THE Mary Brickell FOUNDATION Inaugural Launch

Learning Calendar

JANUARY 13 *(105th Anniversary of her passing)* to FEBRUARY 20 *(191st Anniversary of her birth)*

SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY

The Mary Brickell FOUNDATION

A 501C3 Organization #41-5099692

Scan Here!

FOR ALL RESERVATIONS, RSVP'S, & TICKETS:

WWW.MARYBRICKELL.COM POWERED BY FUNCSHUN OR CALL **786-763-1001**

On the day Mary Brickell passed the local newspaper buried the story, not so for her husband William and not so for Julia Tuttle. Yet the florist shops were gutted and lines formed for blocks to pay respect to Mary, particularly by the black community of Miami. This series starts on the 105th anniversary Jan 13th 1922 of her passing and continues till the day of her birth Feb 20th, 1837.

Pre-Launch Event

12 On the eve of our launch, The Rotary Club's of Perrine, Cutler Ridge and Palmetto Bay (all areas that Mary Brickell's land holdings were critical gateway acres for Flagler's larger plan to build a deep water port to Cape Sable originally and inevitably to Key West) hosts a talk by Historian Cesar A. Becerra about these critical lands that were developed south of Miami. True Food Kitchen at The Falls at 5:30pm, for further info email us at info@marybrickell.com

JANUARY

13 Flowers for Mary; Mausoleum Ceremony to mark the 105th Anniversary of Mary's passing

Mary Brickell Park: 501 Brickell Ave, 2pm

Bring flowers for Mary, Honoring Mary Brickell. Mary Brickell passed away on this very day 105 years ago and was initially buried in a solid bronze casket in the ground at the Brickell's private cemetery on the very border today of Mary Brickell Park and the W Hotel. Later she was reinterred into the Mausoleum that is still there today and later still reinterred at Woodlawn Cemetery on South West 8th Street. The Mausoleum which is on the national registry has lost its two Urns, its solid bronze door and its small stained glass window. The Mary Brickell foundation intends to replace them all. Come join us in a small but poignant flower ceremony as we temporarily replace the urns and hear about the preservation efforts already begun for the future.

14 Lunch stroll in The City of Miami's Simpson Park the last remnant of Brickell Hammock 11:45 - 12:45

Simpson Park: 55 SW 17th Rd

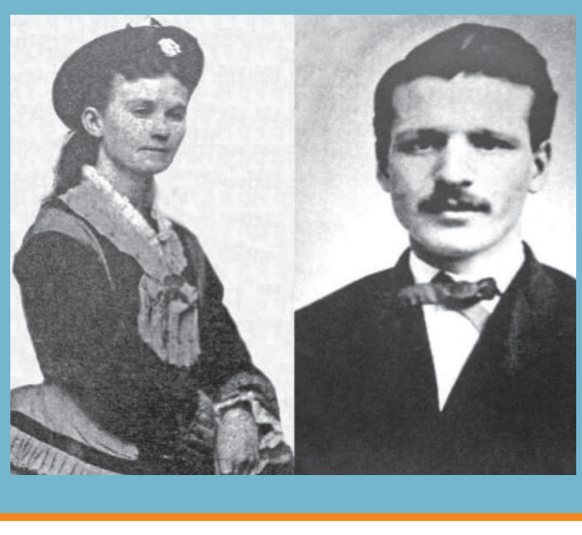
Join the Mary Brickell Foundation for a nice slow stroll through a magical hidden-in-plain-sight world of the Brickell Hammock today known as Simpson Park. When the Brickell's arrived in 1871 they landed in a considerably wild "jungle" that was the Florida Everglades. Miami had previously been known as Ft. Dallas and less than 30 families were scattered north and south from the Miami River. Becerra will point out some of the most important trees and plants and we will settle in at picnic benches as lunch will be served. There may be a special guest joining us for lunch.

Finding Mary; Long lost Mary Brickell treasures of collector Stan Cooper

Come meet the Board of Directors of The Mary Brickell Foundation, noted Archaeologist Bob Carr and Miami Herald Photographer Al Diaz to a special evening discussion. The late Stan Cooper was considered one of the most prolific collectors of Brickell items and only displayed them once during Miami's 1996 Centennial in a exhibit curated by historian Cesar Becerra who will be on hand moderating this presentation and exhibition of the images Al Diaz took for preservation's sake. Location to be announced.

15 Pioneer Paintings and more inside the Brickell Room at Capital Grill, 7pm

The Mary Brickell Foundation invites you to an evening at The Capital Grill Restaurant at 444 Brickell Avenue. William and Mary Brickell have been left out of the story of the founding of Miami in one too many history books, and Mary – ironically the actual deed owner of the Brickell lands – even less. This is your chance to enjoy a historic moment and help us raise critical funds for the restoration of three elements of The Brickell Mausoleum across the street at Mary Brickell Park. Reservations are a must by emailing info@marybrickell.com Space is limited.



16 Casey Piket walking tour of Modern Brickell Avenue, Tour begins at Rivergate Complex 444 Brickell Ave

Don't miss historian, blogger and bonafide Brickell expert Casey Piket on this special guided walking tour exploring the people, places, and pivotal moments that transformed Brickell from a sparsely settled wilderness outpost into one of Miami's most prominent neighborhoods. From the Rivergate Complex, participants will travel south to SE Eighth Street, the eastern end of the historic Tamiami Trail, and continue toward Brickell Key on Claughton Island. The route then follows the bayfront north to Mary Brickell Park, where participants will visit the Brickell family mausoleum and learn how this small but important piece of waterfront property was preserved as public green space. The tour concludes at the historic First Presbyterian Church of Miami.

Genealogical Society of Greater Miami, Talk on the extended Brickell Family

First there was Alice. But was Alice really William's. Later still a gaggle of boys and girls, and one who had delusions of grandeur and a funny way of protecting money. The Genealogical Society of Greater Miami hosts a "Who were the Brickell's" talk with new information from Mary's hometown of Bolton, England, why the Bulmers moved to Australia, and how the 1st photo of Mary was found. 3 - 5pm, Miami Dade County's Pinecrest Library, 5835 SW 111th St.

17 Bob Carr Walking Tour of Brickell Point

Beginning at the Miami Circle and wrapping around to Mary Brickell Park, renowned archaeologist Bob Carr will tell his own origin story and how the Brickell's play a big role early on, plus paint a potent picture on not just The famed Miami Circle but the bigger picture on the south side of the Miami River.

Raised by Wolves the Reno Family & the Brickells

In the pantheon of overwhelming myths associated with the age old story of a "lone shooter" syndrome of Julia Tuttle we present the holes in the oversimplified birth story. A bouquet of Orange Blossoms sent to lure Henry Flagler to Miami is one of those stories that has already been demystified and proven catastrophically wrong. We will present the importance of primary source research and a flashlight as to where to find them. We then will present the story of Janet Reno – the nation's first female Attorney General – and her mother's opinion based on facts "that Mary Brickell was just as important to Miami as Julia Tuttle was" an opinion shared in a hand written letter now inside The Brickell Collection at Florida International University.

