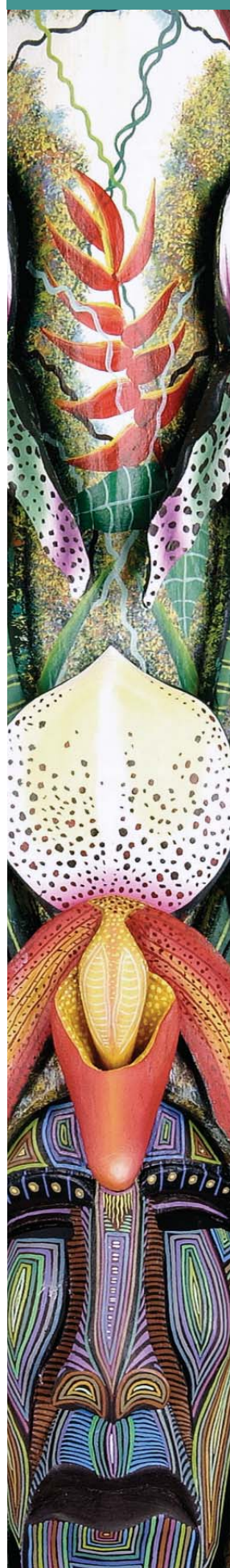




WEEDON ISLAND PRESERVE

CULTURAL AND NATURAL HISTORY CENTER



RAINFOREST MASKS of the Borucan Indians of Costa Rica

*A special exhibit presented by
Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center and
Mariposa Indigenous Art*

October 22 – December 18, 2005

Come discover intricate and indigenous secrets designed in the Rainforest Masks of the Borucan Indians of Costa Rica. This remarkable exhibit comes to us from deep within the rainforests of Costa Rica where Borucan Indians carry on a centuries-old tradition of carving ceremonial masks. Mask making by the Borucan Indians pre-dates the Spanish Conquest, and these remarkable works of art reflect the rich cultural history of their ancestral rainforest habitat. While the masks are central to the Borucan's annual three-day *El Juego de Los Diabolutos* celebration, the Borucans find carving, painting and weaving a viable option for meeting their basic economic needs as well as reinvigorating their culture. Through the assistance of Mariposa Indigenous Art, a Fair Trade Federation member, the art created by five master carvers and twelve master weavers of Boruca makes its way from a remote region of Costa Rica to the Tampa Bay area for this unique exhibit.

Exhibit Activities include:

Exhibit Opening

A special viewing of the 75 handcrafted Borucan Rainforest Masks
Friday, October 21, 2005 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
RSVP (727) 453-6500

The Borucan Culture Lecture

Learn more about the Borucan Indian culture through this riveting free lecture.
Sunday, October 23, 2005 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Friday, October 28, 2005 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Mask Painting Classes with the Borucan Artists

Authentic hand-carved masks to paint will be included in the \$75 workshop fee. Call (727) 453-6500 to reserve your mask!
Wednesday, October 26, 2005 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Saturday, October 29, 2005 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Sketching and Mask Carving Demonstrations

The artists, when not conducting lectures or workshops, sketch and carve masks right before our eyes.
Saturday - Sunday, October 22 - 23, 2005 10:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Wednesday - Sunday, October 26 - 30, 2005 10:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Center Gift Shop

The perfect gift awaits you at the Center's new gift shop where Borucan handcrafted miniature masks, handbags, hats, belts, and much more can be purchased. Wednesday - Sunday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Sponsored by:

Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center, Mariposa Indigenous Art, Friends of Weedon Island, Inc. and Pinellas County.



Learn more about other handmade crafts by the Borucan people and other artisans from Latin America at www.MariposaImports.com



Mariposa Indigenous Art is a Fair Trade Federation member committed to providing fair wages and employment opportunities to disadvantaged artisans worldwide.



For more information or to register, contact us today.
Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center
1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33702 • Phone: (727) 453-6500 • Fax: (727) 217-7202
Hours: Wed - Sun 10 am - 4 pm, Closed Holidays
www.pinellascounty.org/environment