

CITY OF WINTER PARK proclamation

Crealdé School of Art 50th Anniversary | October 24, 2025

WHEREAS, in 1975, visionary artist, builder and community leader William Sterling Jenkins founded Crealdé Arts Inc., operating as Crealdé Arts Center with his daughter Ann Jenkins Clement serving as the first director, establishing a community arts center where local artists share could share their talent with the public; and

WHEREAS, the name “Crealdé” combines the Spanish verb crear (“to create”) with the Old English suffix alde (“village”), reflecting a mission to make art accessible to everyone; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, the State of Florida approved Crealdé’s articles of incorporation; and in 1981, the organization obtained 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, enabling expanded service and governance by a volunteer Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, Crealdé established departments in Painting & Drawing, Ceramics & Sculpture, and Photography, as well as launched the still-popular Summer ArtCamp program for children and teens; and

WHEREAS, Crealdé’s impact has been strengthened by educational partnerships and philanthropy, including the 1986 Jenkins Chair at University of Central Florida, and 1988 Alice M. Jenkins Scholarship Fund; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Crealdé’s property was conveyed to the nonprofit, ensuring organizational autonomy and enabling a decade of growth that included emerging-artist programs, teaching sites in underserved communities, and the creation of the Contemporary Sculpture Garden under sculptor David Cumbie; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, the Board of Directors appointed Peter Schreyer as Executive Director, whose 29-year tenure advanced exhibitions, education and community partnerships, where he oversaw the naming of the Alice & William Jenkins Gallery, and in 2000, the major expansion that added the Showalter Hughes Community Gallery overlooking Lake Sterling; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, in collaboration with the City of Winter Park, Crealdé opened the Hannibal Square Heritage Center to honor the past, present, and future contributions of Winter Park’s African American community through exhibitions, oral histories and education; and

WHEREAS, Crealdé completed significant renovations from 2009-2010 and again in 2023-2024, with the largest improvements in two decades, including two new studio classrooms; and

WHEREAS, today Crealdé serves over 4,200 students annually through tuition-based programs; awards scholarships to increase access to the arts; partners with over 100 community organizations; and welcomes tens of thousands of attendees across classes, exhibitions and outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, its 50th Anniversary year, welcomed Emily Bourmas-Fry as Executive Director & CEO to guide the organization into the next half-century of creative leadership.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sheila DeCiccio, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Winter Park, in the state of Florida, do hereby proclaim **Friday, October 24, 2025**, to be **Crealdé School of Art 50th Anniversary Day** in the City of Winter Park, Florida, and encourage all residents to recognize five decades of leadership in community-based visual arts, education and cultural preservation.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Winter Park, Florida, to be affixed this 24th day of October 2025.

Sheila DeCiccio
Mayor