

# Saturday Night Social Event

**Keynote: Carlton Ward, Jr.**

**Opening Act: Richard Ghent and  
the Fort Green Pickin' Society**

**Saturday, October 15, 2016**

**Firehouse Cultural Center**

**101 1st Ave NE, Ruskin, FL 33570**

**Dinner: 6:00 p.m.**

**Keynote: 7:00 p.m.**

**Q&A: 7:45 p.m.**

**Cost: \$25 donation.**



## Carlton Ward, Jr., Conservation Photographer



Carlton Ward, Jr. is an acclaimed photographer, National Geographic Explorer and the current Rolex Artist-in-Exploration of the Explorers Club. His photographs are widely exhibited and collected and have been published in newspapers and magazines including *Audubon*, *Smithsonian*, *Nature Conservancy* and *National Geographic*.

Carlton began his career working with the Smithsonian Institution in Central Africa, leading to his first book, *The Edge of Africa*, and a photography exhibit with the United Nations. In 2004, he retrained his focus on his native Florida, motivated by eight generations of family heritage and a drive to bring new attention to the under appreciated wild heart of the state. Carlton published *Florida Cowboys* in 2009 and founded the Florida Wildlife Corridor project in 2012. With fellow explorers Mallory Dimmitt and Joe Guthrie, he has since trekked more than 2,000 miles through the Corridor to showcase a statewide vision to keep Florida wild. Both expeditions produced award-winning books, PBS films and widespread outreach. Carlton was named Photographer of the Year by Audubon of Florida in 2012 was given the Conservation Leadership Award from the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida in 2015. He is currently working on a project with National Geographic to photograph the Florida panther.

## Florida Wildlife Corridor Expedition

Join photographer and explorer Carlton Ward, Jr. as he shares inspiring photographs and stories from recent expeditions through the natural heart of Florida. In 2012, Carlton and his team hiked, biked and paddled 1000 miles in 100 days from Everglades National Park to the Okefenokee Swamp. The journey continued in 2015 with a 70-day, 1000-mile trek from the Everglades Headwaters near Orlando to Gulf Islands National Seashore near Pensacola, bringing new attention to a statewide vision to keep Florida wild. Mr. Ward will answer questions and be available for book sales and signing after the talk.



**Richard Ghent and the Fort Green Pickin' Society** will kick off the evening with traditional bluegrass, country, folk music and the best new tunes you'd ever want to hear!

Open to the public (festival registration not required), but you must get tickets here:

[www.floridabirdingandnaturefestival.org](http://www.floridabirdingandnaturefestival.org)