



## BRIDGES TO THE WORLD

### President's Message



This past year has been especially challenging for all of us. That is why I am so grateful to all of you who have renewed your SCAS membership. During these times when so many are feeling isolated, Sister Cities reminds us of the importance of making connections.

Our relationship with the City of Sarasota has been enhanced due to the involvement of Mayor Hagen Brody and Vice Mayor Erik Arroyo, who have both committed to “Building Bridges to Peace, through understanding”. Our City Directors are working diligently with their counterparts to re-connect and I am pleased that we were able to connect with the Sarasota African American Cultural Coalition (SAACC) and present a program in honor of Buck O’Neil.

Looking forward, things may never quite go back to where they were Pre-Covid (PC) however I believe we have learned that collaboration, cooperation, and consensus are crucial in every relationship: person to person, city to city, and country to country. These are fundamental building blocks of Citizen Diplomacy.

I look forward to a time when we can celebrate and converse with one another again and hope that we learn from the past to create a positive and productive future for our community and the world beyond.

# SAVE THE DATE!

## ONE WORLD AWARD GALA SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021

Dear Members and Friends,

We are excited to share with you the great news that we are finally moving forward with our ONE WORLD AWARD Gala that was postponed last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Mark your calendars with the new event date of Sunday, November 7, 2021 and plan to join us!

As many more people begin to be vaccinated against Covid-19 in the next few months, we hope it will be safer to gather again this fall. We will of course continue to follow CDC and Health Department guidelines for social gatherings.

Please help us fundraise at our largest event of the year to continue to support our mission and goals to further our global exchanges with Sarasota and our Friendship and Sister Cities. Should you wish to help secure a Sponsor, or wish to donate an item, or help to solicit items for our Silent Auction, please contact Marianne Gordon at: [magordon1234@gmail.com](mailto:magordon1234@gmail.com)  
Thank you in advance for assisting our fundraising efforts.

Many thanks to all those that decided to stay with us. For those that had requested a refund, our Early Bird Ticket specials are again offered at \$125 per person. Ticket prices will increase later to \$150 per person – so purchase your tickets early.

For more details on our event, see the OWA poster on the next page. To view menu choices and for more information, please visit our website to register and pay: <https://sarasotasistercities.org/special-events/>

We look forward to seeing you at the OWA Gala on November 7.

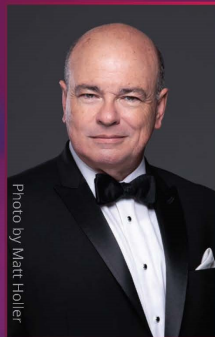
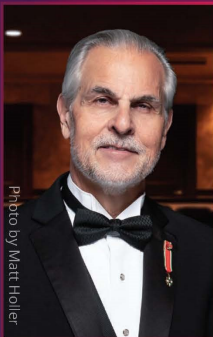
Warmest regards,  
Isabelle Eidet, Katherine Benoit, and Kenney DeCamp  
OWA Co-Chairs

# Sister Cities Association of Sarasota

# One World Gala

Sunday, November 7, 2021  
5PM | Michael's On East

SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SARASOTA REQUESTS THE HONOR  
OF YOUR PRESENCE AT THE 2021 ONE WORLD AWARD GALA  
INDIVIDUAL AWARD – MAESTRO VICTOR DERENZI  
ORGANIZATIONAL AWARD – SARASOTA OPERA



Sarasota Youth Opera "Hobbit" photo: Rod Millington

## 5:00 PM COCKTAIL RECEPTION AND SILENT AUCTION BASKETS

Bid on items featuring products and themes from our local Donors and our Sister Cities: Perpignan, France; Vladimir, Russia; Tel Mond, Israel; Dunfermline, Scotland; Xiamen, China; Mérida, Mexico; and Friendship Cities of Rapperswil-Jona, Switzerland, and Busseto, Italy.

