

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE IN MANDARIN

— A PROPOSED SCULPTURE —

BY ARTIST BRENDA MAUNEY COUNCILL



Brenda Councill BMC2023

www.councill.net



Mandarin Museum
& HISTORICAL SOCIETY

October 2023

Dear friend,

Mandarin Museum & Historical Society is thrilled to partner with acclaimed artist Brenda Mauney Councilll to bring her work, "Harriet Beecher Stowe in Mandarin," to Walter Jones Historical Park. This remarkable display of public art will honor Stowe's legacy in Florida, including her advocacy for accessible and equitable education in the state following the U.S. Civil War.

Imagine this life-sized bronze sculpture of Harriet Beecher Stowe, appearing as she did while living in 1870s Mandarin, nestled in a small walking garden alongside Mandarin Museum. Imagine the St. Joseph's Mission Schoolhouse for African American Children serving as the backdrop to her interaction with two small school children. Imagine the opportunity created to interact with this rich history while surrounded by Mandarin's historic oak canopy. Imagine the value Stowe's likeness will add as the Museum continues its mission to share the stories of the community's history, culture, and natural resources.

The project has won the approval of the City of Jacksonville, Florida Communities Trust, and the Mandarin Museum & Historical Society's Board of Directors. In addition, Joan D. Hedrick, author of the 1995 Pulitzer Prize winning biography *Harriet Beecher Stowe: A Life*, has offered her endorsement stating, "it is entirely fitting that such a monument be placed there. It will celebrate one of America's most prolific and influential writers...[and] commemorate Stowe's profound love of Florida. I heartily endorse this movement to celebrate her life, work, and time in Mandarin." The proposed statue is also timely as The Florida Commission on the Status of Women recently selected Harriet Beecher Stowe as a 2023 finalist to be considered for the Florida Women's Hall of Fame.

Brenda Councilll's scale model is currently on display at Mandarin Museum. Her work sculpting the full-scale piece will begin soon with opportunities for the public to view the process and engage with Councilll as she sculpts. We anticipate its completion and installation in late 2024/early 2025. To support the project and lock in foundry costs, we have set a goal of raising \$150,000.

Be a part of this ambitious and important campaign! Donors will enjoy acknowledgment on a permanent plaque located near the installed sculpture and in print and online media. Donors at the \$2,500 level and above will also enjoy a private cocktail reception with Brenda Mauney Councilll celebrating its unveiling. Please see the enclosure for more information. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Brittany Cohill
Executive Director



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Levels of Support

Stowe Society
\$50,000 and up

Palmetto Leaves
\$35,000 - \$49,999

Orange Blossoms
\$25,000 - \$34,999

Mandarin Oaks
\$10,000 - \$24,999

Magnolias
\$2,500 - \$9,999

Friends of Historic Mandarin
under \$2,500



ABOUT BRENDA MAUNEY COUNCILL With a career spanning 50 years, Councilill made a name for herself in Jacksonville with her popular series of limited edition prints and drawings of historic Mandarin homes and sites. Since, she has explored diverse mediums including painting, sculpture, and mixed media. Now internationally known, her work is in corporate, private, and public collections in the United States and around the globe. As a longtime former resident of Mandarin, her heart has remained with the community she holds dear. She is honored to create the first and only life-sized sculpture of Harriet Beecher Stowe and install it in Walter Jones Historical Park.

Mailing: P.O. Box 23601, Jacksonville, FL 32241 || (904) 268-0784 || director@mandarinmuseum.org
11964 Mandarin Road, Jacksonville, FL 32223



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Donor Name:

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Level of Support & Amount:

In Honor of:

In Memory of:

Donor name(s) as they should appear in print:

Check Enclosed ☐ **Contact me for payment** ☐

Payments by check should be made out to Mandarin Museum & Historical Society, Inc. and mailed along with this completed form to P.O. Box 23601, Jacksonville, FL 32241.

Contact Mandarin Museum Executive Director Brittany Cohill with questions or for more information, (904) 268-0784 or director@mandarinmuseum.org.

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