

JANUARY MEETING AND LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 16, 2020
Bird Key Yacht Club

Time:	9:30 - 10:15	Business Meeting
	10:15 - 10:30	Coffee
	10:30 - 11:30	Program
	11:30	Break
	11:45	Lunch

Menu:

Shrimp Portobello with Peppers, Onions,
Jack Cheese and Scampi Sauce

or

Tofu Portobello

Rolls and Butter

Dessert - Peach Cobbler à la Mode

Cost: \$29 includes tax and tip.

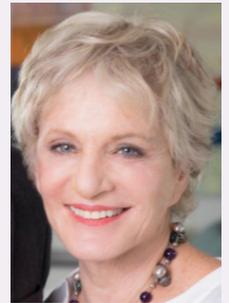
Deadline for reservations is
January 10, 2020.

To register for lunch, go to:
www.artsadvocates.org

*(Please note: Our special guest
for lunch will be Brynne Anne Besio,
CEO of The Bishop Museum of Science
and Nature in Bradenton.)*

at their doorstep, street fairs of paris

Well off the beaten historical path, award winning **AT THEIR DOORSTEP, the Street Fairs of Paris in Vintage Postcards, 1900's**, presents exclusive, personal, vintage, photographic fairground postcards from Parisian carnival families of 1900. Saved through generations, this unique, treasured, family memorabilia presents their inventive stands, shows, stalls and circuses in the once great traveling neighborhood fairs of Paris. Right at their doorstep, the hard pressed Parisians found invaluable escape from their daily drudgery, and miraculous rare exposure to the new 20th century – automobile and airplane rides (albeit in glorious steam driven carousels), the nascent cinema and electric lights, photography and much more. Never gypsies, the mysterious and remarkably astute carnival folk revealed in **DOORSTEP** were masters of their difficult, itinerant existence and masterful creators of the astonishing and itinerant Parisian street phenomena of 1900.



Charlotte Perret

In 1982, Charlotte Perret returned to America after sixteen years in Paris, where she raised a family, taught English to French executives and studied French history and literature. She interviewed the carnival folk for her book in 1981. Translating her interviews from French, **AT THEIR DOORSTEP** was published in 2012 and awarded an exceptional two gold medals from the Florida Publishers' Association. With a B.A. from the University of Chicago in Russian Civilization and an M.A. in Museum Education from George Washington University in DC, she retired from the Smithsonian Museums and moved to Sarasota. She currently divides her time between Florida and France.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT FOCUS ON 2020-2025



This January we enter a whole new decade and the opportunities to grow, explore and plan are virtually unlimited. 2019 was a year of change for The Fine Arts Society, Inc. and now, as Arts Advocates, we take on new challenges.

Ken Polotan, Strategic Planning Consultant, said "Change is usually an unwelcome guest. Change is about the unknown. Change is painful. Change is scary. We prefer the status quo. We like the familiar. We seek to be comfortable. Yet the world is in a constant state of flux. Change is constant." This statement echoes what Dr. Larry Thompson said at our November meeting. "If we do not change, we will be left behind."

Last May, the Arts Advocates board participated in a day-long strategic planning session and, just seven months later, much of this plan has already been implemented. Now, Linda Bruemmer and her committee are embarking on development of a strategic plan exclusively for the Collection. This special planning committee will develop and articulate Collection vision and mission statements.

Our Collection Task Force, under the leadership of Kristi Bundrant, has already had the Collection of 51 works assessed and appraised. Committee members have consulted legal and tax authorities, investigated insurance costs and made numerous personal calls on organizations in our community hoping to place some of our works in their space for increased visibility. Vern Weitz has met with staff from the Van Wezel Foundation regarding a program whereby school children may view the Collection; Vern, Russell Woody, and Barb Sander have devoted hours to identifying art to sell and discussing ways to reorganize the works into themes. Miqui Lora has made valuable contacts with Ringling College, Sarah Skeebe's legal background has been invaluable and Jerry Chesley has been searching for a

possible new exhibit space. Peg Williams is responsible for the docent volunteers and recently, Suzi Dickson has been added to the docent leadership team.

In the new year, two of Dean Mitchell's thought provoking water colors and 4 Victor Lundy works will be added, bringing the total number of works to 57. Properly lighting the paintings and possibly rehangng them remains to be addressed.

