

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Arts Advocates just threw a party!

As an integral part of our mission to advocate for the arts and promote arts education, Arts Advocates awards scholarships to selected students in Sarasota and Manatee counties to help in their pursuit of a career in the arts (including visual and performing arts, literature and architecture).

Thanks to the efforts of Tonya Eubank, Deb Altschul-Stark and their committee, we awarded eleven scholarships to local students this year and threw a party in their honor. The eight winners in attendance showcased their talents: There was live entertainment – instrumental music and singing – plus short films and artworks on display. The best part was meeting the students and their families. Their enthusiasm and commitment are so uplifting! I can't wait to do it again next year.

Some of the visual artists will have their work exhibited in our Gallery (located at The Crossings at Siesta Key, US 41 and Siesta Drive) in July so please stop by on any Saturday starting Saturday July 1 between 2pm and 4pm.



Carole Schwartz, President

We are proud to report that over the years, we've given out over \$1 million in grants and scholarships.

We also are beginning a search to locate previous winners in our "Where Are They Now?" initiative. If you'd like to contribute to the scholarship fund and/or be part of this committee, please let me know. You can reach me at president@artsadvocates.org.

On another topic, as Sarasota has become more of a year-round arts community, our summers are not so quiet anymore! Arts Advocates is working on a few activities to keep us engaged through the hot months. Stay tuned.

Scholarship Winners Shine at Recognition Luncheon



Lillian Fox, Will Mauricette, Noelle Prouty, Maria Medina, Danae Tran, Danny Bó Delongaig, Samantha Tanelli and Colin Leonard are the 2023 recipients of Arts Advocates scholarships who attended the luncheon.

At our annual scholarship luncheon on May 18, members and guests were thrilled to witness the talents of this year's scholarship recipients.

The works of the visual artists were displayed on easels and projected on two large screens, a budding movie director screened trailers for his feature film and short film, and a pianist, violinist, jazz saxophonist and vocalist performed to thunderous applause! It was a spectacular display of talent that reconfirmed our commitment to support local students in their quest for careers in the arts.

In addition, we were privileged to hear remarks by Dr. Sarah Pappas. Dr. Pappas spent 44 years as a professional in public higher education, including her term as president of Manatee Community College (now State College of Florida). She believes strongly in the power of scholarships to enable students to reach their potential and ultimately impact our communities and our culture.



Danny Bó Delongaig will be a senior at Baldwin Wallace University majoring in Music Theatre.

Lillian Fox is a sophomore at the University of South Florida with a double major in Studio Arts and Dance Performance.



Colin Leonard will enter his junior year at Oberlin Conservatory of Music, majoring in Music with a minor in Environmental Studies.



Maria Medina graduated from Florida State College's music program and plans to pursue a Master's in Global Entertainment and Music Business.



Will Mauricette, a Film major, will be a senior at Ringling College of Art and Design this fall

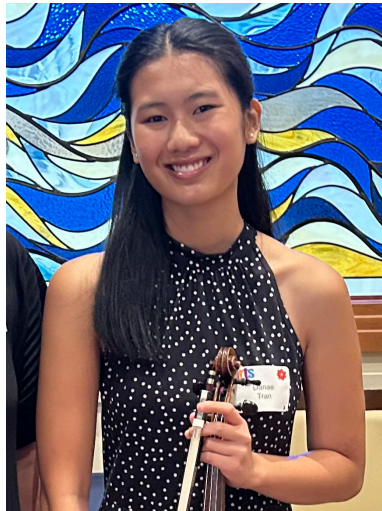


Emma Pritchett is pursuing her degree at the University of South Florida's School of Architecture.



Samantha Tanelli will enter the Ringling College of Art and Design this fall as a Fine Arts and Illustration major.

Noelle Prouty, a Booker VPA graduate, will be a sophomore at the University of Florida's Honors College majoring in art and biology.



Danae Tran will major in Violin Performance at Stetson University this fall. She is also a Booker VPA graduate.



John Quigley will enter his junior year at the Ringling College of Art and Design majoring in Illustration and Digital Art.

Mehak Sandhu will be a freshman at Ringling College of Art and Design majoring in Fine Arts. She is a graduate of the Booker High School Visual & Performing Arts program.



You're Invited

Four of this year's scholarship recipients – Lillian Fox, Emma Pritchett, Noelle Prouty and John Quigley – will have their own show in the Arts Advocates Gallery!

Opening day is Saturday, July 1st. Don't miss it!

