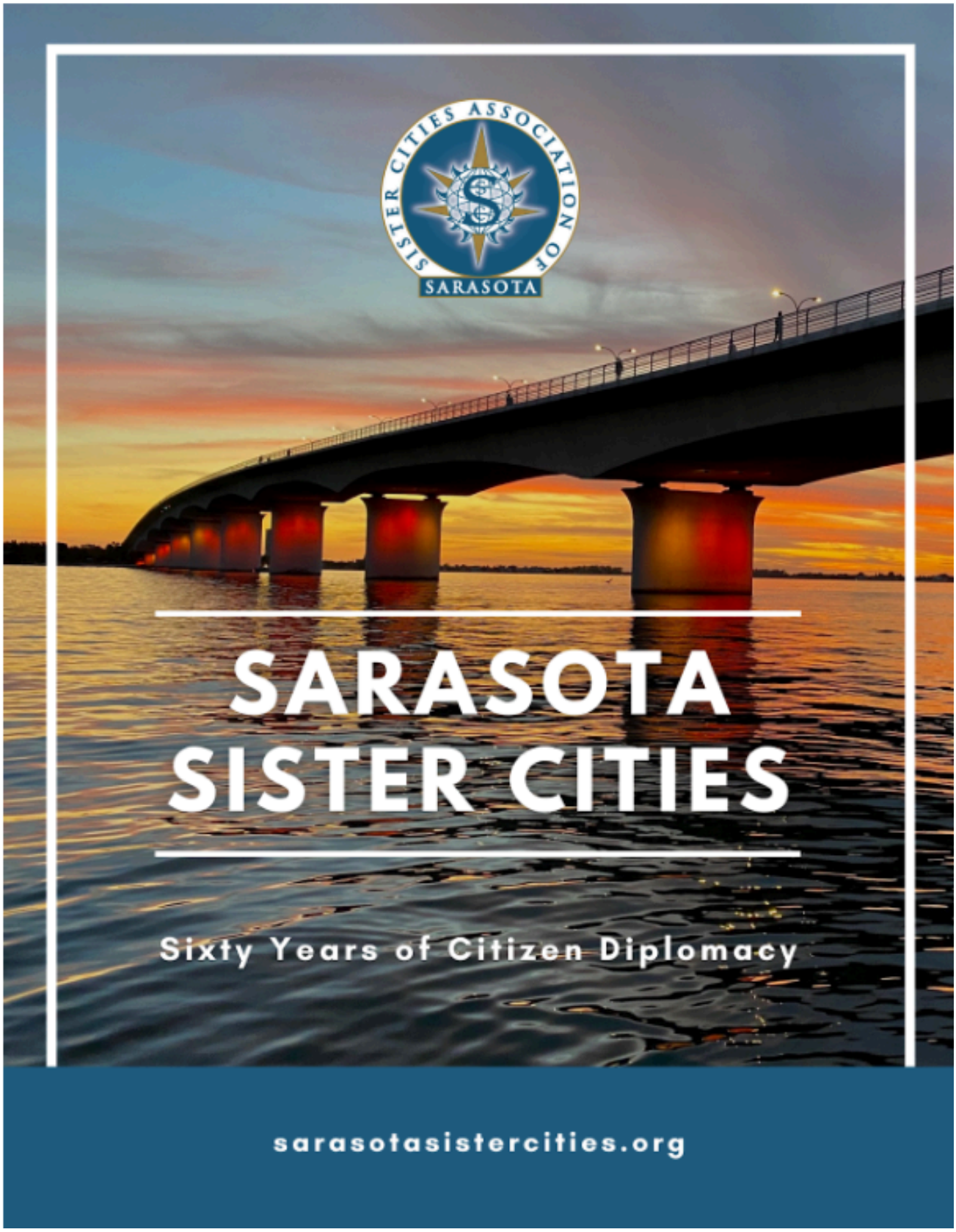

SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION OF
SARASOTA
SARASOTA
SISTER CITIES
Sixty Years of Citizen Diplomacy
sarasotasistercities.org

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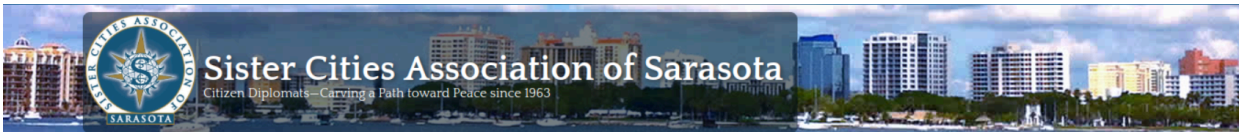
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Downtown Sarasota From the Roof of the Westin Hotel 2018





Introduction



The Sister Cities Association of Sarasota, Inc (SCAS) is an independent organization that partners with the City of Sarasota to strengthen our international relationships with our Sister Cities. We promote peace by fostering citizen diplomacy exchanges and projects between Sarasota and our Sister Cities in the areas of culture, education, tourism, sports, business and government. Our objective is to develop respect, understanding and cooperation one individual, one community at a time.