Swamped pages; Growing and Curating must haves in your South Florida History Book Library with experts Rodney Dillon and Barbara Poleo of Your Cellar Books

When you want a good recommendation for a wine you ask for a Sommelier. What to eat, consult a foodie or food critic. But when you are wanting to learn more about South Florida and how we got where we got today then ask the folks at Your Book Cellar. On this special zoom moderated by historian and Foundation president Cesar A. Becerra you will learn about the most obscure books and others that are right at your online fingertips. RSVP to info@marybrickell.com to register for this zoom talk at 7pm

18 Crossing the Everglades, on foot, literature, non-fiction and in the Movies

Shellpoint Woodlands Center:
14441 Woodsong Lane, Fort Myers, FL 33908

The Men in Mary's life. One William, Two Henrys and James Ingraham; Understanding the key details of the chess game that produced Miami; the Magic City. In 1892 a courageous gang of nearly a dozen adventurers took off from Fort Myers hell-bent on surveying a route to Miami. At that time Miami was a 4 to 5 day (or more) trek that consisted of a long journey across the state around or thru the Lake Okeechobee area. Though Henry Flagler had a hand shake deal with Henry Plant to stay in their respective side of the state, this Ingraham Expedition was a proverbial crossing of-the-line, with one Henry taking bold steps. Come hear of the chess match that ended with Flagler hiring James away from Plant and the beginnings of the domino effect that led to Miami's birth.

Back to back freezes of 1894/95 forced Flagler to reconsider the extension of his railroad to Miami from West Palm.

19 The story of the Birth of Miami and the birth of The Mary Brickell Foundation

Sunny Isles Gateway Center: 151 Sunny Isles Blvd, Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160
Lunch: 12 noon, Talk: 12:30

Stan Cooper and Carmen Petsoules in 1996 during Miami's Centennial

July 28th is the actual birthday of Miami but many years earlier a half a dozen must-haves had to happen for the City to get its start. Come hear Historian Cesar Becerra tell the story of two remarkable women that made it all happen and the real story of the complex deal that lured Henry Flagler to Miami from West Palm Beach. Lunch will be served and costs $10 per person, reservation are a must by calling 786-763-1001. Must call to reserve spot by the 13th of January.

Bea Brickell and Foundation President Cesar Becerra at Biscayne Nature Center

20 Wolfson Media Center Zoom with Bea Thursday, 7:00pm, for reservation and zoom link email: info@marybrickell.com

The Miami Dade College's Wolfson Media History Center Archives presents a "Zoom with Mary's Great granddaughter who is the founder of the Mary Brickell Foundation. Along with board members Mia Laurenzo, Steve Sauls, Elena Kasparis, Executive Director Katia Gauchier and president Cesar A. Becerra. Ms. Bea Brickell will explain her intention and purpose for her launching the Foundation. Ms. Brickell gre up spending several months a year at the Brickell Apartments and remember a different Miami. Later in life she focused on a long career in International Trade Law and is now focused on the foundation she launched last year. The moderator for this zoom event will be Archives director Lou Kramer.

21 Barnacle Part 1, Analog (not a Powerpoint) Presentation, Telling the Brickell Story in Ten Photos

Barnacle Historic State Park 3485 Main Highway, Coconut Grove

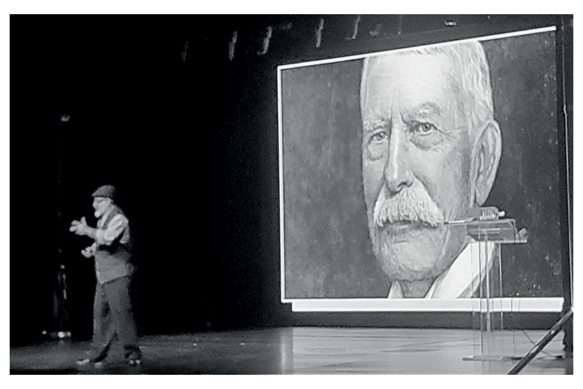
William "Bill" Brickell heard the alarm of the bell that sent millions barrelling towards the California Gold fields from his home in Steubenville, Ohio in 1849. He set off on a 5 month journey with 59 other Steubenvillians. Chaos met the group early and the group was broken up into smaller units but they made it. Clear across the world a torched town in England sent Mary Bulmer's family from Little Bolton to Sydney Australia to start life anew. Join Historian Cesar Becerra at the Barnacle state historic site – the perfect setting since it would be William Brickell years later that lured Ralph M. Munroe to Coconut Grove – for part 1 of our 3 Thursday night series lectures under the stars to tell the whole saga slowly of how Mary met William and how William met Mary. 6 to 9pm, bring a blanket or folding chair, we will bring snacks and drnks for sale and handheld non-powerpoint old school visuals. For tickets email info@marybrickell.com

Glass Beads from Brickell Trading Post, Stan Cooper Collection, photograph by Al Diaz

22 Full Moon boat tour Mary on the Bay in cooperation with the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center

Boat Tour: Crandon Marina 4000 Crandon Boulevard, Key Biscayne, FL 33149

Mary Brickell herself may make an appearance and say a few words as historian Cesar A. Becerra guides a two hour boat tour along side Miami's coast from Vizcaya cruising alongside Brickell Avenue and up the Miami river while pointing out key Brickell sites along the way [particularly at Brickell Point.] Enjoy a lite bite buffet (cheeses, sushi, fruits, hummus, crackers and much more) and feel free to bring your own drinks while sipping on our soft drinks. This boat tour is a joint fundraiser between the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center and The Mary Brickell Foundation and your tickets are fully tax deductible.



Foundation President Cesar Becerra discussing Flagler at The Tribby Arts Center in Shell Point, Ft. Myers.

23 Arch Creek, Meet at the Bridge Festival Meet Mary and More at the "Arch" Bridge

Arch Creek Park: 1855 NE 135th St.

All day festival at Arch Creek Park in North Miami. Many moons before US1 or The Tamiami Trail and in the same era as the original Old Cutler Road, there was a wagon road that would lead you from Miami to The New River area now known as Ft. Lauderdale. Mary Brickell would have travelled on this very path originally by horse and buggy and later in her 1911 Studebaker which included a unique oolitic limestone arch over the part of a fresh water outflow from the Everglades that oured into Biscayne Bay.. It was and still is a gathering place and the perfect zone for an early picnic as many pioneers did.

Special wine and cheese cocktail mixer celebrating Mary Brickell as our first major Female Real Estate Agent at an address to be determined. Join real estate agent Jeanette Pressman host this evening's talk about Mary Brickell's vast acres and how she was able to amass nearly 6000 acres by the time she passed in 1922. Beginning with the original core 2000 acres transferred first by Hariett English by "power of attorney" to William Brickell for 4 years from 1869 to 1872 (mainly on the south bank of the Miami river) but later deed transferred into Mary's hands, she raised that another 2000 acres roughly around the New River area in Ft. Lauderdale before the railroad chugged into Miami. An additional 2000 acres were bought from the time the city was born until her passing in 1922. Historian Cesar Becerra will elaborate on the findings of author Beth Brickell (no relation) of this most intriguing real estate chess match as some participants will possibly purchase the property we will be celebrating at beginning that evening

24 Brickell Walking Tour The two co-founding "mothers of Miami" a walking tour

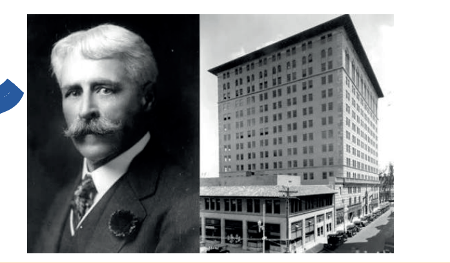
We meet at Brickell Mausoleum and spend the 1st part of the walking tour on the south side of the Miami River and work our way to The Miami Circle and Brickell Point. Along the way Becerra will point out what was where and who did what in the early years from 1871 to 1891 plus a bit about modern day Brickell. Then we shall cross the Brickell Bridge over to the north bank of the Miami River and discuss Julia Tuttle's critical role in co- founding Miami. We will end our walking tour at The Julia Tuttle Statue and discuss the facts and myths of the Orange Blossom Story.

