

Sarasota Opera House

Venue Rental Information and Rates

William E. Schmidt Theatre: Seating capacity is 1,119 guests, or 120 on stage.

Theater Rental Rates per day from 8am – 12 midnight:

- Rehearsal only, no audience: Mon – Sun: Tax Exempt: \$3,500 Commercial: \$4,000
- Performance, single, and includes rehearsal if needed: Mon – Thur: Tax Exempt: \$3,700, Commercial: \$4,200
- Performance, single, and includes rehearsal if needed: Fri – Sun: Tax Exempt: \$4,200, Commercial: \$4,700
- Second performance (same day) add: Tax Exempt: \$1,200, Commercial: \$1,400
- Stage Dinner: Tax Exempt: \$4,000 Commercial: \$4,500, *Combined with a theater rental performance, a stage dinner cost is \$1,200*

Stage costs quoted includes legs & borders as hung, orchestra pit set at any level, and rep plot as hung. Theater costs quoted include House Manager and ushers, dressing rooms and Green Room.

Theater performance activities do require utilization of professional theatrical stage employees as applicable. A separate fee and a direct renter agreement with IATSI Local 412 must be completed.

Public performances by organizations without a ticketing box office may choose to, or be required to, utilize Sarasota Box Office services which will require a separate fee.

Classic Event Areas: * Capacities quoted below depend upon the room configuration.

- **Felding Hall:** * Capacity up to 100 guests.
- **Donna Wolf Steigerwaldt Courtyard:** * Capacity up to 100 guests.
- **Felding Hall:** * Capacity up to 100 guests.
- **Harold and Kay Ronson Grand Atrium:** * Capacity up to 150 guests.
- **Simonsen and Montminy Opera Club:** * Capacity up to 50 guests.
- **Selby Lounge and Lobby:** * Capacity up to 160 guests.

For larger events, add an adjoining lounge, meeting or reception area for an additional \$200. Rates for any of the above reception or meeting areas for up to 6 continual hours are as follows:

Mon – Thur: Tax Exempt: \$700, Social or Commercial: \$900. Combined with theater rental, deduct \$200.

Fri – Sun: Tax Exempt: \$950, Social or Commercial: \$1,150. Combined with theater rental, deduct \$200.

Separate Event Areas:

- **Lee and Bob Peterson Great Room:**
Mon – Thur: Tax Exempt: \$1,200, Social or Commercial: \$1,400. Combined with theater rental, deduct \$200.
Fri – Sun: Tax Exempt: \$1,400, Social or Commercial: \$1,600. Combined with theater rental, deduct \$200.
- **Jonas Kamlet Library:** Capacity up to 100 guests depending on configuration.
Mon – Thur: Tax Exempt: \$700, Commercial: \$900. Combined with theater rental, deduct \$200.
Fri – Sun: Tax Exempt: \$950, Commercial: \$1,150. Combined with theater rental, deduct \$200.

Basic Rental Fee Inclusions, Options, Requirements and Details

House Management and Ushers: Theater rental and select room rentals include our highly qualified House Manager, as well as a large staff of knowledgeable and courteous ushers positioned thru-out the lobbies and theater.

Tables and Chairs: Event tables and chairs in our inventory are included at no additional charge. This also includes one set-up and one breakdown. Our inventory consists of 24 five-foot, and 5 six-foot round banquet tables, 6 eight foot, and 7 six-foot rectangular banquet tables. Some venue photos show our available chairs while others are sourced at the renters' expense from outside event suppliers.

Valet Parking: While the Palm Avenue parking Garage is located directly behind the Sarasota Opera House, many of the large events held at the theater utilize the optional licensed and insured valet parking company we have contracted with for over 25 years. The renter cost for this service is \$400 and is free to your guests.

Food and Beverage Service: Included at no cost with every performance, Sarasota Opera will have at least one bar or concession open with items available for purchase. We also accept most major credit cards. If your event plan involves an open bar, we have multiple service plan options available which can be arranged with our highly experienced hospitality staff.

Venue Availability and Scheduling: Scheduling is done on a first come, first served basis and no date is considered firm until a written agreement has been executed and the necessary deposit received. This agreement must be in place prior to any ticket sales agreement. From approximately October 7th thru the weekend before Thanksgiving, and also from approximately January 10th thru March 26th, use of the theater and many of the spaces are generally not available for rent due to our Fall and Winter Opera Festivals.

Security: All theater performance events generally require the presence of professional security. The Sarasota Opera, contracts Sarasota Extra Duty Police Officers for most of its performances. For theater rental this will be an added cost of \$55 per hour from ½ hour prior-to, thru ½ hour following an event. Renters have the option of utilizing their own approved security, such as a school's Resource Officer, or companies with their own private licensed professional security. We have found that this is a very popular reassurance with performance attendees.

Insurance: All events at the Sarasota Opera House requires an insurance certificate. Generally, this is easily sourced from your current insurance provider.

Catering Options: While Sarasota Opera provides complete bar and concession beverage service, we also provide select food items provided by our professional licensed suppliers. We work extensively with several of Sarasota areas top caterers, and they are very familiar with our venue. You may select your own caterer of preference with Sarasota Opera approval. A fully refundable cleaning deposit may be required for some caterers depending on the event size.

Additional Hours: While a theater rental is from 8am – midnight, special circumstances may result in a need for earlier or later hours, or 4 – 6-hour time slots to facilitate pre or post event activities. If approved and available, the tax-exempt rate for this is \$200 per hour, and the commercial rate is \$250 per hour.

All of the preceding information is accurate as of 4-12-2021, subject to change, and does not cover every potential situation.

Additional information covering amenities, options, restrictions, policies and requirements are listed in the Sarasota Opera Association, Inc's Sarasota Opera House Rental Policies and Guidelines.