



President's Message



After our semi-hiatus this summer, we are off to a great start with renewed funding from and a strengthened relationship with City Hall. During this past year we have been able to liaise with City officials such as Mayor Hagen Brody and Vice Mayor Erik Arroyo. The Vice Mayor has strongly supported our mission, and I look forward to involving him and others in our projects. Commissioner Liz Alpert will serve as Honorary Chair of our upcoming gala fundraiser the One World Award, and City Manager Marlon Brown will present it.

I spent my summer studying Russian intensively at Middlebury College in Vermont on a peacebuilding fellowship. I look forward to implementing the language I learned in exchanges and projects with Vladimir, Russia, one of our eight Friendship and Sister Cities.

Continued on next page

For the first time since we were shut down by COVID nineteen months ago, we have a full series of luncheons and lectures scheduled for the fall. Please see the list inside this newsletter. We started off with a well-attended luncheon on September 15th at the beautiful Bird Key Yacht Club with our speaker, Dr. Patricia Okker, the new president of New College. She gave us an overview on "Building Tomorrow's Thought Leaders: How New College Inspires Entrepreneurs," and spoke to these new leaders' capacity for building peace. Please see our list inside of upcoming events.

In November we will be celebrating Maestro Victor DeRenzi and the Sarasota Opera, winners of One World Award before COVID arrived. We will finally be holding our spectacular One World Award Gala on November 7th at 5:00 at Michael's on East. Space is limited and tickets are only available until October 31st. Please see more information on pages 4-5 of this newsletter and at www.sarasotasistercities.org/special-events/. If you cannot make it but would like to donate to Sister Cities Association of Sarasota, please visit [DONATE | Sister Cities Association of Florida \(sarasotasistercities.org\)](http://DONATE | Sister Cities Association of Florida (sarasotasistercities.org)).

I hope you can participate actively and in person this upcoming year after our year and a half of virtual programs. As I have mentioned, we are only as strong as our members. Thank you for your commitment to building peace around the world bit by bit, step by step.

Miriam Kramer

WELCOME

Isabelle Eidet
Membership Vice President

NEW MEMBERS!

YOUTH AMBASSADOR: Matty Maloney

PATRON Level: Karen Hunter & Carlton Bennett

FAMILY Level: Jayne Ryan & Mark Freedman

INDIVIDUAL Level:

Jonathan Coleman

Yulia Kuzenko

Ruth McLaren

Maria Inés Robayo

Christine Rufino

Stephen Scott



THANK YOU FOR STAYING WITH US!

Kenney DeCamp

Daniel Kennedy

Karen Malesky

Audrey Marten

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

SCAS MEMBERS that have received a renewal notice from the VP Membership, Isabelle Eidet – it is not too late to renew your dues for 2021. Please send your check payable to SCAS to our Treasurer, Gloria Grenier

6501 17th Avenue West, Apt I-401

Bradenton, FL, 34209

Or click on the link to pay securely with a credit card: <https://sarasotasistercities.org/membership-payment-page/>

Please share the Membership Form (on page 13) with others and invite them to join SCAS.

CONDOLENCES

With great sadness we announce the loss of our dear member from Switzerland, Arthur Schaerli who passed away recently. May he rest in peace. We send our deepest condolences to his wife, Susanne Schaerli.

**SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SARASOTA REQUESTS THE HONOR OF
YOUR PRESENCE AT THE 2020 ONE WORLD AWARD GALA
MAESTRO VICTOR DERENZI – INDIVIDUAL AWARD
SARASOTA OPERA – ORGANIZATIONAL AWARD**

Date	Sunday, November 7, 2021
Event	ONE WORLD AWARD Gala Dinner
Location	Michael's on East 1212 S. East Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34239
Dress	Cocktail attire
Gala Chairs	Isabelle Eidet Katherine Benoit Kenney DeCamp
Director of Events	Charlotte Hull (941) 201-7437
Prices	<p>Sponsors: Table Sponsor - \$1,500 (8 tickets) Gold Sponsor - \$500 (2 tickets)</p> <p>Includes premium seating; SCAS Gift Bag; Recognition in the OWA Program and from the Podium; Commemorative Pin.</p> <p>\$150 from October 1—October 31, 2021 (Click here for ticket purchase)</p>
Entertainment	Provided by the Sarasota Opera
Silent Auction	Fabulous Gift Baskets to bid on from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM
Program	<p>5:00 PM Cocktails and passed hors d'oeuvres & Silent Auction</p> <p>6:15 PM Entertainment & Welcome</p> <p>6:45 PM Dinner is served</p> <p>7:45 PM OWA Ceremony begins</p>
Presenters	Emcee - Kenney DeCamp; Honorary Chair, Former Mayor & City Commissioner Liz Alpert; Sarasota City Manager, Marlon Brown; SCAS President, Miriam Kramer; SCAS Vice President of Programs & Planning, Dr Ray Young; SCAS City Director of Busseto, Italy, Phillip Gordon; SCAS Vice President of Cities & Candidate Cities and City Director of Tel Mond, Israel, Rabbi Jonathan Katz
COVID-19 Protocols	Please observe posted Covid-19 safety protocols and guidelines prior to and during the entire duration of this event. Please visit our OWA event webpage for updates at: www.sarasotasistercities.org/special-events/



