



PLATINUM ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

We encourage you to support these area businesses who help support the DSCA through workshops, professional services and discounts.



Presidents Message - Thanksgiving

Wishing everyone a happy Thanksgiving. It's been quite a year, actually it's been quite an almost two year experience. Hopefully we are seeing some light at the end-of-the-tunnel.

Amongst the things I am happy to report is the COVID-19 environment has improved enough for the DSCA board and committees to return more fully to face-to-face meetings. Earlier this month Cheryl Mendelson, CEO of the Van Wezel Foundation was the guest speaker updating all on the early concept and planning stages for our new performing arts center. Newly elected Mayor Arroyo will be our guest at our December board meeting.

Another noteworthy item to be thankful for this year is the continuing progress being made at the Bay Park and Rosemary District Park sites (see further information below) further making more precious, improved green space available for downtown residents.



But possibly the biggest item to be grateful for this Thanksgiving is the significant progress that has been made in the fight against COVID-19. COVID cases in greater downtown Sarasota are now only around 13% of last year, this said COVID is not gone and won't be for quite some time. Extra care is still needed. Our neighborhood remains vulnerable with the vast majority of our 12,000 neighborhood residents living in multi-unit buildings, often traveling by plane, and prone to attend larger gatherings. So, as we get out-and-about more I urge us to be a community that does so by taking common-sense precautions well-known to all.

In closing I'd be remiss if I didn't express a special level of gratitude to our medical, caregiver, first-responders, educators, and others in our community who have been on the COVID-19 frontlines. I know we are all grateful for their past and continuing dedication.

Have a great holiday, everyone.

David Lough

DSCA President

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DowntownSarasotaCondoAssoc.com

Public Art Master Plan Community Survey Now Open

The City of Sarasota Office of Public Art is seeking community feedback via a new Public Art Survey now available. The survey is part of the public art master plan process. When completed next year, the master plan will provide recommendations on implementing public art resources citywide and prioritizing opportunities to best serve the community.

“We envision an equitable community where integrating public art into City initiatives, neighborhood revitalization efforts and private developments is a norm, where every citizen and visitor in Sarasota can freely experience quality art and creative expression as part of their daily lives,” said Senior Planner Mary Davis Wallace. “Your feedback will help shape the future of public art in Sarasota.”

The online survey will be open until Jan. 14. The City will be hosting in-person community workshops for artists, business owners and the general public in early 2022.

For more information, contact Mary Davis Wallace at 941-263-6349 or Mary.Wallace@sarasotaFL.gov and/or please visit the City public art website to take the Public Art Survey.

Take the Public Art Survey



Click to view the Public Art Plan

Also at our November Board meeting, the Board approved the strategic goals for our new Arts and Cultural Committee. The committee has already jumped into our local arts world by meeting with the City's Public Art Coordinator Mary Davis Wallace about the City's Public Art Master Plan. It has also begun to develop an amateur art program for downtown residents designed to encourage people to create visual art.

Bay Park Update

Earlier this month the Sarasota City Commission approved changes to the partnership agreement between the city and The Bay Park Conservancy aimed to streamline the process, accelerate completion of the project while at the same time saving a significant amount of money.

On the construction front are significant new developments:

- Officially planned for Thanksgiving Day will be the opening of the renovated Mangrove Bayou Bridge complete with the new Paddle and Kayak Launch.
- Construction of the concession building and restrooms is now fully underway.
- The Bay Park Conservancy also has unveiled plans for the first playground, inspired by The Bay and the park's natural environment.

The completion of Phase 1 (see rendering), including the Concession Building and playground, of the park is now planned for Summer 2022. Construction of the boardwalk pier will follow in about two years given the complexity of the project, environmental considerations and special permitting required.


[Click Here for more information and activities](#)



DSCA Board News November Wrap up

DSCA Board Meeting | November 3, 2021 At the November 3 Board Meeting, we heard from Cheryl Mendelson, CEO, Van Wezel Foundation. She discussed the mission and history of the Van Wezel and why there is a need for a new performing arts center. She presented proposed changes and a possible new layout of a new Sarasota Performing Arts Center at the Bay Park. Mendelson discussed the results of a recent survey the Van Wezel conducted and shared case studies and inspiration for the new building. [Click here to view Meeting Video](#) and [Click to view presentation slides](#).

Rosemary Park Update / Developments

The Park Design Team has released [3 Concept drawings for the Rosemary District Park](#).  These designs are based on surveys collected from 852 people. A sample of one of the three concepts follows.

Residents are going to be asked to provide feedback which will be incorporated into 2 new concept drawings next month.

