

Celebrating the Arts Advocates Gallery

There was palpable joy as some 60 guests attended a reception on June 28th to celebrate the new Arts Advocates Gallery at the Crossings at Siesta Key mall. Leaders from Sarasota arts organizations, our Board members and other guests enjoyed wine and cheese as they toured our beautiful new space.

Guests could view 19 paintings by Sarasota Colony artists from our collection, previously on display at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall. The paintings are now exhibited in museum quality lighting that highlights the works in all their beauty.

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The Gallery will be open to the public on July 17th and every Saturday thereafter from 2-5 pm. Written information will be available for self-guided tours.

Docent-guided tours are scheduled at 11:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month starting Wednesday, July 7, and can be booked at ArtsAdvocates.org/About.

Group and special tours can be arranged through Stephenie Frasher, docent team leader, at stephfrash@comcast.net or by calling 443-454-2206.

The Gallery is also available to other organizations hosting special meetings, concerts and events. For more information, contact Donna Maytham, Gallery Director, pavlova03@comcast.net, or by calling 941-351-5361.

JULY GENERAL MEETING

A ZOOM PRESENTATION

Thursday, July 15, 2021 | 4:00 pm

Sarasota Ballet Reaches Next-Gen Dancers & Devotees

It has been exciting to watch the Sarasota Ballet grow, in literal leaps and bounds, into the prestigious nationally and internationally respected company it is today. What makes it so successful is not just what we see on stage, but the hive of activity that exists every day behind the scenes.

Christopher Hird has been the Director of Education and Outreach at the Sarasota Ballet since 2016. His purview includes the Margaret Barbieri Conservatory, a full-time program designed to prepare 11-18 year-old students for a performing career in classical ballet. Also included is the Sarasota Ballet School, which teaches the American Ballet Theatre authorized curriculum to students ages 3 and up.

In addition, he is in charge of numerous other educational programs such as:

An intensive summer training program for students aged 11-21

Themed summer camps for ages 3-11

Adult programs including open dance classes and Joyful Movement Through Parkinson's

"Dance: The Next Generation," an opportunity for at-risk kids to join a 10-year full scholarship program in dance

Local school visits giving students a brief history of ballet, a peek behind the scenes, and a mini dance class.



Christopher Hird,
Director of Education
and Outreach at the
Sarasota Ballet



Christopher earned a Bachelor of Arts in Dance from the University of Roehampton and trained at the Royal Ballet School. After retiring from his onstage career, he worked for the British Ballet Organization, the Royal Ballet School and the Boston Ballet School, where he taught pre-professional and classical ballet students, staged many ballets and served as head of adult programming. He has served on numerous international dance juries and been a guest teacher for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Canada's National Ballet School.

Don't miss an exciting glimpse into the world of ballet at our **July 15 Zoom program at 4:00pm!**

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

It's an exciting time for Arts Advocates. At our "Meet & Mingle" program on June 9th, more than 35 members and guests enjoyed face-to-face conversations at an event for the first time since before the pandemic struck.

We will continue to have meetings in person and on Zoom. Starting in October, our luncheons will take place at Bird Key Yacht Club, always a favorite. In our member survey you told us by an overwhelming margin that previous luncheons including a morning business meeting were too long. We heard you.

Luncheons will now begin at 11 am with a half hour to socialize. Lunch will be served at 11:30 am and any business taken care of before our guest speaker starts at 12:15 pm. Following Q&A, we will adjourn by 1 pm.

We also launched our own Arts Advocates Gallery in the Crossings at Siesta Mall. On Saturday, July 17, from 2:00-5:00 pm, members, guests and the public are invited to the first Open House. Come and bring a guest.

It will be open to the public from 2-5pm on Saturdays, and a docent-led public tour will be held the first Wednesday of every month from 11 -11:45 am. We are also scheduling group tours. Group and special tours can be arranged through Stephenie Frasher, docent team leader: stephfrash@comcast.net or (443)-454-2206.

If you belong to other organizations, please encourage them to schedule a tour of the exhibit of our wonderful Sarasota Colony paintings.

