

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Lael Mohib, Marketing Director

lmohib@sarasotaopera.org Mobile: 202.257.4822

Images: Attached.

Fine Art Meets Fine Opera: DaCapo Society and Palm Avenue Fine Art to Host Younger Arts Patrons

Sarasota, Florida—Sarasota's younger arts patrons are invited to step into a world of intrigue and elegance as <u>Palm Avenue Fine Art Gallery</u> and the <u>DaCapo Society of Sarasota Opera</u> join forces this Halloween, Friday, October 31, to present an unforgettable opening night celebration for the 2025/2026 opera season.

The evening begins at Palm Avenue Fine Art Gallery at 10 South Avenue at 5:30 PM with a curated wine selection, hors d'oeuvres, captivating artwork on display in the gallery space, networking and masked mystery. Then, guests will stroll to the Sarasota Opera House at 61 N. Pineapple Ave. for the season's opening performance of Mozart's Così fan tutte at 7:30 PM. This unique collaboration brings together visual and performing arts in a celebration designed to ignite curiosity, build community, and encourage a new generation of arts patrons.

The reception theme, *Masquerade: Duplicity, Disguises, and Delightful Deception*, reflects the themes and plotline of the evening's performance, a witty, classic opera that comically explores the traps and confusions of love and betrayal, set to Mozart's beautiful music. Guests are encouraged to dress in formal or cocktail attire and, of course, a mask. Artwork on display will include European-inspired works by renowned artists such as Andrew Lattimore, George Bodine, EJ Paprocki, and Joseph Paquet.

"This collaboration is more than curating a different experience for a fun night out — it's a shared commitment to providing meaningful opportunities for younger audiences to engage with Sarasota's arts institutions and each other," said Lael Mohib, Sarasota Opera's Director of Marketing.

"As a younger patron of the arts myself, I was looking for more opportunities to engage in the arts scene here in Sarasota. This event is an example of how partnerships between organizations like ours can create space for connection and community," said Chelsea Daniels, Assistant Gallery Director at Palm Avenue Fine Art.

A ticket to the Friday, October 31 performance of *Così fan tutte* using the promo code DACAPO26 includes entry to the masquerade reception. Tickets can be purchased online at <u>Così fan tutte</u>, <u>October 31, 2025 7:30PM | Sarasota Opera</u> or by calling the Sarasota Opera Box Office at 941-328-1300.

Space is limited. For more information, visit https://www.sarasotaopera.org/da-capo-society or reach out to marketing@sarasotaopera.org

About DaCapo Society

The DaCapo Society is Sarasota Opera's vibrant community for young patrons (ages 21–45) who share a passion for live opera and cultural experiences. Whether you're a seasoned aficionado or simply opera-curious, DaCapo offers a backstage pass to Sarasota's high-note social scene, featuring:

- World-class opera performances
- Exclusive pre-show receptions at local hotspots
- Discounted tickets up to 30% off single tickets or a four-opera package for just \$125
- First drink free and light bites provided at every reception

Annual membership is just \$25, making it an accessible way to connect with fellow culture lovers and enjoy Sarasota Opera in style. Learn more or become a member at sarasotaopera.org/da-capo-society.

About Palm Avenue Fine Art Gallery

Palm Avenue Fine Art was founded by Robert Wilson in 1998, establishing a legacy that spans over four decades. Robert began his journey into the art world with his first gallery in Nantucket in 1977. From humble beginnings in a small shack in the South Wharf, Nantucket, he cultivated his expertise and passion, later moving to Candle Street and eventually settling on Main Street, where he achieved over 20 years of resounding success. Inspired by Sarasota's rich cultural heritage, Wilson chose Palm Avenue as the next home for his enterprise, solidifying Palm Avenue Fine Art as the epitome of excellence in Sarasota's art scene. His dedication to traditional mastery and impressionism set the gold standard for fine art in the region. Today, Palm Avenue Fine Art thrives under the dedicated leadership of Colin Thomsen, who seamlessly inherited the gallery's stewardship after the passing of his mentor, Robert Wilson. With deep admiration for Robert's legacy, Colin has passionately infused the gallery with his own artistic vision and innovative spirit. Under Colin's guidance, the gallery continues to evolve, preserving its tradition of excellence while embracing new artistic directions. Together with our team, Colin is committed to upholding Palm Avenue Fine Art's reputation as Sarasota's premiere destination for fine art.

About Sarasota Opera

Sarasota Opera is entering its 67th season of bringing world-class opera to Florida's Gulf Coast and is 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