The concept of the international network of Sister Cities began in response to President Dwight D. Eisenhower's vision to enhance worldwide peace and understanding one handshake at a time. Sarasota's citizen diplomats are involved frequently in sister city outreach to build bridges toward world peace.

Sarasota Sister Cities receives support from the City of Sarasota to assist our extensive international exchanges. They also provide office space for our organization in the historic Federal Building located in downtown Sarasota.

In its 59th year of service, Sarasota Sister Cities continues to plan and administer numerous programs to promote world peace among our Sister Cities' citizens. We work with our partners to further "citizen diplomacy," creating and maintaining personal relationships that are vital to furthering better relationships around the world. Our members are proud of their efforts, and continue with activities that help to improve our relationships with our friends in our Sister Cities.



Mission Statement

The mission of the Sister Cities Association of Sarasota, Inc. is to foster international relationships between Sarasota and international cities that have similar interests by creating exchanges in areas of culture, education, tourism, sports, business and government. SCAS's objective is to develop respect, understanding and cooperation through citizen diplomacy.

To accomplish this mission we develop relationships with people in our twinned cities that have interests and environments similar to Sarasota's. Working outside the realm of government, but with its support, we maintain a special focus on areas with significant opportunities to facilitate cultural and educational exchanges, economic partnerships, increased tourism and humanitarian assistance.



Executive Summary



Sister City International began in Washington, D.C. in 1956 during the United States presidency of Dwight D. Eisenhower. Eisenhower was the Allied Supreme Commander of the armies of Europe during World War II. He viewed the horrific devastation of human life and property resulting from that tragic moment in world history. He thought there must be a better way to a lasting peace – trying "citizen diplomacy" rather than "governmental diplomacy", which had unfortunately resulted in continuing conflicts over the many centuries of humankind. "Citizen diplomacy" in Eisenhower's way of thinking was an actual "eyeball to eyeball" interfacing of everyday citizens, meeting personally on each others "turf" (in the U.S. and overseas); learning how each lived, carried on their daily lives, overcame whatever challenges they faced, to bring about an enhanced understanding, and thus respect, of all global citizens. It was envisioned this could be accomplished through exchanges (visitations) of citizens, engaged in the arts, business, civic activities (service clubs, boy/girl scouts, etc), education, sports and government.



Sarasota Sister Cities was formed in 1963. We have a very active organization, with numerous exchanges with our Sister Cities. Sarasota Sister Cities continues programs and efforts to promote world peace. We work with our Sister Cities to further "citizen diplomacy". We meet personally with people from our Sister Cities, creating and maintaining personal relationships. As we reach our 60th anniversary we can be proud of our past activities and look forward to many more interactions with our international friends.

Our Sister Cities

Santo Domingo (1990) (now emeritus)
Hamilton, Canada (1990) (now emeritus)
Perpignan, France (1994)
Vladimir, Russia (1994)
Tel Mond, Israel (1999)
Dunfermline, Scotland (2002)
Treviso, Italy (2007) (now emeritus)
Siming District, Xiamen, China (2007)
Merida, Mexico (2011)
Raperswil-Jona, Switzerland Friendship City (2014)
Busetto, Italy Friendship City (2019)



Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (1990) - Our First Sister City Now Emeritus



Dallas Dort founded the first chapter of Sister Cities with a Sarasota-Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic twinning in 1963, after a robust relationship had already developed. Unfortunately, a military coup in late 1963 installed a junta that was eventually overthrown, but the relationship was adversely affected. Wells Purmort, a long-term member, accepted the presidency in 1976 spurring activities that incorporated baseball tournaments involving Sarasota, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada and Santo Domingo. Other exchanges during this period involved scout organizations, Rotary, Kiwanis, aid to Santo Domingo after a devastating hurricane, and introductions to business people. Santo Domingo was given emeritus status in 2002, and today they enjoy a fruitful Sister City relationship with Miami and New York City.



