

July 14, 2022



### Mission

Preserving, promoting, and celebrating the unique cultural heritage of Ybor City and supporting the Ybor City Museum State Park

## *NEWS BRIEF*



It's a great month for birthdays! The Ybor City Museum Society turned 40 on July 7, 2022, and we are raring to go as we begin our next 40 years. Thank you to old friends who have supported us since day one and all the wonderful friends we have since met. You are a much-valued part of our heritage.

The City of Tampa, which was incorporated on July 15, 1887, celebrates its 135th birthday on Friday. On the morning of the 15th, the Tampa Bay History Center will host a walking tour that culminates at the Ybor City Museum State Park, where participants will take a quick tour and enjoy birthday cake in the museum garden.

Whether you are a visitor or a local resident, I encourage you to enjoy the many cultural destinations and activities associated with the history of our community!  
Chantal Hevia, President and CEO

## 40 Years and Counting



By Arminda Mata

On July 7, 1982, Ybor City Museum Society (YCMS) was incorporated by a group of dedicated volunteers who were passionate about preserving and sharing the unique story of Ybor City. The growth of the cigar industry at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, along with the unprecedented immigration from various countries including Spain, Cuba, Sicily, Romania, and Germany, led to the distinctive cultural diversity of Ybor City and Tampa, which is still evident today.

From its inception, YCMS has strived to preserve Ybor City's rich and diverse culture by serving as a Citizen Support Organization (CSO) for the Ybor City Museum State Park and building the Tampa Baseball Museum at the Al Lopez House. Through

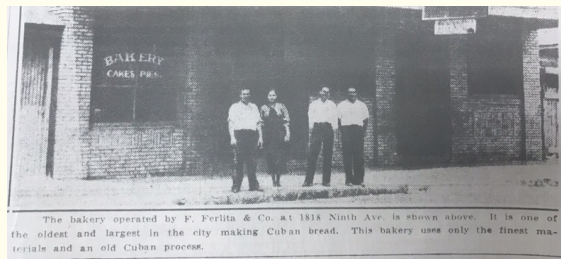
creative and educational exhibits and programs, YCMS offers the community a connection to the past and the people and events who helped usher in the era of “modern Tampa.”

We are proud to be a part of our National Historic Landmark District and Tampa Bay’s cultural community. Thank you to our members, donors, grantors, park staff, volunteers, and many others who have supported our organization in so many ways.

Photo is of Rafael Martinez-Ybor next to the bust of his great-grandfather, Vicente Martinez-Ybor. Rafael was instrumental in working with the state to preserve the Ferlita Bakery so it could become a museum. A plaque was added in 2019 to commemorate Rafael's four decades of service to our organization.

## The Ferlita Bakery

Francisco Ferlita immigrated to Tampa from Santo Stefano, Sicily, and opened his first bakery, known as “La Joven Francesa”, in 1896. The original wooden building was destroyed by fire in 1922, leaving only the brick oven intact. In 1923 the bakery was rebuilt incorporating the original oven and adding another. It became fully operational in 1924. With a daily production of 300-500 loaves, Ferlita would deliver Cuban bread to his customers and hang the bread on long nails installed on door frames.



His sons carried on the tradition until the bakery closed in 1973. In 1974, the Metropolitan Development Agency acquired the bakery from the Ferlita family. After receiving approval from the City of Tampa, the mayor, and the Land Acquisition Trust Fund, the building was purchased in 1975 by the State Department of Natural Resources. Two adjacent tracts of land were also purchased from Hillsborough Community College Trustees.

With the help of a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Ferlita building was converted to a museum and state funds paid for the design of the adjacent museum garden. The brick ovens were kept intact, to provide visitors with a unique glimpse into Ybor City’s history. The Ybor City Museum State Park opened in 1980 and has since showcased exhibits on the founding of Ybor City and its early history. (Photo above of the Ferlita family compliments of La Segunda Bakery)

# Our Community



**Storytime with Coach Mulry**

July 20, 2022  
2PM - 3PM

Limited admission. FREE for the first 25 children to register. May be accompanied by one adult per child/family.

Recommended for ages kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

Register at [Bookeo.com/TampaBaseballMuseum](http://Bookeo.com/TampaBaseballMuseum) under "Storytime"



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[WWW.TAMPABASEBALLMUSEUM.ORG](http://WWW.TAMPABASEBALLMUSEUM.ORG)



**Tampa Baseball Museum at the Al Lopez House, July 20, 2pm.** It's free to the first 25 children and accompanying adult who register. Join us for "Storytime with Coach Mulry" for children ages kindergarten through 2nd grade. [Information and Registration](#), [TampaBaseballMuseum.org](http://TampaBaseballMuseum.org)

**Tie the Knot Ybor, Sunday, July 24, 2022, 12pm-5pm.** Spend the afternoon exploring six iconic venues in an immersive bridal experience. Your ticket includes light bites and 2 cocktails, free transportation on the Jolley Trolley, a tote bag with goodies, and a chance to win a honeymoon valued at \$5,000! [Register today!](#)



**Ybor City Saturday Market.** Operating since 2000, it is the largest continually operating outdoor market in the Tampa Bay Area. Centered in Tampa's Historic District, the market is one of the most popular shopping destinations for locally produced items unique to the

Tampa Bay Area. Open every Saturday year-round, summer hours are 9 am - 1 pm (May - September). [Learn More](#)

**Saturday Yoga in Ybor, every Saturday at 9:30am.** Join others in the community for yoga in the Garden of the Ybor City Museum State Park. Classes are donation based and proceeds benefit the Park. [Learn more](#)



## COOKING CORNER

Salmon "Nuevo Latino"





Part of preserving community culture is celebrating the local cuisine. There are a multitude of delicious recipes that came out of Ybor City. Today's recipe is from "The Columbia Restaurant Cookbook" by Andrew T. Huse.

(Photo from [cremedelacrumb.com](http://cremedelacrumb.com))

[Get the Recipe](#)

## Ybor City Museum State Park

A visit to the Ybor City Museum State Park is a terrific way to share Tampa's cultural heritage with friends, family, and out-of-town guests.



You can also inquire about renting the Garden, a beautiful 10,000 sq. ft. outdoor space, by [clicking here](#). This unique venue creates its own ambience for your wedding, corporate meeting, or other special event.

The garden is one of six venues included in [Tie the Knot Ybor](#) on July 24, 2022.

**New Hours of Operation** : 9 am - 4 pm Wednesday-Sunday

The "Casita" is currently closed for maintenance.

Admission: \$4 per person, free for children 5 years and younger

1818 E. 9th Avenue, Tampa, FL 33605, 813.247.6323



## Membership

Membership donations support our mission-driven projects, including exhibits and educational programming, and help us preserve and share the history of Ybor City. Please support the work we have been doing for 40 years, and hope to continue for the next 40 years. Join or renew your Ybor City Museum Society membership so that you can enjoy benefits and special events. Thank you!

[Join or renew today.](#)



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FOR THE  
HUMANITIES



Hillsborough  
County Florida

Donate

The Ybor City Museum Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization,  
Federal Tax ID No. 59-2274494. While we do not give tax advice,  
donations are tax deductible to the extent the law allows.

[YborMuseum.org](http://YborMuseum.org) ■ [Info@Ybormuseum.org](mailto:Info@Ybormuseum.org) ■ 813.247.1434