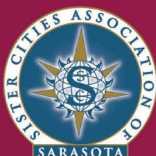
## 6:15 PM ENTERTAINMENT BY THE SARASOTA YOUTH OPERA FOLLOWED BY DINNER AND AWARDS CEREMONY

### HONORARY CHAIR

The Honorable Liz Alpert, Former Mayor of Sarasota

### OWA CO-CHAIRS

Katherine Benoit, Isabelle Eidet, Kenney DeCamp



# ONE WORLD AWARD

COCKTAIL ATTIRE • TICKET SALES END ON OCTOBER 31, 2021

Tickets \$125 through July 31 • \$150 after August 1

Table Sponsors \$1,500 • Gold Sponsors \$500

Register today at [sarasotasistercities.org/special-events/](https://sarasotasistercities.org/special-events/)

# Welcome New Member

Sponsor Level — Smith, Lucinda & Edward

Family Level — DeVirgilis, Mary Alice and Ted

*Thank you for staying with us!*

Abshier, Stan & Alma

Aleman, Grisell

Amores, Eladio & Judy

Bader, Primo & Ruth

Beck, Marie Carol

Bennison, Larry & Patricia

Bloom, Fred

Coll, Julia

Duprez, Maria

Duval, Toni Lynn

Eidet, Gary & Isabelle

Fehily, Michael

Fickenscher, Gerald

Finger, Duane & Jill Dye

Frey, Barbara

Gordon, Phillip & Marianne

Graber, Doug & Dawn

Greenberg, Richard & Amy

Greenspan, Richard & Betty

Grenier, Gloria

Grossas, Marie des Neiges

Hamilton, Barbara

Hartman, Jan

Heron, Robert & Diane

Hopton, Barbara

Hull, Charlotte

Hullinger, Craig & Beth Ruyle-Hullinger

Kanderal, Sylva

Katz, Rabbi Jonathan & Marty

Kramer, Miriam

Kramer, Judith

Langlois, Emile & Pamela

McMahon, Mary Ellen & Frank MacIntire

Mitchell, Pauline

Pender Jr, Michael R.

Penzell, Joan

Reinhardt, Sande

Righter, Nora Luna

Rosenbluth, Robert & Linda

Rosin, Susan

Schaerli, Arthur & Susanne

Servian, Mary Anne

Sheintal, Kim

Sparks, Douglas & Miriam

Stanley, Keith & Jana

West, Angela

Wires, Richard

Wozniak, Ronald S.

Young, Raymond & Kathryn

Sue Gordon

## From Our City Directors



**Jonathan Katz**

SCAS City Director of Tel Mond, Israel

### Tel Mond Featured in Miami Area Presentation

On January 31, Kim Sheintal (Assistant City Director for Tel Mond) gave a Zoom presentation with photos about the Jews of Sarasota-Manatee sponsored by the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Miami and Temple Beth Am of Pinecrest, Florida. Tel Mond was highlighted during the presentation.

In her presentation Kim said, “Many leading Israeli hi-tech executives reside in Tel Mond, which is largely surrounded by lovely orange groves. Like Sarasota, Tel Mond supports a range of cultural interests and has a considerable senior citizen population. Ever since Tel Mond became a Sarasota Sister City in 1999, the communities have enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship. These areas include student exchanges, group visits and civic projects. With a population of 13,000, Tel Mond is centrally located between Tel Aviv and Haifa.”

A 1952 photo of Lou Ann Rosengarten as a teenager performing in Sarasota’s Sailor Circus was featured. Lou Ann Rosengarten, now known as Lou Ann Palmer, was Sarasota’s second Jewish mayor. In 1997, four Sarasota college students were selected to work at a summer camp in Tel Mond. The four students wanted to share a feel for Sarasota’s history with Tel Mond. Because of Sarasota’s strong connection to the circus, they borrowed clown costumes from the Sailor Circus and dressed as clowns one day for camp.

A 1991 photo featured the Schoenbaum family celebrating Brian Schoenbaum’s Bar Mitzvah in Tel Mond. The family proudly posed in front of the Betty and Alex Schoenbaum Regional Library in Tel Mond. The Tel Mond community’s highly regarded local library is named for legendary Sarasota philanthropists, Alex and Betty Schoenbaum. In 1993, the Schoenbaum Regional Library was recognized by the state of Israel as the best small library in the country.