Sarasota Sister Cities delegation Ron Gossett, Gayle Maxey, Tom Halbert, a representative from Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic and Laura Flesh at the Sister Cities International 50th Anniversary Conference in Washington DC in July 2006.

Hamilton, Ontario, Canada (1990) - Emeritus

In 1990 Sarasota twinned with Hamilton, Ontario, Canada to encourage more visitors to Sarasota and to build good will with our neighbors to the North. Hamilton Mayor Bob Morrow was instrumental in initiating the twinning. Hamilton boasts a diversity that combines education, culture and sightseeing attractions with business and commerce, especially steel manufacturing.





We have exchanged American Legion baseball teams, TV news anchors, student video camps, arts, cultural, plus historical, horticulture and marine interests through Spanish Point, Selby Gardens and Mote Marine. Hamilton is home to world class McMaster University, the Royal Botanical Gardens, the Nautical Institute and the Art Gallery of Hamilton. Hamilton and Sarasota have exchanged television news anchors, hosted the John Laing Singers and celebrated the 20th year anniversary of the Sister City relationship with Hamilton by hosting the volunteers from Hamilton's Westfield Heritage Village.

At Spanish Point, SSCA President Hope Byrnes on the left reacts to stories by Janet Knowles of Historic Heritage Village. More photos at:

hamiltonsarasota.blogspot.com

Perpignan, France (1994) - The Genesis of the Sarasota Film Festival

Sarasota twinned with Perpignan, Pyrénées- Orientales, France in 1994. Sarasota Mayor Nora Patterson and Vice Mayor of Perpignan, Dominique Schemia officially signed their partnership.



On September 7, 1995 an official signing was held in Perpignan by Mayor Jean-Paul Alduly and Sarasota Mayor David Merrill. The tie was initiated by Alain Taulere who had a home in Perpignan and Sarasota and owned the Cafe of the Arts in Sarasota. He was very prominent in organizing the French Film Festival in Sarasota, which evolved into the prestigious Sarasota Film Festival. Perpignan is situated on the Mediterranean coast of France and straddles the Catalan border of Spain. The Catalan culture is dominant in culture and cuisine.

Sarasota and Perpignan have hosted many activities over the years, particularly with students involved in exchange visits. A close relationship with the Alliance Française has facilitated many activities including scholarship opportunities. In 2010, the Sarasota-Perpignan program “Sustainable Development - Energy” won a Sister Cities International award for innovation.





In 2019, City Director Marie des Neiges Grossas (Center, Left) led a Sarasota delegation to Perpignan and surrounding areas. It was an outstanding exchange as the delegation met numerous people from city officials to ordinary citizens and developed mutual respect for each other.







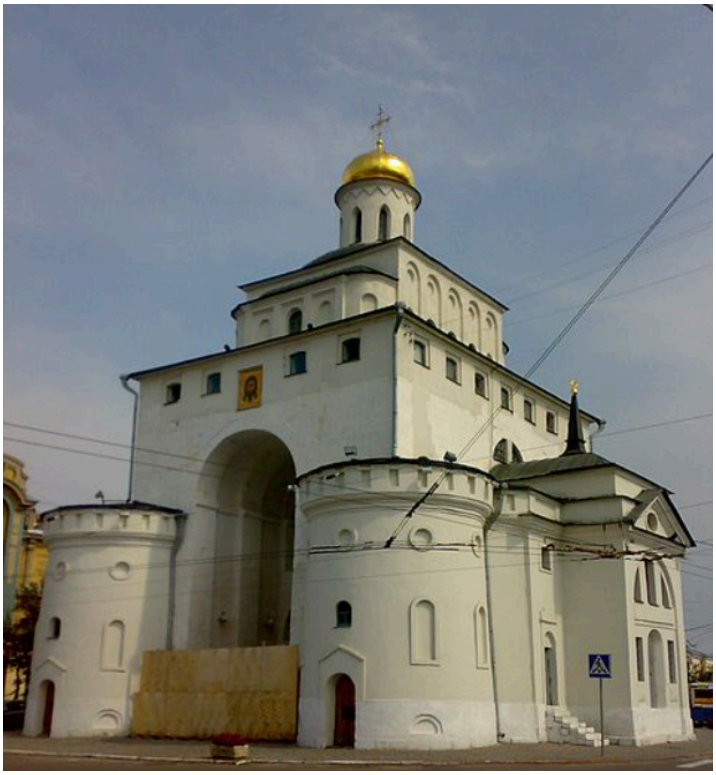
More photos at: perpignansarasota.blogspot.com