Who Was James Ingraham
4pm Zoom Lecture, Email info@marybrickell.com

Join us tonight for a zoom lecture with Barbara Poleo, an esteemed friend in the book shop world and the leading historian on Flagler's right hand man and President of the Model Land company. "James Edmundson Ingraham, Fifty Years in Florida " will chronicle the man who bore witness to the opening up on the east coast for Flagler. Ingraham arrived in Sanford, Florida in 1874. He developed the South Florida Railroad as well as numerous towns between Sanford and Tampa and in the center of Florida. He went on to be a trusted lieutenant to Henry Flagler and was instrumental in the development of the east coast of Florida and drainage of the Everglades. When he died in 1924 ,he was a Vice President of the Florida East Coast Railway and instrumental in the establishment of Royal Palm State Park.

25 Biscayne Gardens Elementary School

One of the Brickell Foundation's main ongoing mission statement is to educate South Floridians young and old, but mainly the youth and in particular all students in Public Schools of Dade County, Broward and Palm Beach. This outreach is supported by book and merchandise sales, activities and tours (such as this launch calendar) and grants and private and corporate contributions. We begin our first of three school visits at Biscayne Gardens Elementary School, in part because before Miami was Miami it was known simply as the Biscayne Bay Country. To get there you would have to by-pass Miami all together and take a steamer to Key West then jump on a charter sloop back north to Miami on account that there was no deepwater port in Miami until much later in its development. We thank you for supporting this school visit with any and all of your reservations or purchases which are fully tax deductable. If you'd like one of our staff members to visit your school for a presentation please send us a request by emailing info@marybrickell.com or call executive director Katia Gauchier at 786-763-1001



26 Broward County Community College/The New River Sisters; Mary and Ivy

Our team will visit Broward County Community College and teach about Mary Brickell and her undisputed role in the founding of Fort Lauderdale, originally known as New River Country along side a river bearing the same name. Mary eventually would have to defend her land all the way to the Florida Supreme court where the new city took advantage of her "riparian rights" and annex quite a few acres of her riverfront lands. The newly created City of Ft. Lauderdale (named after one of the Lauderdale brothers that were once engaged in hunting and rounding up Seminoles) was parsing straws and mistook Mary's promise to extend those critical river edge acres to the "people of Fort Lauderdale" NOT "the city of Fort Lauderdale. She lost, but with the case came testimonials from a cadre of movers and shakers that confirmed Mary, not her husband William ran all the Brickell affairs.

27 Brightline and The Orange Blossom 2.0 special from Miami to West Palm

Brightline Tour: starts 600 NW 1st Ave

Join us on the rails that in 1895 opened up The Biscayne Country as two women, Julia Tuttle and Mary Brickell successfully enticed Henry Flagler to extend his railroad to a town he never thought would amount to anything other than an elaborate fishing village. Historian Cesar A. Becerra is your guide along with Katia Gauchier executive director of The Mary Brickell Foundation in downtown Miami's Brightline Station for a first class rail tour to Flagler's home Whitehall and one of his signature hotels The Breakers. Cost of tour includes first class nibbles and snacks and drinks on the way north and south from West Palm, plus several Ubers to transfer the group from Brightline West Palm to The Breakers then The Flagler Museum back to Brightline Station West Palm. We shall take a leisurely stroll down the historic and protected Australian Palm Drive from the Breakers to The Flagler Museum. Transportation to and from the eatery "Mary and Mary" inside the Brightline Station in downtown Miami is up to each participant. RSVP and tickets are a must by emailing info@marybrickell.com and lets place a photo here of the old railroad.

28 Barnacle Part 2, Analog Presentation, Telling the Brickell Story in Ten Photos

Barnacle Historic State Park 3485 Main Highway, Coconut Grove

The Brickells travel to America from Australia. One day after they were married at the Scott's Church "manse" on May 21st, 1862, Mary, William and little 5 year old Alice Brickell set off for an 85 day trip by ship from Melbourne Australia to San Fransisco. They would hop on another ship from San franscisco to the Isthmus conneting north and South America and took the world's most expensive 50 mile train ride and reached the waters of the Caribbean to board one more ship to New York. They would settle in Cleveland Ohio next to some interesting neighbors. Come hear the second part of a three part series at The Barnacle with historian Cesar A. Becerra and a surprise guest. 6 to 9pm, bring your picnic baskets, blankets or portable chairs as we enjoy part two of this three part saga. Drinks and snacks will be offered for sale. But you are welcome to bring your own.

29 Bringing Brickell to Life and Light; A.I. in the Brickell Modern Day with Rolando Rojas

Orange Blossom 2.0 – the case of Mary Brickell as a co-mother of Miami – was the first local history book published on its first edition in 3 languages; English, Creole and in Spanish, thanks to major support by The Green Family Foundation. We simply felt that Miami's origin story should be enjoyed, understood and accessible to all who call Miami home. And it would have been a sentiment that Mary Brickell would have wanted. WWMW – "what would mary want?" And so tonight we present an in-Spanish-only-event hosted by Rolando Rojas and his remarkable advocacy of all things Miami history related particularly his role in sharing the story of Mary and William Brickell to thousands daily with his following of nearly 18,000 followers on Instagram and Facebook. One of his most useful tools is using A. I. in a potent and positive way to illustrate some of the historical details of the Brickell's journey to and in Miami. Join us for a highlight reel and his behind the scenes work of his site called @historiademiami. Brickell Key today, but is that official or unofficial? A special guest will explain the evolution of the name and the very dirt and rock the island is made of. Site and time on Brickell Key TBA soon. Space and parking is limited, after registering online we recommend ubering to Brickell Key. Many thanks to our host Anthony Fernandez for assisting us with this event.

30 4th annual Bird Road walking and culinary Tour Day 1, Benefitting the Outreach Programs of The Mary Brickell Foundation

Meet At Frankie's Pizza: 9118 Bird Rd. Tour at 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm, Tickets are a must

Bird Road may have been started by a gentleman farmer and retired pastor but pieces of the road as it heads into Coconut Grove were once owned by Mary Brickell. Founder of this unique walking tour, Historian Cesar A. Becerra will lead this tour at 10am and 2pm. Tickets include nibbles from 8 establishments plus two that are no longer in business that Becerra will toast and taste a desert goodie in their honor. This tour will benefit the outreach talks that the Foundation presents and its great to reach all 520 Dade County Public Schools. Meet at Frankies Pizza, 9118 SW Bird Road. Ticket purchase includes a full tax deductable contribution and you will receive an official letter to that effect.

The Brickell/Kidd Union Bridge, Albury-Woodonga, Australia, 1850's

31 Bird Road Walking Tour Part 2 4th annual Bird Road walking and culinary Tour Day 1, Benefitting the Outreach Programs of The Mary Brickell Foundation RSVP for times and tickets

Defenders of the Silent: Ronnie Hurwitz City of Miami Cemetery Tour

City of Miami cemetery 1800 NE 2nd Ave. RSVP for times and tickets

Ronnie Hurwitz has been caring for The City of Miami Cemetery for nearly three decades now. He is not the only one but he is one of many dedicated preservationists that truly rolls up his sleeve to care for the early pioneers of Miami. Before Ronnie there was the late Penny Lambeth and Treemendous Miami, then of course there was Dade Heritage Trust and the late Dr. Enid Pinkney who was the first black president of the Trust. Come walk the grounds for a super inside view of what it takes to keep this ten acre resting place - originally donated by Mary Brickell – going. Of course before all this there was Mary Brickell who initially owned the ten acres that the City paid her 750 dollars for. And in this remarkable and most flower and tree centric cemetery sits a bevy of initial signers of the incorporation of Miami who were black laborers. Though our history books tells us the first burial was a white man, in fact it was a black man. Mary you see was color-blind and assisted the black community of Miami in many ways. To that effect Ronnie will be joined by others to help illustrate this angle of Mary Brickell's impact.