Unfortunately, looming over all of these efforts, is the uncertain future of the Van Wezel as a continuing performing arts hall and viable exhibit space. At the February luncheon, Cheryl Mendelson, Chief Executive Officer of the Van Wezel Foundation will be our guest and she will say a few words about the Foundation's exciting plans to build a new structure. While there will not be adequate space for our Collection in the new building, there may be an opportunity for Arts Advocates to donate a major sculpture or piece of art to be displayed in the theatre.

One thing is certain, our community will continue to evolve and change and it is in our best interest to keep pace with these changes.

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

Donna C. Maytham
President



a conversation with lynn ahrens

When you see a really successful musical theater presentation, all kinds of questions must pop into your mind. Aren't you curious about the song-writing process? What does it entail? How do the songs for musicals get created to reflect the drama happening on the stage? What is the way into a song? What are the criteria for really engaging lyrics? How do you blend the work of the playwright, the composer and the lyricist? All these topics and more will be discussed in our next captivating conversation at **Speaking of the Arts.....**

Arts Advocates is embarking on a collaboration with **Asolo Rep** to offer an exciting **Speaking of the Arts.....!** For our second offering, we have the opportunity to eavesdrop on a conversation between **Tony Award** winning lyricist **Lynn Ahrens** and **Celine Rosenthal**, AsoloRep's Associate Artistic Director. They will let us in on the secrets of developing the lyrics and music for a brand new musical, **Knoxville**, which makes its World Premiere in March at **Asolo Rep**.

The second in the **Speaking of the Arts....** series will be held on **Thursday, February 27 at the Art Ovation Hotel**. There will be a cash bar opening at 6 and the program begins at 7. Please check the website for ticket purchase; tickets will be \$50 for members and guests, \$60 for non-members and \$100 for patrons, who will get a chance to sip champagne and chat with Lynn Ahrens and Celine Rosenthal after the conversation.

Want to know more about the upcoming **Knoxville**? The collaborative effort between Ahrens, Stephen Flaherty and Frank Galati, who worked in partnership with this team on **Ragtime**, will once again be the force behind **Knoxville**, with Galati writing the libretto and directing the show and Flaherty serving as the composer. But you will learn much more in this fascinating evening discussing the birth of a musical.

Lynn Ahrens is a native New Yorker. She began her musical career fresh out of college on the renowned television series, "Schoolhouse Rock." Since then, she has written extensively for theater, film and television, winning theater's triple crown – the **1998 Tony Award, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards** for the lyrics of the acclaimed Broadway musical, **Ragtime**. In the same year she received two Academy Award nominations and **two Golden Globe nominations** for Best Song and Best Score for the animated feature film **Anastasia**.

With her longtime collaborator, composer Stephen Flaherty, her many Broadway, off-Broadway and Lincoln Center Theatre credits include **Once On This Island, Chita Rivera: the Dancer's Life, My Favorite Year, Lucky Stiff, A Man of No Importance, Dessa Rose, The Glorious Ones** and Broadway's **Seussical**. **Ragtime** was revived on Broadway in 2010. For the recording of Songs from Ragtime and for the original Broadway Cast Recordings of Ragtime and Seussical, she has received three **Grammy nominations**. For her extensive work in children's television, she had received the **Emmy Award** and four **Emmy nominations**.

Clearly, this much honored woman is a skilled lyricist and writer, and she will share the special talents of her craft with the **Speaking of the Arts.....** audience in conversation with **Celine Rosenthal**. Rosenthal is an NYU Tisch alum, **Tony-nominated** producer who is the **Associate Artistic Director at Asolo Rep**. Rosenthal is the recipient of directing fellowships at Manhattan Theatre Club and Asolo Rep, as well as an SDCF Observership.

To register: www.artsadvocates.org/activities/activities-list-view/events-members/70-speaking-of-the-arts-a-conversation-with-lynn-ahrens



workshops and educational tours

January and February 2020

To see a full description of each event, please go to the website, click on registration, scroll down to the event you would like to view and click on "Details."

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 | \$45

UPDATE: artsadvocates.org New Feature

To register and pay for multiple events at one time, a "shopping cart" has been added in the Activities area of artsadvocates.org. It's simple and intuitive:



1. Click on "register" in the activity of your choice.
2. A pop-up will appear showing the details of the activity you just chose.
3. At the bottom of the pop-up, click on either "add more events" (if you want to register for additional activities), or "checkout" (if you are finished).
4. The pop-up will continue to appear, to allow you to register for more activities, until you choose "checkout".
5. Once you click on "checkout", you will be directed to the next page to enter your credit card information.
6. A receipt, with all the activities you just registered for/purchased, will be sent to your email account immediately.

