



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Experience a Night in Seville at Sarasota Opera Gala**

**Sarasota, FL**— Reservations are now open for Sarasota Opera’s annual gala, A Night in Seville, taking place Friday, Jan. 31 in the Grand Ballroom at the Ritz-Carlton, Sarasota. Be immersed in Spain's beauty, culture, and vibe with all the splendor of the region’s cuisine, wine and flamenco music. This black-tie affair, chaired by Tamara Jacobs and Edie Chaifetz, will spotlight Sarasota Youth Opera, celebrating its 40th year.

Gala Ambassadors Katherine Benoit, Eileen Buzzard, Terry Anne Davis, Carol English, Carla Koeffler, Melody Kretzmer, Audrey Robbins, Sue Neumann and Michael Wadsworth will be on hand to greet attendees. A reception will be held at 6 p.m., followed by dinner, performances and dancing, beginning at 7 p.m.

This season’s gala will honor Les and Carol Brualdi, who have supported Sarasota Opera for more than 20 years. Les has served on the Board of Trustees since 2004 and was board chair from 2009 to 2011. The Carol and Les Brualdi Endowment Fund guarantees that no youth who wish to participate in Youth Opera Summer Camp are left behind. The Brualdis have been instrumental in helping Sarasota Youth Opera become a national model for opera education.

Various table and seat sponsor levels start at \$350. Trips to Barcelona, Tuscany, and an Ireland Golf Package will be auctioned. The evening will also include a paddle raise for Sarasota Youth Opera. All proceeds raised will benefit Sarasota Opera's music and education programs. Gala sponsors include Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Sarasota Scene Magazine, and Mariner Wealth Advisors. Sarasota Opera's Signature Events are produced by Mary Kenealy Events.

For table and seat reservations, visit <https://www.sarasotaopera.org/sarasota-opera-gala-2025>

For questions, contact the Development Department of Sarasota Opera at (941) 366 – 8450, ext. 813 or email [SOAEvents@sarasotaopera.org](mailto:SOAEvents@sarasotaopera.org)

## **ABOUT SARASOTA OPERA**

Sarasota Opera is entering its 66th Season of bringing world-class opera to Florida's Gulf Coast. 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 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 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.

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[www.SarasotaOpera.org](http://www.SarasotaOpera.org)