Arts Advocates workshops and special events will also be held there for members and non-members. Courtesy of Donna Maytham, our Gallery Director, and Joan Endrizzi, Board member, we now have



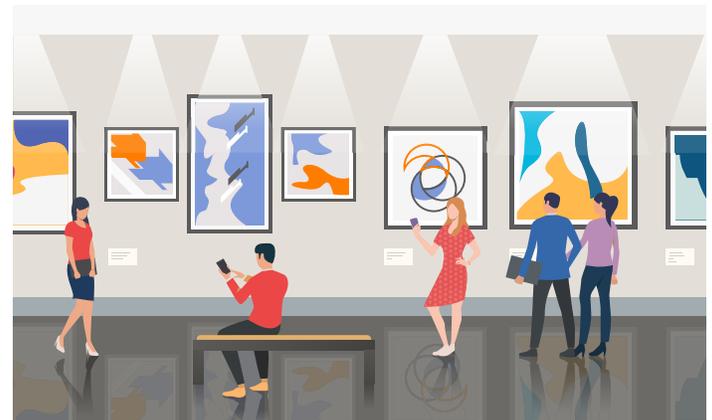
packets of note cards with images of four of our paintings. They will be available at the Gallery and luncheons for a donation of \$35.

We need members to volunteer to serve as receptionists every Saturday. Please contact Donna Maytham to sign up: pavlova03@comcast.net or (941) 351-5361. We urge you to volunteer so that our gallery is properly staffed when visitors stop by.

Finally, thanks to everyone who recruited a new member for our Each One-Reach One campaign that brought in 35 new members. They took a look and liked what they saw in Arts Advocates. We not only continued our programs but flourished during the difficult past year.

With your support, even better days are ahead for Arts Advocates.

Jeannette Paladino
Jeannette Paladino, President



for the first time

Arts Advocates members, guests and the general public are invited to an Open House at the new Arts Advocates Gallery at the Siesta Mall on Saturday, July 17 from 2:00-5:00 pm. There is no charge for this event as it is a celebration of the first time that Arts Advocates has had 24-7 access to our Collection.

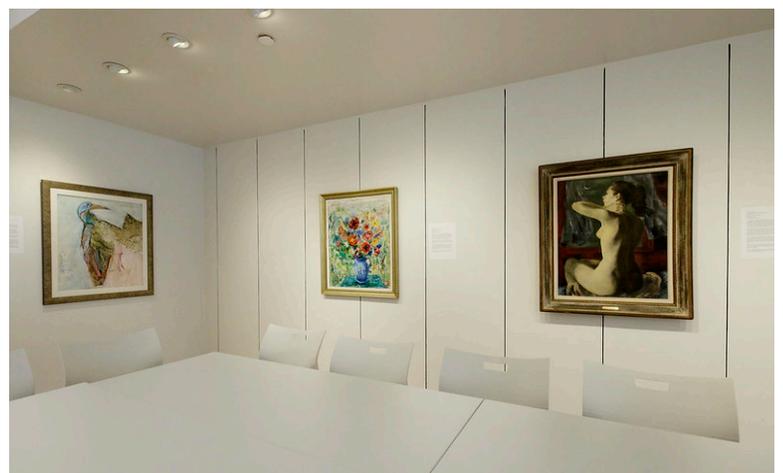
- ✓ we have exhibited our paintings outside of the Van Wezel
- ✓ the historic value of this Collection will be made public
- ✓ we have an exhibit organized by a professional curator
- ✓ the curator has prepared written commentary to accompany each painting
- ✓ the works are grouped by theme

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time: Publicly exhibiting this collection of Florida artists is what our founders envisioned and why, as The Fine Arts Society of Sarasota, the organization faithfully and diligently continued to enhance and elevate the collection.

These photos of our new Arts Advocates Gallery were taken by Board Member John Lindsay. They show the bright, spacious and adaptable new space in the Siesta Mall.



- ✓ we offer an exclusive exhibit of Sarasota's Colony artists
- ✓ the works are hung at eye level
- ✓ the works are all lighted
- ✓ Docent Tours may be booked on our Arts Advocates website
- ✓ Arts Advocates will receive the entire income from the tours.



