

World-Class Professional Theatre – Times Four!

In a rare appearance together, the artistic directors of Sarasota's four professional theatre companies will participate in a panel discussion at the Arts Advocates November 17 luncheon.

Moderating the panel will be **Jay Handelman**, Arts Editor, and long-time theatre critic for the Sarasota Herald-Tribune. *Our distinguished panel includes:*



Michael Donald Edwards, Producing Artistic Director of **Asolo Repertory Theatre**. Asolo Rep productions span a diverse repertoire of newly commissioned plays, reinterpretations of contemporary and classical works, and new musical theatre experiences. Its unique partnership with the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training has proven to be an extraordinarily successful and synergistic collaboration. Edwards will retire after this, his 17th season.



Richard Hopkins, Producing Artistic Director, and CEO of **Florida Studio Theatre**. FST is a non-profit theatre company specializing in contemporary work presented in its family of five theatres in downtown Sarasota. Its wide range of programs include Mainstage, Cabaret, Stage III, Children's Theatre, the FST School, New Play Development and Improv. Hopkins has guided the theatre since 1980.



Nate Jacobs, Founder and Artistic Director of **Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe**, whose mission is to produce professional theatre that promotes and celebrates African American history and experience, engages a broad base of patrons and audiences, supports the development of a dynamic group of aspiring artists and builds self-esteem in youth of color. Jacobs founded WBTT in 1999.



Brendan Ragan, Founder and Artistic Director of **Urbanite Theatre**. Ragan and Summer Wallace, both graduates of the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training, opened Urbanite in 2015, with a focus on bringing provocative new plays to Sarasota in an intimate black-box setting. Their productions are designed to be visceral, shared experiences brought to life with bold, powerful storytelling.

This quartet's dynamic leadership has given us world-class theatrical experiences that consistently inspire, challenge, and entertain us. The hundreds of productions they have staged for Sarasota audiences, while broadly diverse in subject matter and approach, are all created with passion and the highest artistic standards. No wonder Sarasota's theatre scene rivals that of much larger cities in the country!

Don't miss this exciting program, which promises to offer rare insight into the world of Sarasota theatre!

[REGISTER HERE.](#)



Thursday, November 17, at the Sarasota Yacht Club
Note CHANGE OF VENUE!

We expect this luncheon to be a sell-out.

Register today!

Please enter your entrée and dessert choices when registering on the www.artsadvocates.org Events page. November's entrée choices are Turkey Breast with pan gravy (regular) or Quinoa Veggie Bowl (vegetarian); dessert choices are Pecan Pie or Fresh Fruit Cup.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

And a great time was had by all at our sold-out October luncheon with Sarasota Orchestra's CEO, Joseph McKenna, at the Sarasota Yacht Club, the new venue for our monthly luncheons.



We have an outstanding lineup of speakers planned so be sure to reserve early for future luncheons. In November, we'll hear from the four artistic leaders of Sarasota's performing arts organizations.

Is your membership about to expire? You can now renew at the luncheons with Betty Ferguson, our Membership team leader.

Our annual member fundraising campaign is underway. Please be as generous as you can. Your support is essential to help underwrite our operating expenses and the many programs you enjoy.

The first \$12,500 will be matched by a member donor.

It's turkey time. My best wishes to you and your loved ones for a Happy Thanksgiving!

Jeannette Paladino
Jeannette Paladino, President



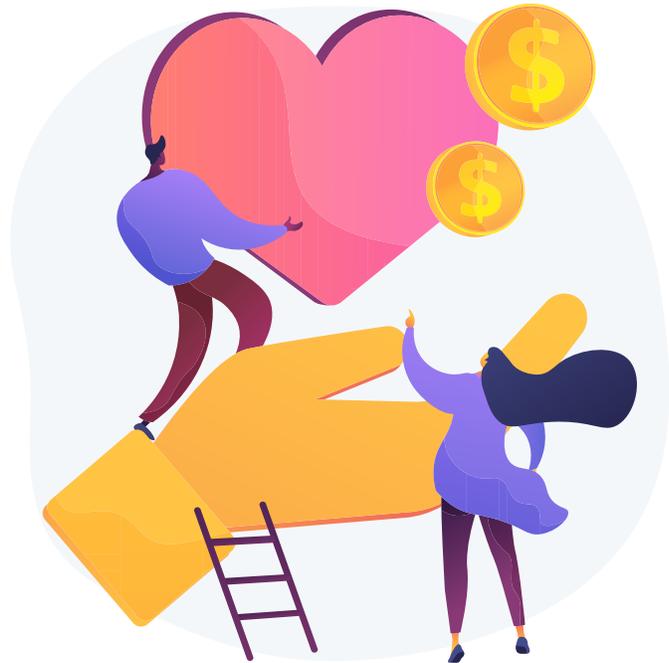
PLANNING YOUR YEAR-END DONATION MADE EASY

