

SARASOTA RISING TAKES ART SCENE TO NEXT LEVEL

We take pride in Sarasota's amazing and diverse arts offerings ... but there's something missing, according to Jeffery Kin, our April luncheon speaker. Something that could elevate all of our community's cultural assets. Something that can benefit our arts organizations and artists as well as our residents and visitors: an annual arts festival!

Jeffery is the Executive Director of Sarasota Rising, a nonprofit established in 2021 to create an annual, weeklong interdisciplinary arts festival centered on the performing arts. "Living Arts Festival Sarasota" is scheduled to launch next year, with exciting features such as premieres of performing arts productions, art exhibitions, youth and family programming, celebrations of diversity, block parties, inspired food and beverage showcases and educational outreach.

Jeffery will describe his team's progress to date, including takeaways from his visits to Charleston's Spoleto, Orlando's Fringe Festival, Cleveland's Ingenuity Fest and the

Florida Festival and Events Conference. He believes Sarasota Rising is vital to the next stage of our area's growth.

Jeffery has been an award-winning actor, director, producer, and playwright, but is likely best known as the driving force behind The Players Centre for Performing Arts for 15 years. You may also recognize him as a cohost on the popular Suncoast View on Channel 7.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn about an exciting week-long event that is sure to have an impact on our national reputation as an arts center extraordinaire!

Reminder: Only if you attend the luncheon: renew your membership no matter when it expires and earn three months extra for free!



Top: Jeffery Kin Executive Director of Sarasota Rising.

REGISTER HERE.



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

I hope you are planning to attend our April luncheon when we will install our new officers for 2023-2024. Please vote on our splendid slate if you haven't already. You will find their names in a separate article in this newsletter.

I will complete my second term as President this month. It has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. I was introduced to our unparalleled collection of Sarasota Art Colony artists that are now on exhibit in three locations – our own beautiful Gallery that opened in 2021, the Van Wezel, and Sarasota's City Hall.

I was delighted to meet the talented and friendly members who attended our luncheons and other programs. My heartfelt gratitude to my Board

members and Team Leaders who planned these events.

No one does this alone. I'm so grateful for your support during these past two years.

This isn't my farewell. I will remain an active member doing what I can to help the organization achieve even more for its members, students scholars, and the community. Thank you and I will see you again soon!

Jeannette Paladino
Jeannette Paladino, President



BUY A RAFFLE TICKET!

Our April luncheon raffle is this delightful painting by member artist Chris Butcher. Since moving to Florida, Chris has become fascinated by the birds here, so she began duplicating famous paintings in colored pencil but changing all the people into birds. "The Boating Party" is 11 x 17 and one of her favorite paintings. She hopes it makes people smile!

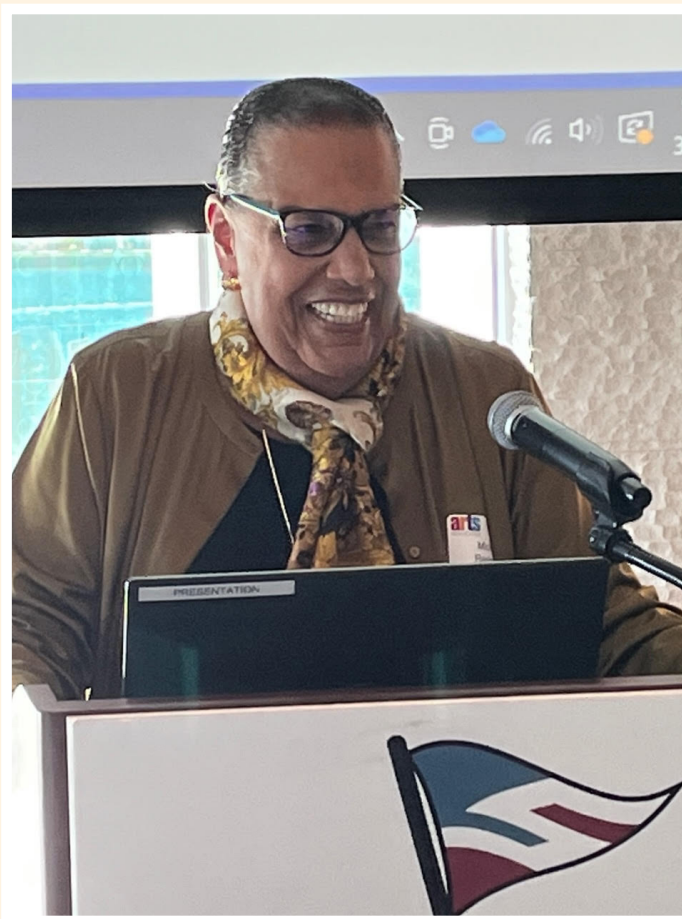


Please Vote for Our Nominees

The Nominating Committee has recommended the following members as Officers of Arts Advocates for 2023-24. They will be installed at the April luncheon meeting and begin their terms of office on May 1. The nominees are:

President:	Carole Schwartz
Vice President:	William (Bill) Rusling
Treasurer:	Elaine Foster
Corresponding Secretary:	Sharon Saatsoglou
Recording Secretary:	Evelyn Levin

Please email Jeannette Paladino at
jeannettepaladino@gmail.com
with your vote by April 10. Thank you.



Top Left: Michele Des Verney Redwine, Executive Director and Founder of the Suncoast Black Arts Collaborative, our March luncheon speaker. Top Right: Nancy Roucher (holding mic), co-Team Leader Programs.



Left: Jeannette Paladino (left), President of Arts Advocates, and Beverly Burger, winner of the raffle for Tony Reinemann's award-winning drawing "Shadow."

SALON: Private Viewing of Gudrun Newman Artworks

APRIL 11, 2023 | 1-3:00PM

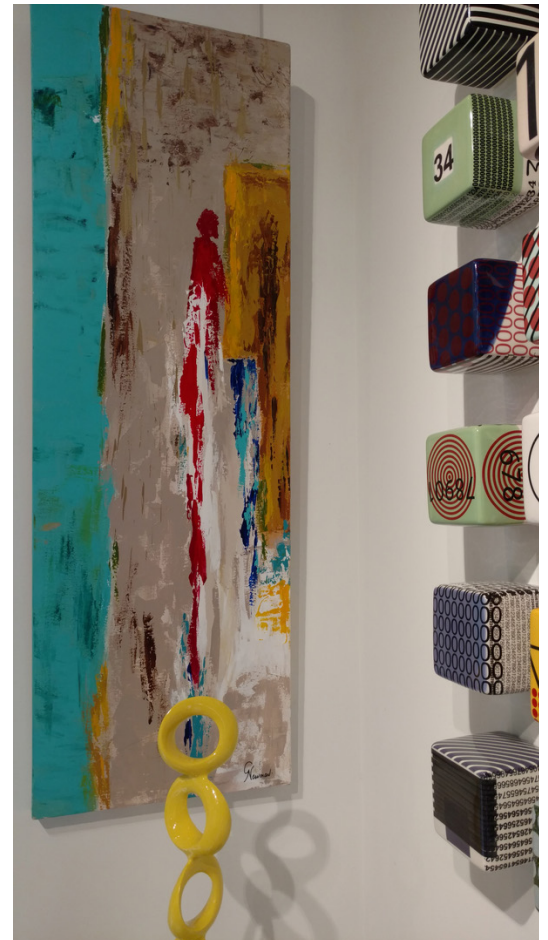
We have a rare opportunity to view a vast collection of art in one place – generally only available to designers and private collectors by appointment at her Studio Home Studio/Gallery.

Gudrun Newman is one of the most successful contemporary artists to emerge out of Iceland in recent years. Her paintings are represented by nine galleries across the US and can be seen among private and corporate collections internationally.

Place: 7429 Palmer Glen Circle, Sarasota 34240

Cost: \$50 members, Limited to 20 people

REGISTER HERE.



Art Talk: Five Visionaries Unite Sarasota's Visual Arts Community

APRIL 14, 2023 | 4-6PM

The Colony Artists put Sarasota on the map as a city with a vibrant visual arts scene. Now five visionary artists are building communities of artists to showcase their artworks.

In 2021, Jen Palmer created [Sarasota Studio Artists Association](#), a dynamic community of 65+ artists that enables visitors to meet artists in their studios, learn about their creative inspiration and directly purchase their art.

[Creative Liberties](#) was founded by Elizabeth Goodwill and Barbara Gediman to provide services and affordable studio space. Participating artists work in a communal space, enhancing the artists' ability to share ideas and help one another realize their visions. The basic concept has proven so successful, they have expanded to a second location with a classroom for monthly family art days where members of the community can create their own art.

Craig Palmer recently opened [Palmer Modern](#) next door to Creative Liberties. His space features an art gallery and includes a studio for himself as well as well as affordable studios for five additional artists.



The two Creative Liberties sites and Palmer Modern are in the [Limelight District](#), which is quickly transitioning into a major arts destination. There are now 27 artists within a few blocks, making it easy for visitors to walk from studio to studio. Having a high density of artists in one area is a win for the artists and those looking to purchase local art. These artists and jewelry designer Judy Levine will be our panelists.