Feel free to contact Tonya Eubank, teubank@hotmail.com, or Betty Ferguson, betty@artsadvocates.org, if there are any questions.

-Cynthia Burnell

special luncheon guests

At the request of our members, we will continue featuring special guests at the General Meeting luncheons. So far, we have entertained administrators from The University of South Florida and Anand Pellegar from PINC and Dream Large.

In January, **Brynne Anne Besio**, Chief Executive Officer of The Bishop Museum of Science and Nature in Bradenton, will be our special guest. Formerly, The South Florida Museum, this prestigious educational institution is the largest natural and cultural history museum on Florida's Gulf Coast. You will hear about all of the exciting things that are happening at the museum.

At the February luncheon our special guest will be **Cheryl Mendelson**, Chief Executive Officer of the Van Wezel Foundation. Cheryl will bring us up-to-date on the new Performing Arts Center.

speaking of our collection artists...

Syd Solomon is such an exceptional artist that the Ringling Museum has devoted an entire wing to a special exhibition of his work. AND Arts Advocates is fortunate to own one of his amazing expressionist paintings entitled "*Stravinsky*." The vibrant colors result from his experimental mixing of acrylics with inks, and the splashes of fractured brush-strokes evoke Stravinsky's music. Don't miss seeing it in our collection at the Van Wezel.



take a bow

- Vern Weitz for planning the successful Dean Mitchell event at The North Library and supporting community outreach with visits to Booker Middle and Booker High schools. Getting our inclusivity efforts to yield results is a challenge but Vern made a very good start.
- The Collection and Acquisition Committees for providing refreshments at the Dean Mitchell event.
- Jerry Chesley and Vern Weitz for rushing back and forth to Tampa in an effort to select a replacement painting for the surprisingly imperfect "Stranger".
- Jay Wilson for introducing Arts Advocates to Jim Craig and Randy Johnson who have a truly incredible private art collection and to Mark Muse for coordinating this remarkable event.
- Jim Craig and Randy Johnson for presenting a scrumptious Salon buffet that included baby lamb chops and roasted potatoes all catered by Apolonia Restaurant. We are spoiled forever.
- Our deep appreciation to every member who contributed to the year-end fundraising campaign. Every dollar counts.
- All of the dozen Arts Advocates members who devoted an entire day at PINC to "recharge their creative batteries".
- Cynthia Burnell for patiently and consistently monitoring the new website.
- Betty Ferguson, Tonya Eubank and Cynthia Burnell for helping all of us learn to navigate the website.
- Linda Breummer for chairing the Collection Strategic Planning Committee.
- Suzanne Weitz and her committee for taking on the second "Speaking of The Arts..." conversation. Hats off to Suzanne, Barbara Blackburn and Bo Galford.
- Linda DiGabrielle and the Asolo Rep for agreeing to collaborate with Arts Advocates.
- Waddy Thompson and Norman Meunier for helping with the fundraising campaign.

save the date

- + **January 8**
Closed Rehearsal - Sarasota Orchestra
9:30 - 11:00 AM
- + **January 16**
Member Meeting and Luncheon
9:30 am - 12:45 pm
- + **January 17**
Ringling Museum Gallery Talk
1:30 pm
- + **January 23**
The Florida Highwaymen
1:30 - 3:30 PM
- + **January 30**
iPhone Photography Workshop
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM



Members of Arts Advocates heard an enlightening presentation and talk by the artist Dean Mitchell on December 3, 2019 at the North County Library. Two of his paintings will be added to our Collection.

