

## April Meeting & Luncheon

Date: Thursday, April 18, 2019

Time: 9:30 Coffee & Tea  
10:00 Meeting  
11:30 Lunch

Location: Bird Key Yacht Club

### Menu:

Petite Filet w/Bearnaise, Fondant Potato,  
Broccoli and Julienne Carrots

Vegetarian – Vegetable Spring Rolls  
w/Jasmine Rice Cake and Ponzu Glaze

Dessert – Velvet Cake

Cost: \$27 includes tax, tip, and Bayfront  
ambiance.

Drink tickets available at the reception desk

No substitutes and please no walk ins as  
we have assigned seating. Checks accepted  
at the door.

Please join us for lunch and enjoy visiting with  
your friends and fellow members.

Deadline for reservations: Friday, April 12th

**For registration form and further details,  
please see page 9 of this newsletter.**

## Sarasota's Sixty-Six Years of Japanese Prints

**Rhiannon Paget, Ph.D.**

*Curator of Asian Art, John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art*

Since its founding, Sarasota has attracted artists, designers, and writers, becoming a regional center for culture. At the forefront of mid-century art and design, the city was also one of the earliest places in North America for the second wave of Japonisme to break in the 1950s and 60s. From 1953, a series of well-attended exhibitions drawn from the collection of local statesman Karl Bickel made Sarasota an early locus for modern Japanese prints in the U.S. Bickel later donated many of these objects to the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art, launching what has since become one of the richest areas for the Museum's Asian art holdings. A selection of the collection is currently on view in the exhibition *Woodblock Prints from Postwar Japan*.



Rhiannon Paget, Ph.D

*Rhiannon Paget is the curator of Asian Art at the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota. She received her doctorate from the University of Sydney, Australia, and has published research on Japanese prints, paintings, textiles, and popular visual culture. Her exhibition, Woodblock Prints from Postwar Japan, is currently on view in the Ting Tsung and Wei Fong Chao Center for Asian Art at The Ringling.*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



My dear friends,  
.....and a wonderful time was had by all!

What a fabulous 50th Anniversary Celebration, filled with surprises! Kristi Bundrant, a chair of the event, has an article about it later in the newsletter, recapping and thanking all the volunteers who made this such an amazing success.

In the meanwhile – a LOT of work and business has been done since last month:

In addition to collaborations with Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, Ringling College of Art & Design, SMOA, New College, The Society, Inc., and Strings Con Brio, a new collaboration has been established with The Jazz Club of Sarasota.

As the results of months of work by our Acquisitions Committee, the Board has just unanimously approved a significant new acquisition for our permanent collection, “Ball Farm” by Dean Mitchell. This is our first art acquisition utilizing the generous, transformational funds from the Hintzpetter bequest.

Dean Mitchell has been referred to as the “Vermeer of Watercolor,” winner of national and international awards, with paintings displayed in numerous museums, corporate, and private collections. This is a wonderful acquisition for our collection.

As you know, as part of the Fine Arts’ 50th celebration, we are going to sponsor “The Price of Everything” at the Sarasota Film Festival. It is scheduled for Sunday, April 7 at 4 pm at the Memorial Auditorium.

All members will receive a free pass and we encourage you to bring friends and family to attend and view this exciting film. A panel discussion by local arts experts will follow. Additional tickets can be purchased through the Film Festival box office.

- Our educational events and salons are wrapping up for the season. All are fully subscribed.
- The scholarship committee is making final decisions about our scholars for this year.
- The program committee is planning some events for the summer—workshops, luncheons, and other possible gatherings. So many of our members are now year-round residents—stay tuned for more details!
- A new Board of Directors has been elected and will be installed at the April 18th general meeting. Plan to come and hear about our new leadership and plans for our next year!

As I close my final message as President, in our 50th year, I want to thank each of the members of the Board of Directors for the extraordinary, creative, and game-changing work they contributed—and for all the accomplishments we achieved.

It’s difficult to single out individuals who made significant changes, but we owe debts of gratitude to many people:

Barbara Blackburn and Kristi Bundrant, who volunteered to steer the planning for 18 months of 50th Anniversary celebrations!

To the Quartet (Barbara and Kristi plus Martha Ballard and Bo Galford) who planned our our 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Donna Maytham, fundraiser extraordinaire!

Bo Galford and her son, Greg Galford, designers of our new whizbang website.

Elizabeth Rose who proposed a truly unique event – participation in the Sarasota Film Festival honoring our 50th Anniversary.