Place: Arts Advocates Gallery, Crossings at Siesta Mall

Cost: \$20 members/\$25 non-members

REGISTER HERE.



BEHIND THE CURTAIN: EXPLORING THE VAN WEZEL FROM THE ART TO THE STAGE

APRIL 17TH | MAY 16TH

1:30-3PM

Step onto the stage where a Van Wezel guide will give you a peek behind the curtain to learn about the many hands that create the Van Wezel's shows. You will see the ropes and pulleys that "fly" the scenery on and off the stage, the movable orchestra pit, dressing room, and loading dock where traveling shows back up their 18-wheelers to move their shows onto the stage. All the while you'll be dazzled by stories and anecdotes about the colorful world of show business!

Tours begin in the main lobby and cost \$15 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the Van Wezel box office or by calling **(941) 263-6799**. Private group tours can be arranged by calling **(941) 955-7676**. Proceeds benefit Arts Advocates and the Van Wezel's education/outreach programs.

Place: Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall

Cost: \$15



DOCENT TOUR OF ELLING EIDE RESEARCH CENTER AND PRESERVE

APRIL 25, 2023 | 10:00-11:30AM

Our tour guide will take us through the acclaimed building designed by Guy Peterson, showcasing Asian artifacts collected by the Eide Family. These include a Chinese silk tapestry from the 18-19th century (Qing Dynasty), Japanese screens, ceramics, Chinese figurines, Asian and calligraphy scrolls, paintings, and a restored Persian mural ceiling in the dining room. In the library you will see Mr. Eide's collection of books and journals.



Then we will visit the preserve and learn about the history of the property and enjoy the beauty of the trees and rare plants on site.

The [Elling Eide Center Research Library and Preserve](#) opened its doors in the fall of 2016. The Center provides scholars and students with opportunities to research Chinese and East Asian culture, history, and art on a pristine nature preserve.



Place: 8000 S. Tamiani Trail, Sarasota (follow the signs on the road adjacent to the Presbyterian Church's parking lot. Enter the gate and follow the signs for parking)

Cost: \$12 members, \$15 non-members

Capacity: 10 Minimum/20 Maximum

Register by Monday, April 17



REGISTER HERE.



Opening of Seven Sacred Pauses and Art Talk



GALLERY ARTIST **COSETTE KOSIBA**



Join Member Artist
Cosette Kosiba for
her gallery opening
and reception on
Saturday April 1st
from 2-4pm.

Cosette will be
speaking at 2:30pm
about her process
and inspiration.

She is donating 30%
of her sales during
her show to Arts
Advocates.

How We Choose Artworks for the Arts Advocates Collection

By Mark Ormond, Arts Advocates curator

It is important that the collection of the Arts Advocates reflect the artists in the community. This is the foundation of the collecting vision of Arts Advocates.

The Visions in Black exhibition in February presented an opportunity to have an introduction to artists in the community we may not have encountered otherwise. Having their works in the gallery for several weeks provided an opportunity to study the work of these contemporary artists.

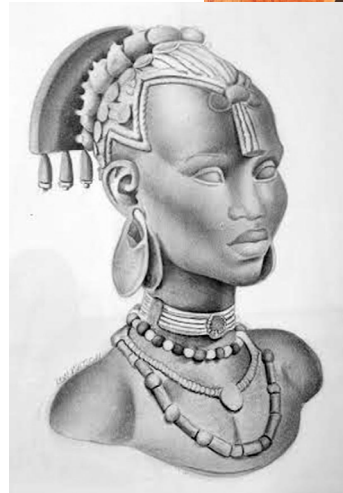
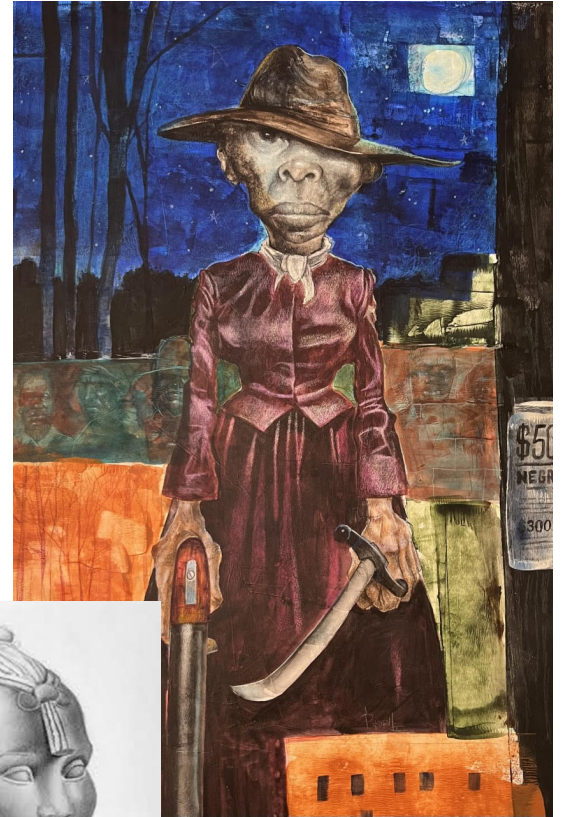
Our collection is about the representation of our community and the artists who live in the community. The four works chosen for purchase represent artists in the community. The subject matter of two of the works represents two icons in our culture: Prince and Harriet Tubman. These are two important historical figures and they have been uniquely painted by two artists.