Vladimir, Oblast, Russia (1994) - Theater, Venice Schools, and Rotary Ties

In l994, Sarasota twinned with Vladimir, the part of Oblast Russia, because of a tie between the Rotary Club of the Keys and a new club in Vladimir which continues today. On October 29, 1994, City of Sarasota Mayor Nora Patterson led a delegation to Vladimir for the first official signing of the partnership agreement. In April, 1995, a year that marked the Millennium Anniversary of the City of Vladimir, Mayor Igor Shimov led a large delegation for the official signing in Sarasota.



SSCA Delegation With Vladimir Mayor and Officials



The City of Vladimir is renowned as the first capital of ancient Russia, and is a part of the Golden Ring of ancient cities with a rich culture and history. It dates back to the 1100s with today's focus on development of tourist attractions while maintaining an impressive focus on the arts and education as well as industry. Vladimir students frequently have been chosen winners in the Florida Studio Theatre's annual Young Playwrights competition. They have visited Sarasota to be honored and see their plays presented by professional actors. Yelena Bychkovski, a Vladimir city employee involved in international relations, became an advanced degree student at the University of Florida after learning of our educational opportunities by involvement with former Mayor and mentor Lou Ann Palmer.



City Director Yulia Glaukman (right) delivered awards to young playwrights in Vladimir who submitted their plays to The Florida Studio Theater. Yulia and her husband Alex did an outstanding job on leading the great exchange to Vladimir in 2013, with trips to Moscow, St Petersburg and Suzdal. The SCAS group stayed in Russian homes.



Vladimir City Director Miriam Kramer organized the inaugural online chess tournament between Sarasota and our Sister City of Vladimir with the Sarasota Chess Club. The tournament was very well received and plans are in the works to hold another chess tournament soon. Miriam serves as both the Vladimir CD and as SCAS President. In the fall of 2019, Miriam traveled to Moscow and to our Sister City of Vladimir as well as the neighboring city of Suzdal to establish ties with our counterparts there. Tatiana and Marina Semenova have been tremendously cooperative and supportive of our projects and exchanges.

More Photos at: vladimirsarasota.blogspot.com

Tel Mond, Israel (1999) - A Jewish Federation / Betty Schoenbaum Initiative

In 1999 Tel Mond in Israel became a new Sarasota Sister City. Many interested people in Sarasota jumped on board, including philanthropist Betty Schoenbaum, who donated a library to Tel Mond. Mayor Shlomo Ratzabi and Sarasota Mayor Molly Cardamone signed the agreement in Sarasota while Sarasota Mayor Gene Pilot and Mayor Shlomo Ratzabi conducted the official signing in Tel Mond.



The 10th anniversary ceremony was conducted in Tel Mond by a delegation led by Mayor Lu Ann Palmer and Commissioner Ken Shelin. Like Sarasota, Tel Mond is a growing community with similar population demographics that supports cultural interests. Sarasota has had a long history of intense interaction with Tel Mond through many prominent Sarasota citizens and the Sarasota-Manatee Jewish Federation who have helped in the development of this vibrant city. Tel Mond is a thriving regional center with an emphasis on arts, culture and education situated in the midst of orange groves and productive farmland. Tel Mond's impressive arts and education program is evidenced in the submissions to elementary school art projects that involved all of Sarasota sister cities. In 1997, four Sarasota high school students, including one from the Sailor Circus traveled to Tel Mond for a youth exchange.

Tel Mond has participated in many cross cultural visits over the years, including Boy Scouts, the award-winning Video Boot Camp, the Sister City International Art Show and the International Photography competition. Youngsters from Tel Mond have won Florida Studio Theater's Young Playwrights competition multiple times. Tel Mond was the first Sarasota Sister City to have a song written about the relationship between the two cities. Sid Krupkin, a SCAS member, and Elie Matstree of Tel Mond combined to compose "Sarasota and Tel Mond" which features their musical talents combined with singing by school children from both cities.



Back Row - Richard Mantyla, Vicki Swenson, Ray Young, Pam Heller, Robert Rosenbluth, Suzanne Schwartz, Sue Rosin, Fred Bloom, Leone Levy, Howard Heller
Front Row - Craig Hullinger, Beth Ruyle Hullinger, Linda Rosenbluth





Exchange to Tel Mond in 2014. An outstanding experience.