By now Arts Advocates members have received information regarding the 2022 Year-End Fundraising campaign. When planning your donation remember there are several ways to easily make charitable contributions:

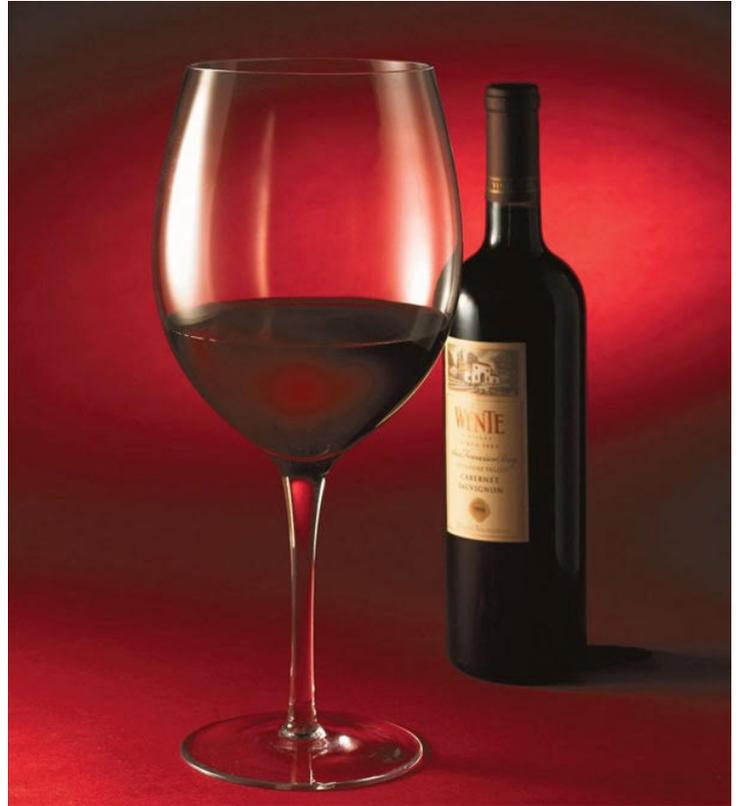
- ❖ As you take the required annual distribution from your IRA ACCOUNT, Arts Advocates may be designated as the recipient of those funds. Your Financial Advisor can arrange this for you.
- ❖ Request a check from your DONOR ADVISED FUND, written to The Fine Arts Society of Sarasota, and mail it to Fine Arts at PO Box 1432, Sarasota, Florida 34230.
- ❖ Arts Advocates accepts transfers of stock as we have a brokerage account at Northern Trust. Please contact Donna Maytham and she will give you the routing information your broker needs to complete the transfer.

[Email pavlova03@comcast.net](mailto:pavlova03@comcast.net)

Our goal is to raise
\$60,000
so Arts Advocates
may continue
to preserve
our unique collection
of Colony artists
and award scholarships
to students pursuing
careers in the arts.



CALLING ALL ART LOVERS AND SHOPPERS!



Save the Date: December 9th, 4-6 pm at the Arts Advocates Gallery!

Join fellow Arts Advocates members and guests for a "Holiday Bazaar." Artisan members will be there to display and sell their paintings, jewelry, and other art works.

Designing Women will be hosting a table and also collecting items for its boutique. Arts Advocates earns 60% of the sale price of items sold that our members donate.

So, bring your gently used clothing, jewelry and home goods and enjoy holiday music, wine and treats while you shop!

This event is FREE for members and the general public.



Our deep appreciation to Lucie and David Lapovsky for giving the Arts Advocates major donors an opportunity to view their private art collection and helping us launch our 2022 Year-End Fundraising Campaign.

