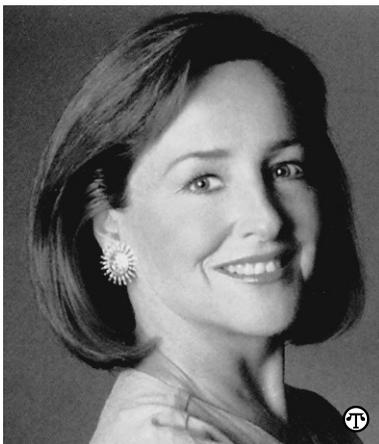


Southern Hospitality

Get Closer To The Greats In Hampton World-Renowned Artists in Intimate Settings

(NAPSA)—Fine art is where you find it and fine art flourishes in Hampton, Virginia. Art is represented well in permanent collections of the destination's museums and galleries, as well as the special exhibits and performances scheduled for 2003. From Downtown Hampton's recently unveiled "The Art Market" and Hampton University Museum to The American Theatre and Charles H. Taylor Arts Center, lovers of cultural and performing art have not far to look.



Frederica von Stade, operatic diva of international stature, will dazzle audiences lucky enough to catch her performances at the American Theatre.

performers and audiences alike for its charm, intimacy and acoustics, this restored 1908 vaudeville and motion-picture house will host more than 70 world-class performers in 2003.

The great mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade will perform in a solo concert at The American Theatre and Elisa Monte Dance springs onto the Theatre stage later this year. There is big band, jazz, and of course, no season would be complete without classical and chamber music. But it's not all for the grownups—Hampton Arts Commission is also presenting an entire series of Family Fun, with children's theatre, puppetry, and more.

The Charles H. Taylor Arts Cen-

ter presents the finest local, regional, and national contemporary artists, including the Bay Days Juried Exhibition and the Peninsula Glass Guild Show, which presents glass in all its glorious forms by artists from throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

With more than 9,000 objects of African, Native American, Asian and Pacific art and artifacts—and an unparalleled African American fine arts collection—the Hampton University Museum is a museum of national acclaim. In fact, it is the first institution to establish a collection of African-American artists.

Henry Ossawa Tanner's "The Banjo Lesson." Jacob Lawrence, John Biggers, Samella Lewis, Elizabeth Catlett...these are just a few of the artists whose works make up the museum's Fine Arts Collection. And the museum's holdings in the art of the Harlem Renaissance period, featuring works by William H. Johnson and Augusta Savage, among others, are among the nation's finest.

Visitors who wish to enjoy fine art while shopping and strolling Downtown Hampton are encouraged to browse The Art Market, where 21 works of art are displayed along Queen's Way complementing the area's eclectic shops, restaurants, galleries and museums.

To learn more, visit the Hampton Convention & Visitor Bureau Web site at www.hamptoncvb.com or call 800/800-2202 for a Hampton Visitor Guide.



Hampton University Museum features an African tribal art collection, unrivaled anywhere in the U.S.

The American Theatre is quickly becoming known throughout the East Coast as a premiere performing arts venue. Praised by