The Crossings at Siesta Key | 3501 S. Tamiami Trail at Siesta Drive, Suite 119
Saturdays, July 1-29 | 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Helena Poto

EVOLUTION of a LIFE

PAINTINGS

1989 - 2023

2-4 PM - Saturdays in June

ARTS ADVOCATES GALLERY

The Crossings at Siesta Key

Suite 119



Member artist Helene Poto at the Opening Reception of her exhibit at the Gallery, along with some of her paintings on display.

Art Talk: KINSEY ROBB - SUPPORTING THE VISUAL ART MARKET IN SARASOTA

JUNE 23, 2023 | 4-6 PM

Kinsey Robb is the executive director of Art Center Sarasota. As one of Sarasota's oldest cultural organizations, Art Center Sarasota has a rich history and connection with both artists and the public. The organization started in 1926 as the Sarasota Art Association, a gathering place for artists and art lovers.

Kinsey comes to the art center with over 15 years of experience working with emerging, mid-career, and established artists. She has worked with studios, blue chip galleries in NYC, museums, and academics within the visual and performing arts industry.

Her goals for Art Center Sarasota are boosting their visibility while maintaining current members and attracting others through the kind of community engagement that has long been a mainstay of Art Center Sarasota – the juried show. She also wants to expand on the center's bustling education programs and classes.

With her knowledge of the industry, we look forward to learning about Sarasota's art market and how we can all support the visual arts that are essential to the art ecosystem..



Place: Arts Advocates Gallery,
The Crossings at Siesta Key

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

[REGISTER HERE.](#)



Art Talk: INTRODUCING THE CITY OF SARASOTA'S PUBLIC ART PLAN

JULY 21, 2023 | 4-6 PM

Mary Davis grew up in Asheville, North Carolina where she developed a lifelong appreciation for the arts, architecture, and design. She has worked as a landscape designer and urban planner in North Carolina, Florida, and overseas. Her design and planning experience compelled her towards a deeper commitment to public art which led to her role as Executive Director of the public art nonprofit Cary Visual Art in Cary, North Carolina.

Mary Davis went on to serve as donor relations coordinator at Duke University School of Medicine before moving back to Sarasota in 2017. She comes to the City from Sarasota County Government where she was a park planner and construction project manager.

Mary Davis specializes in arts program development and fundraising, public engagement, arts education, and master planning. She serves on the national Arts and Planning Division Executive Committee for The American Planning Association (APA) and is an active member of The Florida Association of Public Art Professionals and Americans for the Arts.

Mary Davis received a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from North Carolina A&T State University and holds a master's degree in



Mary Davis Wallace
Senior Planner and Public Art Administrator
for City of Sarasota, Florida

urban planning from the University of Southern California Price School of Public Policy. She has owned a home in Sarasota since 2005 and is a devoted gardener and animal lover.

Place: Arts Advocates Gallery,
The Crossings at Siesta Key

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

[REGISTER HERE.](#)



Mark Your Calendar!

Lunch and Tour of the Sarasota Art Museum (SAM)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 | 11:00 AM

Savor one of Sarasota Art Museum's delightful "pub" lunches from the Bistro while hearing all about this wonderful museum from its executive director, Virginia Shearer. As the region's first museum dedicated to contemporary art, SAM features an endless rotation of transformative, pioneering exhibitions. After lunch, enjoy a complimentary docent-led tour of the museum's current exhibits.



RECENT GALLERY HAPPENINGS

ART TALK

Arts Advocates strives to showcase new endeavors in the visual and performing arts in our community. The newly formed Azara Ballet Company is breaking down barriers in the dance world, where the norm is to accept only the perfect and the perfectly thin. Azara offers classes for all, including the neurodivergent and those with Parkinson's. They are a true credit to the performing arts of Sarasota.



Arts Advocates' Arts Engagement Director Stephenie Frasher (right), interviews Azara Ballet founders Martin Roosare and Kate Flowers during an Art Talk at the Gallery May 19.

MEMBER ARTIST EXHIBIT

Alice Sundstrom describes her art as "Salvador Dali meets Dr. Seuss!" She says "My art encourages people to exercise their imaginations. We are innately imaginative beings, but that imagination can diminish over time if it is not nurtured and exercised." Her works, as displayed in the Arts Advocates Gallery in June, are both thought-provoking and whimsical.

