

## WHY ARTS ADVOCATES?



The holiday season is a time for gratitude, to be thankful for what we have. As a member of Arts Advocates you belong to a community of individuals who share your love for the arts and some will become your good friends.

The new gallery provides Arts Advocates' members with an intimate space where it is possible to mingle with other members and enjoy our beautiful Sarasota Art Colony artworks and member artist exhibits.

Our popular Art Talks with well-known artists and art experts can broaden your horizons. Art Walks introduce you to Sarasota's extensive displays of public art and a view of our community from a whole new perspective.

Monthly luncheons feature prominent speakers from our arts community. As just one example, the November luncheon featured a panel of the artistic

directors of the Asolo Repertory Theatre, Florida Studio Theatre, Urbanite Theatre and The Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe.

**“We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives...”**

*—John F. Kennedy*

You can bring your friends and introduce them to a proud organization that has supported the arts for 53 years and counting.

We are grateful that you are a member of Arts Advocates. Thank you for support and belonging to our vibrant community of arts lovers.

## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

**'Tis the season to be jolly as we enter the busy holiday season. This is a time of giving and we are deeply grateful to those "early-birds" for their generosity and response to our year-end fund-raising campaign.**

Our 2022 goal is to raise \$60,000 with at least 60 members making donations. I urge everyone who has not yet contributed to donate before December 31st to be sure your name appears in the coming newsletter and on the new Donor Wall in the Gallery!

We want to continue offering these wonderful experiences for our members: the Arts Advocates Gallery, our popular walking tours and Art Talks, member art exhibits, workshops, educational tours, and our luncheon programs featuring outstanding speakers.

As a member of Arts Advocates you will be joining a community of individuals who share your love for all the arts. However, everything we do depends on your continued financial support.



**Please consider designating your gift for a specific Arts Advocates need:**

- Fund the gallery lease for a week \$100
- Fund the gallery utilities for a week \$100
- Fund a new bench for gallery visitors \$100
- Fund the Curator for one week \$125
- Fund a luncheon speaker \$200
- Fund a partial scholarship \$300

Please let us know where you would like your donation to make a difference. Thank you and have a very happy holiday and a prosperous New Year.

*Jeannette Paladino*  
Jeannette Paladino, President

[DONATE HERE](#)



*Happy Holidays*

# EARLY BIRD DONORS\*

## THANK YOU!

**GOAL**  
**\$60,000**  
← **\$52,725**

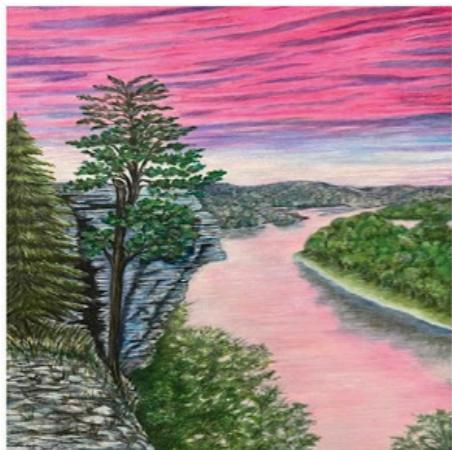


Priscilla Adams  
Jean Allen  
Debra Altshul-Stark  
Christine Boone  
Beverly Burger  
Rennie Carter  
Nannette Crist  
Joan Endrizzi  
Tonya Eubank  
Susan Farbman  
Laura Feder  
Elaine Foster  
Stephenie Frasher  
Pat Golemme  
Helga Hartmann  
Carol Hirschburg  
Barbara Hyde  
Barbara Kerwin  
Robin Klein-Strauss  
Meg Krakowiak  
Donald Lockett  
Jim and Barbara Long  
Maria and Guy Mandler  
Peggy and Bob Marcus  
Katherine and Frank Martucci  
Donna Maytham  
Jeannette Paladino  
Dr. Sarah Pappas  
Julie Planck  
Bill Rusling  
Sharon Saatsoglou

Sarasota Arts and Cultural Alliance  
Carole Schwartz  
Micki Sellman  
Jane Sheridan  
Sarah Skebba and Michael Bernstein  
The Patterson Foundation  
The Selby Foundation  
In honor of Martha Fitzsimmons  
Edris Weiss  
Rita Wessan

\*Note: If you donated and your name does not appear on this list please email [elaine@artsadvocates.org](mailto:elaine@artsadvocates.org) and she will make the correction.

