

## MARCH MEETING AND LUNCHEON

**Thursday, March 19, 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:**

Citrus Glazed Salmon with  
Sweet Pea Basmati Rice and  
Mixed Vegetables  
or  
Eggplant Parmesan

Rolls and Butter

Dessert - Strawberry Sponge Cake  
with Whipped Cream

Cost: \$29 includes tax and tip.

Deadline for reservations is  
March 13, 2020.

To register for lunch, go to:  
[www.artadvocates.org](http://www.artadvocates.org)

(Please note: Our special luncheon  
guest will be Lisa Berger, Executive  
Director of Art Center Sarasota.)

## deep in the art of texas: dominique and john menil's passion for art

People of sensibility and intellectual daring have shaped art in the Western World since the Renaissance, and they continue to nurture minds of the future every day. American art has been given energy through over 200 years of patronage by men and women whose foresight and insight have bequeathed to future generations resplendent collections of art reflecting the "human condition".



Kevin Costello

This lecture on the Menil Collection and its co-founders Dominique and Jean de Menil, seeks to throw light on an extraordinary couple! Even though they remain in the shadows of "art history", our guest speaker gives them the respect they deserve in making 'forever real' the art of their time and that of future generations.

Our presenter Kevin Costello, graduated from the Chelsea School of Art and Goldsmiths College, University of London, with diplomas in Fine Art and Art History. Kevin's involvement in the Sarasota arts community is deep and varied and includes having been Art and Architecture Correspondent for the Sarasota Herald Tribune and a Contributing Writer for Arts and Culture Magazine.

Kevin, a studio artist, has taught painting, figure and conceptual drawing, sculpture and art history at the San Francisco Academy of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Art, and the Ringling College of Art and Design. He is also a poet and a lecturer in contemporary art history at numerous arts and continuing education institutions throughout Central West Florida.

# FROM YOUR PRESIDENT MONEY MATTERS

Recently, one of our members asked a very good question: "Why are you always asking for money, and aren't the Member Activities making enough profit?" Our Board of Directors has made a commitment to be increasingly transparent, especially about finances, so I will try to provide some answers to this important question.

## THE BUDGET/EXPENSES

Historically, our total annual budget has ranged from a low of \$102,000 to a high \$155,000. This year it is estimated to be about \$124,000 because we made a substantial investment in a new website and updated all of our visual materials. We also were overly generous in making donations.

We have ongoing expenses like insurance, postage and printing, telephone, accounting fees and tax returns, licenses and permits, publicity, newsletters, credit card fees, bank fees, legal fees, consultants/speakers' fees and the meeting space at Bird Key Yacht Club.

## TWO RELIABLE SOURCES OF INCOME

Our most reliable source of income is from membership dues. We now have just over 200 members paying \$55.00 each in dues or an annual total of \$11,000. This is why it is so important to keep recruiting new members. The more members we have, the more of our expenses are covered. We have added a Sustaining Membership of \$125 and, where possible, encourage members to join or renew at this higher level. This will give us a bit more money to work with.

The next best source of income is Member Activities. The fee members pay to attend a Salon, Educational Tour or Workshop is not all profit because there may be museum entry fees, or honoraria for a speaker or workshop materials. This year our goal is to earn \$10,000 from Member Activities.

By combining membership dues and member activities we only have \$21,000 to rely on; however, the budget is \$124,000 so there is a "gap" of \$103,000 that must be closed with standard fundraising projects.

## THE 7 MONTHLY MEETINGS

The monthly General Meetings at the Bird Key Yacht Club do not generate income. There is the cost of coffee service and audio visual equipment. Also, our contract requires us to pay for 60 luncheon meals regardless of how many members attend. In other words, it is in our best interest to have 60 members paying for their lunch. Each of our General Meeting speakers receives a \$200 honorarium, so we do not quite break even on monthly meetings.