FEBRUARY

1 Visit to Cypress Elementary School and Southwood Middle school, South Center for the Fine Arts.

Elementary Schools are the Mary Brickell Foundation's most important audience, in specific 4th grade classrooms. Thanks to a generous donation by Coconut Grove resident David Shoenfeld we printed and delivered 700 fourth-grade teachers edition of the Orange Blossom 2.0 book on Mary Brickell. Today we visit Cypress Elementary School (originally opened as Westwood Lake Elementary) 4th grade level students and fulfill a few of the curriculum based requirements to learn about their local and state history. In this case they will learn about Mary Brickell.

Next we will visit one of Dade County Public School's magnet schools, in this case Southwood teaches about the fine arts. We shall particularly meet with the drama program magnet schoolers and discuss the making of The Mary Brickell Musical by playwright and lyricist Colin Clarke who has written a full scale musical on the life of Mary Brickell.

2 Mary Brickell the Musical (no typo here!) Zoom from England!

Musical Theatre Lovers to the front of the Zoom Line as a very special event by zoom will take place – in part – from Mary Brickell's hometown of Bolton, England. Enter Colin Clarke who has literally, and physically written an entire musical about Mary Brickell. How this happened and what is the significance of some of his research will be shared along with moderator Katia Gauchier, the Executive Director of The Mary Brickell Foudation. Others on the zoom include Cesar Becerra to verify this incredible story and great-granddaughter of William and Mary Brickell, Bea Brickell. A surprise is also in store in both content and a special guest.

Thank "MARY" on this glorious day!
Help put Mary back in her (HISTORICAL) place.
MARY BULMER BRICKELL: THE "OTHER" MOTHER OF MIAMI
MIAMI NEWS
The Centennial of Miami Lecture Series

Mary Brickell was not mentioned in the official Centennial of Miami program but advocates set up a booth at Bayfront Park

Only three known photos of Mary and 3 of William Brickell are known to exist - as of the present time - here a rare photo of William (standing left) by Ralph Munroe.

3 Riding the Rails in Downtown Miami: 3201 SW 1st Avenue 11am

There is no better way to tour downtown Miami than on Metro Mover. Join historian Cesar A. Becerra for this 3 hour tour on both sides of the Miami River to see and celebrate what was there and here now and what maybe going soon in the never ending ebb and flow that is the metropolis that two women and a railroad magnate gave birth to in 1896. We will meet at the Brickell metrorail station.

4 Barnacle Part 3, Analog Presentation, Telling the Brickell Story in Ten Photos

Barnacle Historic State Park 3485 Main Highway, Coconut Grove

Julia Tuttle is the only mother of Miami….well, not exactly! Reimagining the birth of Miami with Mary Brickell is a work in progress based on the facts of a pretty complicated back and forth chess game between Henry Flagler and two industrious women in Miami named Julia and Mary. Not to mention a few other key people that get lost in the fable of the Blossoms themselves which could very well have been lime sprigs clipped from Kirk Munroe's estate in Coconut Grove. Join Historian Cesar A. Becerra as he slowly goes over all these details and more at The Barnacle State historic site. 6 to 9pm, lecture begins promptly at 7pm. Bring your blanket, or portable chair as we round out the final part 3 of this lecture series.

We are honored to present a talk on the Brickell's at The Woman's Club of Coconut Grove at 11am inside their historic Club House who's land was donated by Commodore Ralph Munroe – who was in turn lured to Miami by William Brickell. Historian Cesar Becerra will share some historical perspective about Coconut Grove's involvement in the birth of Miami and a bit about the storm that changed Ralph's life and the women who not only pioneered the last frontier but who's efforts are still assisting many causes today. Though this is a private even, there maybe a few seats available by emailing info@marybrickell.com

5 Mary's Marginalizationl; A Frank Discussion on Race and Recognition

There are a dozen or more photographic images that sell what has been shown as the birth image of Miami. But one has time and time again been sold at "day one". And that is a Ralph Munroe photo of Henry's Flagler's lead team posing triumphantly in front of a team of Black laborers. For years only the white executives, each suited up as though they just left church were proudly named in the captions while the black laborers remained a mystery. One hundred and thirty years later each and every one of those Black laborers not only have been named but have been thoroughly researched so that they are no longer just backdrop. Join archivists in this cause at the to discuss the multitude of ways the black community of Miami played key roles in the building of early Miami. Site and time to be determined. This event is dedicated to Dr. Enid Pinkney who assisted the Brickell family in two key testimonials we will discuss.

6 Everglades City, Smallwood Store Trading Post STARTS at the historic Everglades City Railroad Depot 102 Collier Avenue, Everglades City, FL 34139

Join the Florida Trail Association's Big Cypress chapter on a field trip to a city that has remnants of how Miami used to feel. Everglades City the birthchild of marketing magnate Barron Gift Collier is the 1st part of a walking tour that will meet at the old Atlantic Coast Line's southernmost Railroad Depot in the late 1920's. Historian Cesar A. Becerra will be your guide as we tour this burgh that would have become "another Miami" on the other side of the state. But history had its own plans and today it sits as a charming gem that is connected by a 5 mile causeway to a throwback of the Brickell's time The Smallwood store situated on the corner tip of a giant Caloosa Shell Mound is a dead ringer for the Brickell trading post.

Airboat tour to an actual historic Hammock

There really is no other fancy way to say what this tour is about. Back in the early days of the Brickell Trading Post situated on the south bank of the Miami River, the Seminoles traded and actually spent time at the Brickell property for days on end. Why they were poling their canoes (not paddling) from and what they were trading is the focus of this special airboat tour led by historian Cesar Becerra and a special guest to an actual hammock off the "coast" of the Tamiami Trail. Come hear a different perspective about a host of history, Everglades heritage, beauty trials and tribulations. RSVP/tickets are a must info@marybrickell.com

7 Illuminating Lummus Park; Walking with Julia at the old Slave Quarters of Ft. Dallas (Miami)

Lummus Park: 404 NW 3rd Street

Many people in modern Miami can't fathom a time in history where Miami was not even Miami and had nary a bustle or a bit of hum. Silent it stood on the banks of a River that had rapids and a Plantation with Slaves before the Civil War. Come follow in the footsteps of early pioneers like Fitzgerald and Wagner and see Julia Tuttle's first home with William Keddell as he takes you back to another era and sets straight the story of another Miami few people know about.