These are just some of the items that have been donated to the OWA Silent Auction. Many more items are coming in for our Silent Auction and we hope to raise funds to support future projects and exchanges with our eight Friendship and Sister Cities. Thank you to all our generous Silent Auction Donors!

ANGELO'S ITALIAN MARKET & RESTAURANT
 ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE
 WINE TASTING BASKET
 BIG CAT HABITAT
 BIRD KEY YACHT CLUB
 CAFÉ EPICURE
 CAPITAL GRILL
 CAPTURES BY KATHY
 CLASSICO
 DUTCH VALLEY
 ELEMENTS MASSAGES
 ELITE MEDICAL SPA
 EVELYN AND ARTHUR
 FISH HOLE MINIATURE GOLF
 FLEMINGS X2
 FLORIDA STUDIO THEATRE
 FOXY LADY
 ITALIAN IDEA
 JD BARBARY HAIRCUT
 KIEV DELI
 LINDA ROSENBLUTH BLK & WHT PHOTO-
 GRAPHS
 LINDA ROSENBLUTH OIL PAINTINGS X2
 LINDA ROSENBLUTH TEL MOND NEEDLEWORK
 SAMPLER & ROCK
 LIMONCELLO GIFT BASKET WITH ASSORTED
 GIFTS
 MACY'S MEN'S FRAGRANCE BASKET
 MACY'S WOMEN'S FRAGRANCE BASKET
 MASSAGE LUXE
 MCCURDY'S COMEDY CLUB
 MEADOWS GCC

MICHAEL'S ON EAST
 MIGUEL'S
 MILLIE'S
 MOTE MARINE
 MURANO NECKLACE
 NAPLES SOAP CO.
 PATCHINGTON BOUTIQUE
 PUB 32
 RINGLING
 ROSEMARY/THYME
 SARASOTA OPERA
 SARASOTA ORCHESTRA
 SARDINIA
 SEASONS 52
 SELBY GARDENS
 SHELLY'S GIFT BOUTIQUE
 SRQ ENSEMBLE
 STONEY BROOK GCC
 STOTTLEMEYERS BBQ
 TABLESIDE REST. GROUP
 URBANITE THEATRE
 VAN WEZEL CELTIC YULETIDE

GIFT BASKETS FROM OUR SISTER CITIES:

BUSSETO, ITALY
 DUNFERMLINE, SCOTLAND
 MERIDA, YUCATAN, MEXICO
 PERPIGNAN, FRANCE
 RAPPERSWIL-JONA, SWITZERLAND
 TEL MOND, ISRAEL
 VLADIMIR, RUSSIA
 XIAMEN, SIMING DISTRICT, CHINA

FST YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS FESTIVAL. 2021-2022 ANNOUNCEMENT

Richard Hopkins, Producing Artistic Director, Florida Studio Theatre has just announced the 2021-2022 WRITE A PLAY Season which will be a mixture of in-person and online performances and workshops for students and educators. From October through January the children's plays FST produces will be presented virtually. Each play will also have interviews with the professional acting interns talking about and answering questions about the plays. Adam Ratner expressed a willingness to set up plays and workshops at times that accommodate our sister cities.

Teachers can benefit from a huge amount of supporting information on FST's website, e.g, lesson plans, suggestions, worksheets to help younger and older students write plays. Additional information currently in development will be sent to Sue Gordon for distribution to SCAS members.

Plays to be presented via Zoom

***Cinderella.* by Sarah Durham**

Have a ball with FST's all-new adaptation of *Cinderella*!

Enjoy the story you love with even more added fun, including a soundtrack of contemporary pop hits, audience interaction, slapstick humor, and more. Will Cinderella be able to escape her cruel stepmother and stepsisters and finally get her happily ever after with Prince Charming? Find out in this music-filled re-imagining of the timeless tale.