## FUNDRAISING/PHILANTHROPY

The concept of traditional year-end fundraising campaigns is relatively new to our organization. For many years, two events produced sufficient income to sustain operations. In 2017,

a variety of environmental factors made that fundraising model obsolete.

## The "Metamorphosis Campaign"

was a successful fundraising project. Then the 2018-2019 "Because of You" Fundraising campaign resulted in income of \$47,900. However, in that same period, our organization donated a total of \$89,884. Scholarship awards were \$46,333 and Community Outreach/Grants were \$43,551. You don't need your calculator to see that we cannot keep operating if we are donating more than we are earning.

Our outside financial consultants have advised us repeatedly to scale back on philanthropy and only make donations after all of the necessary operating costs have been met.

## QUESTION

You may be asking, "Where did the money for philanthropy come from if we didn't earn it?" In some years, The Fine Arts Society made a profit and gradually the bank balance increased to create a surplus of funds. For example: in 2012 there was a profit of \$29,000, in 2013 there was a profit of \$29,000, and in 2014 and 2015 there were smaller profits. In some years there was no profit, (2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011) but we continued to donate to scholarships and grants.

## THE PATH FORWARD

We can expect some increase in operating expenses in the coming years, so we must be more proactive in seeking alternative ways to raise funds. For example, we have just engaged a grant writing consultant to assist us in applying to foundations and to help us explore government funding opportunities.

This spring we will be asking members to contribute to the Community Foundation Giving Challenge. Our goal is to have each member make an online contribution of at least \$25.

Financial support for our Collection of Florida artists is a priority, so we will encourage more legacy gifts and bequests from our members. Remembering Fine Arts in your will is easy, and we will be happy to provide any advice or information you may require when making your legacy gift. In addition, there are many ways to give including endowments, sponsorships, underwriting and "naming" opportunities.

We will be more judicious when awarding scholarships, funding community outreach grants and maintaining our Collection. Simultaneously, we must continue to mount effective fundraising campaigns.



Donna C. Maytham, President



# **speaking of the collection....**

## **Search for a new home!**

In the February newsletter and at the February General Meeting, the case was made for our search for a new home for the Collection. Article II of the bylaws states that we are charged with not only establishing a permanent Collection but one "which will be placed on Public Exhibition for Sarasota residents and visitors." Also considering our mission to CONNECT the community to the arts, the following criteria have been set for a new location:

- ✓ Accessibility
- ✓ Central Location
- ✓ Parking Availability
- ✓ Linear feet of display space to accommodate at least 1/3 of the Collection
- ✓ Program space for Educational Activities
- ✓ Financial Feasibility
- ✓ Security
- ✓ Storage space
- ✓ Walk by/walk in traffic
- ✓ Natural light

Any ideas that meet these criteria should be forwarded to Linda Bruemmer. In the process of our exploration, a couple of sites have emerged and we are in the early stages of investigation. All options are open and members will be informed as things develop. The Finance and Fundraising Committee is exploring foundation grants and sponsorships to be the principal funding for this project. We are confident that we can find a home for the Collection that allows us to use this asset to connect the community with the area's rich visual tradition.

Linda Bruemmer

# **workshops and educational tours**

## **March and April 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."

### **The James Museum of Western and Wildlife Art**

#### **MARCH**

Tuesday 03-03-2020  
Tour: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm  
30 Members and Guests | \$35

### **Tours of Ringling College of Art and Design**

#### **MARCH**

Wednesday 03-25-2020  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm  
20 Members | \$30

### **Photographing Your Art for Sale or Shows - Linda Bock-Hinger**

#### **MARCH**

Tuesday 03-31-2020  
11:00 am - 1:00 pm  
40 Members | \$30

### **Ronald S. Kendall Collection**

#### **APRIL**

Wednesday 04-22-2020  
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm  
12 Members | \$50

### **Paint Your Own Silk Scarf with Artist Jamie Kirkel**

#### **APRIL**

Tuesday 04-28-2020  
10:30 am - 12:30 pm  
(Morning Session)  
OR  
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
(Afternoon Session)  
8 Members (each) | \$65