Beyond the Rapids; Road Trip to The Seminole Museum Ah-tha-thi-ki

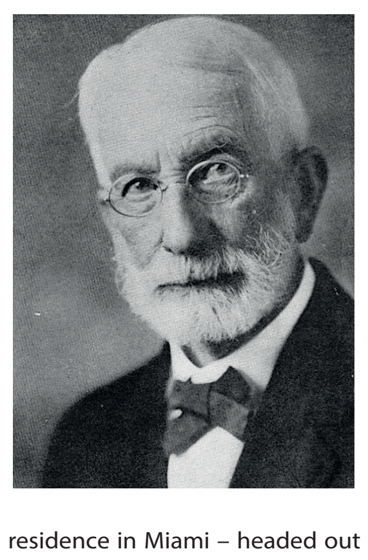
Sure there is the giant Guitar, and don't get us wrong that is really impressive. Its hard to imagine a time when the Seminoles were hunted and rounded up. The long war (one (1) if you consider it from the angle of the Seminoles, the beginning on the 1st Seminole War and the end of the 3rd) left as little as 200 of them in Florida. Well, they have bounded back and are now one of the most powerful tribe's on the planet. Join us on a Car-a-van and meet at the southern most section of the Snake Road on I-75 exit 49 then we will - after some coffee and a pick-me-up at the Giant Seminole Rest Stop near the Tesla recharging station – head up twenty miles to the Smithsonian Accredited Seminole Museum named Ah-thi-thi-ki ("a place to learn a place to remember). This tour will be led by Historian Cesar Becerra who will add details about the Brickell family being one of the early pioneer families the Seminoles trusted in the early 1870's.

8 Sunny Isles Swizzle Sticks, Clipper Ships and Collecting Miami

Sunny Isles Gateway Center: 151 Sunny Isles Blvd, Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160

Miami Memorabilia, how to spot it, what to look for and where to collect it. And yes for the record it is still out there. In fact there has been a resurgence lately of items that have in some cases literally come out of the woodworks. Join a few collectors plus the past president of The Miami Memorabilia Collector's Club historian Cesar A. Becerra as he brings some real pieces plus many images to get you started with your own collection. Lunch will be served at the tail end of talk but reservations must be made and entrance price is $10 by calling The City of Sunny Isles Gateway Park and Conference Center at and located at 151 Sunny Isles Boulevard.Email Kaiea at info@marybrickell.com or call at 786-763-1001

9 Biscayne Bay Yacht Club "Private Event"



While William Brickell was leaving Staten Island in his wooden boat named the Ada, a curious Ralph Munroe had a hunch the listing of said Brickell boat was not looking good and the weather was getting worse by the minute. Ralph – the builder of the Barnacle, today the oldest residence in Miami – headed out and saved William's bacon and urged him to ship the boat on a steamer. In thanks, William offered him some land in The Biscayne bay country as it was known then. He never delivered on his promise and also hardheadedly still sailed to Miami, but the hook was set in. Monroe eventually moved down and jump started Coconut Grove. The family is still there today. The Mary Brickell Foundation is proud to present more findings about Ralph's legacy at their monthly meeting.

Brickell Family Pitcher, Stan Cooper Collection, Photo taken by Al Diaz 1996.

10 Key Biscayne Bike and Culinary Tour, Meet at Bill Bags Cape Florida State Park: 1200 S. Crandon Blvd. RSVP/Tickets info@marybrickell.com

Before there was a bridge and before the million dollar homes, there was a quiet island that could very easily be seen by the homes of Julia and Mary. Introducing Key Biscayne of the old days. By Bicycle we shall traverse most of the island beginning at the Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park's lighthouse at the tail end of the island. Along the way we shall nibble at rest stops along the way as Historian Cesar A. Becerra brings you to another era. Topics include but are not limited to The Tequesta and Seminole, The Crandon Park Zoo, Ancient fossilized reefs and Richard Nixon and the Mackle Brothers. From Empanadas to Ice Cream cones and bruschetta on a baguette we will taste Key Biscayne and end at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center and learn all about pioneer writer and advocate Marjory Stoneman Douglas.

11 Miamo Dade College's Wolfson Media History Center, Moving Images of old Brickell avenue

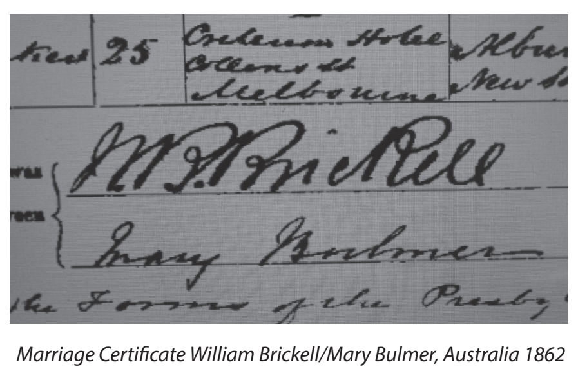
300 NE 2nd Ave, Room 8406 (or Room 8401 on the 4th Floor)

Its not a pretty site during rush hour nor at 8am when workers are heading into the concrete and glass canyon that is modern day Brickell Avenue. But there was a time that Brickell was sleepy, then it was sheeny, and in another era it was known as Millionaires Row. Join Director Lou Kramer, archivists at The Miami Dade College's Wolfson Media History Center and the Mary Brickell Foundation as we peek in to a Brickell vault of long ago moving film and one film in particular that Mary would have witnesses along with light bites and possibly Mary Brickell herself. RSVP is a must.

Brickell Ave in the 1890's

12 Researching the Brickell Story that Captures Early Miami

She was unmistakably one of our early supporters and key assisting us in the original grant that helped to publish Mary Brickell's role in Miami in the book Orange Blossom 2.0. But the late Dr. Enid Pinkney was much more. Come help celebrate two key stories that Enid was always sharing about how Mary Brickell was color-blind in her support of early Black Miami. The Hampton House is now the home for a rare collection of Ralph Munroe glass plate negatives that ended up in a New York City Book store. Thanks to preservationist David Shoenfeld, the collection was purchased and donated to The Hampton House. Come hear about the exciting future of Brickell Material and projects that are being launched to learn more. Location and time TBA.



Marriage Certificate William Brickell/Mary Bulmer, Australia 1862

Bust from the Brickell Mansion, Stan Cooper Collection, Photographed by Al Diaz, 1996

13 Natives of Dade and the Miami Pioneers Historical Society

Aussie Aussie Aussie, chomp chomp chomp William and Mary Brickell down under!

5835 Southwest 111th Street, Pinecrest, FL 33156

"To be a pioneer is to know bankruptcy" is an adage illustrating the risk and moxie it takes to throw caution to-the-wind and boldly give birth to a phenomenon. Join historian Cesar A. Becerra in person at Pinecrest Library and a special guest and a possible visit by her great grandmother Mary Brickell herself as the Natices of Dade and the Miami Pioneers Historical Society host a special presentation that includes the story of William and Mary and their remarkable meeting during Australia's Gold rush with a recreation of tasty items that would have been stocked at William Brickell's commissary in Albury Australia in the late 1850's.

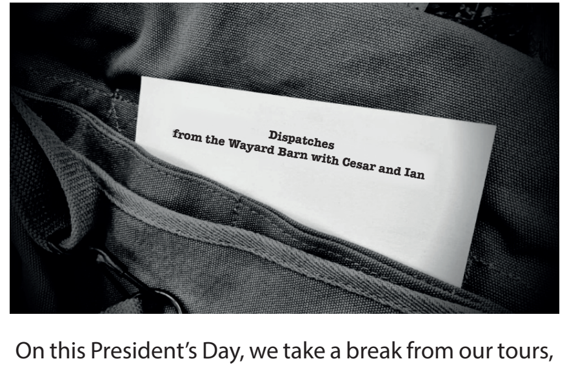
14 A bike trip to meet Mary Underline Bike Tour Brickell to Vizcaya

Brickell metro to Vizcaya: 1001 SW 1st Ave.

