

2025

# Bartram Trail Conference

## St. Augustine Florida

### August 1–3



We are excited to hold this year's 2025 Bartram Trail Conference in St. Augustine, Florida, visited by both John and William Bartram in October 1765. Our venue is historic Flagler College. All events will be held at the Ringhaven Student Center, 59 Sevilla Street. The conference begins on Friday with a "Building the Bartram Trail Workshop" sponsored by the Bartram Trail Society of Florida. Saturday's symposium features leading scholars on William Bartram whose presentations will feature William Bartram's time in East Florida. The conference concludes Sunday morning with optional field trips. We hope you'll join us in exploring local history and wonderful outdoor activities, all inspired by William Bartram's incredible journey in East Florida.

#### Friday August 1, 2025

1:00–4:00: *Building the Bartram Trail Workshop*. The workshop will feature presentations by numerous county organizations working to establish a unified trail in Florida as well as other participants. (Virginia Room)

5:00–6:30 Opening Reception (Jay's Place on the first floor)

6:30: *Cultivating the Wild*, a documentary featuring six modern-day environmentalists, artists and researchers who carry on the legacy of America's first naturalist, William Bartram. The one-hour film will be shown in the Gamache-Koger Theater in the Student Center.

#### Saturday August 2, 2025

8:00 BTC Auction Room opens (2<sup>nd</sup> floor classrooms across from the Virginia Room)

8:30–9:00 Registration and Coffee

9:00–9:15 Welcome, Matt Jennings, President, Bartram Trail Conference (Virginia Room)

#### Bartram in East Florida

9:15: Dr. Matt Jennings, *Bartram's Adventures in East Florida*

9:45: Dr. Taylor McGaughy, *Governor James Grant of East Florida*

10:15: Q & A

10:30 Break

## East Florida

10:45: Dr. Denise Bossy, *Bartram as a Window into Indigenous Florida*

11:15: Dr. James Hill, *The Long Warrior and Cowkeeper*

11:45: Q & A

12:00–1:00 Lunch

## Bartram and Botany

1:00: Adam Arendale, *The Ixia*

1:30: Dr. Kelly Enright, *Memory and the Franklinia*

2:00–2:15 Q & A

2:15–2:45 Bartram Remembered

“My Favorite Bartram Moment in Ten Minutes”

Sam Carr: *Finding Satsuma Springs*

Mike Adams: *The British Natural History Museum*

Kathryn Braund: *The Picolata Powder Horn*

3:00–5:00 **Special Tours and Displays.** Visit the BTC Auction, which closes at 4:00. A tour of campus is also available.

6:00–8:00 **Banquet and Keynote Address:** Dr. Elizabeth Athens (Virginia Room)

## Sunday August 3

We have two options for Sunday touring.

**Tour Historical St. Augustine** sites on an optional bus tour of sites associated with John and William Bartram, including Fort Mosé. Seating is limited.

Bring your **kayak** and paddle around St. Augustine or sign up for a guided kayak tour, arranged through our outfitter.

## Silent Auction

Once again, the BTC will be having a silent auction. All proceeds support the Bartram Trail Conference’s Fothergill Award for the support of research.

Please bring appropriate items that will attract bids at the conference in St. Augustine. This includes items related to outdoor recreation, nature, gardens, natural history or any Bartram-related items that our members might like to bid on. You can donate items from your own collection, buy them specifically for donation to the BTC silent auction, arrange to have them donated through your business or from businesses with whom you have asking-rights, or even come up with some scheme of your own! Such items can range from relatively minor to fairly expensive, though substantial items tend to make more money for the Conference. If you think you can help, or just want to talk about things, contact TR Henderson, [trhender@gmail.com](mailto:trhender@gmail.com).

## Building the Bartram Trail Workshop

Friday, August 1

1:00–2:30PM **Building the Bartram Trail in Florida**

### 1. Building the Bartram Trail in Florida

- The Florida Experience:** Sam Carr, President Bartram Trail Society of Florida, Bartram Trail Conference board member.
- How We Did It:** Dean Campbell, VP Bartram Trail Society of Florida, Bartram Trail Conference board member.
- [Bartramtrailsociety.com](http://Bartramtrailsociety.com):** Stephanie Liskey, Managing Partner & Co-Owner, Sailforth Productions.

### 2. Northeast Florida Regional Council’s Vision for a Regional Trail Project:

Eric Anderson, Deputy CEO, NE Florida Regional Council, Chair of Trails and Ecotourism Steering Committee.

### 3. Bartram Trail of Florida, Review

- Putnam County:** Dean Campbell
- Volusia County:** Stephanie Liskey, Managing Partner & Co-Owner, Sailforth Productions.
- Clay County:** Samantha Kosters, Product Development Manager, Clay County Tourism Department.
- Nassau County:** Beverly Williams, Bartram Trail of Nassau County Chair.
- St. Johns County:** Tess Simpson, Community Programs Manager, St. Johns County Parks & Recreation Department.
- Alachua County:** Jeffrey Forbes, Development Coordinator, Alachua Conservation Trust, Past President Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park CSO.
- Duval County:** Lauren Chappel, City of Jacksonville Parks & Recreation Department.

