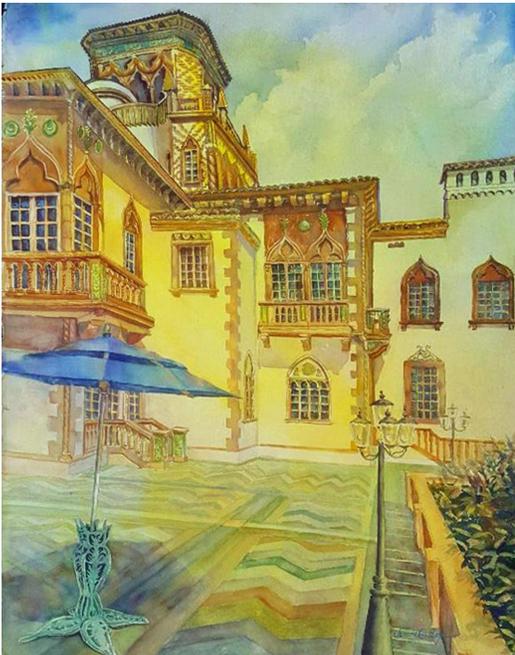


Members' Art Exhibition



Ca D' Zan by Jerome Chesley

The Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota invited our organization to develop an Art Exhibition featuring our artist Representatives. As a result, twenty-one of our members are participating in the exhibition showing 68 pieces of artwork! **These works are on display at the Arts and Cultural Alliance building, 1226 N. Tamiami Trail, (Designing Women Boutique), from November 5 through December 14.**

Members from The Southern Atelier organization and Art Ovation Hotel plus committee representatives from Arts Advocates helped jury, select and hang the works. The extensive multi-media exhibition covers the first and third floors of the building. Since so many people from the community attend meetings in the first floor conference rooms, this is a wonderful opportunity for our members to display their talents.

A large crowd of artists, members and people from the wider Sarasota community attended the Opening Reception on November 14, an important event for the group. Please visit this wonderful Exhibition which showcases the talents of many Arts Advocates members.

Members from The Southern Atelier organization and Art

Participating Artists Include:

KASIA BRUNIANY
 KRISTI BUNDRANT
 LESLIE BUTTERFIELD
 CAROL CATHELL
 VIOLETTA CHANDLER SHTUMEYZEN
 JEROME CHESLEY
 LYNN ELGART
 NANCY FAIRCHILD
 LORNA FITCH
 KAREN GECK
 DGANIT (ANA) GREIER
 DONNA JAMES KARAMBELAS
 VERN LIVINGSTON (WEITZ)
 KATHY MACDONALD
 PETRA RATNER
 LILLIAN SANDS
 MARJORIE SAYER
 KENDALL SMITH
 ELISABETH TROSTLI
 NANCY TURNER
 BEVERLY WOOD
 R.O.WOODY

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

A STANDING OVATION



On Wednesday, November 13 at the ART Ovation Hotel, Arts Advocates launched the new “Speaking of The Arts ...” series. Gayle Williams, Music Critic for the Herald Tribune called this series “a Town Hall for the arts”. The overwhelming success of this event is a tribute to Suzanne Weitz, chair, and committee members Barbara Blackburn and Bo Galford. The Committee is grateful to our leading sponsor, The Maryann and James Armour Family Foundation and also support from the Art Ovation Hotel and Cumberland Advisors.

There were over 160 guests in attendance and among these were many leaders from local art and educational organizations: Bruce Rogers from the Hermitage, Lee Dougherty Ross from The Artist Series and Miriam Wallace representing the Humanities Department at New College.

COMMENTS FROM OUR MEMBERS

“Donna and Suzanne, the evening was beyond my expectations. I don't think I've ever been to a better lecture. (Marin) did not have to raise her baton to impress beyond words. What an extraordinary woman!”

