

2026 Lifetime Learner Institute

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Email address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ **SFSC GID:** _____

SFSC staff use only

Registration Options – Please read carefully (Two registration options are available)

Option 1 – LLI Membership: Select this option if you plan on attending all of the sessions and all of the field trips. Your one-time fee will include a total of 9 sessions (dates). *Lunch fees are not included in membership fee.

Check	CRN	Date	Session Name	Fee Amount
	28163	Jan. 14 – Mar. 12, 2026	• LLI Membership	\$175
	28584	Limited to 40 members	• Lunch at the Avon Park Depot Dining Cart on 2/12/26	\$16

Option 2 – Non-Member: Select this option if you prefer to pick and choose individual sessions and only pay for individual fee Amount/total(s). *Lunch fees are not included in session cost.

Check	CRN	Date	Session Name	Fee Amount
	27523	1/14/2026 (Wed.)	• Discover the Power of Economic Development in Our Community • Embracing AI: Simple Ways to Make Your Everyday Life Easier	\$20
	27546	1/21/2026 (Wed.)	• A Town Without Pity Set in the 1980s in Arcadia, Florida	\$25
	28059	1/29/2026 (Thurs.)	• Exploring Okeechobee: From the Old School House to the Cattle Drive Sculpture Project – Field Trip Lunch at Brown Cow Sweetery (lunch fee not included in registration fee)	*\$20
	28160	2/5/2026 (Thurs.)	• Archbold – Nearly Nine Decades of Science and Stewardship in Highlands County • Plants Found Nowhere Else: The Unique Ecology of Lake Wales Ridge	\$20
	28161	2/12/2026 (Thurs.)	• Connecting Generations Through Baseball: The Avon Park Story (Lunch at the Dining Depot is not available for drop-in registration)	\$20
	28164	2/19/2026 (Thurs.)	• Walls That Speak: The Storytelling Murals of Lake Placid and ArtLab 27 – Field Trip	\$20
	28360	2/26/2026 (Thurs.)	• Innovation Meets Care: Discovering HCA Florida Highlands Hospital – Field Trip	\$20
	28582	3/5/2026 (Thurs.)	• Archbold Biological Station: An Oasis for Science – Field Trip	\$30
	28583	3/12/2026 (Thurs.)	• Pinecrest Golf Club: Where Legends Once Played – Field Trip Lunch at Pinecrest Golf (lunch fee not included in registration fee)	*\$20

How to Register / Payment Options

Option 1—Complete registration and consent forms and bring to the SFSC Avon Park campus to register and make payment.

Please submit pages 1 and 3, keep pages 5, 6, and 7 for your reference.

Option 2—Complete registration and consent forms (page 1 and 3) and send along with a check for total amount. Please keep pages 3-5 for your reference. Checks are payable to South Florida State College— Please send registration and consent forms (only pages 1 and 3) and check to:

SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE - CASHIER SERVICES
600 West College Drive Avon Park, FL 33825

Registration: (863)453-6661 / **Cashier:** (863)784-7243 or (863)784-7245

For questions, please contact Renee LaDue (863)784-7034, Deborah Gutierrez (863)784-7032 or Tina Gottus (863)784-7466. You may also send an email to our department email – CommunityEducation@southflorida.edu

SFSC will be closed for winter break 12/14 – 1/2/2026

Please register prior to or after these dates.



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LIFETIME LEARNER INSTITUTE
2026 Consent Form (January 14 – March 12, 2026)

Field Trip Dates:

Thurs, Jan. 29, 2026 / Thurs, Feb. 12, 2026 / Thurs, Feb. 19, 2026
Thurs, Feb. 26, 2026 / Thurs, March 5, 2026 / Thurs, March 12, 2026

INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

- We must have this form completed yearly for each participant.
- Completion of this form will cover any/all of the 2026 LLI on campus sessions and field trips.
- Please complete form and email it to: deborah.gutierrez@southflorida.edu or leave it with the registration clerk at time of registration.