2:30–2:45PM **Questions & Break**

2:45–4:00PM **The National Bartram Trail**

- Bartram Trails in Alabama:** Mike Bunn, Author of 18 books including *The Tensaw River: Alabama’s Hidden Heritage Corridor*, Director of Historic Blakeley State Park in Spanish Fort, Alabama.
- Blue Ridge Bartram Trail Conservancy:** Brent Martin, Author of *A Hiker’s Guide to the Bartram National Recreation Trail in Georgia and North Carolina*. Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Bartram Trail Conservancy, board member of the Bartram Trail Conference.
- Bartram Trails in Georgia:** Brad Sanders, Author of *Guide to William Bartram’s Travels: Following the Trail of America’s First Great Naturalist*. Board member of the Bartram Trail Conference.
- Bartram Historic Monuments:** TR Henderson, Bartram Trail Conference board member.
- Flagler College Bartram Site Research:** Kelly Enright, PhD Curator of Campus Collections & Associate Professor Flagler College.
- Open Discussion:** How do we get more states involved?

## Speakers

**Dr. Elizabeth Athens**, an art historian and a former Fothergill award recipient, will be the keynote speaker for the 2025 meeting. She received her PhD from Yale University. Her research interests include eighteenth and nineteenth century art and natural history, the art of empire, and the history of collecting. She is currently Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Connecticut. Among her many publications are *William Bartram's Visual Wonders: The Drawings of an American Naturalist*. Her book is the recipient of the Athenaeum of Philadelphia's 2024 Literary Award in non-fiction.

**Dr. Matthew Jennings** is the current President of the Bartram Trail Conference and Professor of History at Middle Georgia State University. He is the author of *Ocmulgee National Monument: A Brief History with Field Notes*, co-authored with Gordon Johnston (2018). In addition to other scholarly essays, he produced *The Flower Hunter and the People: William Bartram in the Native American Southeast* (2014).

**Dr. Taylor McGaughy** is the author of "Bartram's Westerly Wanderings: Economic Transitions in Travels," in *The Attention of a Traveller* (2022). He is currently working on a book manuscript focusing on James Grant's career in South Carolina and East Florida. He currently serves as an archivist with the National Park Service.

**Dr. Denise Bossy** is the Allen Lastinger Term Professor of Florida History, University of North Florida. Her teaching and research focus on Florida, local Indigenous history, public and digital humanities, and the Native South. Her award-winning publications include *The Yamasee Indians: From Florida to South Carolina* (2018).

**Dr. James Hill**, Associate Professor of History at the University of Pittsburgh, is the author of *Creek Internationalism in an Age of Revolution* which focuses on Creek and Seminole efforts to defend their territorial and political power by forging transatlantic diplomatic networks.

**Adam Arendale**, botanist and naturalist, is the Director of the Bartram Ixia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society.

**Dr. Kelly Enright**, Curator of Campus Collections, is Associate Professor of History at Flagler College. Her work focuses on portrayals of nature in America culture, human-animal relationships, museums, historic preservation, explorers, and travel. She is the author of numerous books, including *The Maximum of Wilderness: The Jungle in the American Imagination*. Her published essays include "Franklinia in the Garden: Memorialising Foliage, Preserving Heritage" in *Extinction and Memorial Culture* (2023).

## Flagler College

The venue for our conference, Flagler College, bills itself as "one of the most beautiful campuses in the country," and that is certainly true. Located in St Augustine's historic district, the central building on campus is the former Hotel Ponce de Leon, now a National Historic Landmark. The hotel was built by Henry Flagler, the oil and railroad magnate, as a luxury resort in 1888. The campus features Spanish Renaissance architecture, including famous Tiffany stained glass windows. The old hotel became Flagler College in 1968 and covers 19 acres. The students will be on summer break during our visit.

BTC events will be held in the Ringhaver Student Center, 50 Sevilla Street.

For a peek at the campus, visit <https://www.flagler.edu/admissions-aid/visit-flagler>.

**Parking:** If you are arriving by car, the Historic Downtown Parking Facility is located adjacent to the Visitors Information Center and is a short walk to the campus. A campus map and parking information is available at <https://www.flagler.edu/travel-information>.

The College maintains a helpful list of links for travelers, including information on transportation and hotels: <https://www.flagler.edu/travel-information>.

