

## PRESS INQUIRIES

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## **Art Center Sarasota Receives Substantial Tourist Development Cultural/Arts Grant**

The \$36,832 grant will help fund the organization's 2021-2022 exhibition season.

(August 30, 2021) The Sarasota County Commission awarded Art Center Sarasota a \$36,832 Tourist Development Cultural/Arts grant to help fund its 2021-2022 exhibition season, which runs through September 2022. The season, comprised of seven exhibition cycles, most encompassing up to four exhibits, showcases the works of professional and emerging artists from Florida and around the nation.

“We are incredibly grateful to receive this support and recognition,” says Kinsey Robb, ACS's executive director. “These funds are instrumental in making our visual arts projects come to life. Art Center Sarasota has a long-standing history of serving the community of Sarasota and its visitors and we look forward to an exciting year ahead, welcoming art enthusiasts from all over the region and world.”

Some of the 2021-2022 exhibitions include:

- **September 1-October 2:** “Probable Realities” features vividly colored, extremely detailed, marine-inspired vignettes on paper by **Art Venti**; “She Persisted” celebrates the **Petticoat Painters'** annual exhibition; and “**A Fine Line**” is a group exhibition of drawings by figurative artists juried by Craig Carl.

- **October 14-November 27:** Featuring work by **Kirk Ke Wang**, a painter, sculptor, photographer, mixed-media artist, and professor of visual arts at Eckerd College; and **Sibel Kocabasi**, a multidisciplinary visual artist working in painting, staged photography, and installations, whose art addresses contemporary social concerns.
- **December 9- January 15:** Works by the Egyptian-American painter **Bassmi Ibrahim** (1941-2019), whose abstract paintings invoke the etheric realm in graceful, sensual abstract expressions that explore the depths of human consciousness.
- **January 27-March 6:** Work by the Louisiana-based artist **Vitus Shell**, a mixed-media collage painter whose work explores the Black experience through powerful images that deconstruct, sample and remix issues of identity, civil rights, and contemporary Black culture.

*Art Center Sarasota, 707 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. For information, visit [www.artsarasota.org](http://www.artsarasota.org) or call 941-365-2032.*

### **About Art Center Sarasota**

Art Center Sarasota was the first arts and cultural institution in Sarasota. Founded in 1926 as the "Sarasota Art Association" by Marcia Rader, the art supervisor for the Sarasota County schools district, the Association was later incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in 1943 and has been in its current location in the Sarasota Bayfront Cultural District since 1949. Art Center Sarasota is a member-supported organization that offers curated and juried exhibitions, adult and youth education programs, outreach initiatives for underserved youth, and culturally related public programming. Art Center Sarasota is admission-free and open to all public; its mission is to inspire individual creative expression, nurture artistic talent and provide the community with accessible and diverse visual art opportunities.

**Art Center Sarasota**

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

**Summer Gallery Hours:**

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Saturday: noon-4 p.m.

**Gallery Hours After September 6:**

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Saturday: noon-5 p.m.