

# Moving Forward

Sometimes in life you move at warp speed, other times at a turtle's pace. But, recently, the world has moved at the same rate without exception. A temporary pause unlike any of us has experienced. Even the Great Depression stories shared by my grandparents did not include social distancing. However, they did include rationing of butter and only using two squares of toilet paper. As a society we have been somewhat spoiled with always finding yeast, paper products and chicken on the grocery shelves. Appreciation grows daily. It's also a time to highlight the exceptional.



PHELEAN M. EBENHACK

Our cultural community definitely falls into that category. Boy, did everyone rise to the occasion even though their physical doors were shuttered.

From online dance classes, streaming concerts and virtual tours of exhibitions to repurposing priorities by making masks and personal protective equipment, the arts organizations jumped in with both feet. The Enzian streamed movies and created a drive-in movie theater. CFCArts offered a virtual concert series, and the Orlando Museum of Art created a digital museum from home including links to virtual galleries, as well as educational videos based on its permanent collection. "Setting a Different Stage" (pg. 16) showcases examples of creative folks doing what they do best ... and always with a flare. In addition, if you have been to a home improvement store during this surreal time, you have certainly noticed how mulch and flowers have become top sellers. In our "Grow Your Own" (pg. 22) story, get insight from two local experts and one DIYer on creating flourishing gardens.

Finally, and perhaps most important, our thanks and appreciation to the health professionals and frontline workers who have carried the load, and to the arts organizations who have lifted our spirits and warmed our hearts. It's time to move forward together because that is when we are at our best.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cindy Bowman LaFronz".

Cindy Bowman LaFronz  
Editor, *Orlando Arts Magazine*