EMERGENCY CONTACT / CONSENT FOR FIELD TRIP

I do willingly execute this release in consideration of the educational benefits to be derived by me by my participation in a college-sponsored activity. I hereby release from liability and hold the College harmless from any and all claims and causes of action which might be brought by me, my spouse and/or dependents for any claim, loss of property, personal injury or death, including court costs, attorney fees sustained by me arising out of any travel or activity conducted by or under the control of the College. It is understood that the College as used herein shall include the employees, administrators, agents and District Board of Trustees of the College.

Consent for emergency medical treatment

I hereby authorize the appointed representative of South Florida State College to obtain and authorize medical treatment as is necessary to protect my well-being including authorization for emergency treatment, anesthesia, and/or surgery as deemed necessary. Further, I/we do hereby release and agree to hold harmless South Florida State College and its representatives from any and all claims which may arise from said medical treatment.

Organized activity/program name:

Program Name:

Lifetime Learner Institute

Participant Information

Participant's Legal Name: _____,
Last Name First Name

Participant's Preferred Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Physical Address: _____

City State Zip

Emergency Contact Information

Name: _____ Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Relationship: _____

Cell: _____ Cell: _____

Home Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Participant Signature: X _____ Date: ____/____/____

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2026 Lifetime Learner Institute Schedule

Date, time and location	Sessions / Field Trip Descriptions
<p>1/14/2026 (Wednesday)</p> <p>A: 9 – 10:15 a.m. Location: SFSC Avon Park Campus University Center</p> <p>B: 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. Location: SFSC Avon Park Campus University Center</p>	<p>A: Discover the Power of Economic Development in Our Community Join us for an informative session presented by the Economic Development Center of Highlands County. Learn about the purpose and mission of the EDC, discover why Highlands County is an ideal location for business growth, and gain insight into the factors considered when companies choose to establish operations here. This interactive session will include a brief activity to help participants understand the decision-making process behind business development in our community. Attendees will also have the opportunity to ask questions and bust common myths about economic development.</p> <p>B: Unlocking the Power of AI: Simplifying Everyday Life This presentation will explore practical ways AI can enhance your daily routine. From smart assistants and automated tasks to personalized recommendations, we'll cover how AI can simplify your home life and personal well-being. Learn how to integrate AI tools that require little technical expertise, saving you time and improving efficiency in everyday activities. By the end, you'll have a clear understanding of how AI can make your life easier and more productive.</p>
<p>1/21/2026 (Wednesday)</p> <p>A: 9 – 11:30 a.m. Location: SFSC Avon Park Campus University Center</p>	<p>A/B: A Town Without Pity, Author, Jason Vuic Join author Jason Vuic as he explores the powerful true stories behind his book <i>A Town Without Pity</i>. Set in the 1980s in Arcadia, Florida—a small town shaped by cowboy roots, agricultural labor, and a turbulent frontier past—Vuic examines a community caught between the rugged spirit of rural West Texas and the social divisions of the Deep South. Through two heartbreaking events that drew national attention at the end of the Reagan era, Vuic reveals how Arcadia was forced to confront both the fear and misinformation surrounding the AIDS crisis and the lasting impact of its racially divided history.</p>
<p>1/29/2026 (Thursday)</p> <p>A: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Location: Okeechobee Historical Society Museum 1850 US 98 W Okeechobee, FL 34974 (right across from the Okeechobee Airport)</p>	<p>A/B: Exploring Okeechobee: From the Old School House to the Cattle Drive Sculpture Project – (Field Trip) Discover the rich history of Okeechobee, Florida with Mayor Dowling R. Watford Jr. as your guide. Learn about the town's fascinating past and the people and events that shaped its identity. Participants will tour the historic Old School House, explore insights from the Okeechobee Historical Society Museum, and hear the story behind the inspiring Cattle Drive Sculpture Project that celebrates the region's cattle ranching heritage. The day concludes with a relaxing and delicious lunch at Brown Cow Sweetery in downtown Okeechobee.</p>
<p>2/5/2026</p> <p>A: 9 – 10:15 a.m. Location: SFSC Avon Park Campus University Center</p> <p>B: 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. Location: SFSC Avon Park Campus University Center</p>	<p>A: Archbold Biological Station: Nearly Nine Decades of Science and Stewardship in Highlands County, Dustin Angell Founded in 1941 by world-famous science explorer, Richard Archbold, Archbold Biological Station provides world-class science, conservation, and education in the heart of Florida. In this talk, Archbold's Program Director of Education, Dustin Angell outlines the mission and work of this local non-profit organization. The audience will learn about research into rare species and nature's processes, the importance of ranchlands and wildlife corridors in state planning, and how Archbold inspiring the next generation through educational outreach.</p> <p>B: Plants Found Nowhere Else: The Unique Ecology of Lake Wales Ridge, Aaron S. David, Ph.D. Join Dr. Aaron S. David for an engaging presentation on the unique flora of the Lake Wales Ridge a global biodiversity hotspot. This region boasts one of the highest concentrations of rare and endangered plants in the continental United States, many of which are endemic and found nowhere else in the world. Discover the ecological significance of these species, the challenges they face, and why preserving this extraordinary habitat matters.</p>

