

# ARTIST VILLAGE STUDIOS

## HISTORY OF THE BUILDINGS

The Carriage House, Power House and nearby Pump House were built by Charles Deering between 1916 and 1918. They served as a service and support area for his Estate, housing Deering's automobiles, water and gasoline pumps, a machine shop and a large electrical generator. Above the garage in the Carriage House, there was a servant's apartment for the generator operator.

These historic buildings served as the first offices for park staff when the Deering Estate at Cutler came under the management of the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department in 1985. After suffering severe damage during Hurricane Andrew, the buildings were restored and adapted for use as classroom, office, and storage facilities.

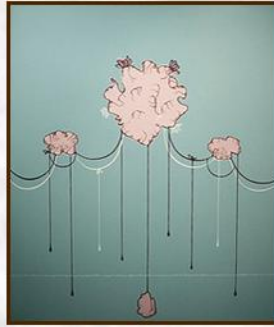
Today, the Carriage House and Power House make up the Artist Village, providing studio, exhibit and classroom space for local writers, poets, painters, sculptors and other artists who come to the Estate through the Artist in Residence and Associate Artist Programs.



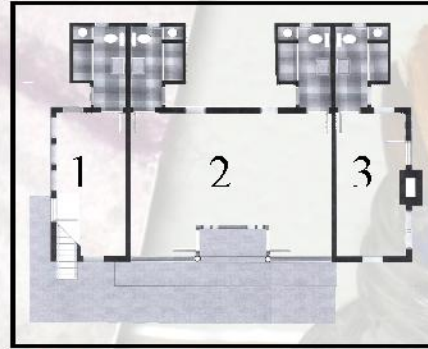
Carriage House and Power House, 1916. Photo by J.K Small

*"I am truly curious to see what direction my work will take once I am immersed in the beauty and richness of the Deering Estate."* Vickie Pierre

## MEET THE ARTISTS



Vickie Pierre



The Carriage House

**(1) Deena Blazejack & Cherie Clark** are Literary Artists in Residence. Author, Deena Blazejack is Professor Emeritus of English at Miami Dade College. She now serves on the national advisory board for the Earth Ethics Institute and is currently working on creative nonfiction that intertwines the science, history, art and ecology of the Deering Estate. Cherie Clark is an award winning poet with a Ph.D. from the University of Miami. She is currently a professor of Literature and Writing at Miami-Dade College who hopes to resurrect the stilled voices of the Estate.

*"The poetic project I envision will be a compilation of 'conversations,' of voices - inviting the 'residents' of Mr. Deering's retreat to hold forth."*  
Cherie Clark



**(2) The Studio Classroom** is a resource for lifelong learning at the Estate. It serves as a site for the art component of the award winning Living Classroom curriculum, seasonal Eco-Art children's programs, and various art classes and workshops for teens and adults.

**(3) Vickie Pierre** received her BFA in Fine Art, Painting at the School of Visual Arts in New York. She now lives in Miami where she has participated in several group and solo exhibitions and has recently finished a 5-year residency at the Art Center South Florida in Miami Beach. Pierre's work investigates popular culture and the feminine identity.

**(4) Dani R. Levine & Geddes Levenson** are our Youth Artists in Residence. "Dani R. Levine is enrolled as an Illustration major at Rhode Island School of Design, where she plans to fuel her creativity and insanity, become immersed in as much art as possible, and learn how to draw with both hands at the same time." Geddes Levenson is a recent Visual Arts graduate of Brown University who has studied and worked in the US, France, Spain, and China. She is currently working on a project in which volunteers don specific colors, and Geddes then documents their experiences as "Ambassadors of Color" in a series of paintings, drawings and photographs.



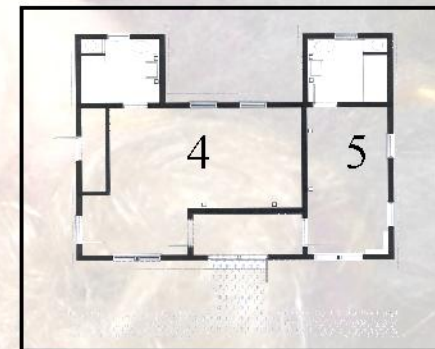
Geddes Levenson



Dani R. Levine

**(5) Jennifer Basile & Ingrid Eliasson** are collaborating artists who come to the Deering Estate through the Bakehouse Art Complex in Miami. Jennifer Basile is a printmaker and painter with a BFA from the University of Miami and an MFA from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Ingrid Eliasson is a Phi Beta Kappa honor society graduate with a BFA from Florida International University. She has participated in several group exhibitions in Miami and New York. Jennifer and Ingrid are currently experimenting with fiber art and papermaking during their residency at the Estate.

The Power House



Jennifer Basile & Ingrid Eliasson