Karen Mathis

“What a wonderful talk last evening at Art Ovation. It bodes well for this series and I want to thank you and all who worked to get Marin to speak in Sarasota. I loved that she mentioned Paul Wolfe who was so influential in starting the music scene in Sarasota.” Judy Levine

“It was a flawless evening.” Jay Wilson, new member

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

“What a fabulous program-Marin Alsop was just terrific, engaging, informative, and delightful to hear! We are so glad we attended this educational and frankly charming event. Kudos to you all for presenting such a quality program. Please keep me posted about all of your upcoming events/activities.” Sharon Prizant, Director of Community Engagement, Cumberland Advisors

PURPOSE

“Speaking of The Arts...” events give Arts Advocates an opportunity to collaborate with other arts organizations such as The Sarasota Orchestra, The Sarasota Concert

Association, Choral Artists of Sarasota and The Perlman Music Program. In addition, the series is a wonderful way to fulfill our mission: to Inspire creativity, advance education and connect the community to the arts.

GOING FORWARD

“The Speaking of the Arts...” Committee (Suzanne Weitz, Barbara Blackburn, Bo Galford and advisors Waddy Thompson and Mary Ann Armour) are currently collaborating with Asolo Repertory Theatre to bring a ‘high profile’ personality from Broadway to spend an evening with us in Sarasota. For this event, the format will be an interview and there will be an increased opportunity to interact with the audience. A late March or early April date is planned.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna C. Maytham".

Donna C. Maytham
President

YOUR DONATIONS EQUAL DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

It is as clear as A=B=C. The money we raise from the year-end letter you just received, impacts how much money we have to award to our scholars. Last year, we gave 4 awards at \$2,200... 5 awards at \$3,500... 4 awards at \$5,000. *

Because our scholars frequently attend highly specialized, private institutions, their basic tuition can exceed \$40,000 to \$50,000 annually and that is just the beginning. Every year we receive notes of gratitude for helping young artists graduate debt free.

These scholars are depending on us, so please be generous.

*If you wish, you may indicate on the fundraising response form how you want your gift to be used. For example, you may designate your donation for the Collection, Scholarships or Outreach. Also, you may say that your donation should be divided 50/50 between two of our philanthropies. This is entirely up to you.

Don't miss this upcoming event!! **meet the artist – dean mitchell**

December 3, 2019 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Betty J. Johnson North County Library

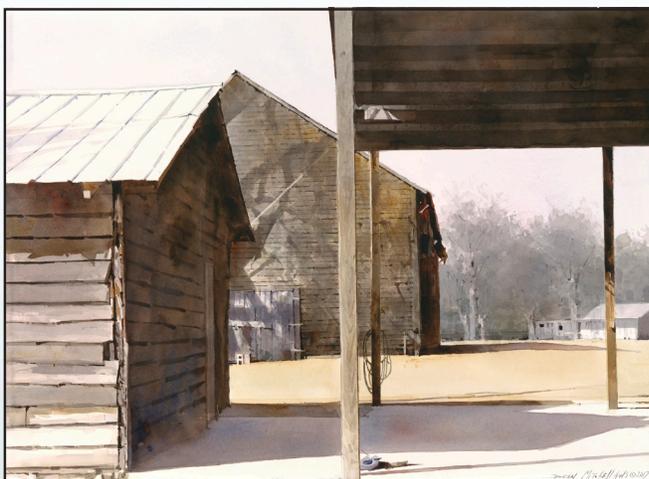
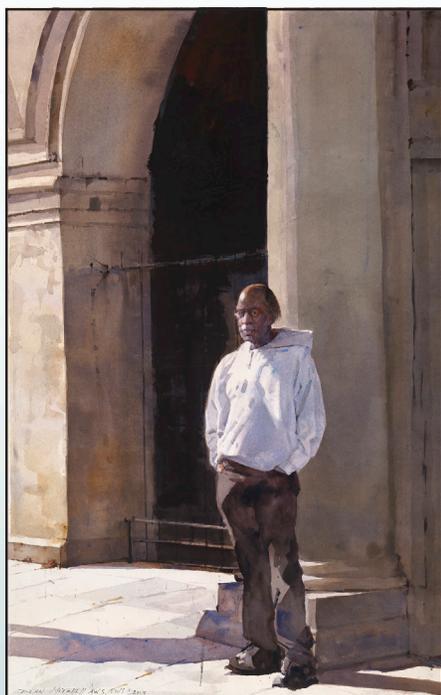
2801 Newtown Road, Sarasota