## Parking for the conference.

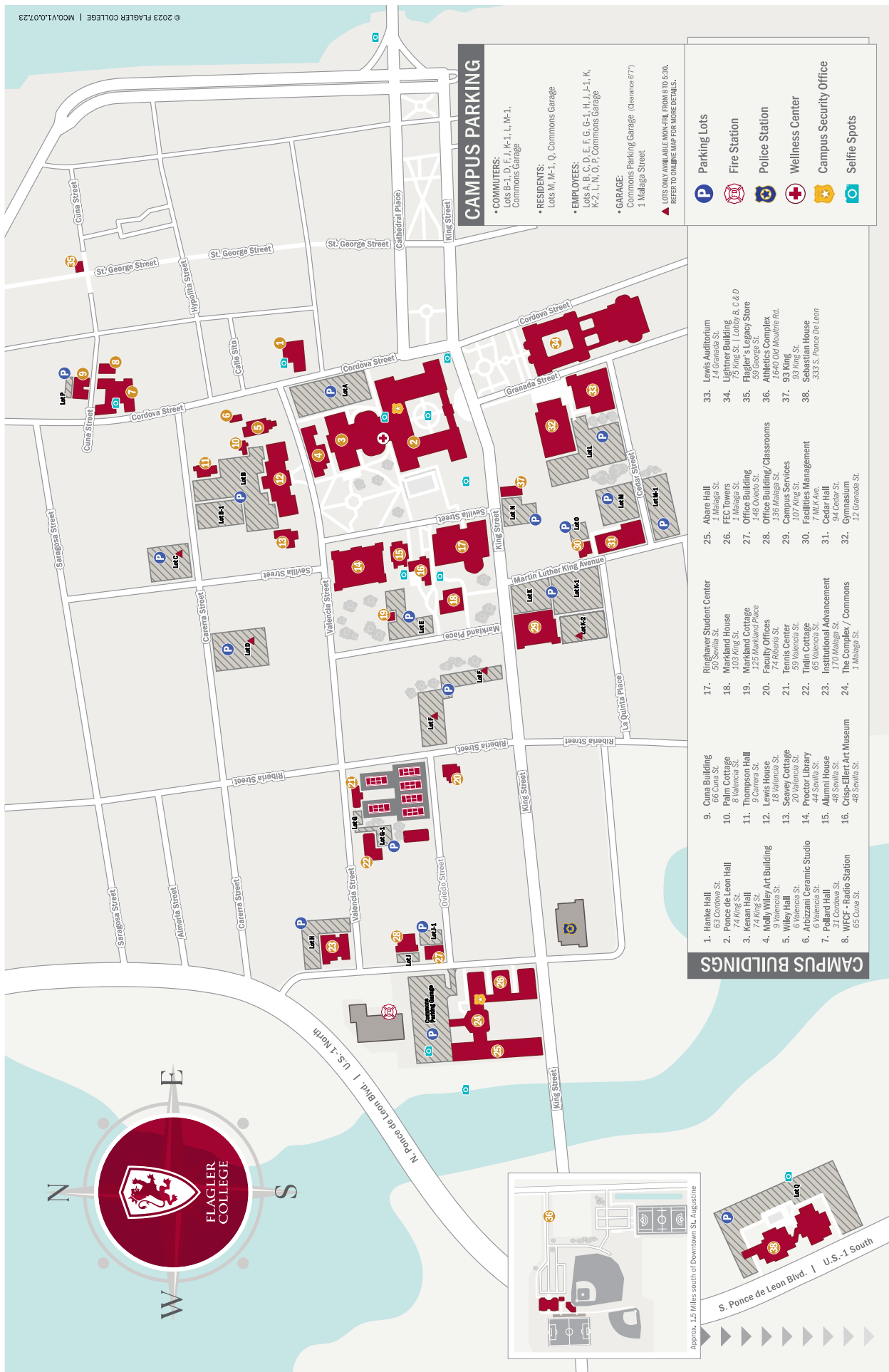
All attendees should have received a parking pass by email that can be printed and displayed. Also, printed parking passes will be available during registration. This pass must be displayed on your car dash while parking on the Flagler Campus. The parking lot for the conference is located at 107 King Street, park on the north side near King Street.

Please find information about parking in downtown St. Augustine at this link, <https://www.citystaug.com/513/Street-Lot-Parking-Downtown>



The 2025 Bartram Trail Conference tee shirt features Bartram's Ixia, (*Calydorea caelestina*), a rare and endangered wildflower endemic to only a small area of northeast Florida..





## ABOUT FLAGLER COLLEGE

The College consistently ranks in the top tier of U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges list. It has been recognized for fostering a vibrant community of learners and scholars dedicated to personal growth, intellectual excellence, and meaningful engagement. Additionally, Flagler College, located in historic downtown St. Augustine, Florida, has been named one of the 10 Most Beautiful Universities in the World with Breathhtaking Campuses, as well as One of the 12 Most Beautiful College Campuses Around the World.

## CONNECT WITH FLAGLER

Flagler College

800.304.4208 | 904.819.6220

**Office of Campus Safety & Security**

904.819.6200

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