Tel Mond Dancers



Exchange to Tel Mond in 2014. An outstanding experience.

We have had numerous exchanges with Tel Mond.
We have had a long and very productive partnership.



Rabbi Jonathan (L) Katz is our City Director (CD).



Kim Shiental is an Assistant City Director (ACD)

More Photos telmondsarasota.blogspot.com

Our Songs at: sistercitysongs.blogspot.com



Alice Cotman is an
Assistant City Director (ACD)

.[More Click For More information about our relationship with Tel Mond]

Dunfermline, Scotland - (2002) Our Centennial Sister City

Sarasota was first chartered in 1903 by a group of Scottish businessmen. In 2002, Dunfermline, located in west Fife, the ancient capital of Scotland, became Sarasota's sixth Sister City during ceremonies at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Center. The Asolo Theater contains the stage and interior décor from the turn-of-the-century Dunfermline Scotland Opera House. In 2002, a framed, full-size rubbing of Robert the Bruce was donated to the Asolo and can be seen there today. The 10th Anniversary of this twinning was held at the Silver Thistle Ball at the Bird Bay Yacht Club in February 2012, jointly sponsored by the Caledonian Club of West Florida and the Sister Cities Association of Sarasota.



Many projects are supported by alliance members including the Royal St. Andrew Society and the Caledonian Club of West Florida. Riverview High School has the 'Kiltie Band," a pipe band and the famous Scottish metal sculptor, Malcolm Robertson, makes his winter home in Sarasota. His sculptures can be seen in Scotland, and in Sarasota at the Fruitville Library, and at the traffic circle on south Manasota Key.

The twinning was based on Sarasota being founded by Scots and the historical significance of John Gillespie, a Scot, being the first mayor of Sarasota and builder of the city's first golf course. Dunfermline is the ancient capital of Scotland and is the final resting place of King Robert the Bruce and the birthplace of philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. Dunfermline is just across the bridge from Edinburgh and a cat jump to St. Andrews, the world-famous home of golf. Students from Dunfermline come to Sarasota each year as winners of the Florida Studio Theatre's Young Playwrights competition.



Cathedral in Dunfermline

At the Highland Games in Sarasota

L - R Board Members: Isabelle Eidet; Tony Duval; Beth Ruyle; Kenney DeCamp; Dunfermline City Director, Pauline Mitchell; Marie des Neiges Grossas

Pauline Mitchell is the long serving City Director of Dunfermline. She has led successful and productive exchanges between the two cities. The last exchange from Sarasota to Dunfermline was in 2016.





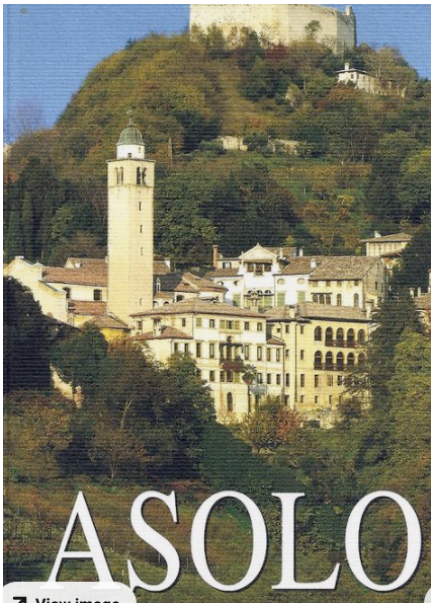
The photo on the left is of the Sarasota Sister Cities delegation meeting with Dunfermline officials at their City Hall. City Director Pauline Michell is on the right. This was an outstanding trip for the Sarasota delegation. The leadership of Dunfermline were gracious and hospitable and our relationships were renewed and improved.

More photos at: dunfermlinesarasota.blogspot.com

Treviso Province, Italy (2007) - Emeritus



In the summer of 2007, Treviso Province, in the Veneto region of Italy, located between Venice and the Adriatic and the foothills of the Italian Alps, became twinned with Sarasota. The province of Treviso is one of Europe's most dynamic growth regions. In addition to its art and history treasures, the province of Treviso is considered to be the most dynamic in Italy. Treviso and the Veneto region in which it is located have enjoyed one of Europe's highest rates of economic growth. One of the important ties between the 95-community province and Sarasota is the Historic Asolo Theater which was the Opera House of Queen Cornaro in the town of Asolo, Italy.



