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September 22, 2025

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Drive the Arts Forward: Sarasota Opera Launches 2026 Car Raffle Featuring a Lexus GX or \$50,000 Cash Prize

Sarasota, FL — Sarasota Opera is thrilled to announce its [2026 Car Raffle](#), offering participants the chance to win a luxurious 2026 Lexus GX or a \$50,000 cash prize. This exciting fundraiser supports Sarasota Opera's mission to produce world-class opera performances and expand its education and outreach programs throughout the community. Presented in proud partnership with Lexus of Sarasota, the raffle is open to participants near and far. Every ticket purchased helps fuel the programs that inspire, educate, and bring the joy of opera to audiences of all ages.

"This raffle is more than a chance to win an incredible prize—it's a fun way to support Sarasota Opera and invest in the cultural vitality of our region," said Richard Russell, General Director.

The car raffle will be formally launched at Sarasota Opera's Annual Food and Wine Festival this Saturday, September 27, from 1 to 4 PM at the Opera House, where attendees will be able to purchase a raffle ticket in person and get more information from Opera staff.

Tickets are available now at <https://www.sarasotaopera.org/car-raffle>, and the drawing will take place on April 13, 2026. Only a limited number of tickets will be sold, so early participation is encouraged.

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About Sarasota Opera

Sarasota Opera is entering its 67th season of bringing world-class opera to Florida's Gulf Coast and celebrating 100 years of the historic Sarasota Opera House. The company was launched in 1960 in the historic 320-seat Asolo Theater on the grounds of Sarasota's Ringling Museum of Art. In 1984, the company moved into the former A.B. Edwards Theater — now the Sarasota Opera House. Since then, the company has gained an international reputation as one of the leading regional opera companies in the U.S. through initiatives such as the Masterworks

Revival Series and the Verdi Cycle. The company's Sarasota Youth Opera is the most comprehensive youth opera program in the U.S. The Sarasota Opera House, which underwent a \$20 million renovation and rehabilitation in 2007, has been called "one of America's finest venues for opera" by Musical America. Since 1983, the company has been under the artistic leadership of Victor DeRenzi and the administrative leadership of General Director Richard Russell since 2012. Sarasota Opera is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and the National Endowment for the Arts. Programs are paid for in part by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax revenues. Sarasota Opera • 61 N. Pineapple Avenue • Sarasota, FL 34236 • (941) 366-8450 • SarasotaOpera.org