Begins October 7 at Florida Studio Theatre.

***Hare & Tortoise.* by Brendan Murray**

(produced in special agreement with Plays for New Audiences)

Hare wants nothing more than to speed through everyday life and make time pass faster. Tortoise prefers to take her time, tending her garden and celebrating each season of life. This fun, treasured tale tells a timeless story of friendship, change, and the excitement of growing up.

Available to tour your school beginning September 23.

The Write Stuff

Take the next step in the series with a play that will inspire your students to write plays of their very own! In this interactive experience, your students will learn the ingredients of a play and see a brand-new one created (using their OWN ideas) right before their eyes. More than just a performance, *The Write Stuff* includes up to eight in-class workshops to get your students writing. All students are encouraged to submit their plays to FST's 2022 Young Playwrights Festival to be considered for a professional production in the spring.

Available to tour your school beginning October 12.

The Grandma That Eats Everything & Other Winning Plays

Finally, your students will see the winning plays from FST's 2022 Annual Young Playwrights Festival! Performed by a cast of professional actors, this original production features an anthology of stories that only children could write; filled with laughter, lessons, and learning for us all.

Begins March 24 at Florida Studio Theatre.

Want to know how SCAS is involved in FST WRITE A PLAY? Please visit <https://sarasotasistercities.org/art-culture/>

Sue Gordon
Art & Culture Vice President

From Our City Director



The Sister City of Mérida



THE “CASA MERIDA” PROJECT

Sister Cities Association of Sarasota is working with our Sister City of Mérida, México in partnership with the Ringling Museum, Visit Sarasota, and Selby Library to bring the project “Casa Mérida” to Sarasota. At the end of August, we visited the Selby Library and were given a tour by the manager Steven Thomas, Jennifer Perry, Public Services Manager, and her assistant. The meeting was attended by Miriam Kramer, Mike Fehily and Grisell Alemán. They kindly showed us the facilities and were very excited to support and be part of the “Casa Mérida” project. The library offered to lend us the facilities for a month in the first quarter of 2022. They are offering us usage of the two floors of the library for the exhibition of this project. The Selby Library typically receives 700 to 1,200 visitors a day or approximately 15,000 to 20,000 a month (pre-Covid). The Selby Library is the perfect location for this project because it’s very well located in the heart of downtown Sarasota and has ample parking. We are just waiting on confirmation of the dates to start figuring out logistics and advertising for the “Casa Mérida” project.

-The new US Consul General in Mérida, México for the next three years is Dorothy Ngutter.

Grisell Aleman

SCAS City Director of Merida, Mexico

Recent Event & Photo

The Sarasota Chamber of Commerce hosted a Summer Showcase exhibit on Aug 25th from 5 - 7 pm at the Sarasota Auditorium. SCAS purchased a table at the event in the hopes of finding new members. Kenney DeCamp and I volunteered to cover the table at the event and promote the Sister Cities message (He brought along a friend, Christine Rufino, who became a member on the spot). We raided the SCAS office for some flags, brochures and signage and ended up with a pretty good-looking table (See photo).

We set up the table with a large box asking folks to toss in their business cards for a chance to win a FREE membership worth \$40. We collected about 75 cards from people interested in our group. One of them, Audrey Marten, renewed her own membership and walked around to the other booths promoting Sister Cities and passed out some of our brochures and flyers promoting our One World Event coming up in November.

The winner of the Free membership is a young woman who lives here in Sarasota, works at Merrill Lynch and is originally from Russia: Yulia Kuzenko. She was very excited about our program and is anxious to work with us.

Alice Cotman
Assistant City Director, Tel Mond, Israel



Christine Rufino, Kenney Decamp (on the left) and Alice Cotman (on the right)

Continued on next page



September 15 Bird Key Luncheon



Meet Dr. Patricia Okker, President of New College of Florida
Presentation Title: "Building Tomorrow's Thought Leaders: How New College Inspires Entrepreneurs"



President Miriam Kramer and Dr. Patricia Okker



Dr. Patricia Okker speaking at the Luncheon

Continued on next page

September 15 Bird Key Luncheon



Upcoming Events

Date	Event
September 30 4:00 pm	SCAS International Experiential Forum + Meet and Greet Selby Library
October 13 11:30 am	Bird Key Yacht Club Luncheon “Circus Arts Conservatory - Sailor Circus” Jennifer Mitchell, VP/COO
October 21 4:00 pm	SCAS International Experiential Forum + Meet and Greet Selby Library
November 7 5:00 pm	One World Award Gala Michael’s on East
November 18 4:00 pm	SCAS International Experiential Forum + Meet and Greet Selby Library
December (TBA)	Holiday Celebration (All membership)
December 9 4:00 pm	SCAS International Experiential Forum + Meet and Greet Selby Library

