



### **Musical tribute to Paul Wolfe**

The Sarasota Orchestra and the family of longtime artistic director Paul Wolfe will celebrate his life with a special tribute program at 10 a.m. Nov. 7 at Holley Hall in the Symphony Center, 709 N. Tamiami Trail.

The program will feature remarks and musical interludes by his close friends Robert Levin (who succeeded Wolfe as director of the Sarasota Music Festival) and Robert Vernon, as well as the Sarasota String Quartet.

It is meant to be a small event and seating is limited. Doors will open at 9 a.m.

The Sarasota Ballet has received a \$55,000 grant from the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, one of nine organizations in the community selected for the annual Arts Appreciation Grant. This money this year is designated to provide support for the live music that accompanies many of the ballet's productions.

"We are grateful to have received this grant from Gulf Coast and it is of special meaning to me personally this year, as I celebrate my 10th season as director of the Sarasota Ballet," said Iain Webb in a prepared statement. "Gulf Coast has been a part of our organization from my first year here and has been a constant support as we transformed the company into what you see on stage today."

This season, the company's performances featuring live music include: a program of works by George Balanchine, Antony Tudor and Frederick Ashton in November at the Sarasota Opera House; Balanchine's full evening length work, "Jewels," at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall in December; a tribute to Ashton including "The Two Pigeons" and the premiere of "Scenes de Ballet" at the Van Wezel in March; and a program featuring works by Ashton, Ninette de Valois and Jerome Robbins at the Opera House in April.

Venice Theatre is holding auditions for two drastically different shows.

Director Peter Ivanov will hold auditions at 7:30 p.m.

Nov. today and Monday for his production of the drama "Frost/Nixon," about the televised interviews between David Frost and former President Richard Nixon. The show runs Jan.

19-Feb. 11 as part of the theater's Stage II series. At 7:30 p.m. Nov. 13 and 14, director Steven Flaa will hold auditions for the musical "Crazy for You," with a score by George and Ira Gershwin. The show, with musical direction by Kevin Wu and choreography by Andi Garner, runs Feb. 21 to March 19 on the theater's main stage. More information: [venicestage.com/audition](http://venicestage.com/audition)

### **Grant for Asolo Rep education efforts**

The Charles and Margery Barancik Foundation has awarded a grant of \$100,000 to support Asolo Repertory Theatre's mainstage season, the touring production of "The Tragedy of Hamlet" and the theater's "Youth Access to the Arts" student matinees.

The funds will help cover the cost of production elements for the mainstage season, and will enhance the student matinee program. Last year, 71 percent of the student audiences indicated that they had never or rarely seen live theater, and 87 percent said they wanted to see more.

This season, students will have a chance to see the musical "Guys and Dolls" and the winter production of "Born Yesterday." More information: [asolorep.org](http://asolorep.org)





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