take note

- We cannot bring the whole Sarasota Orchestra to you, but at the February General Meeting two of the Orchestra's most popular musicians, Jonathan Spivey at the piano and John Miller on bass, are coming to celebrate Valentine with us. Remember the February meeting is **FRIDAY, February 14 at Bird Key Yacht Club**. Our special luncheon guest will be Cheryl Mendelson, Chief Executive Officer of the Van Wezel Foundation. Cheryl will say a few words about plans for the new Sarasota Performing Arts facility.
- We surpassed our 2018 fundraising total of \$47,900 and exceeded our 2019 fundraising goal of \$50,000. Your donations are deeply appreciated and they will help fund scholarships, community outreach, the Collection and general operating expenses. More than 50 of our members made contributions. This year we received a major sponsorship from the Maryann and James Armour Family Foundation and a corporate donation from Cumberland Advisors.
- We still need to explore opportunities for grant applications. Many grant applications require an official financial audit and these can be costly. We are working with our accounting firm to see if a "Financial Review" might be substituted. A whole list of documents and informational materials need to be gathered before we can benefit from this additional revenue source.
- Tonya Eubank and I have organized a Financial Planning and Procedures Committee that will begin meeting in early January. Members are: Past President, Joan Endrizzi, Marjorie Floyd, non-profit consultant, Martha Ballard, Marilyn Richey and Louise Tesmer. The objective is to propose guidelines concerning use of the bequest, investment goals, budgets and allocation of funds for philanthropic projects.
- At the January Arts Advocates Board meeting, we will have an opportunity to hear from Ken Polotan, International Management and Strategic Planning Consultant. Ken will open the meeting and share some of his thoughts about prioritizing goals, evaluating the member experience, articulating our values and making an emotional connection with our members. To learn more, go to Ken@kenpolotan.com.
- The annual Scholarship Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 21 at the Bird Key Yacht Club. This is our final meeting and luncheon of the year and promises to be a sell out event!
- A special invitation has been extended to Arts Advocates members to attend a Gallery Talk at the Ringling Museum on Friday, January 17 at 1:30 pm. Mike Solomon will speak about his father's work currently on exhibit: "Syd Solomon, Concealed and Revealed".

Arts Advocates deeply appreciates the generous gift from **The Maryann and James Armour Family Foundation** to sponsor "A Conversation with Lynn Ahrens". Maryann and her husband James also sponsored "Speaking of The Arts... last November when Marin Alsop was the featured guest. It is through the support of our members, like Maryann, that Arts Advocates is able to bring nationally and internationally known luminaries from the world of art to the Sarasota community.



Maryann Armour and Suzanne Weitz

where are they now?

Interview with Joshua Galindo – Motion Designer, Los Angeles, CA

When Dr. Larry Thompson, President of Ringling College of Art + Design spoke at our Arts Advocates meeting this past November, I asked him to share his thoughts on why so many young art students today are concentrating in motion design versus traditional fine arts disciplines. Dr. Thompson's answer was simply "They can get a job right out of college."

That response made me think of RCA+D graduate and four-time Arts Advocates scholarship recipient Joshua Galindo. An accomplished student, Joshua received numerous college awards and honors including Best of Ringling Motion Design in three categories. He earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in May, 2019 and on the day of his college graduation, Joshua took time to express his deep appreciation for our financial support in an interview on WEDU's Arts Plus television program. Joshua shared with the viewers that "After the Fine Arts Society of Sarasota invested in me, I felt it was only right that I put everything I had into my education."

During his college years, Joshua was a student ambassador, private tutor and Motion Design teaching assistant at Ringling College's PreCollege program – an immersive 4-week program in which high school students from around the world live on campus and experience college-level curriculum in a variety of fields. He also produced work for the Sarasota Architecture Foundation, the 2017 PINC Creativity Conference and earned a regional ADDY Award.

A visit to Joshua's website reveals much about the exceptional young man we have supported over the past four years. His work is thoughtfully executed and compelling to view and I encourage you to click on the links to visit his website <https://www.jgalindo.me/new-page> and demo reel <https://www.jgalindo.me/demoreel>. In addition to computer-generated work you will also view photography, painting, graphic design and other examples of Joshua's artistic talent. He likes to focus on simplicity and craft in his work, emphasizing expressive animation and mindful composition. I think you'll agree that the quality, quantity and variety shown in Joshua's body of award-winning work is impressive for someone of any age, let alone an artist in his 20's.



A digital advertising and design agency recruited Joshua during his senior year of college and he now resides in southern California. Joshua notes *"Watson Design Group has been very exciting and enriching for my first job in Los Angeles. I love being a part of the production of some of the best movies coming out of Hollywood. My favorite part is getting to see the films before they come out. It feels great to be able to support myself. I have an apartment to myself that I love, a little extra income to enjoy lots of food and events, and gas for my car, even though those prices are a little ridiculous right now."* He adds, *"Although the weather here is more consistently beautiful, I miss the coziness of Sarasota. I catch myself daydreaming about the quiet of Siesta Key at night, clear starry skies, and the faithful Florida rain. And of course, I'll always look back fondly on Ringling College and all of my good school friends."*

On behalf of the members of Arts Advocates, I extend our congratulations to Joshua and wish him continued success in his career.

Elizabeth Rose