<p>2/12/2026 (Thursday)</p> <p>A: 9 – 10:15 a.m. Presentation Location: SFSC Avon Park Campus University Center</p> <p>B: 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. Lunch is at noon.</p>	<p>A/B: Connecting Generations Through Baseball: The Avon Park Story – (Field Trip)</p> <p>Join Doc Seigny as he shares the inspiring story of the Baseball Museum of Avon Park dream that connects our past to our future, preserving the rich legacy of baseball in this town for generations to come. Learn how this vision honors history while ensuring it remains alive for years ahead. We'll also hear from Nancy Fisk, Director of the Avon Park Depot Museum, before heading over to explore historical artifacts at the museum. The experience concludes with lunch at the Dining Car at noon. <i>(Seating is limited to 40 participants. Lunch is available on a first-come, first-served basis only for LLI Members who register. The lunch fee is not included with your program registration. Please register and pay for lunch separately (see registration form)."</i></p>
<p>2/19/2026 (Thursday)</p> <p>A: 9 – 11:45 a.m. Location: South Florida State College – Lake Placid Center 500 E. Interlake Blvd. Lake Placid, FL (Room #124)</p>	<p>A/B: Walls That Speak: The Storytelling Murals of Lake Placid – (Field Trip)</p> <p>Discover Lake Placid, Florida through the eyes of its Chamber of Commerce, where the town's renowned murals serve as living history lessons. With more than 40 works of art adorning its walls, each mural tells a story of local industries, traditions, and the people who shaped this "Town of Murals." Guided by insights from the Chamber, participants will learn how these public artworks preserve heritage, foster community pride, and attract visitors from around the world.</p> <p>After exploring the stories behind the murals, continue your artistic journey at SFSC's new Art Lab 27. This creative space invites you to experiment with materials, express your own vision, and carry forward the spirit of storytelling through hands-on artmaking.</p>
<p>2/26/2026 (Thursday)</p> <p>A: 9 – 10:15 a.m. Location: 3600 S Highlands Ave, Sebring, FL 33870</p>	<p>A/B: Innovation Meets Care: Discovering HCA Florida Highlands Hospital – (Field Trip)</p> <p>Step inside the world of modern medicine with our exclusive hospital visit of HCA Florida Highlands Hospital! You'll begin by hearing from our leaders and medical professionals on key healthcare topics and our vital impact on the community. Following the presentation, the group will be divided for two fascinating experiences. One group will embark on an in-depth tour of the hospital, including a walk-through of the emergency room (ER) with a potential chance to see an ambulance or even a helicopter in action! The other group will get an up-close, detailed look at the cutting-edge robot we use for minimally invasive surgeries. The groups will then switch, ensuring everyone experiences both the broad scope of hospital services and a deep dive into advanced surgical technology. This dynamic visit promises an engaging look at the people, services, and technology that define healthcare today.</p>
<p>3/5/2026 (Thursday)</p> <p>Session A: 9:30 a.m. – Noon Location: 123 Main Dr, Venus, FL 33960</p>	<p>A/B: Archbold Biological Station: An Oasis for Science – (Field Trip)</p> <p>Experience a behind-the-scenes look at Archbold Biological Station, a world-class natural laboratory that has inspired scientific discovery for more than eight decades. Researchers here collect and share data globally, advancing our understanding of Florida's unique ecosystems and species while contributing to conservation science worldwide. This tour offers a rare opportunity to explore the vital work being done to protect biodiversity and sustain our planet's natural heritage.</p>
<p>3/12/2026 (Thursday)</p> <p>Session A: 10:00 a.m. – Noon</p> <p>Location: 2250 S Little Lake Bonnet Rd. Avon Park, FL 33825</p>	<p>A/B: Pinecrest Golf Club: Where Legends Once Played – (Field Trip)</p> <p>Built in 1926 as part of the Pine Crest Lakes resort development, Pinecrest Golf Club quickly became a premier destination for wealthy guests and celebrities like Babe Ruth and FDR. The site was also home to a girls' school, The Highlands School, during its early history, adding to the property's unique legacy. The Donald Ross-designed course made history in 1959 by hosting the first nationally televised PGA event and later drew professionals like Arnold Palmer for major tournaments. Though the original hotel is gone, the semi-private club continues its legacy as a cherished part of the Florida Historic Golf Trail. <i>Lunch at Sandhill Grill at Pinecrest Golf Course</i> <i>*Lunch fee is not included in registration.</i></p>