The buildings on the park site (Boulevard of the Arts and Central) will likely be demolished before the end of the year.

DSCA and the Rosemary District Association are going to be providing regular updates to the community. Current plans are to have a final park concept selected during January.

Upcoming Community Events

Sarasota Menorah & Christmas Tree Lighting

Thursday, December 2, 2021 | Sarasota Menorah & Christmas Tree Lighting | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Location: Five Points Park. Hosted by Downtown Sarasota Enrichment Association. Join Ring Sarasota, the area's premiere handbell ensemble, as they "ring" in the season with many of your holiday favorites at the Sarasota Menorah and Christmas tree lighting event. Red and green will be your attire, and the ringing of the bells is what will inspire. creating a festive atmosphere for the entire family to enjoy. The Christmas Tree is the perfect backdrop for your holiday snapshot. Make sure you stop & say hi to Santa! [Click for more details](#)

Fresh Friday: SHOP STROLL SING

Friday, December 3, 2021 | SHOP STROLL SING | 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Location: Lemon Ave and State Street, Sarasota. Featuring shopping specials from participating merchants throughout the day, live music, karaoke caroling with special guests, an assortment of sweets to eat and your favorite cocktails beneath a winter sky, come freshen up your holiday celebrations on Lemon Avenue and State Street.

Visit <https://freshfridayssarasota.com/> for more information.

The 25th Annual Sarasota Holiday Parade

Saturday, December 4, 2021 | Annual Sarasota Holiday Parade With thousands participating and even more thousands viewing, the parade kicks off at 7 p.m. with decorated floats, live marching bands and the guest of honor "rounding" out the parade, Santa Claus. The Parade route runs along Main Street. It's a definite "must see!" The theme for this year's 2021 parade is SILVER BELLS, which is fitting for a Silver Anniversary of 25 years!

<https://sarasotaholidayparade.com/>

Sarasota Holiday Boat Parade of Lights

Saturday, December 11, 2021 | Sarasota Holiday Boat Parade of Lights |

6:00 PM Location: Bayfront Park. With sparkling bright lights and Christmas and holiday decorated boats, it will be just enough to help put you in the spirit of the season. Arrive about an hour early. Bring lawn chairs. You may even want to bring a picnic cooler along with sandwiches and drinks for a nice Sarasota bay side picnic while you're awaiting the start of the Christmas Boat Parade of Lights. [Click for more information](#)

RADD Holiday Event

Thursday, December 16, 2021 | Holiday Decorating Contest | 5:00 PM-8:00 PM Location: Boulevard of the Arts and Central, Sarasota. The monthly RADD Night Market will take on an added dimension on December 16 as a Holiday celebration. As part of the lead up to the celebration a Holiday Decoration Challenge is underway with Rosemary District businesses. Consider 'holding the date' from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. For more information please visit [RADD Night Market](#).

DSCA Upcoming Events

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 01, 2021 | DSCA Board Meeting | 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM held via Zoom & at Broadway Promenade, 1064 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236



Guest Speaker:

Erik Arroyo

Mayor / Commissioner,
City of Sarasota

Sarasota City Commissioner Erik Arroyo is the City of Sarasota's new ceremonial mayor. At 31, he's the youngest person to serve as the city's mayor. Arroyo is the first person born in a Hispanic country to serve in the post. Born in the Dominican Republic, Arroyo immigrated to the U.S. as a teenager and was raised by a single mother. He graduated from Riverview High School in Sarasota before attending the University of Florida for his undergraduate degree and Florida A&M University for his law degree. Arroyo is now an attorney at Sarasota law firm Band, Gates and Dramis. Arroyo was elected to the District 3 City Commission seat last year. He served as vice mayor during his first year on the commission.

[Register](#)

Following the meeting, the Board will be hosting a reception to thank our City Staff and City Commissioners for their valuable service to our community

DSCA Board Meetings are for Board Directors, with designated Condo & Associate Member Representatives, Liaison Association Representatives and invited Guests attending as observers. Contact President, David Lough at (760) 497-9230 or email DavidLough1@gmail.com, if you wish to be invited.

DSCA Holiday Reception



Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021 | DSCA Holiday Reception | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Location: Broadway Promenade Condo, N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. (1st Floor Club Room, Room 1064). We wish to thank our City Staff and City Commissioners for their valuable service to our community and invite them to meet with the Downtown Sarasota Residents and Associate Business Members. Spouses Welcome! Please click on the link below to register, so we can accommodate accordingly.

[Register](#)

Associate Member Events

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW EVENTS OR SUBMIT YOUR EVENT](#)

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