# HOLIDAY BAZAAR IN OUR GALLERY



**December 9th, 4-6 pm at the Arts Advocates Gallery!**

Join us for our **FREE** holiday bazaar and enjoy holiday music, wine and treats while you shop for paintings, jewelry, and home goods created by Arts Advocates member artisans. [Please register](#) if you're attending so we can plan for refreshments.

# Sarasota Theatre Artistic Directors Enthrall Luncheon Attendees



A record audience gathered at Sarasota Yacht Club for Arts Advocates' November luncheon to hear a panel discussion with the artistic directors of Sarasota's four professional theatre companies. Jay Handelman, Arts Editor and Theatre Critic for the Herald Tribune, moderated.

The audience learned:

- Richard Hopkins, Producing Artistic Director of Florida Studio Theatre, selects plays based not on what he thinks his audience wants, but on what they need, even though they may not know they need it. He feels obligated to put "the important questions" on the table.
- Brendan Ragan and his co-artistic director at Urbanite Theatre, Summer Wallace, approach a season like a great five-course meal, each delicious but with varying degrees of weight. As they consider plays for each season, a commonality tends to emerge; this year it's heredity, or family ties.
- Nate Jacobs, Founder and Artistic Director of The Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, said that his mission is to tell stories about African American history that his patrons (and even some of his artists) may not know or appreciate. He relies on his instincts to choose what will resonate for his audience.
- Michael Donald Edwards, Artistic Director, of Asolo Repertory Theatre, grew up in Australia with a fascination of American culture. His productions often explore the American character. Asolo now offers two musicals a year, but he emphasizes that they are not simply revivals; he brings in directors and designers to create a new approach to each show.

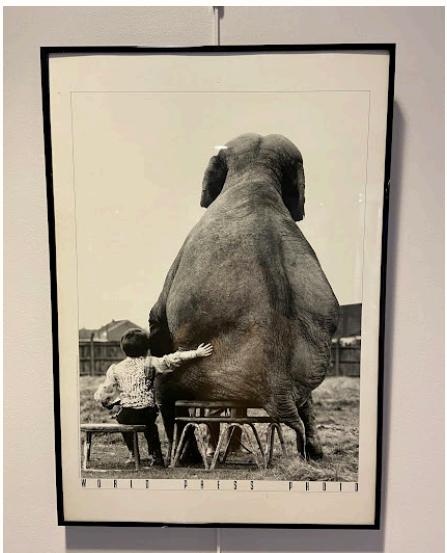


The artistic directors acknowledged that there is some sense of competition among them, but they mostly complement each other. They said they are grateful for the Sarasota community's support of the arts that provides them the freedom to bring all their creative energy to their respective stages.

# Arts Advocates Artworks on Exhibit at City Hall

Several of our Sarasota Art Colony artworks are included in a new cultural exhibit celebrating the City of Sarasota's rich cultural arts in the City Hall lobby, 1565 First Street.

