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**The Hermitage Artist Retreat Uses John Ringling Towers**

**Historic Preservation Grant for Renovation of Historic Structure**

*The $3,000 grant helped fund the organization’s Whitney Garage renovation, which is now used as a 3-D studio space for visiting artists.*

[Sarasota County, FL] — The Hermitage Artist Retreat recently utilized a $3,000 John Ringling Towers Historic Preservation Grant issued by the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County to renovate the Whitney Garage, a historic structure on the Hermitage campus, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The building is now used as 3-D studio space by artists in residence at the Hermitage.

Ball Construction, under the direction of Pat Ball, added new garage doors. Once the doors were constructed and installed, the building was painted by Staack’s Lawn and Handyman.

 “We appreciate the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County and its John Ringling Towers Fund for providing the funds to support this very important renovation,” says Bruce Rodgers, executive director.

**About the Hermitage Artist Retreat:**

The Hermitage is a nonprofit artist retreat located in Englewood, Sarasota County, Florida. It invites accomplished artists in all disciplines for residencies on its beachfront campus which is on the National Register of Historic Places. Its artists, who are asked to interact with the community, touch thousands of Gulf Coast residents and visitors with unique and inspiring programs. Hermitage fellows have included Pulitzer, Tony, Emmy, Grammy and MacArthur Fellowship award winners. The Hermitage awards the $30,000 Greenfield Prize for a new work of art, and the Aspen Music Festival awards the annual Hermitage Prize in Composition. For more information about The Hermitage Artist Retreat, visit www.HermitageArtistRetreat.org.

**The Hermitage is supported by:**

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