All the committee chairs and their committed committee members.

And so very many more... I hope I have not left out any one, because it has taken each and every member to create and support the myriad initiatives and activities in these past two years!

So, I also thank you, the entire membership, for your enthusiastic support of the positive changes that have been made—Creators & Collectors Salons, new general meeting formats, new membership policies—embracing innovative ways to raise money for our initiatives, notably without requiring major volunteer work from each member. We have made tremendous strides forward!

In this time, we have transitioned Fine Arts from “business as usual” of the past 50 years and positioned ourselves to move forward with new energy, new leadership, and updated visions for the next 50 years.

With our collaborations, new initiatives, and evolving leadership, we are poised and ready to make even more significant contributions to our members, and to the arts community of Sarasota, going forward!

With warmest regards to all!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Vern Livingston Weitz". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Vern Livingston Weitz  
President

# Artists Among Us



## Marjorie Sayer

Marjorie Sayer's goal is to explore ways to experiment with the figure and landscape in different spatial relationships. She wants the figure to exist and be recognizable but gradually become more abstract by bold strokes of color and gesture. The finished paintings are a result of numerous layers of paint creating a sense of tension between areas of lightness and heaviness, having human forms that seem to

emerge, then disappear. "I love the expressive tactile quality that I arrive at by using Impasto oil paint applied with a palette knife." The creation of the painting is rapid, and the result is texture and exhilaration," she says. Her response to both the figure and to landscape is immediate. It is visceral. Charcoal highlights the gesture in mark making. She says that landscapes are another matter; they embrace the ground, sky, barns and are joyful and rich with color.



Marjorie received her BFA from Cornell University, with a semester abroad at the University of Florence, Italy. She studied for her Masters' degree in History of Art at NYU and the University of Munich, Germany; she painted at Arts Student League in NYC.

*On left: At the recent Lakewood Ranch Art Show, Marjorie Sayers' painting, "Morning Chat", received the People's Choice Award and First Place, selected by three expert judges. Heartiest congratulations, Marjorie!*



## THE FINE ARTS SOCIETY OF SARASOTA

### 2018-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### OFFICERS – Executive Committee

President	Vern Livingston Weitz
Vice President	Donna Maytham
Recording Secretary	Martha Ballard
Corresponding Secretary	Debbie Grovum
Treasurer	Alice Allen Mary Ellen McMahon

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

Permanent Art Collection	Judy Fiala
Collection Tours & Docents	Cindy Woodling
Community & Educational Outreach	Suzanne Weitz
Creators & Collectors Salons	Donna Maytham
Education Tours & Trips	Kim Warren Barbara Blackburn
Fundraising	Donna Maytham
Governance	Jerome Chesley
Hospitality	Bobbie Schott Donna Maytham
Membership	Roberta Hamilton
Planning/Transition Programs	Judy Rush Kristin Gardel Tonya Eubank
Strategic Planning	Linda Bruemmer
Scholarships	Elaine MacMahon Elizabeth Rose
Yearbook	Judy Fiala

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEES

50th Anniversary Celebration	Barbara Blackburn Kristi Bundrant
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#### BOARD ASSISTANCE

Speakers Bureau	Nancy Fairchild
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# Celebrating 50 Years!

The 50th Anniversary of The Fine Arts Society of Sarasota was an event-filled celebration at the Hyatt.

Lavender hydrangeas, sparkling gold, candles everywhere, and a room full of festive guests!

Judy Fiala repeated the Toast from the 25th Anniversary.... and then the surprises began.

A student playing background jazz, a video of 50 years of Fine Arts memories

Balloons flying as guests bought gift certificates

Wine corks chosen to win a bottle worth \$100 or more

The unveiling of the lost "Palette" by Jon Corbino, found and returned after 28 years

And, as "Celebrate" played, in danced

A Flash Mob of Sarasota Ballet's Next Gen students.



Vern Weitz, President, introduced Peter Imryk and Eric Bowyer, who returned the missing *Palette* by Jon Corbino to The Fine Arts Society. She also welcomed 6 past presidents, a Luminaire, and arts notables from the community.





Kristi Bundrant, and Bo Galford,  
Committee Leaders: Alice Allen, Bobbie Hamilton, Mary Martino,  
Mary Mitchell, Judy Rush, Linda Bruemmer, Joy Stone,  
Suzanne Weitz, our wonderful President, Vern Weitz,  
and many other committee volunteers.