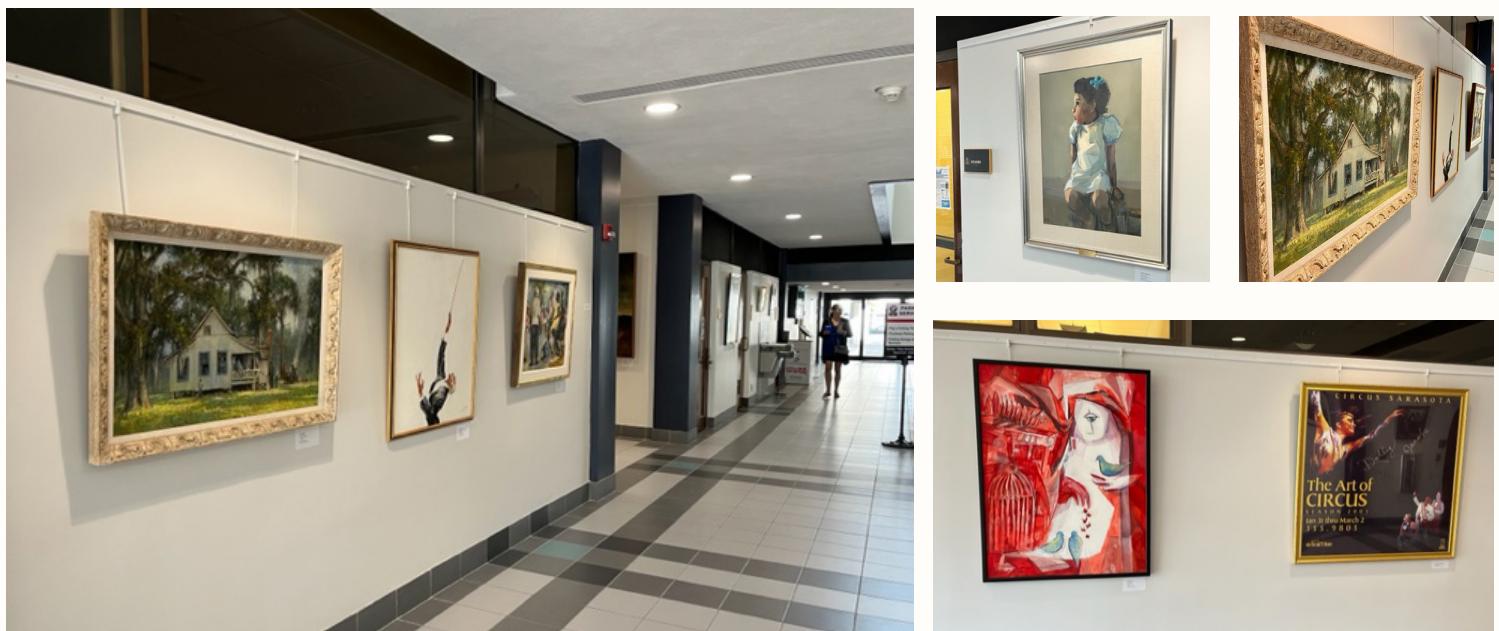
The exhibition, conceptualized and overseen by the Office of Public Art and Historic Preservation Division, highlights Sarasota's considerable cultural arts legacy connected to the circus, architecture, tourism and more. The artwork focuses on the visual arts and historical documentation including paintings and photographs.



**"Our goal is to educate residents and visitors about the wonderfully rich cultural heritage of our city,"** said Mary Davis Wallace, Senior Planner and Office of Public Art lead. **"We have deep roots with the circus dating back to when Sarasota was the winter home for the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus, the Sarasota School of Architecture and Major League Baseball spring training with legend Babe Ruth and the Tin Can Tourists. The exhibit is an opportunity for anyone to experience quality art that is precious to our Sarasota history."**

Over three dozen pieces by local mid-century artists will be shown from the Arts Advocates, Circus Arts Conservatory and Sarasota County History Center collection. The exhibit will be on display at City Hall for one year with a six-month rotation for new pieces.

A public reception with an accompanying lecture is planned for Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023.



# MEMBER ARTIST EXHIBIT AT OUR GALLERY

PAINTING WITH A PASSION:

## THE ART OF JOSEPH MELANÇON

Works by Joseph Melançon will be on exhibit in the Arts Advocates Gallery from Saturday, December 3rd through Saturday December 31st. There will be an Opening Reception on Saturday, December 3rd at 3pm. The gallery is open every Saturday from 2:00 to 4:00pm with a docent tour at 3pm.