OUR EXHIBITING ARTIST

PAINTING WITH A PASSION:

THE ART OF JOSEPH MELANÇON

Works by Joseph Melançon will be on exhibition in the Arts Advocates Gallery from Saturday, December 3rd through Saturday December 31st.

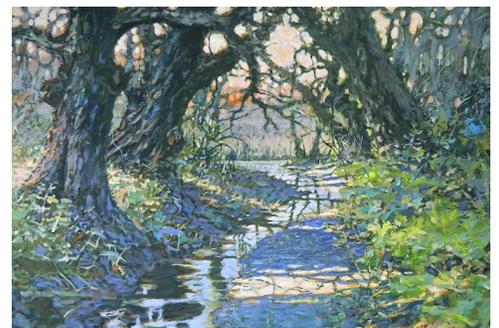
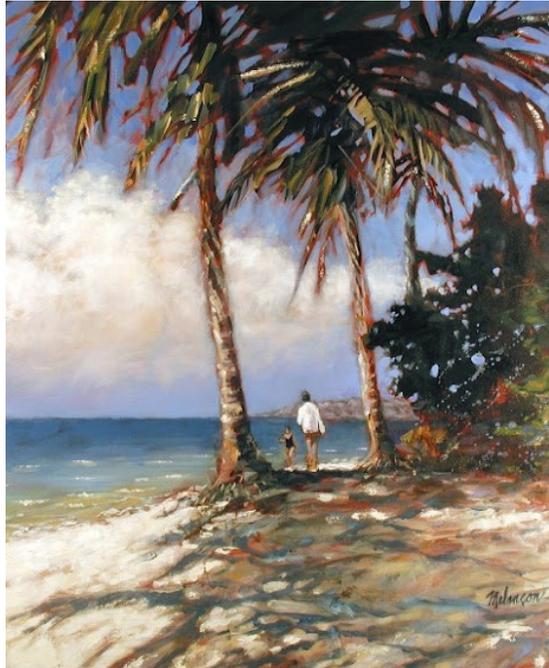
The gallery is open every Saturday from 2:00 to 4:00pm. There will be an Opening Reception on Saturday, December 3rd at 3 pm. Members and friends are invited to attend.

Much of Joseph's youth was spent happily drawing, painting, and building things. His time spent in later years, hunting, and exploring in the swamps and bayous of his native Louisiana, proved to be a harbinger of his lifelong interest in the design and nature of the world.

Upon graduation from Louisiana State University with a degree in Fine Arts, Joseph left Louisiana and entered the museum field for six years, designing science and history exhibits as Curator of Exhibits – first for the Charlotte Children's Nature Museum and then the Fort Worth Children's Museum. Subsequently he was recruited to be a designer for Peter Wolf Associates in Dallas. (Broadway set designer for "The King and I," "The Wiz," "Mame," "The Music Man," "Guys and Dolls," "West Side Story," and "Peter Pan," among many others.)

After nine years with Wolf, Melançon opened his own studio in Dallas and for 21 years created props, sets, models and special effects for Ad agencies, industry, museums, zoos, film, and television.

In 2001 Joseph and his family moved to Sarasota. He began teaching at the Art Center of Sarasota, where he's been teaching ever since. He has also taught art classes at Longboat Key Art Center, State College of Florida, Art Center Manatee and Renaissance School of Art.



Above Left: *Paradise*; Top to bottom: *Sunbath*, *Aground*, *Sunny Day John's House*, *A Little Further*, by Joseph Melançon.

COMMITTED TO CONSERVING THE PAST

In relation to other local non-profits, Arts Advocates is a relatively small organization of 200 members. In spite of its size, Arts Advocates is entrusted with the major responsibility for collecting, preserving, managing, publicizing and exhibiting the works of the artists who made, and continue to make, Sarasota an epicenter of the Arts. Fulfilling this obligation to conserve and promulgate Sarasota's history of visual art is a challenge but a challenge we readily accept.

While praise for the history of architecture in our community is well deserved, it is also well publicized and promoted. We contend that the history of art in our community deserves equal funding and attention.

It is in this spirit that Arts Advocates is seeking financial support from interested individuals and foundations to develop a catalog depicting and documenting all of the more than 50 works currently in the Arts Advocates collection.

Our exhibits are constantly being rearranged to demonstrate a particular theme or fulfill a special purpose. Maintaining a reliable list or archival record is extremely important since the collection is now disbursed and exhibited at 3 sites; the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, the Arts Advocates Gallery in Siesta Mall and, beginning in late November, at Sarasota's City Hall.