Alliance Organization News

New College of Florida

Connecting Arts + Humanities & NCF + the CCA in the Community

*Please wear a mask at all in-person events
and try to physically distance, to protect yourself and others.
Due to COVID-19, no catering will be provided this time.*

Asian Film and Talk series

This year's theme addresses issues related to "Identity, Community, and Family" from a diverse range of Asian perspectives, including those of Indonesia, India, Taiwan, Tibet, mainland China, and Asian American community, and will include six films and two dance talks/workshops.

Fridays, 7:00 p.m.

Sainer Auditorium (5313 Bay Shore Rd.)

Oct. 1, 2021

The Lunchbox (2013, dir. Ritesh Batra), introduced by Dr. Maneesha Lal (Ph.D. in South Asia History, University of Pennsylvania), Associate Director of Faculty Development/ Associate Director of Corporate and Private Foundation Relations, New College of Florida

Nov. 5—tentative

"In the Name of Belief" and **"A Return to Peace,"** two short Indonesian documentaries introduced by Dr. Siti Kusujarti, Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Warren Wilson College, Asheville, North Carolina

Feb. 11, 2022

Fagara (2019, dir. Heiward Mak), introduced by Dr. Melody Yunzi Li, Assistant Professor in Chinese Studies, University of Houston—Dr. Li will also give a talk on Asian American Racism on the 10th and a dance workshop on the 12th.

Mar. 11, 2022

On Happiness Road (2019, dir. Hsin-yin Sung), introduced by Dr. Fang-yu Li, Associate Professor of Chinese Language and Culture, New College of Florida

April 1, 2022

Tharlo (2015, directed by Pema Tsenden), introduced by Yidong Gong, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, New College of Florida

Carolyn Bloomer, PhD

Emeritus, Ringling College of Art and Design



SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SARASOTA

2021 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Partner with us to build bridges of peace and understanding with our Sister Cities

Name: _____ Spouse/Partner Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Home Tel: _____ Business: _____ Cell: _____

Birthday: _____ Spouse/Partner Birthday: _____

HOW DID YOU DISCOVER SISTER CITIES OF SARASOTA? ☐ Internet ☐ TV ☐ Print Media ☐ Social Media
☐ Friend ☐ Other

DO YOU USE SOCIAL MEDIA? ☐ Facebook ☐ Twitter ☐ Instagram ☐ Pinterest ☐ Other

PLEASE CHECK ANY ACTIVITIES & EXCHANGES THAT INTEREST YOU:

- ☐ Art & Culture ☐ Board Position ☐ Business ☐ City Director ☐ Education ☐ Event Planning
☐ Events Greeter ☐ Fundraising ☐ Grant Writing ☐ Hospitality/Hosting
☐ Languages/Translation ☐ Medicine/Science ☐ Mentor ☐ Publicity ☐ Photography
☐ Sport ☐ Travel ☐ Writing/Newsletter ☐ Other: _____

PLEASE SHARE YOUR SKILLS, LANGUAGES & BACKGROUND:

WHICH OF OUR SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIPS ARE YOU MOST INTERESTED IN?

- ☐ Dunfermline, Scotland ☐ Mérida, Yucatán, México ☐ Perpignan, France ☐ Tel Mond, Israel
☐ Vladimir, Russia ☐ Xiamen, China ☐ Rapperswil-Jona, Switzerland ☐ Busseto, Italy

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

- ☐ Individual \$40 ☐ Family \$60 ☐ Patron \$100 ☐ Sponsor \$150 ☐ National Sponsor \$500

WE NEED YOU! PLEASE VOLUNTEER:

- ☐ Yes, I want to volunteer ☐ Yes, I want to micro-volunteer my skills on a specific task/project

FOR MORE INFORMATION - PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.sarasotasistercities.org

Blog: sarasotasistercities.com

Facebook: facebook.com/SarasotaSisterCities

Twitter: [SarasotaSisterC](https://twitter.com/SarasotaSisterC)

MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO SCAS TO OUR TREASURER:

GLORIA GRENIER
6501 17TH Ave W, Apt I-401
Bradenton, FL 34209

Or Mail to our Office:

SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SARASOTA
111 S. ORANGE AVE., SUITE 103
SARASOTA, FL 34236

For Office Use Only:

☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL ☐ CHECK NO. _____ ☐ DATE REC _____