Beginning at the Metro Rail station which we encourage you to travel on with your own bike to get into position for this 3 mile bike tour with more than a few stops. Historian Cesar A. Becerra will lead a slow traverse to Vizcaya the home of industrialist James Deering. What is interesting though is that James' first home while awaiting construction to commence was inside a Brickell apartment building. And this was after lengthy negotiations with Mary Brickell to allow Deering to purchase more than a few acres. Come hear about thise details from Becerra plus maybe even Mary Brickell herself

Author Helen Muir and Marge Brickell, Women's Club of Coconut Grove, Centennial Exhibit of Mary Brickell items, 1996.

15 Podcast Launch 7pm



On this President's Day, we take a break from our tours, events and lectures and celebrate the launch of a new podcast focused on local talents, history and unique characters in South Florida. Produced by Mia Laurenzo, the 30-minute podcast is shot on location inside the 1926 "barn" of Ian Mclintyre and is co-hosted by Foundation President Cesar A. Becerra. This first broadcast will focus on part one of an interview conducted with Bob Carr.

16 Behind the Scenes Curator Tour at the Stephen & Dorothea Green Library (4th Floor)

Tour will begin on 2nd Floor of the FIU Green Library

Three days ahead of the most thorough exhibition of Brickell items in the last quarter century at FIU Green Library we invite you to a special curator's tour with historian Cesar A. Becerra and special collections director Althea Silvera of the exhibition and possibly some extra items from the vault. There are other collections of Brickell documents, memorabilia and more in private hands, at Museum of Miami and at the University of Miami, but it is believed that FIU has the largest in volume. The Mary Brickell Foundation has plans on students, library interns and researchers of all kind to delve deeper into the collection which is separated (for now) into 5 sections from the 5 chief donors; Beatrice Brickell, Carmen Petsoules, Marge and "Butch" Brickell, Cesar Becerra and FIU's own collection.

17 Bridge to Bluff; A walking tour of the Southern end of Brickell Hammock.

Meet at Alice Wainright Park for this 3 hour leisurely walking tour to explore an often misunderstood section of the original Brickell lands. Historian Cesar A. Becerra will lead this tour beginning from the approach road to the Rickenbacker causeway and end the tour at Kennedy Park in Coconut Grove. Learn about the intricate process of how the Brickell's acquired these lands and how originally the area was known as Silver Bluff. There maybe a surprise access to a property that peeks into the past. We will pass thru the Brickell Hammock at Vizcaya as we learn how Mary Brickell negotiated the sale of her land to James Deering and we will drink from the coldest water source and treat ourselves to some munchies at Kennedy Park.

Portraits that once hung at the Pioneers Club of Miami, portrayed at the opening of the Mary Brickell Exhibition just before the Centennial of Miami in 1996 at the Women's Club of Coconut Grove

18 Mary Brickell Exhibit Florida International University Library 2nd Floor Lobby, 11200 SW 8th St.; 7pm

Join the staff at the Special Collections of The Stephen and Dorothea Green Library at Florida International University for a special reception launching the first exhibition since 1996 of Brickell items, documents and ephemera that makes up 5 distinct Brickell Collections now being brough together as one. Inside several glass cases FIU archivists will exhibit items such as deed documents from Mary Brickell's vast holdings, two weight scales from the Brickell Trading Post donated by Bea Brickell as well as other Brickell Family donations that transferred into safe hands from advocational historian Carmen Petsoules who found the first photograph of Mary Brickell after a 30 year search. Enjoy light bites and insight from FIU Archivists plus a special guest or two.

Purportedly Mary Brickell's desk, photographed by Al Diaz of the Miami Herald on the eve of Miami's Centennial at the home of Stan Cooper

19

SATURDAY, FEB. 20

Feb 20th 1837, Mary "Bulmer" Brickell was born (one hundred and ninety one years ago on this day) in "Little Bolton, England" to parents Katherine and Joseph Bulmer who would leave Bolton in 1840 bound for Australia after Bolton burned in riots from unease of conditions economic and political in late 1839.

Celebrating The Mary Brickell Lady; Carmen Petsoules and her "last hurrah"

Join us at the Simpson Park community center, the very epicenter of Mary Brickell advocacy many moons back through the lens of the late great Carmen Petsoules, the first researcher to find the first of eventually 3 known photos of Mary Brickell back after a thirty year search. She would later open a page on Wikipedia on Mary Brickell, ensure Mary was on the new Brickell Bridge, in the median of Brickell Avenue and a garden club called the Mary Brickell garden club which used to meet inside the Simpson Park clubhouse. Each and every person attending this event will walk away with a small trinket from Carmen's personal collection given to Cesar Becerra. As she did long ago we may deputize you to help out with our cause. Snacks and drinks will be served and the Carmen story told.

20 Look-a-Like Contest , 1st Annual Site and time TBA

There was a time - it had been published - that there were no known photos of Mary Brickell until Carmen Pesoules found the first and now subsequently 2 other photos of Mary. Whether you look like Mary or act like her, you are probably in the running to win $1,000 (in cash and prizes) for our first annual Mary Brickell Look-a-like Contest. Sign up by February 15th and show up on February 20th at 9am for registration that closes promptly at 10am to be in the running. Final judging will conclude by noon time and the candidates will be judged by aura and knowledge, style (dress), and physical qualities (we may have a spot on match!) and may include future and further public appearances as Mary at public schools and events.

Ricardo Martinez, Katia Gauchier - executive director, and actress Katie Kramitz

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER BEATRICE “BEA” BRICKELL -

The Mary Brickell Foundation: What We Are About

Mary Bulmer Brickell remains in the hearts and minds of many of Miamians, whether in present residency or in spirit. We have learned about and from her, perhaps even visited her park – Mary Brickell Park, located on Brickell Avenue in the heart of Brickell. Her legacy of real estate prowess dims compared to her shining spirit of support for the laborers, craftsmen, and all others who built Miami into the Magic City.

But what about the Orange Blossoms Julia sent to lure Flagler’s railroad to Miami? Enter historian Cesar Becerra, who has devoted more than 30 years to researching Mary Brickell’s life and times. In the seminal work, Orange Blossom 2.0, Becerra discovered deep among the layers of his research a speech given by James Ingraham, Flagler’s right-hand man.

On November 20, 1922, Ingraham spoke before the Miami Women’s Club. Newspapers of the day reported his speech. A portion of that speech made clear that more important than any Blossoms – of which he delivered a box of tree and flower clippings of all kinds – were the contracts offered for Flagler to move; “I gathered up a lot of blooms from various trees (including lemon and lime) … put them in damp cotton…I hurried to St Augustine….and I have written proposals from Mrs. Tuttle, and Mr. and Mrs. Brickell, inviting you to extend your railroad from Palm Beach to Miami.”

Flagler’s decision whether to build his railroad south to Miami also began well before the freezes of 1894 and 1895. Further, the first contracts to bring the railroad from Palm Beach were signed with Mary Brickell months before Flagler’s negotiations with other parties even began.

Recognition of Mary Brickell and her contributions to Miami, including the gift of Mary Brickell Park given by Mary to the people of Miami in 1921, languished over many intervening years. At one juncture, the city even tried to sell the Park to the highest bidder but after two lawsuits Brickell Park remains as Mary intended.

During Miami’s Centennial Celebration there was no mention of Mary Brickell in any of the official published documents, and William was only mentioned once.

Cesar Becerra, who I tapped as the President of the newly established Foundation in Mary’s name, curated and exhibited some of Mary’s personal items held by preservationist Stan Cooper - who had been collecting Brickell items since the 1930s - during the Centennial celebration.