2021-22 Arts Advocates Scholarship Recipients Introduced to Members at June 17 Zoom Meeting

Arts Advocates' 2021-22 scholarship recipients met with our members in a zoom meeting on June 17. The format was an interview with each of the scholars conducted by Jane Sheridan, chair of the Scholarship Committee's Performing Arts sub-committee. Jane earned the appreciation of all who attended with her thoroughly professional approach to this project.

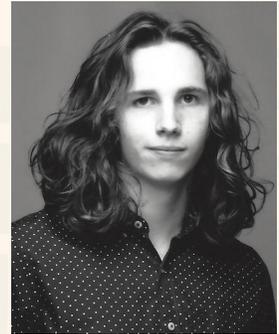
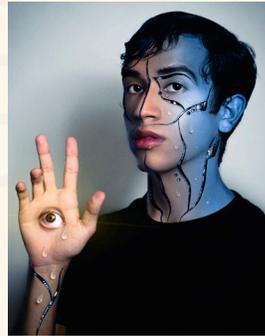
These young scholars were impressive in so many ways. While their academic achievements attested to their intelligence, they also exhibited exceptional maturity, poise, and a strong motivation to succeed. They generously shared information with us regarding how and why they chose their field of study, obstacles they may have faced, and their families.

Our recipients are current college students who previously received our scholarships as well as newcomers who will begin college in the Fall. The colleges and universities to which they were accepted are among the very best in the country for

students of the arts. They include Ringling College of Art + Design (**Zane Lohdi**, art, and **Markella Wagner**, creative writing); Florida International University's College of Art and Architecture (**Zoe NiKirk**, art); Barnard College of Columbia University, (**Thaleia Dagberg**, dance and theater); Carnegie Mellon University (**Sophia Coscia**, theater); Oberlin Conservatory of Music (**Colin Leonard**, saxophone); Frost School of Music at the University of Miami (**Luca Stine**, trumpet); Rensselaer Polytechnic (**Emily Cain**, architecture); and Parson's/ The New School (**Pablo Gonzales**, art).

All the students were asked what the Arts Advocates scholarship meant to them. It was both touching and gratifying to understand from their answers how much we were helping them pursue their dreams of a career in the arts.

Carol Hirschburg
Scholarship Committee Member



ARTS ADVOCATES ORGANIZATION CHART June 2021 UPDATE

OFFICERS

Jeannette Paladino, *President, Team Leader Marketing and Communications*

Barbara Hyde, *Vice President, Team Leader Member Events*

Susan Rawson, *Recording Secretary*

Barb Sander, *Corresponding Secretary, Collection Team*

Elaine Foster, *Treasurer*

Donna Maytham, *Past President, Team Leader, Sustainability*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cecilia Condor, *Member-at-Large, Collection Team*

Joan Endrizzi, *Member-At-Large, Team Leader, Hospitality, Finance Team*

Betty Ferguson, *Team Leader, Membership*

Carol Hirschburg, *Team Leader, GroundWorks*

William (Bill) Rusling, *Member-At-Large, Exhibit Site Team*

Julia Groom, *Member-At-Large, Team Leader, Community*

John Lindsey, *Member-At-Large, Team Leader, Technology*

Celeste Parks, *Member-at-Large, Gallery Team member*

TEAM LEADERS

Faith Perkins, Joan Correa, *Team Leaders, Newsletter*

Rennie Carter, Nancy Roucher, *Team Leaders, Programs*

Judy Levine, Priscilla Adams, *Team Leaders, Workshops*

Teresa Kravitz, *Team Leader, Educational Tours*

Waddy Thompson, Donna Maytham, *Team Leaders, Fundraising*

Judy Levine, Donna Maytham, *Team Leaders Collection*

Tonya Eubank, Debra Altshul-Stark, *Team Leaders, Scholarships*

Betty Ferguson, *Team Leader, Membership*

Mark Muse, *Team Leader, Salons*

Stephenie Frasher, *Team Leader, Docents*

Our April program speaker, Harry Potter illustrator Mary Grandpre, was awarded first place in the recent exhibit at Art Center Sarasota for her mixed media work, "Jellyfish Jam."