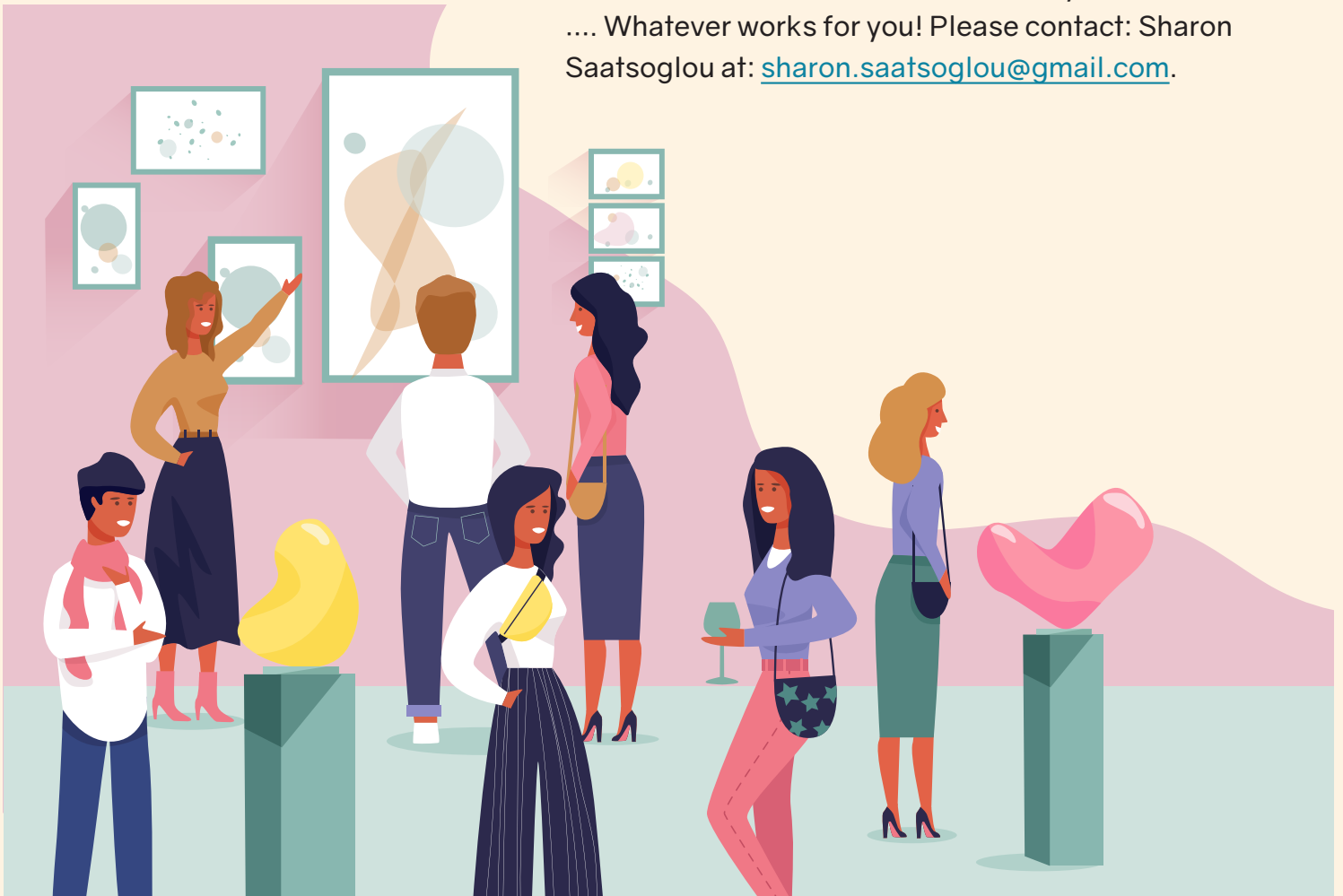
Member artist Alice Sundstrom
at the opening reception of her exhibit at the Arts
Advocates Gallery



WE NEED YOU

Where Are They Now? If your skills are research and interviewing, please consider helping us find our former scholarship winners, interview them and share “Where Are They Now” in our newsletter. Please contact: president@artsadvocates.org.

Would you like to greet visitors to our beautiful Arts Advocates Gallery for two hours on a Saturday? It's fun, it's quick, and it's easy! While you're there, you will have the opportunity to learn something about our collection of Sarasota's only publicly exhibited works by Sarasota Colony artists. A friendly, welcoming face is all that's needed. Gallery hours are from 2pm to 4pm every Saturday. You decide your time commitment: once a month, once every two months Whatever works for you! Please contact: Sharon Saatsoglou at: sharon.saatsoglou@gmail.com.



Joan Golub
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