



## Arts Advocates Gallery

Features artworks by Sarasota Artist Colony artists and the Florida Highwaymen along with Arts Advocates artist member pop-up shows

### About the Gallery

The Arts Advocates Gallery is located in The Crossings at Siesta Key mall (corner of Siesta Drive and South Tamiami Trail/US 41). Enter the mall by Connors Steak & Seafood and turn left.

Arts Advocates Gallery  
3501 S. Tamiami Trail, Suite 119  
Sarasota, FL 34239

Currently on exhibit at the Arts Advocates Gallery are more than 25 pieces from our collection of renowned works by the Sarasota Artist Colony. In the 1930s, these artists began migrating to Sarasota inspired by its natural beauty. They were also drawn by the arrival of noted art collector John Ringling, whose colorful and dynamic circus acts inspired many paintings and sculptures.

Also on view are five paintings by the Florida Highwaymen. The Highwaymen were a group of 26 African American artists, including one woman, who were mostly self-taught and painted in Florida from the 1950s on for several decades. Because they were not invited to show their work in galleries, they sold their work from their cars along US 1 and AIA.

Over the years, our works of art have been on display at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall and continue to be shown there as well.

### Gallery Hours

The exhibit at the gallery is open to the public every Saturday from 2:00-4:00 pm with a free docent tour at 3:00 pm. No appointment is required.

### Group and Special Tours

Group and special tours can be arranged through Stephenie Frasher, docent team leader, at [docent@artsadvocates.org](mailto:docent@artsadvocates.org) or by calling 443-454-2206.

### Events

In addition to exhibits, Arts Advocates hosts a variety of events in the gallery that are open to the public. The Arts Advocates Gallery is also available to other organizations hosting special meetings, concerts, and events. For more information, contact Donna Maytham, gallery director, at 941-351-5361.