If you are interested in learning more about and supporting our commitment to conserve the history of visual art in Sarasota, we invite you to contact Donna Maytham at pavlova03@comcast.net.



Top: Descending Yellows – by Hilton Leech

Above: Stravinsky – by Syd Solomon

CITY HALL IS EXHIBITING OUR ARTWORKS!

Eleven works from Arts Advocates' Sarasota Art Colony collection will be on loan to the City of Sarasota, which is hosting a Cultural Arts Exhibition at the City Hall campus. This exhibit of visual art is representative of Sarasota's art and cultural history. The exhibition will cover many artists and performers who contributed to Sarasota's rich cultural legacy that we enjoy today.

The goal of this exhibition is to support the artistic excellence and cultural diversity of Sarasota, to promote the City's cultural and economic initiatives, and encourage public dialogue, education and enjoyment of historic visual art.

Eleven works have been requested for the exhibition – five works from the Arts Advocates Gallery at the Crossing at Siesta Key mall and six works from the Van Wezel. They will go on display in the middle of November with formal opening to be announced at a later date. Stay tuned for more information!

Below: *White Dress*;
Right: *Bird Feeder*;
Right top to bottom:
Crescendo, *Circus
Wagon*, *Pressing leaves*





Joseph McKenna, President, and CEO of the Sarasota Orchestra was our guest speaker at a sold-out luncheon at the Sarasota Yacht Club.



He described the orchestra's plans for a new "acoustic" hall. By that, he meant a hall specifically designed for music that does not have wings and a backstage area that distorts the sound. The orchestra is in the process of searching for a new Music Director, following the untimely death of maestro Bramwell Tovey. McKenna said the new venue on Fruitville Road would take approximately five years to build.

GALLERY ARTIST

MEG KRAKOWIAK

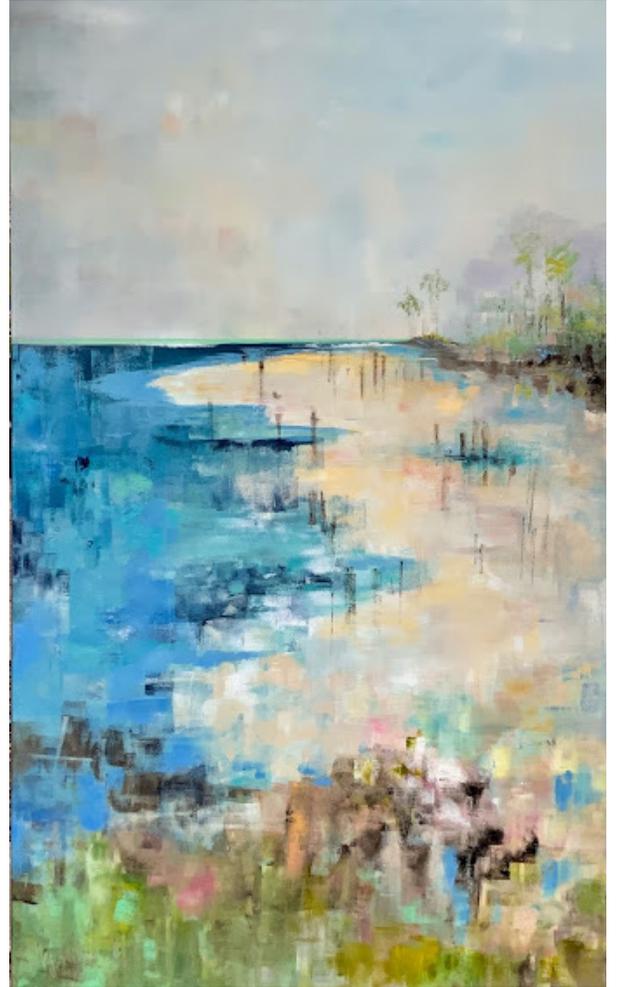
Show opens November 5th 2-4pm with a reception, through November 26th

Our member featured artist exhibiting at the Arts Advocates Gallery in October is Meg Krakowiak, a contemporary award-winning artist, best known for her intriguing color palettes and playful compositions.

