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A look at art in our backyard

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Welcome to USF St. Petersburg!

Take a walk off University of South Florida St. Petersburg's campus and you are in the heart of downtown St. Petersburg.

Surrounded by the beautiful waters of the Gulf, the city houses some amazing galleries and museums and the best part is that they are all a quick bike ride off campus.

The Dali Museum

The building itself is a work of art. Overlooking sailboats and right next to the [Mahaffey Theatre](#), steel beams bend in a way that doesn't seem natural, supporting glass shaped rectangles forming the "enigma." According to the Dali Museum website, the "enigma," which is made up of 1062 triangular pieces of glass, stands 75 feet at its tallest point, a twenty-first century homage to the dome that adorns Dali's museum in Spain.

And that's just the outside! Inside, a helical staircase leads up the second and third floors of the expansive museum.

The second floor offers a library for scholars to research Dali and the Avant-garde.



Museum Fine Arts

I was lucky enough to visit this museum last year when they were showcasing the works of Mr. Andy Warhol! It was AMAZING!

The museum is great about offering new exhibitions and you are bound to find something that will tickle your fancy.



Kapok Tree. Photo credit: Bob Horn

Even if you do not go into the museum you can enjoy one of the iconic staples in Downtown St. Pete- The HUGE Kapok tree.



Photo credit: Museum of Fine Arts

You are officially a "St. Peteian" (don't know if that's a word) once you have made an attempt at climbing its branches.



Glass Art by Chihuly. Photo credit: Morean Arts Center



St. Pete Clay Company. Photo Credit: Bob Horn

The Morean Arts Center- Chihuly Collection

If you do not know who Chihuly is, stop reading this and google his name.

The guy is *the* glass blower of glass blowing. Some of his pieces remind me of the hard rock candy on a stick that I would eat as a child.

Chihuly is well known around the world and we get to have his work on display right in our backyard!

For those of us who get inspired when we are surrounded by so much beautiful art, we can go over and visit the [St. Pete Clay Company](#).

They have kilns and clay and pottery GALORE! Pay a small fee and you can throw clay all day. There is nothing like getting your hands in the mud and creating a beautiful piece of art work, even if your mom is the only one who can appreciate your lack of artistic skills but will proudly display your crooked pottery piece in the middle of her coffee table.

Thanks Mom!

If you need more convincing that USFSP's backyard is awesome, check out Art Walk on the 2nd Saturday of every month. Galleries stay open late and offer free admission so you can peruse the art scene while drinking wine and feeling educated!

About the blogger



I am a Super Senior student who WILL graduate in Fall '13 with a degree in Mass Communications. Mommy and wife #1, Business Owner and Arts and Crafts fanatic #2, Mass Communications student and marketing professional #3.... Simply put, SUPERWOMAN