo@ocalafl.org

The City of Ocala seeks unique, thought-provoking exhibits that are appropriate for a public City space where work will be viewed by citizens and guests of all ages. Only complete applications are reviewed. Viewer engagement, artist intent and originality of ideas, and use of media and technique are all considered when an application is being considered for approval.

For more information, or to view the complete call to artists, please contact the Cultural Arts and Sciences Division at **(352) 629-8447** or visit **www.ocalafl.org/artincityspaces**.





2023 FCA Breakfast

North Central Florida | Marion County

Join us at Church @ the Springs

Tuesday, January 24th

Doors open at 7:00am

Program starts at 7:30am - Dismissed at 8:30am

**Hear Coaches, Athletes, & Community Leaders
discuss the impact FCA is having in Marion County**



REGISTER HERE!

*Sponsor a table of 8
for only \$250*

 **CHURCH@
THE SPRINGS**
5425 SE 58th Ave. | Ocala, FL

Presented by 
Advent Health
Ocala



@fca_in_marion

www.northcentralfca.org



Appalachian Road Show



The Wandering Hours

BLUEGRASS & BBQ 2023

January 20, 6-9 p.m.

Tickets at www.ocalafl.org/artpark

 **TUSAWILLA
ART PARK SERIES**

mca presents...
major cultural alliance



Couch Sessions Exhibit

An Interactive Art Exhibit Celebrating
5 Years of Couch Sessions

Sip. Sit. Support.

January 6 - 28, 2023
at The Brick Gallery
23 SW Broadway Street
Ocala, Florida

FOR A LIST OF EVENTS, VISIT MCAOCALA.ORG



Shines by the Sun LLC.
PRESENTS:

Fairy Hair Fun

AT

THE ODDITIES MARKETPLACE

Sunday, January 8, 2023

11 AM - 3 PM

OCALA DOWNTOWN MARKET

403 SE Osceola Ave.

Ocala, Florida



SPOKEN WORD OCALA



Life, Death, and the words that fuel them.



Spoken Word Ocala is hosting another spoken word poetry event here at NOMA gallery. This is a free event with an optional donation box for NOW of Marion county.

January 07, 2023

6:00 PM

Free Event

939 N Magnolia Ave,
Ocala FL 34475



NEW YEAR NETWORKING

Business Expo & Social

FREE ADMISSION!

SAT 1/7/2023 | 5:30-9PM | REBOOT CENTER | 3101 SR 200, 34474

NETWORKING - VENDORS - PRIZES - FOOD - DRINKS - LIVE MUSIC

OUR VIP SPONSORS:



RSVP TO RESERVE YOUR 2 FREE DRINK & RAFFLE TICKETS: WWW.LMS-PLUS.COM

FEBRUARY 3RD, 2023

ELVIS & FRIENDS

AT THE CIRCLE SQUARE CULTURE CENTER

SHOWTIME: 6:30PM



To Benefit

**Habitat
for Humanity**

Marion County

FEATURING COTE DEONATH | SPECIAL GUESTS: GEORGE TRULLINGER / TIM STAMPER & CHRIS PATTI



BUDDY HOLLY



FRANK SINATRA



THE BLUES BROTHERS



THE BIG BOPPER

global **TM**USIC labolg

international **JAZZ** day @ Marion Theatre Ocala

Keith Caton Blues Band
ft: Sheba the Mississippi Queen
&
SeanTMusic Ocala Funktet

**APRIL
30**

7:30PM



Marion Theatre
50 S Magnolia Ave
Ocala FL. 34471

TICKETS: \$25 - \$35
www.mariontheatre.org

more info:
facebook.com/seanTMusicglobal



Marion County Children's Alliance

3482 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL 34475

Ph: (352) 438-5990 Fax: (352) 438-5994

A new year is like a blank book. The pen is in your hands. It is your chance to write a beautiful story for yourself.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

ALLIANCE WORKGROUP MEETINGS

- January 9** Monday Family Violence Prevention
11 a.m.
Zoom Meeting
- January 11** Wednesday Safe Kids Marion
9 a.m.
Florida Dept. of Health
- January 16** Wednesday CCASA
Noon
(No Meeting This Month)
- January 24** Tuesday Substance Exposed Newborns
9 a.m.
OPD Community Room

Connect With Us, log on to

Mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org
to view the Calendar to see what's going on in our community; to sign up to receive a free copy of this newsletter or to join a workgroup.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

UPCOMING ALLIANCE DATES

- January 4 Alliance Monthly Meeting
Wednesday 11:30 a.m.
MCSO Multi-purpose Room

Agency Spotlight:

**Beth McCall, Executive Director,
Marion County Children's Alliance**

1. Monthly Meetings
2. 2023 Dr. Mike Jordan Award of Excellence and Vision Award
3. The Voice of Children - Legislative Topics for 2023

Guest Speaker:

Joy Zedler, Founder/Executive Director, The Pearl Project

"From Chaos to Calm:
How One Magic Question Changed
Everything For Our Family"