

A Healing Community

NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WORKS WITH AREA MUSEUMS TO OFFER AN ARTFUL ENVIRONMENT.



Periwinkle, 2012, Emily Long, acrylic on canvas, 16" x 12"

The art program at Central Florida's Nemours Children's Hospital supports the facility's design theme: A Hospital in a Garden. Research has shown that incorporating nature in the healing environment can promote faster recovery and decrease pain levels. To that end, Nemours showcases views of nature and utilizes natural light, soothing colors and therapeutic sounds, both inside and out. Supplementing this is intentionally selected artwork, including oversized images of plants and animals. In addition, patients and their siblings have the opportunity to work with an art therapist and exhibit their pieces in the Children's Art Gallery, which is rotated every three months.

During the facility's design and construction, an art committee worked with

Distinctive Art Source, one of only two premier healthcare art consulting agencies operating exclusively in the United States, to create a dynamic, community-oriented art program that reinforces the design theme and is supported by museums throughout the area.

From contributing artwork to presenting creative programming, local venues are playing a big role in the facility's creative offerings. The Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens donated a bronze, *Elizabeth*, which can be found in the fourth floor therapy roof garden. The Mennello Museum of American Art collaborated on a satellite gallery located in the third floor inpatient corridor. It features works by primitive artist Earl Cunningham, as well as a variety of three-

dimensional works by Florida folk artists. The Mennello also has loaned the hospital a series of large-scale drawings of thoroughbred horses by Dr. Charles "Chip" Gillespie of Titusville. Future plans include educational programming for hospital guests centered on the artworks.

The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art offers quarterly art education events on the hospital campus and contributes art education videos for patient and visitor viewing. And this year, the Orlando Museum of Art will present storytelling workshops and activities to entertain and engage children, and all of the artwork created during these will be featured in the illustrator gallery on the fourth floor. To learn more, call 407.567.4000 or visit nemours.org. **oam**



Warm Afternoon at Broad Cover, 1955, Earl Cunningham, oil on fiberboard, 48" x 17"



Five Horses, 2012, Charles Gillespie, pencil on paper, 76" x 46"



Join the Parade—Boomer, Jane Rankin, bronze, lifesize



Dads of Democracy—Theodore Roosevelt, 1983, Damon Dewitt, giclee print, 18" x 18"



Blue Palm, Patrick Laverdant, photograph, 36" x 24"