You see we may be a new organization but our efforts stretch back more than 60 years if you count early voices like Jane Wood Reno - the mother of our first female Attorney General - who in 1958 reported that Mary was “a mother of Miami” and “along with Julia Tuttle, Miami’s other mother” helped bring the railroad to Miami.

In the late 1960’s a young Cuban-American woman named Carmen Petsoules moved into “The Roads”, a neighborhood she was to learn had been designed by Mary Brickell. When she innocently asked neighbor Rosabelle Peacock who designed The Roads, Rosabelle chirped; “Well, Mary Brickell did!” Thus began a quest of more than 30 years for Carmen to find the first photo of Mary - which the critics of the day claimed didn’t exist. Along the way Carmen unearthed two more photos.

In the 1980s, a world away Down Under, two researchers in Australia, Chris Wild and Denise McMahon, became fascinated with the miners who had arrived from all parts of the world for the 1852 Australian Gold Rush and fields they liked to call “the diggings”. That pattern they saw was quite a few Americans were there and so they went down that rabbit hole before the internet. Back in the 80s and 90s the way you would dig was with microfiche. We call this the hard way and now almost abandoned for online versions of the same archives that have now been scanned.

Along the way they published *American Fever, Australian Gold*, a catalog of more than 300 families who included the Brickells, namely William Brickell and at that time - his soon to be bride Mary Bulmer. I was honored to have been met with open arms as I traced my great-grandparents footsteps in Australia recently and we have begun to brainstorm further collaborations with the Albury Historical Society and its Mayor.

Recently a growing body of research and talent are also filling in the gaps of Mary’s first three years in Bolton England and more thanks to Lyricist and Playwright Colin Clarke. His work also highlights her future husband’s five-month trek to the gold fields of California and their incredible 155-day voyage from Melbourne to New York in 1862 on three ships to start life anew in the United States. Five distinct archives are being amalgamated into one now at Florida International University. In the future, researchers will access the documents digitally.

This work resides at Florida International University thanks to the efforts of Althea Silvera, long-time director of FIU’s Green Library Special Collections. These documents together with others, are now held in the Steven and Dorothea Green Library Special Collections on the 4th floor. During our city’s 125th anniversary, Kimberly Green - who helms The Green Family Foundation - supported the effort to publish Mary Brickell’s story. We thank her for her unwavering commitment to preserving the history of Miami.

Due to her support, *Orange Blossom 2.0* is now in its second printing and is still the first and only local history book to have been published in English, Spanish and Creole. Yet there are still ongoing volumes of documents to dive deep into and learn more. We have chosen Katia Gauchier - a Haitian born American as our Executive Director to oversee a multitude of projects under the Foundation’s banner, guided always by what Mary would expect of us.

Also appointed are a lean but growing team of capable and talented Board of Directors: award winning producer Mia Laurenzo, former FIU Vice President Steve Sauls and Brickell advocate Elena Kasparis.

Just last year, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Rose Martin and the Woman’s Coalition, Mary was placed into the Florida Women’s Hall of Fame. So the state has now been a part of seeing her star rise.

Finally, a personal note: As a child I often sat with my grandmother - Fannie Brickell - as she told me stories of Mary which I found amazing and still do. The two of us sat at the porch of the Brickell Apartments overlooking Biscayne Bay in late afternoons. In 1913, my grandmother married Charles, the middle son of William and Mary Brickell. My grandmother knew and had a chance to observe Mary until her death in 1922. Her memories have loomed large throughout my life, although I never expected them to find such public recognition – now a Foundation honors her name and passion for each person to be treated with dignity and respect.

Mary transformed the wilderness of some six-thousand Miami acres and used her property holdings to develop neighborhoods open to everyone, no matter their race or social standing. My great grandmother financed homes and accompanying land for the area’s residents. She paid taxes for people facing financial difficulties, poor health, and other hardships.

Mary was also called Little Angel by the Seminoles. During times of typhoid fever, indigenous peoples could spread blankets on her lawn and receive as much care as she could provide. Mary also gave a beautiful 2.3-acre park to the people of Miami. She announced her gift of public greenspace through a letter published in *The Miami Herald*.

With the support of our non-profit which we hope will include you, we plan to make Miami - and Mary Brickell Park in particular - alive with fun, educational activities and events for children and adults of all ages. We welcome your input and assistance in spreading the word.

With appreciation,

Beatrice Anne Brickell, November 19, 2026

Mary and William Brickell’s great granddaughter Beatrice “Bea” Brickell has now founded a 501c3 non profit that will continue the work of Carmen’s legacy and the many that have championed Mary over the years. She has done so in particular to keep defending Mary’s role, legacy and vision for Miami. She then tapped, and tasked friend and historian Cesar A. Becerra as president and Katia Gauchier as executive director to begin the process of creating a foundation. That foundation has begin in ernest but will continue to grow. Here are a few statements from its founding Board of Directors.

“It is an honor and a fitting tribute to Mary that I am able to take a leading role in advocating for Mary Brickell and the truth in all history, especially at a time where the truth is being targeted each and every day. Thirty years ago, when I curated the first exhibit of Mary Brickell’s things, I had no idea it would lead to a lifetime of work on behalf of this remarkable woman. I hope you join us in this important endeavor.”
- Cesar Becerra

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Mary Brickell’s story reminds me that the women who shape a community are not always remembered in the way they deserve. Her vision, strength, and determination helped lay the foundation for the Miami that we know today. As Executive Director of the Mary Brickell Foundation, I feel a profound responsibility to honor her legacy by preserving not only the history she left behind, but her vision and her spirit of courage. I feel privileged to help protect a legacy that might otherwise be forgotten. To me, preserving history is an act of respect, gratitude, and love for our community; it is a gift we leave for generations to come.”

-Katia M Gauchier, Executive Director

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In the search for truth and understanding in history, one must be forever vigilant and open to reassessment. Contemplation of the life of Mary Brickell is no exception.

The simple history is that Mary Brickell was a woman of considerable talent and accomplishment. Her true contribution to the founding of Miami has been diminished by the dominant culture of her time. and acquiescence of subsequent generations. A careful review by several historians is helping to set the record straight. The active involvement of Mrs. Brickell’s only great granddaughters has enabled us to see Mary Brickell not only as a remarkable woman, but a woman who personified the essence of Miami today as a world class city of diverse people.

As a sixth generation Floridian, I am pleased and proud to now be part of this effort. With the aid of our 21st century perspective, we can see Mrs. Brickell in new light and celebrate her life with fresh regard. She is but one of many who have contributed significantly to the creation of Miami, but one whose life lessons are important to honor. She deserves her due.

- Stephen Sauls, VP Emeritus, Florida International University, Mary Brickell Foundation Board Member

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“As a native Floridian and lifelong storyteller, I’ve had the privilege of sharing Florida’s unique history with audiences across the country through PBS. Today, as a board member of the Mary Brickell Foundation, I am proud to carry that work forward.

My years as a public media producer taught me that journalistic integrity depends on digging deep, asking hard questions, and doing the research it takes to get the facts right. While working on WLRN’s Florida History Project, I first discovered the story of William and Mary Brickell. I learned they played a very crucial role in not only the birth of Fort Lauderdale, but in the founding of Miami as well. Yet much of this history was missing from Miami’s origin story, or had simply been left out of the version retold for decades.