# GOING FORWARD: UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITY AND THE COURAGE TO CHANGE

Donna Maytham

During our fiftieth anniversary year, we have been celebrating the Fine Arts Society of Sarasota and its illustrious past, highlighting the organization's numerous accomplishments. The beautiful anniversary celebration made us all proud to be part of this vibrant group of art aficionados.

As we begin to turn toward the future, I am confident that Fine Arts' best years are just ahead. The generous bequest from Barbara Hintzpeter alone is transformational. The role that the Fine Arts Society plays in our community will grow in importance. Our opportunities are unlimited. All we need is the courage to change the manner in which our Board of Directors is organized, how we recruit new members, the types of fundraising projects we undertake, our long-range strategic plans, and our rededication to effectively fulfill our mission.

I am filled with optimism and humbled to have the opportunity to share this journey with all of you.

## PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY BOARD

The first meeting of The Fine Arts President's Advisory Board was held on Friday, March 15. Participating in the luncheon discussion were President Elect, Donna Maytham, Katherine Martucci, Tonya Eubank and Jerry Chesley. Members from the community were Leslie Butterfield, Public Art; Miriam Wallace, New College; Kristina Keogh, Ringling College; Andrea Knies, Arts and Cultural Alliance; Michael Marraccini, Sarasota Contemporary Dance Board; and Marjorie Floyd of Strategic Marketing.

The plan is for this Advisory Board to meet twice annually and discuss how the Fine Arts Society is perceived in the community, get feedback from outside the membership, and raise awareness of our Society and its contribution to the arts. If you would like to make suggestions about additional Advisory Board members, please let me know.

## REDESIGNING THE FINE ARTS BOARD

Over the past several years, Fine Arts has continually added new positions to the Board of Directors. For example, Transition,

Foundation Relations, The Giving Challenge, Strategic Planning, and the Anniversary and Governance are all relatively new.

While each of these functions is important, the end result is a Board of over twenty Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs all responsible to the President. This is too many "Chairs" for a president to comfortably manage. So, the goal is to redesign the Board in a way that responsibility is more evenly distributed among Board members and the President's work load is kept within reason.

## MEMBERSHIP

Of prime importance is finding creative ways to gain new members. At the Film Festival in April, the Fine Arts Society will distribute a "one time only" special Membership Application Form to those attending showings of "The Price Of Everything." We need volunteers at the showings to distribute informational brochures, highlight the new membership forms, and spread the word about the Fine Arts Society. Please email me if you can volunteer.

Our goal is to reach 200 total members by May of next year. With the addition of new members, the Fine Arts Society will be able to undertake exciting projects that are supported by enthusiastic volunteers.

To meet this goal, a thorough review of Fine Arts' membership policies and procedures will begin this summer. Our policies need to be measured against how similar organizations attract and retain their members. If changes are indicated, we will propose necessary modifications that help us adapt to the changing environment.

## COMMUNICATION

When our wonderful Kathy Elias resigned, we lost the ability to maintain the Fine Arts' Facebook page. As of April, we will be back on Facebook and communicating with our 700 "Friends" who have been patiently waiting for our return. Instagram may be in our future as well. Stay tuned!

# 'The Price of Everything' Film Screening Details for The Fine Arts Society of Sarasota Sponsorship of The Sarasota Film Festival



- The first screening of 'The Price of Everything' at the 2019 Sarasota Film Festival  
4:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 7th  
The Sarasota Municipal Auditorium  
801 N. Tamiami Trail Sarasota, FL 34236
- Each current member of the Fine Arts Society of Sarasota will receive one (1) complimentary admission for their personal use to attend **this screening only**. Members must check in at our dedicated FASS registration table at the Municipal Auditorium no later than 3:30 for admission to the film.
- Please wear your FASS Name Badge and let those film patrons around you know about the good work our organization does and the fun we have as members.
- Tickets for family and friends to attend the screening should be purchased directly from the Sarasota Film Festival in advance online at [sarasotafilmfestival.com](http://sarasotafilmfestival.com) or at the SFF ticket office in the lobby at Regal Hollywood Cinemas. If the screening is not sold out in advance, tickets will be available for purchase at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium on April 7th.
- An Arts Panel Discussion will follow the April 7th screening and is included with the film ticket.
- A second screening of the film will be on Wednesday, April 10th at 7:00pm at the Regal Hollywood Cinemas 1993 Main St. Sarasota, FL 34236. Tickets should be purchased online at [sarasotafilmfestival.com](http://sarasotafilmfestival.com) or in the SFF ticket office in the lobby of Regal Cinemas.