# victor lundy - artist architect



Midcentury architect Victor Lundy designed civic buildings, churches, houses, and commercial buildings that show his awareness of materially and structural form, and his ability to design with light and evoke the spirit of the time. He was educated in both Beaux Arts and Bauhaus schools of architecture, enabling him to combine his exceptional traditional drawing skills with modern space making structures. His schooling was interrupted by his service in World War II and a study tour of postwar Europe, after which he started his own firm in Sarasota, Florida. Later he moved to New York City, and then Texas, where he has lived ever since. During his career Lundy designed buildings all over the world. While he spent many years working on larger buildings for the now world-wide architecture firm HKS, he executed his smaller scale projects independently while running his own practice.



An avid traveler and sketcher, Lundy documents the people and places he encounters as a way to understand the world and respond to it. His interest and abilities in drawing came in early childhood and were augmented with classes in painting and sculpture. As an adult, he often designed buildings during the day and painted at night.



The story behind the commissioning of Lundy's Sarasota Chamber of

Commerce building illustrates his often spoken statement that "my art form - all my life- has been architecture." In 1955 Lundy entered a water color into the annual Sarasota Art Fair and was awarded Best of Show. Karl Bickel, a prominent local citizen and member of the Chamber of Commerce Building Committee, saw this artwork and prize and asked Lundy for a building proposal instead of a typical sketch. Lundy painted a series of large casein-based paintings showing an Asian styled pavilion and was subsequently awarded the commission.

Nicknamed "The Pagoda Building" (or "The Blue Pagoda"), the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce was completed in 1956. It is a low-lying horizontal structure, thirty by eighty feet, with a curvaceous hipped roof. Because of the full height glass sides, the roof seems to float above the ground. The visual heaviness of this roof, with its blue tiles, adds to the magic of the illusion. The building's unique roof shape is constructed from curved laminated timber beams that are supported on steel columns, impressive, within a limited budget of only \$50,000, Lundy also air-conditioned the building by running ducts in the floor, leaving the roof beams exposed and unobstructed.

From Victor Lundy Artist Architect, Donna Kacmar, editor.

## Love All Things Mid-Century?

Experience the 50s Vibe with Victor Lundy

Please Join the Arts Advocates and other Art Friends  
For a Casual, Festive Open House

Monday, April 20, 2020  
5:30 - 7:30pm

Experience Victor Lundy's Iconic 1956 Blue Pagoda and  
Celebrate

The Addition of Four Victor Lundy Watercolors  
To the Arts Advocates Collection

**The Blue Pagoda**  
655 North Tamiami Trail

Tour the Blue Pagoda  
With It's "Curvaceous Hipped" Roof and  
Explore the newly renovated grounds and pond



Admission is Complimentary  
Please Register to provide a guest count:  
[www.artsadvocates.org/lundy](http://www.artsadvocates.org/lundy)

With many thanks to  
Janet Minker and Elliott Himelfarb for their generous donation  
The Bay Conservancy for graciously making the  
Blue Pagoda available for this celebration

Parking will be available in the lot in front of the Blue Pagoda,  
Art Center Sarasota, and the Municipal Auditorium, as well as  
behind the Pagoda on Van Wezel Way.



From jewelry and fashion to ukuleles, come sporting  
your own casual 50s vibe!  
Light bites and refreshments; food truck and jazz

# the board of directors deeply appreciates the generosity of the following donors:

## MARION STORM CIRCLE

### PATRONS – \$10,000 TO \$30,000

Maryann and James Armour Family Foundation

### CONTRIBUTORS – \$5,000 TO \$9,999

Kristine Bundrant  
Joan & Fred Endrizzi  
Donna Maytham  
Julie & Dennis Smith  
Anonymous

## FOUNDERS CIRCLE

### DIRECTORS – \$1,000 TO \$2,499

Martha Ballard  
Cynthia Burnell  
Carol Kopeck  
Debra and Wes Stukenberg  
Edris Weiss

