

9. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- f. Request for letters of support from Dr. José Leal, Director of The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum for a grant submission for a new educational display

Pamela Smith

From: José H. Leal [jleal@shellmuseum.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 2:18 PM
To: Pamela Smith
Subject: Letters of Support

Dear Ms. Smith,

Thanks so very much for talking with me today about support for the Shell Museum grant application to the Division of Cultural Affairs with the State of Florida. I am seeking support from members of City Council, in particular from Mayor Denham, as explained below and in the attachment to this message:

The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum will be presenting a grant application to Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, under the program "Culture Builds Florida." I am writing to inquire whether you would be willing to write a letter indicating your support of the application.

The Museum will applying for matching funds for the design and fabrication of a new permanent exhibit to be displayed in its Great Hall of Shells. The Exhibit will be titled "Edible Mollusks – The Tasty Lure of Shellfish." The exhibit aims to interpret the use of mollusks as food through places and time and to explain the extensive and varied uses of shellfish through human cultures, from the evidence found in shell mounds to contemporary culinary creations.

The planned exhibit will fit appropriately with the Museum mission and goals, in addition to encompassing the four main vision areas of the strategic plan "Culture Builds Florida Future" developed by Florida Arts Council (www.floridaarts.org/FloridaArtsCouncilVisioningProject.htm):

1. Strengthening the Economy; 2. Promoting Learning and Wellness; 3. Building Leadership; and 4. Advancing Design and Development.

The letter must be mailed directly to me for inclusion in the application package, but should be addressed to:

Division of Cultural Affairs
Florida Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, 3rd Floor
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

The deadline for mailing of the application and support materials is June 18, 2009. Please feel free to contact me in case you have any questions about the proposal, the exhibit, or the Museum. Your support will be greatly appreciated!

Kind regards,

José

José H. Leal, Ph.D., Director
The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum
Editor, *The Nautilus*
www.shellmuseum.org

3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road
Sanibel, FL 33957 USA
(239)395-2233

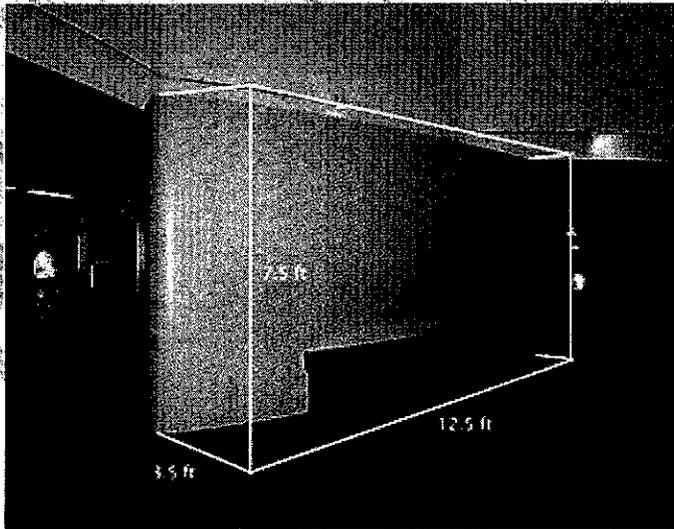
5/27/2009

"Edible Mollusks: The Tasty Lure of Shellfish"

The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum is seeking funds for construction of a new permanent exhibit to be displayed in its Great Hall of Shells. The Exhibit will be titled "Edible Mollusks – The Tasty Lure of Shellfish." The exhibit aims to interpret the use of mollusks as food through places and time and to explain the extensive and varied uses of shellfish through human cultures, from the evidence found in shell mounds to contemporary culinary creations.

The exhibit will describe the nutritional values and encourage consumption of shellfish such as oysters, clams, mussels, octopus, squid, and others. It will be dedicated in concert with promotional events such as workshops on gourmet seafood cooking, wine and shellfish events at the Museum, and others. Content will be developed by staff consulting with specialists in the areas of fisheries, sea food culinary, and ethnography.

The exhibit will occupy a prime area in the Great Hall of Shells, in the central part of the room, facing the globe. The designated space is 12.5 x 7.5 x 3.5 ft. The Museum will invite bids on the exhibit design as soon as pledges toward the project are received. This exhibit is in the planning phase; we hope to raise the funds through grants and donations and welcome pledges over a three-year period. Appropriate recognition on the exhibit will be provided. Planning to completion will likely take three years depending on how quickly donations are received.



The Museum Mission is:

To educate about shells and mollusks, the shell-makers, through exhibits, educational programs, library services and publications;

To further awareness of nature and the natural environment;

To promote collection-based research on shells and mollusks with emphasis on Southwest Florida and the Gulf of Mexico.



The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum
www.shellmuseum.org