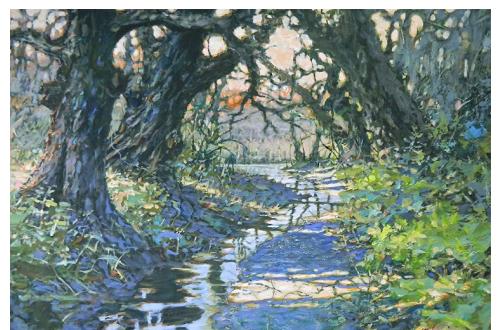
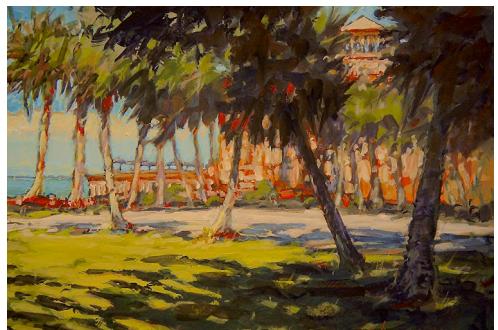
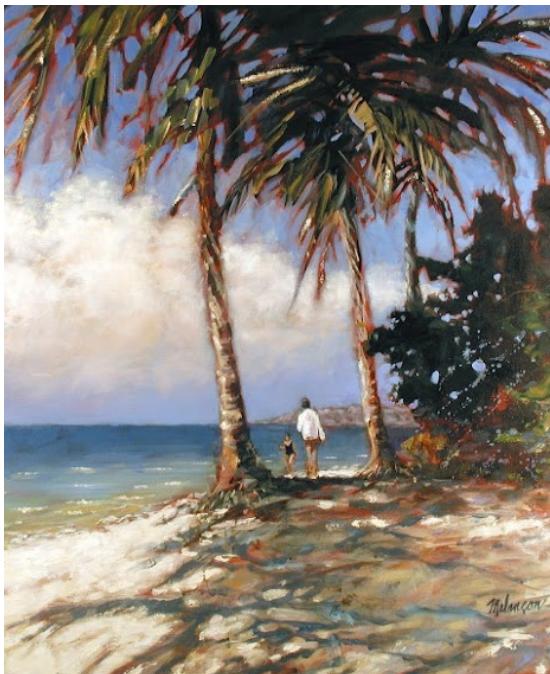
Joseph Melançon's works are very personal with a passion for process, composition, and the painterly surface. In painting he dissects, simplifies, and freely interprets what he sees and feels through the use of composition, shapes, line, and color. Much of his youth was spent happily drawing, painting, and building things.

His time spent in later years, hunting, and exploring in the swamps and bayous of his native Louisiana, proved to be a harbinger of his lifelong interest in the design and nature of the world.

After a creative and commercial career of more than 30 years, Joseph's education continued at Texas Woman's University where, in 2000, he received an M.F.A. in painting and drawing.

In 2001 Joseph and his family moved to Sarasota. He began teaching at the Art Center of Sarasota, where he's been teaching ever since. He has also taught art classes at Longboat Key Art Center, State College of Florida, Art Center Manatee and Renaissance School of Art.

He is included Who's Who in the World, and the 1998 edition of the Guinness Book of World Records. He is a Signature member of the National Watercolor Society, Southwest Watercolor Society, Western Federation of Watercolor Society, and the Florida Watercolor Society.



Above Left: Paradise; Top to bottom: Sunbath, Aground, Sunny Day John's House, A Little Further, by Joseph Melançon.

# THREE PUBLIC ART WALKING TOURS OF SARASOTA

Sarasota is a 24/7 Museum, with more than 100 pieces of public art that are free and accessible for everyone to enjoy. These works are found everywhere — from parks to busy intersections, from the bayfront to downtown. Chances are you walk past public art every day without thinking much about it.

Let's change that. These tours, organized and led by art lovers Judy Levine, Stephenie Frasher and Nanette Crist, offer participants an opportunity to learn about Sarasota's public art legacy, individual works, and the artists who created them.

Participants will receive an email with instructions about where to meet for the tours. Minimum tour size is 10 people; maximum tour size is 20 people. This is a GREAT outdoor activity to share with friends. You'll also add more steps if you count them for exercise.

To register online  
click on this link.



## Tour 1

Downtown Coconut Avenue

Date: January 20th

10:30am-12:00pm

## Tour 2

Downtown Sarasota City Hall Area

Date: January 27th

10:30am-12:00pm

## Tour 3

Rosemary District

Date: February 3rd

10:30am-12:00pm

# Art Talk: Dr. Alfred Frankel

JANUARY 7, 4:00PM  
ARTS ADVOCATES GALLERY

Join us for an in depth look at Florida Artists and the Sarasota Artist Colony. Dr. Alfred Frankel has been studying the history of art in Florida for over 30 years. His research has taken him to every major library in Florida and led him to write two as yet unpublished books, *The Artists of Old Florida, 1840-1960*, and *A Dictionary of Florida Artists, 1840-1960*.