**Any questions about the April 7th screening or our Sponsorship, please contact: FASS Board Member Elizabeth Rose Ph: 941-928-7114**

## SAVE THE DATE

- + April 3  
Sarasota Contemporary Dance Rehearsal
- + April 7  
Film Festival Screening of "The Price of Everything"
- + April 9  
Salon #19 Private Collection
- + April 18  
General Membership Meeting
- + April 23  
Selby Gardens: Gauguin Behind the Scenes and Botanicals White Glove Private Viewing

## New Members



**William Rusling**

4071 Giannini Lane  
Sarasota, FL 34233

ATELO@aol.com

941-349-6958

401-241-7913



**Marilyn McNichols**

1075 Gulf of Mexico Drive, # 205  
Longboat Key, FL 34228

44 Forest Gate Circle, Oak Brook,  
Illinois 60523

MHM44@comcast.net

941-383-3630

708-341-3100

630-368-1697

# 2019 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

We hope you have been enjoying reading about the professional successes of our past Fine Arts Scholarship recipients in our monthly 'Where Are They Now?' newsletter articles. The Fine Arts Society has much to be proud of in helping young artists from Sarasota County to continue their education and embark on careers in the arts.

This month we begin looking forward to our 2019 Scholarship Awards. Thanks to the very generous donations of our members through the fundraising efforts of the Metamorphosis and Because of You fundraising campaigns, we will have numerous named scholarships this year and an allocation of over \$46,000 in funds to award. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our Scholarships.

Now, a note of appreciation to the dedicated members of the Scholarship Committee: Duch Adams, Martha Ballard, Myrna Block, Violetta Chandler, Helene Levin, Jan Lovelace, Kathy MacDonald, Karen Mathis, Elizabeth Van Riper, Marci Weisgold and Peggy Williams. These ladies are passionate about the arts and education and are doing a great job. Also, a special thank you to Jim Matthews and Dr. George Kolcan for providing us with computer/technical support – we could not accomplish our committee work without you.

Our committee met for two full days in March to evaluate the submissions that included: music, dance, theater, painting/ illustration, digital art, architecture, creative writing, graphic design, photography and multi-media visual art. Our recommendations will be submitted to the board of directors for approval at the April 11th board meeting.

Be sure to Save the Date of Thursday, May 16th for our popular Scholarship Luncheon at Bird Key Yacht Club. You will be amazed at the talent of these students from Sarasota County and see firsthand a glimpse of their futures in the arts.



Elaine MacMahon and Elizabeth Rose  
*Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs*

## IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN

It's dues time and dues envelopes will again be at the entrance table at the Bird Key Yacht Club during our April 18th membership meeting. Active membership dues remain at \$55 and Sustaining membership dues are \$100 per fiscal year.

"New" and "already" members have been enjoying the many educational and salon opportunities plus celebrating our 50th year of supporting the arts in the Sarasota community. The committees are bustling so if you wish to join one, check your yearbook for the committee chair name and give her/him a call. Your input is very important to the success of the Fine Arts Society.

Submitted by the Membership Committee: Roberta Hamilton, Chair; Trish Berberich, Mary Martino, Norman Meunier, Evelyn Miller, Nancy Sugg, Bev Wood and Vern Weitz.

## June Board Meeting

### **Please Note:**

**There will be a Fine Arts 2019-2020 Board meeting on Thursday, June 13 at 9:30AM in the Arts and Cultural Alliance Building.**

The agenda for this meeting will include discussion of:

- Strategic Planning Meeting Follow Up
- Schedule for Summer Programs
- Review of Membership Application and Process
- 2019-2020 Draft Budget Plans
- Monthly Financial Reports Format

If there are additional agenda items, please contact Donna Maytham.

# Please join us for lunch.

## April 18, 2019 Luncheon Reservation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \$27.00

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_ \$27.00

Please check ( ) if you would like the vegetarian meal option.

**\*Changes to your menu can't be made the day of the luncheon.**

### **Deadline for Reservations: Friday, April 12, 2019.**

Register for the luncheon with credit card or Paypal online:

[www.fineartsrq.com/events](http://www.fineartsrq.com/events)

With PayPal the luncheon charge is \$28.

Or, by check for \$27 payable to FASS and mail to:

Bo Galford

6920 S. Tamiami Trail

Sarasota, FL 34231

bo@galford.net

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info@fineartsrq.com | 941.330.0680 | www.fineartsrq.com

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