### CREATORS – \$500 TO \$999

Sarah Skebba and Michael Bernstein  
Cumberland Advisors  
Tonya Eubank  
Krstin Gardel  
Katherine and Frank Martucci  
Suzanne Weitz

**TOTAL  
\$73,585**

**thank you!**

### SUPPORTERS – \$200 TO \$499

Isabell Becker  
Frederica Cook  
Lynda Doery  
Karen Geck  
Josephine Hennelly  
Kathy Macdonald  
Norman Meunier  
Mary Mitchell  
Mark Muse  
Faith Perkins  
Mariyn Richey  
Elizabeth Rose  
Judith Rush  
Barbara Sander  
Jacqueline Salvino  
David & Barbara Smith  
Joy & Robert Stone  
Kim Warren  
Marci Weisgold

### ENTHUSIASTS UP TO \$199

Alice Allen  
Linda Bruemmer  
Jerry Chesley  
Joyce Cooper  
Nanette Crist  
Laura Feder  
Valerie Fini  
Betty Ferguson  
Donna Kambelas  
Linda Milberg  
Joan Ochs  
Liliane Sealy-Schrock  
Sue Shimelman  
Waddy Thompson  
Carole & Walter Ulin  
Vern Weitz  
Jay Wilson

# save the date

### + March 3

Tour of The James Museum  
11:00 am - 4:00 pm

### + March 19

Member Meeting and Luncheon  
9:30 am - 12:45 pm

### + March 25

Tours of Ringling College  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm

### + March 31

Photographing Your Art  
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

## arts advocates supporting the Sarasota Ballet



Executive Director of the Sarasota Ballet Joe Volpe, Donna Maytham, President, Arts Advocates and new member Robin Strauss.



Maryann Armour, her daughter, and Donna Maytham, President, Arts Advocates.



## take note

- We have had to temporarily suspend our Docent Art Tours. Unfortunately, the person we contact at the Van Wezel has encountered unexpected medical problems and is not available.
- The Collection Planning Committee is actively searching for a new site to house our Collection. If you have any information or suggestions, please contact Linda Bruemmer.
- We have engaged Janis Wasserman, a professional grant writer, to help update our Community Foundation Giving Challenge Profile. She will also keep a file of documents generally required for completing grant applications.
- Cavanaugh and Company, our accountants, are preparing a Financial Review, in lieu of a more costly financial audit.
- We are entertaining the possibility of engaging a professional curator to assist the Collection Committee when they are purchasing or selling art.

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- ## take a bow
- Under the Leadership of Kris Gardel, Rennie Carter and Tonya Eubank, the 2020–2021 Program Committee has planned the entire roster of exciting General Meeting Programs through April of 2021. Committee members are Joan Endrizzi, Mary Howes, Evelyn Levin, Shree Pertile, Barb Sander and Suzanne Talbott. Well done!
  - The Collection Planning Committee, headed by Linda Bruemmer, has identified two possible sites for relocating and exhibiting our Collection. An amazing accomplishment!
  - Chair, Suzanne Weitz, along with Bo Galford and Barbara Blackburn have done an incredible job of planning the second "Speaking of The Arts..." event. The Program Book itself is something to be proud of. These events are open to the public and are our best source of attracting new members.
  - Cynthia Burnell continues to keep our beautiful new web site up and running with fresh information. We could not do without her!
  - Liz Trostli is doing a great job with the Educational Tours this season.
  - We thank Faith Perkins and Joan Correa for consistently publishing attractive and informative newsletters.
  - Art by Jerry Chesley and Violetta Chandler has recently been featured at the Art Ovation hotel and works by Karen Mathis are currently being exhibited at Bird Key Yacht Club.



Arts Advocates members took part in a day-long Strategy Workshop led by Ken Polotan, a global Strategy, Innovation and Growth leader on February 25, 2020. Participants learned about how organizations can thrive in the digital age