In 1982 Tel Mond became part of a new project called Project Renewal. Project Renewal was formed to rehabilitate distressed neighborhoods in Israel. Following exploratory visits by Jay Saphier, Linda Rosenbluth and Jack Weintraub, the Sarasota-Manatee community took on a five-year commitment for a campaign to raise funds for Tel Mond. Tel Mond was twinned with the community of Sarasota. Coordination, visitations, exchanges and dialogue between many citizens in the community brought a new understanding to relationships within both communities. This commitment was extended through various visits and special projects. A twenty-three member delegation from Sarasota went to Tel Mond Israel in 1983. Tel Mond plays an important part of the history of Sarasota-Manatee.



Photo Caption: 1991 photo of Betty and Alex Schoenbaum Regional Library in Tel Mond

**Grisell Aleman**  
SCAS City Director of Merida, Mexico



## The Sister City of Mérida

### THE “CASA MERIDA” PROJECT

SCAS is working with our sister city of Mérida, México in conjunction with the Ringling Museum to bring the project “Casa Mérida” to Sarasota. The project will showcase the city of Mérida through its arts, handicrafts, gastronomy, jewelry, textiles, and stone and wood art for about one or two months in Sarasota as a pop-up event. During the “Casa Mérida” exhibition showroom, there would be events such as dance, music, and cooking classes. This event is planned to take place in either December 2021, January or February of 2022. This project already has the approval of the Mayor of Mérida. We are looking to get the support of the City of Sarasota through Mayor Hagen Brody.

The director of the Ringling, Steven High, mentioned that they can support the “Casa Mérida” project for certain events to take place at the Ringling Museum but suggested that the project showroom be held in a more central location in downtown Sarasota to capture a broader audience.

We will keep you informed with the progress of the project.

**Marie des Neiges Grossas**

SCAS City Director of Perpignan, France



“Embracing Our Differences” 2021 Annual Outdoor Art exhibit currently takes place at Bayfront Park, Sarasota. The exhibition has an impressive response every year. Last year exhibit attracted over 16,000 entries from 127 countries.

Here is an entry from **Antoine Palau**, a high school student from the Lycée Picasso in Perpignan. His English teacher, Hadda Lamotte, encouraged him to participate in the competition of “Embracing our Differences”. The painting is titled “**Picasso’s eye**”. Even though it was not among the finalists, we are happy to see an entry from our sister city Perpignan and acknowledge his participation.





Interesting article in the New York Times, giving an update on the current situation of the city of Perpignan and its new mayor. To continue reading, click on the picture.

The New York Times

## *Can France's Far Right Rise to Power? One Mayor Shows How.*

In the southern city of Perpignan, voters who had long built a dam against the far right turned in the last election. Some wonder whether it's a harbinger of things to come.



Last year Perpignan became the largest city to come under the control of the National Rally, the far-right party led by Marine Le Pen. Dmitry Kostyukov for The New York Times

By [Norimitsu Onishi](#) and [Constant Méheut](#)

Published March 13, 2021 Updated March 16, 2021

[Lire en français](#)

PERPIGNAN, France — Riding high in the polls ahead of the next presidential election, feeling they've won the battle over ideas, smelling blood in the Élysée Palace, leaders of France's far right cocked their eyes across the land at perhaps the one thing standing between them and power: beavers.

That is what some French call the voters who, time and again, have cast political differences aside and put in power anyone but far-right candidates — [raising a dam against them](#) as real beavers do against predators. Voters did precisely that in 2014 in Perpignan, a medieval city of pastel-color buildings on the Mediterranean near the border with Spain.

## Recent Event and Photo

### Buck O'Neil:

Right on Time

A virtual discussion  
about a national  
treasure and Sarasota  
hometown hero



Monday, March 8, 2021 @ 12:30 p.m.

Click to listen to the audio recording of the Zoom Presentation

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K\\_8GR2cuDcdT\\_p83toKsqz0dj44Yx7JC/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K_8GR2cuDcdT_p83toKsqz0dj44Yx7JC/view?usp=sharing)

Related Article:

<https://www.sarasotamagazine.com/arts-and-entertainment/2021/02/exhibit-honoring-baseball-legend-buck-o-neil-opens-this-week>

## Sunset Happy Hour



**2020-2021**

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Merida, Mexico  
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***Michael Fehily (ACD)***

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***Alice Cotman (ACD)***  
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Xiamen, China  
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***Larry Bennison (ACD)***  
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***Mirco Chiodi (ACD)***