Tampa Museum of Art is currently exhibiting the artworks he has collected over the years. His collection is complementary to our Arts Advocates Colony artists, and he has written a chapter about Sarasota artists in one of his books.

His dream has been to bring these artists and their works to the public and to revive the memory of the thousands of Florida artists, many academically trained, who spent their lives working here.

He will be hanging the works of Florida artists in our Gallery to illustrate his talk.



Harry Bierce (American, 1886-1954).  
Hillsborough River, n.d. Oil on canvas.  
14 x 18 inches. Frankel Collection.

REGISTER HERE.



# Art Talk: Mike Solomon

JANUARY 27, 4-6:00PM  
ARTS ADVOCATES GALLERY

Join us for a captivating talk by Mike Solomon about his works, his process, his awards, his inspirations, and his recollections about what it was like growing up as the son of noted artist Syd Solomon in a household with frequent visitors in the “Who’s Who of Contemporary Art.”

In his art that flows Mike blends and layers acrylic paints, pigments, metallics and glass in a high gloss of two-part epoxy resin.

**He does not sign his art on the front because he doesn't want “...to tell my viewer which end is up.”**



Photo Michael Halsband

REGISTER HERE.



# RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ANYTIME!

Attend an Arts Advocates luncheon to receive a special renewal offer:  
Pay for 12 months **no matter when your membership is up for renewal and get 3 extra months free!**

For example, suppose your membership doesn't renew until April. You can renew at the January luncheon and your membership will be renewed for the balance of your current membership – plus another 15 months for the price of 12 months!

This offer is only good for members who attend our luncheons – and why wouldn't you? At the November sold-out luncheon, the Artistic Directors of four leading performing arts organizations were our panelists. So, make your plans now to register early for our luncheons next year!



# save the dates

## 2023 Luncheon Programs

There is no luncheon in December, but plan to attend our free Holiday Bazaar featuring our own member artisans on December 9 and buy your holiday gifts!

SAVE THE DATES for our upcoming 2023 luncheon programs! Don't miss these entertaining and informative presentations offering the insider information about Sarasota's most dynamic cultural organizations!

### + January 19, 2023

Sarah Wertheimer on how the growing international juried competition "Embracing Our Differences" enriches lives through diversity and inclusion.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

### + February 16, 2023

Pedro Reis and Dolly Jacobs, founders of **The Circus Arts Conservatory**, on the legacy and future of circus arts. [REGISTER HERE](#)

### + March 16, 2023

Michele Redwine on **Suncoast Black Arts Collaborative's** initiatives to promote interest in art created by artists of African descent.

### + April 20, 2023

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

### + May 18, 2023

Celebrating our 2023 Arts Advocates **scholarship winners.**

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



Joan Golub  
Editor-in-Chief  
[joan@artsadvocates.org](mailto:joan@artsadvocates.org)

## Gallery Events

### + December 3

Joseph Melancon show opens with artist's reception – 2:30.

### + December 10, 17, 24, 31

Gallery open for visitors.

### + December 9

Holiday Bazaar 4-6pm in the gallery  
Holiday refreshments will be served.

### + January 7, 2023

Dr. Frankel Show opens- 2-4pm  
Art Talk 4-6pm. The Artists of Old Florida, 1840-1960

### + January 27, 2023

Mike Solomon Art Talk 4-6pm

### + February 4, 2023

Opening of Visions in Black

### + February 17, 2023

Bill Hartman Art Talk Sarasota Artist Colony-Memories and Memorabilia 4-6pm

### + March 3, 2023

Preview and Art Talk Leslie Butterfield and Teresa Carson "Seven Sacred Pauses" 4-6pm

### + March 4, 2023

Opening of Show "Seven Sacred Pauses" 2-4pm

### + March 23, 2023

Design Workshop. Time TBD