Aesthetically these two works add something unique to the art collection of Arts Advocates. Gregory Rumph has been working on the Tubman work for many years. It is uniquely layered and on close inspection one can see many figures through the surface of the work.

Allen Pettigrew has chosen the music icon Prince as his subject. Prince is one of the most important twentieth century musicians for many reasons. He had a unique presence as a performer. He was an amazing talent as a musician who, in his art, crossed over and blended so many musical antecedents to create music that was uncompromisingly unique and his alone. Pettigrew has chosen a unique approach to painting a portrait that is his own invention and totally convincing.

All our visitors can connect to the stories behind these two individuals depicted in the works. Individuals interested in art will be intrigued by the unique approach to art making by Gregory Rumph II with "Harriet Tubman as Peaches" and Allen Pettigrew's "Purple Rain."

The two graphite drawings by Ronald Watson of "Majestic Nubian Queen" and "Regal Nubian Queen" are also remarkable in their execution and presence.



JOIN OUR SEARCH!

THE DREAM

When our founding members began collecting art by Florida artists, they envisioned establishing a special museum to house the collection. In the interim, the Van Wezel and the City of Sarasota generously provided an exhibit space until a museum-style facility became a reality.

The addition of the gallery in the Crossings at Siesta Mall was one step toward realizing this dream. However, Arts Advocates must continue its efforts to interest a foundation, investor, or philanthropist in purchasing or donating a building they own where we may preserve, house, and exhibit this historic and unique collection.

CURRENTLY

In May of last year, The Benderson Corporation purchased the mall where our Arts Advocates Gallery is located. Benderson has not been forthcoming about their future plans for this property, and we are leasing gallery space on a month-to-month basis.

THE FUTURE

The Board of Directors has formed a team to research locations where we might have a long-term lease. We are asking all our members to participate in this search for available properties that meet our requirements. If you have suggestions or recommendations concerning gallery space, please contact Donna Maytham at pavlova03@comcast.net.

- Preferably Centrally Located
- 1,800-2,000 Square Feet of Space
- Adequate Wall Space for Hanging Art
- Air conditioned
- Appropriate For Meetings
- Ample Parking
- Rent/Utilities \$1,500-\$2,000 a Month
- Long-Term Lease

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, MAY 18 at 12:00 PM
SARASOTA YACHT CLUB
SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON
INVITATIONS WILL BE MAILED

GUEST SPEAKER DR. SARAH PAPPAS

Dr. Pappas is a former President of The Selby Foundation,
President of Manatee Community College (now State College of Florida)
and wife of acclaimed artist, George Pappas.

Our 2023 Scholarship Award winners are invited to attend
and present examples of their work.



BE OUR NEXT EDITOR

Do you like to write? Is editing a skill?

If yes, we would love to have you as our next newsletter Editor. A graphic artist designs it. The time involved is only four or five hours a month for a very important asset to the organization.

Send a note by [clicking here](#). Thanks.

2023 Luncheon Programs

Don't miss these entertaining and informative presentations offering the insider information about Sarasota's most dynamic cultural organizations!

+ April 20

Jeffery Kin of Sarasota Rising on plans for a new citywide arts festival, "Living Arts Festival Sarasota."

+ May 18

Celebrating our 2023 Arts Advocates scholarship winners.

All programs will be held at the Sarasota Yacht Club, 11am-1pm.

2023 Gallery Events

+ April 4-29

Gallery Artist, Cosette Kosiba

+ April 14

ArtTalk: Five Visionaries Unite
Sarasota's Visual Arts
Community, 4-6pm



Joan Golub
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