Featuring

Stranger at the Cabildo, Tobacco Barn Shadows at the Ball Farm

and

Three pieces from the Fine Arts Collection



workshops and educational tours and salons

REGISTER HERE

WINTER 2020

An Afternoon with Jim Craig and Randy Johnson

DECEMBER

Wednesday, 12-11-19 | 4:30 - 6:00 pm
30 Members and Guests | \$50

Closed Rehearsal at Sarasota Orchestra - “Great Escape” Series

JANUARY

Wednesday, 01-08-2020 | 9:30 am - 11:00 am
25 Members and Guests | \$30
**Optional lunch after rehearsal*

The Florida Highwaymen - Old Florida Captured in Oil

JANUARY

Thursday, 01-23-2020 | 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
50 Members and Guests | \$50

iPhone Photography Workshop - Alan Freedman

JANUARY

Thursday, 01-30-2020 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
40 Members and Guests | \$25

Tour of the Sarasota Art Museum - Annemarie Russell

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 02-05-2020 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
40 Members and Guests | \$25
**Optional lunch after tour*

Intentional Creative Painting Workshop - Donna Papenhausen

FEBRUARY

Thursday 02-27-2020 | 1:00 - 3:00 pm
10 Members and Guests | \$30

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

Good News!

Scholarship parameters have been extended to Sarasota **and surrounding counties**. Our Board has wisely enlarged our ability to reach more worthy recipients.

Scholarship information is readily available on our new, improved website. Please go to ArtsAdvocates.org, and click on the Philanthropy section to access the pull-down menu. 'How to apply' and the Scholarship information can be easily downloaded. If you are in contact with a student who you feel would be a good candidate for our support, please direct them to the website.

We appreciate the awarded named scholarships presented in 2019:

Joan and Fred Endrizzi
Judy and Fred Fiala
Donna Maytham in memory of Walter Maytham
Kristine Bundrant
Linda Kopek honored by her mother Carol Kopek
Martha Ballard and Steve Matthews
Karen McHugh Mathis
Nancy Stukenberg
Anna E. Jones in honor of Donna Maytham
Anthony and Mary Martino
Eleanor Schmidt Schweigaard-Olsen
Roberta “Bobbie” Hamilton in memory of Lois Page
Janet Herzler
Muriel Rubens honored by her daughter Lynda Doery
Maryann Armour
Lois and Alan Schottenstein
Marion Storm in honor of Fine Arts founder and first President
In Memoriam in honor of Barbara Hintzpeter,
Marion “Chicky” Drost, Nathalie “Nat” McCulloch,
Linda Hellmich-Brink and Blanche Yadven

Also thank you to those who donated anonymously. Each scholarship awarded has positively affected the life of an arts scholar. The rising cost of education affects all of us as well as the future of the arts. Please consider supporting these efforts again...or for the very first time! Donors giving \$2,500 or more are entitled to a named scholarship. Thank you for your consideration of financial support.

Jackie Salvino and Linda Milberg, Scholarship Committee Chairs

take a bow

- Suzanne Weitz, Barbara Blackburn and Bo Galford for the outstanding Marin Alsop event.
- Jerry Chesley and our talented members for the exciting Member Exhibit at the Arts and Cultural Alliance Building.
- Tonya Eubank and the Member Activity Committee for planning such interesting experiences.
- Kristi Bundrant, Vern Weitz and the Collection Committee, and Linda Bruemmer, chair of the Strategic Plan for grappling with maintaining, exhibiting and enhancing our Collection.
- Violetta Chandler for exhibiting at the Art Ovation.

take note

- Our next General Meeting will be THURSDAY, January 16, 2020 at the Bird Key Yacht Club. The program will include a presentation by Charlotte Perret, the author of *Street Fairs of Paris and Their Carnival Folk in Stories and Photographic Postcards, 1900's*. As a reminder, the business meeting begins at 9:30. At the break, volunteers will be available to help you make reservations for future events.
- The February General Meeting will take place on FRIDAY, February 14, 2020 to celebrate Valentine's Day. Two musicians from the Sarasota Orchestra, Jonathan Spivey, pianist, and John Miller, bass, will entertain us with love songs.
- On December 15, a very special exhibit of works by Syd Solomon will begin at the Ringling Museum. This link provides more information: <https://www.ringling.org/events/syd-solomon-concealed-and-revealed>
Note: There is no charge for Florida Residents on Mondays at the Museum.