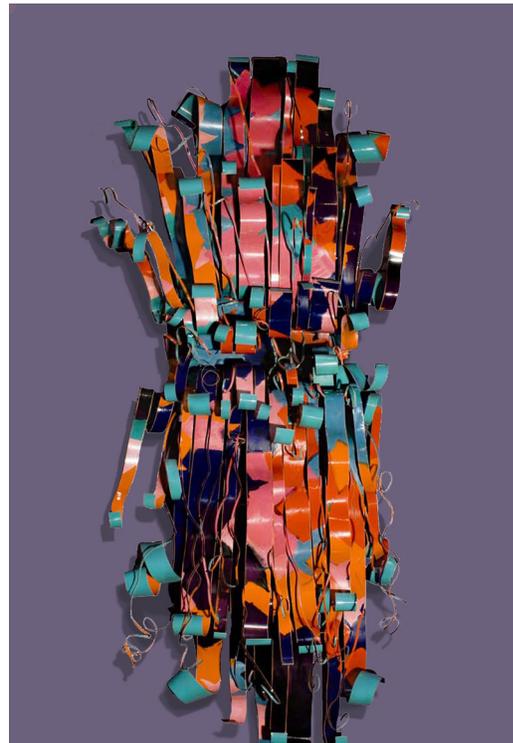
Her gallery and working studio are located on historic Palm Avenue in downtown Sarasota. She is also represented by Sarasota's prestigious Palm Avenue Fine Art Gallery.

“When starting a new piece of work, I think about the concept and the composition. But COLOR is always my inspiration. I work from memory,” says Meg.

“Paying attention to the color palettes in nature and how they change, I make mental notes of what I see and feel. Utilizing water-based materials, I work quickly, often in tempo with my favorite songs, creating and exaggerating the colors to share a memory with the viewer, hoping to teach them to see the colors around them as well. I create with joy.”



Clockwise from top:
Catching Umbrellas; Right
top to bottom: *A Gift of
Many Colors*, *Bayside
Beauty Basic Level*,
Emerald Bay,
by Meg Krakowiak



VAN WEZEL TOURS OF ARTS ADVOCATES ARTWORKS AND BACKSTAGE

November 14th, December 12th

Tours are offered to the public from 1:30-3:00 pm. Tours begin in the Main Lobby and cost \$15 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the Box Office or by calling (941) 263-6799

save the dates

Walking Tours

- + **January 20**
Cocoanut Avenue/Palm Avenue Area
- + **January 27**
City Hall/Five Points Park Area
- + **February 3**
Rosemary District

Tours and Workshops

- + **January 30, 2023**
Drawing Workshop
Arts Advocates Gallery
12 noon to 3 pm
- + **February 1, 2023**
Ringling College Tour
10:00 am
- + **February 10, 2023**
Memory Box Workshop
Arts Advocates Gallery
1 pm to 3 pm
- + **March 7, 2023**
Edison Kirsch Mansion at
Phillipi Creek
10:30 to 11:30am
- + **April 25, 2023**
Elling Eide Center Tour

2022-23 Luncheon Programs

The Arts Advocates Programs Committee is excited to announce the following lineup of programs for the 2022-2023 season:

- + **November 17, 2022**
Panel discussion with the artistic directors of Sarasota's Equity theatres (**Asolo Rep, FST, WBTT, Urbanite**)
- + **January 19, 2023**
Sarah Wertheimer on how the growing international juried competition "Embracing Our Differences" enriches lives through diversity and inclusion
- + **February 16, 2023**
Pedro Reis and Dolly Jacobs of **The Circus Arts Conservatory** on the legacy and future of circus arts
- + **March 16, 2023**
Michele Redwine on **Suncoast Black Arts Collaborative's** initiatives to promote interest in art created by artists of African descent
- + **April 20, 2023**
Jeffery Kin on plans for a new **citywide arts festival**

Mark your calendars now for these luncheon programs scheduled to be held at the Sarasota Yacht Club, 11am-1pm.

save the date



ART TALK WITH MIKE SOLOMON

Friday, January 27th, 2023, 4-6pm.

Join us for a captivating talk by Mike Solomon about his works, his process, his awards, his inspirations, and a bit about what it was like growing up in the Syd Solomon household, with frequent visitors in the "Who's Who of Contemporary Art". This is a talk not to be missed!

Kristallnacht 2018, installation view at Skyway 20/21, Acrylic on polyester films with aluminum



Joan Golub
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