We will be closed for winter break on Dec 14 – Jan 2, 2026.
Please register prior to or after dates above.



HIGHLANDS CAMPUS

Admissions and Records **B**
Advising and Counseling **B**
Adult Education Department **H**
Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Laboratories **N**
Art Department **A**
Athletic Department **E**
Automotive Collision Repair **O**
Automotive Services Technology **M**
Board Room **F**
Bookstore **B**
Box Office **A**
Business Office **C-1**
Cafeteria **J**
Career Development Center **B**
Center for Advanced Technology **T**

Community Relations and Marketing Department **F**
Computer Electronics Laboratories **N**
Computer Science **I**
Corporate and Community Education **UC**
Cosmetology Clinic and Classrooms **K**
Criminal Justice Academy **DD**
Curriculum Support **Y**
Dental Education/Dental Clinic **T-1**
Educational Technology Center **G**
Educational Technology Department **I**
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Classrooms **S**
Financial Aid **B**
Fire Sciences **P**
Farmworker Career Development Program **T**

Game Pad **J**
Gymnasium **D**
Highlands Career Institute **L**
Honors Program **B**
Human Resources **I**
Information Technology (IT) **I**
Library **Y**
Mail Room **C-2**
Maintenance Department **X**
Mechatronics **N, P**
Museum of Florida Art and Culture (MOFAC) **A**
Nursing Department and Laboratories **HSEC**
Panther Activities Center (PAC) **D**
Panther Youth Partners **R-1**
Performing Arts Center **A**
President's Office **F**

Public Safety **CC**
Purchasing **C-1**
Science Laboratories **HSEC**
Services for Students with Disabilities **B**
Student Government Association (SGA) **B**
Radiology Laboratory **HSEC**
Testing Center **B**
Student Support Services/TRIO **Y**
Tutoring and Learning Center **Y**
University Center **UC**
Vice Presidents' Offices **F**
Welcome Center **B**

Entrance Roads: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8**
Fire Training Tower **◆**
Tower of Enlightenment **★**

REVISED 2/3/20

- **Directions to the University Center (UC):**
On College Dr. turn right onto Enlightenment Circle (Entrance #1). Drive to the roundabout and veer right into parking lot. Our building is the first two-story building on the right, nearest the tennis courts/ballfield.
- SFSC temporary parking passes available, please see Debbie Gutierrez or Renee LaDue on your first day of attendance.
- Do you need assistance to and from your vehicle? Please call our SFSC Security 863-453-0806 for a safe ride to desired location. This is a free service to all of our patrons.