

CARLA JEAN WHITLEY

MUSCLE SHOALS SOUND STUDIO

HOW THE SWAMPERS CHANGED AMERICAN MUSIC



Sounds of the South

Jacksonville native Carla Jean Whitley chronicles the musical history of a tiny Alabama recording studio (known as the Shoals) in her new book, **Muscle Shoals Sound Studio: How the Swampers Changed American Music** (\$19.99, The History Press).

It was in this studio where groups such as Lynyrd Skynyrd, the Rolling Stones and The Black Keys recorded ground-breaking and often award-winning albums.

"The Shoals became the place to go for musicians who wanted to capture a certain sound," writes Whitley. "Billboard estimated the [triangle from Nashville to Memphis to Muscle Shoals] was responsible for 20 percent of the singles and albums on its charts." One of the chart-toppers to be recorded there was the first edition of Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Free Bird." *

BY JESSICA PETTENGILL

TAKE A GAMBLE

PV Concert Hall hosts inaugural Gamble Rogers festival

In celebration of its more than 20 years of music production and support of music education, the **Gamble Rogers Folk Festival** organization presents a one-day Americana-themed music happening at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall December 6. The festival commemorates the legacy of Gamble Rogers, a folk music singer and storyteller best known for songs involving characters and places in a fictional Florida county. A Florida Artists Hall of Fame inductee, Rogers drowned while attempting to rescue a man caught in rough surf at Flagler Beach in 1991. The festival features food trucks, art, memorabilia and live music by acts including The Rubie and Sam Pacetti. Doors will open at 12:30 PM, with music starting an hour later. Admission requires a minimum \$15 donation, with all proceeds going to the education mission of the organization. gamblerogersfest.org *

BY JOMARIS RODRIGUEZ



ART SMARTS

Bringing creative education to underserved Jax communities



President John F. Kennedy once said that art has the ability to "nourish the roots of our culture." Unfortunately for many children in struggling communities, those roots aren't always tended to. **Ensuring the Arts for Any Given Child**, a national initiative facilitated by the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, aims to cultivate artistic prowess at a young age.

Last year, Jacksonville became the fourteenth city selected to take part in the program. The organization works in two phases. First, the group audits existing arts education resources in the metropolitan areas it serves and identifies gaps. Those gaps then become the basis of

a long-range plan to bring arts education to deserving areas. In Jacksonville, Any Given Child is working with Cathedral Arts Project, Duval County Public Schools and the city government.

"One of our goals is to make sure K-eighth grade students have access to high quality art instruction including media arts, dance and theater; and to make a change that is multifaceted," says Allison Galloway, executive director of Any Given Child Jacksonville. *

BY MEGAN DENNEY

LIFETIME OF DESIGN: Taylor Hardwick, one of a handful of architects to introduce the River City to mid-century modern design, passed away in September. His work (including local landmarks such as the Haydon Burns Library and Friendship Fountain) is remembered in his memoir, **Taylor Hardwick: 60 Years of Design** (\$45, AIA EMERITUS Publishing) released October 1. The book divides Hardwick's projects into three categories: residential, commercial and institutional, and includes color photographs of each. His milk houses, designed for Skinner Dairy in the 1950s, are some of the architect's most visually distinctive structures, and were built with pitched "butterfly" roofs that served as two-sided drive-throughs. The book is available locally at Chamblin's Uptown. *

BY ALEXIS MCCARTNEY