That’s when it hit me, history isn’t always clear cut. It deserves to be questioned, examined, and fully understood so we can share it with others. I am proud to be a participating member of the Mary Brickell Foundation and committed to its mission to educate people about Mary Brickell, Miami’s “other mother,” and to celebrate the legacy she left behind.”
- Sincerely, Mia Laurenzo, Board Member Mary Brickell Foundation

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“One of the biggest misconceptions about Brickell as a neighborhood today is that it is lacking in history. Mary Brickell’s legacy to the founding of this neighborhood is a testament to the rich and important historical legacy that Brickell contributes in the broader story of the origins of Miami. As the Director of Community Engagement and Partnerships and a resident of Brickell, I am excited about what this foundation can bring to reinvigorate the pride in the heritage of Brickell through the historical legacy of this important female founder.”

- Elena Kasparis, Director of Community Engagement and Partnerships

Mary Brickell Foundation

WWW.MARYBRICKELL.COM · INFO@MARYBRICKELL.COM

OUR MAIN MISSION IS TO CONTINUE EDUCATING AND ADVOCATING FOR MARY IN THREE MAIN WAYS:

First and foremost is to visit each and every public and private educational institution in Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties. Primarily, public and private elementary schools where we have a team trained and equipped with all the details about how Miami was founded. In short, a remarkable and highly complex story involving two women, the often cited Julia Tuttle and the often marginalized Mary Brickell. Making Miami recognized the world over as the only city to have been founded by two women who co-founded a metropolis. We believe that in the understanding of both women, students will also learn the bigger story of how South Florida got its start.

We are off to a great start, thanks to one of our supporters David Schoenfeld who donated the cost of 700 teacher’s edition of Orange Blossom 2.0 which we sent by name, in 2021, to each and every 4th grade teacher in the Dade County Public School System.

Secondly, we seek to correct and re-introduce the rightful recognition Mary was given at the early onset of the story of Miami.

Thirdly, after this inaugural launch, The Mary Brickell Foundation will develop an annual Mary Brickell Festival at Mary Brickell Park at or around the weekend closest to her birthday, Feb 20th or day of passing Jan 13th. Mary Brickell Park is the only physical land still connected to the Brickell Family and it is currently nestled between the “W” Hotel/Icon Brickell and the First Presbyterian Church of Miami both on Brickell Avenue.

Mary donated 2.3 acres strip of land to the city of Miami with a reverter clause that the city, if caught commercializing any piece of the park, the family would be in their legal right to retain ownership of the land. The Brickell Family has sued twice in the last 100 years to keep the city to its word.

The festival then sits on guarded grounds and will be designed as a multi-disciplined festival with historical reenactors portraying different aspects of Miami’s early years.

MARY BRICKELL THE MUSICAL

This is no joke, in fact it is actually done; thanks to a chance meeting on a cruise ship where our foundation President Cesar A. Becerra was lecturing in the Mediterranean and he happened to ask all the cruise passengers entering the theatre where they were from. And wouldn’t you know, the last couple happened to say they were from Bolton, England which is the same city where Mary was born and raised until 3 years of age. By the end of the cruise Colin Clarke had not only written the first song but played it to Cesar’s astonishment. A year after that cruise, Colin, a playwright and lyricist in his own right has composed a 20 song musical and is on track to complete it by early 2027.

We now only need to reverse engineer it and produce it with a theatre company, build the background, props, costuming and actors that will bring it all to life. If you are interested in how to sponsor this project please contact us with our info below.

The Mary Brickell Documentary, is an ongoing project by several filmmakers that have now been assisted with greater quality images, a growing trove of 3D artifacts like the last great donation by Bea Brickell of William and Mary Brickell’s mahogany love seat, the weightscale from the Brickell trading Post and a whole new batch of images and documents, all now safe in the hands of the special collections center of the Green Library at FIU.

We have a great filmmaker that can be supported to bring to life Mary’s past. Our board member Mia Laurenzo, who is a 6 time regional Emmy Winning Producer.

We would love your assistance in supporting this project and if you would like to please contact us with our info below.

PRESENTING “MARY BRICKELL”

Many of our events will include bringing Mary to life. Basically, Mary Brickell in the flesh. To inhabit the role of Mary Brickell we have contracted actress Kate Kramitz who will be in full attire. The monologue that she will deliver was written by Cesar A. Becerra, author of our official book on the debate on Mary Brickell, Orange Blossom 2.0, based on his 30 years of research on Mary.

We have also commissioned master tailor Ricardo Martinez to create a dress that Mary actually wore in one of the four(4) photos that exist of Mary Brickell and the only known photo to show her entire torso which is pictured here with some digital embellishments and work done by Rolando Rojas.

However, there will and have already been calls to have Mary come alive at different events. If your group would like to have Mary pay a visit to your next gathering, meeting or events do let us know by contactin us at our info listed below.

WATCHING AND DIGGING FOR MARY ALSO INCLUDES SPEAKING UP!

In recent news, and after years of the Brickell area’s rapid development, Brickell battles have been in the news almost on a weekly basis. Battles over land, over tree canopies, over preservation of historic sites. A strong army of defenders have popped up to defend the Brickell area from one too many skyscrapers that have dotted and quite frankly taken over the area.

This was not Mary Brickell’s vision and she said so one month before she passed away in an open letter to Miami where she explained her philosophy;

> *“For years I have impressed upon Mr. Flagler to widen the narrow streets of Miami.”*

This is the reason she designed Brickell Avenue to be a 100 foot wide shaded boulevard; she added roundabouts and alleyways for ease of maintenance and trash removal. In fact, the Brickell’s were – wrongfully so –blamed for holding back the development of Miami in its early years, just because they sought to place the right property owner on the right piece of their 2000 acre land held in Miami alone.

James Deering, with all the money he had to build Vizcaya,still had to present his plan to Mary Brickell. Over the years the Brickell area went from quiet, to posh to the business powerhouse it is today with international banks and skyscrapers that seem to sprout-up each year taller and more intrusive - on what’s left of the original canopy that lined not just Brickell Ave but many of the streets and its coastal mansions. There is a growing army of advocates that believe this has gone too far.

Elena Kasparis, Director of community engagement and partnership for our foundation, along with other Brickell community members, work to drive engagment in civic processes and improve transparency regarding public assets and services.

The other ongoing challenge that is at the core of our mission is advocacy for Mary Brickell herself when she is mentioned, but more often when she is categorically not mentioned in the story of the birth and development of Miami.

Not one week goes by when an incorrect assumption of what we call the “lone shooter” story of Julia Tuttle, as the only city that was founded by a woman, surfaces that we swoop in (mainly on social media, TV news or print media) to correct and defend a woman who did so much and was here so early in the story of Miami.

I WOULD LOVE TO BE ONE OF MARY’S MILLION MARCHERS

That sounds like a high number but we intend – as Mary did long ago – to reach for the highest of heights. Included in that number, like Marjory Stoneman Douglas’ Friends of the Everglades, are young students that will be well versed on the story of how two women birthed Miami.

But don’t be shy, Mary and our Foundation need your help in a multitude of ways. There will always be a project or an endless list of schools to visit for quite a long while.

> ***“Many times in the past I have been urged to sell this tract to subdividers, but I have not cared to part with it. The average operator has but one object in view; to develop the land as quickly as possible, and to get it off his hands at an inflated value, and reap an exorbitant profit. For you see there is a large amount of historical romance connected with this property. My husband bought it in 1869 at a time when the Indian and the Jungle were in possession of the ground on which Miami now stands”***
> ***- December 1921 Mrs. Mary Brickell***

Contact us

✉ info@marybrickell.com
☎ 786-763-1001
themarybrickellfoundation
mary brickell

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