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Sarasota Concert Association to Commemorate 75th Anniversary With the 75th Diamond Anniversary Celebration

January 26 at Michael's on the Bay at Selby Gardens

**The event features the Brandon Goldberg Trio, with Brandon Goldberg,
a 13-year-old jazz piano prodigy.**

The organization was launched in 1938 by members of the Woman's Club, who wanted to bring affordable, world-class concerts to Sarasota. Over the years, SCA has brought internationally renowned symphony orchestras, chamber ensembles, and soloists through its Great Performers Series of concerts at the Van Wezel and Riverview Performing Arts Center.

(Sarasota, Florida) The Sarasota Concert Association will commemorate its legacy of bringing internationally renowned symphony orchestras, chamber ensembles, and soloists to Sarasota at the 75th Diamond Anniversary Celebration, January 26, 11:30 a.m., at Michael's on the Bay at Selby Gardens, 900 South Palm Avenue, Sarasota. Proceeds from the event, which is chaired by Renée Hamad and Audrey Robbins, will support SCA's free Music Matinees, Great Performers Series, and complimentary student ticket program. Guests will be treated to a festive brunch and the joyous sounds of the Brandon Goldberg Trio, featuring Brandon Goldberg, a 13-year-old jazz piano prodigy. Tickets are \$175 (general) and \$250 (patron). For more information and to purchase tickets, call the SCA box office at 941-225-6500. For more information about sponsorship opportunities, contact Judy Beilman at development@scasarasota.org.

Joy McIntyre, SCA's president, says the organization was launched in 1938 by members of the Woman's Club, working with Columbia Artists Community Concerts, who wanted to bring affordable, world-class concerts to Sarasota. "We have stayed true to that mission ever since," she says. "By remaining an all-volunteer administrative board, SCA continues to showcase the world's greatest performers at a relatively low admission price through our Great Performers Series of concerts at the Van Wezel and Riverview Performing Arts Center."

Although the organization was established in 1938, it was only able to present two seasons, 1938-39, and 1939-40, before concerts were suspended during World War II. It was not until 1946 that the Chamber of Commerce Civic Affairs Committee urged that Community Concerts be revived. Mrs. Dudley Palmer was elected, and 1,500 memberships were sold, providing funds to present the first post-war series. Over the years, SCA has brought in such superstars of the classical music world as Rudolf Serkin, Risë Stevens, Claudio Arrau, Leontyne Price, the Philadelphia and Cleveland Orchestras.

According to McIntyre, SCA is celebrating its 75th season in grand style. "As one of the longest-lasting cultural groups in Sarasota, we're delighted to still be going strong and offering classical music lovers the opportunity to see and hear some of the world's best musicians perform here in Sarasota," she says. The centerpiece of the 2020 season is the Chicago Symphony Orchestra with the world-esteemed conductor Riccardo Muti.

The 2020 Great Performers Series is January through March, and features the pianist **Behzod Abduraimov** (January 15); **Orpheus Chamber Orchestra** (January

29); **Chicago Symphony Orchestra** with conductor **Riccardo Muti** (February 12); **The Knights** with violinist **Gil Shaham** (February 25); **Pacifica Quartet** with pianist **Orion Weiss** (March 12); and **Musicians from Marlboro** (March 30). Four of the concerts are at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall and two concerts are at Riverview Performing Arts Center. Subscriptions for all six concerts, discounted two-, three-, four- and five-subscription packages, and single tickets are all available. ***For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.scasarasota.org.***

The 2020 Great Performers Series Season

January 15, 2020: Behzod Abduraimov, Piano

Winner of the London International Piano Competition at the age of 18, Abduraimov has already performed with such leading orchestras as the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, exhibiting depth of musicality paired with phenomenal technique. *(At Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.)*

January 29, 2020: Orpheus Chamber Orchestra

“Champions of Collaboration,” the Grammy-award winning Orpheus Chamber Orchestra was founded in 1972 to create a conductorless orchestra with the intimacy of a chamber ensemble. *(At Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.)*

February 12, 2020: Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Led by the preeminent conductor Riccardo Muti, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra has been recognized as “one the five top orchestras in the world” by *Gramophone* magazine. *(At Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.)*

February 25, 2020: The Knights and Gil Shaham, violin

Dedicated to transforming the orchestral experience and eliminating barriers between audiences and music, The Knights share the stage with one of the foremost violinists of our time, Gil Shaham. *(At Riverview Performing Arts Center)*

March 12, 7:30 p.m.: Pacifica Quartet and Orion Weiss, piano

Orion Weiss, acclaimed as “one of the most sought-after soloists of his generation,” joins forces with the Pacifica Quartet—an ensemble widely praised for its gripping interpretations of string quartet cycles. *(At Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.)*

March 30, 7:30 p.m.: Musicians from Marlboro

An offshoot of the Marlboro Festival created by Rudolf Serkin, the Musicians from Marlboro are acclaimed both for their joyous, thoroughly prepared performances and for fostering artists at the beginning of their careers—including such luminaries as Yefin Bronfman, Richard Goode, and Richard Stoltzman. *(At Riverview Performing Arts Center)*

About the Sarasota Concert Association

The Sarasota Concert Association (SCA) is a nonprofit organization that fosters greater appreciation for world-class classical music by offering the community two engaging programs from December to April. The Great Performers Series, in its 75th season, brings world-renowned orchestras and chamber groups to the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall and the Riverview Performing Arts Center. The Music Matinee Series features outstanding regional artists in free community concerts at Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center and other venues. For more information about SCA, visit www.scasarasota.org.

Photos courtesy of the artists.