At the November 21 General Meeting, members overwhelmingly voted to approve the acquisition of 4 Victor Lundy paintings for our Collection. The donors of the Blue Pagoda paintings were present at the October 17 Meeting to talk about Victor Lundy, his architecture and his art.



save the date

- + **December 3**
Meet the Artist - Dean Mitchell
5:30 - 7:00 PM
- + **December 11**
An Afternoon with Jim Craig and Randy Johnson
4:30 - 6:00 PM
- + **January 8**
Closed Rehearsal - Sarasota Orchestra
9:30 - 11:00 AM
- + **January 23**
The Florida Highwaymen
1:30 - 3:30 PM
- + **January 30**
iPhone Photography Workshop
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM



Arts Advocates members were treated to an enlightening and educational tour of the Elling Eide Center and Library on November 6, 2019. Ann Roddy, Library Director, showed the group some of the library holdings and pointed out the significance that the library holds for Asian Studies Scholars. These 19th Century puppets were a highlight of the tour.

where are they now?

Interview with BRANDY ZARLE Actress, New York City, NY

Arts Advocates members may sometimes wonder how impactful a \$1,000 scholarship can really be for a student. I agree that while \$1,000 is just a drop in the financial bucket that it takes to earn a college degree, when combined with other funds, that bucket can overflow and result in enabling a student to achieve a stellar career in the arts.

To illustrate my point, this month's 'Where Are They Now?' past-scholar interview is going back twenty-eight years to 1991! That year, the Fine Arts Society of Sarasota awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Sarasota native Brandy Zarle, a theatre major attending her second year at Southern Methodist University. Brandy ultimately earned her Bachelors of Fine Arts degree from SMU in 1994 and went on to earn her Master's degree in acting from the highly respected Yale School of Drama in 1997.

Fast forward to today and Brandy is a professional actress based in New York City where she lives with her husband Tim Rush "A brilliant actor and wonderful husband who makes every day better." notes Brandy. Over the past 20+ years Brandy has garnered extensive acting credits in television, theatre and musical theatre and happily shares that now, as an actress in her 40's, her career is the best it's ever been. **"I am so grateful for the members of Arts Advocates who had confidence in me all those years ago and gave me the financial assistance I needed to learn my craft."** says Brandy. Let's explore Brandy's journey:

Brandy grew up in Sarasota and studied ballet starting at the age of four at the Ellen Swope Dance Studio. Her "Aha!" moment came when, as a 10-year-old student attending Sarasota Middle School, her mother spotted an audition announcement in the newspaper for the Booker High School production of the musical Annie. The audition for that very first role—the lead, no less—is crystallized in Brandy's mind. "My mother and I recently spoke about my first time singing the popular song 'Tomorrow' on stage during my audition. I wrapped a newspaper around my shoulders and fully embodied the character. That audition was truly life-changing for me," notes Brandy, adding "I knew then that I wanted to act." In her teenage years Brandy spent two summers as an acting apprentice at the Berkshire Theatre Festival and performed with Yale School of Drama students. "I eventually auditioned in Chicago and was one of the youngest students to ever be accepted into the coveted Yale drama program," says Brandy.

When asked what advice the actress Brandy of today would give to her newly-graduated Yale student in 1997, Brandy simply states "Always remember that what you have to



offer is unique and special; no one else has it." She adds, **"I believe if an audition isn't successful it's because I am meant to be doing another role that is yet to come. That happened a few years ago when I was under consideration for the lead in the world premiere of a new play and I didn't get the part. I was disappointed, but shortly after I earned a guest television role on the popular series Law and Order: SVU. It was a fabulous role and I loved every minute of playing my character and the experience working on that show."**

One of Brandy's earliest television credits was when, at the age of 24, she landed a role as a cocktail waitress on the long-running soap opera Guiding Light. Who among us didn't watch Guiding Light at some point between its run from 1952-2009? Yes, Brandy was in just one scene of one episode, but it was a speaking part. A speaking part! Can you imagine Brandy's excitement that day? I can't help but wonder which Guiding Light cast members she served drinks to that day (yes, I was a loyal GL viewer).

"My philosophy is to never judge the characters I am playing," says Brandy. "I have to tell their story and bring their humanity to the audience. Yes, the audience will judge the character, but the actor shouldn't."

Elizabeth Rose

Please go to www.artsadvocates.org/what-s-new to read Brandy Zarle's full story.