It was on the stage of the Historic Asolo Theater where the partnership was signed between Mayor Fredd Atkins and the President of Treviso Province Leonardo Muraro on February 29, 2007.The twinning has resulted in a rich, active exchange program aided by interest of alliance organizations such as the Ausonia Society and Sarasota Italian Cultural Events. The winner of our 2009 People and Places Photography Contest involving all our Sister Cities was Treviso artist Cristina Madeyski with her "Magic Reflections - Treviso on the Sile River" entry. This led to a subsequent showing of her work at the Selby Auditorium on the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee campus in February 2012. Frequent tours to locations suggested by Provincial President Muraro have attracted Sarasota residents to Treviso Province highlighting the Pearls of the Province of Treviso for necklaces of memories. And, the highlights of the Culture Coast have attracted numerous visits from residents and officials of the province to Sarasota.

More photos at: https://www.pinterest.com/sarasotasister/treviso-province-italy/

Xiamen Siming District, Fujian Province, China (2007)



In 2007, Xiamen (Siming District), Fujian Province, China became twinned with Sarasota. An enthusiastic Sarasota delegation led by Mayor Lou Ann Palmer participated in signing ceremonies in Xiamen during June 5-11, 2007. The signing came after an extensive search. Located along a mountainous coast, across the straits of Taiwan in Southeastern China, Xiamen was recognized as a likely sister city by Ringling College of Art professor Dr. Carolyn Bloomer, a frequent visitor to China. China has such large cities that it was difficult to find a pairing that was right for Sarasota. Several Chinese-American Associations also participate in this pairing. The final signing was conducted by Mayor Lu Ann Palmer at a public ceremony on October 9 in the old Federal Building in downtown Sarasota.

Xiamen was ranked as China's second "most suitable city for living" in 2006, as well as China's "most romantic leisure city" in 2011. Xiamen is a convention city with an annual international trade fair, a sports center for golf, water-sports & martial arts and holds the Xiamen International Marathon each March. It has a wealth of cultural & education resources including degree programs in hospitality management, visual art, artists & public art displays, symphony orchestras, opera companies, jazz groups; and a center for health care, sports medicine, complementary medicine. Xiamen has a major international airport & a seaport designated as a Special Economic Zone for foreign trade; a high level of agriculture, aquaculture, horticulture, and marine biology. An "Exchange of Artists" program was begun in 2009 when Sarasota hosted two artists from China for two weeks. In May, 2011, two local artists, Robert Farber and Julio Rodriguez, were chosen by a panel of local jurors to travel to Xiamen for two weeks where they, too, were hosted by local families and experienced the Chinese art community.







Xiamen, China delegation at the John & Mabel Ringling Museum of Art during events in Sarasota in October 2007 to finalize the establishment of a Sister City relationship between Sarasota and Xiamen



Mayor Lou Ann Palmer accepts a gift at formal twinning ceremonies between Xiamen, China and Sarasota in June 2007

Our City Director is Douglas Sparks.
Larry Bennison, and Duane Finger
are our Assistant City Directors



Xiamen Botanical Gardens

More photos of Xiamen at: xiamensarasota.blogspot.com

Merida, Yucatan, Mexico (2010) - Our Newest Sister City



On December 19, 2010, Mérida, Yucatán, Meéxico was twinned with Sarasota. Mayors Angélica Araujo Lara of Mérida and Kelly Kirschner of Sarasota signed the official twinning documents in the cCourtyard of the John and Mabel Ringling Museum of Art.

Located 180 miles west of Cancun in the Yucatán Peninsula the two cities have many similarities including being located near the Gulf of Mexico, having tropical climates, being a regional center for commerce and higher education and sharing a love for culture and the arts. This colonial city on the Yucatán Peninsula is the ideal spot from which to explore important Maya archeological sites like Chechen Itza and Uxmal. The city has one of the largest historical centers in the Americas with many of the Spanish colonial buildings from its wealthy past remaining. Mérida is one of eight safe and popular marquee tourist spots that is exempt from U.S. State Department cautions against non-essential travel in Mexico. Latino Excellence of Sarasota, an alliance member of Sister Cities Association of Sarasota, conducted the first exchange custom tour from Sarasota in July 2012 providing a unique opportunity to experience Mayan Life and Ancient Cities near our newest sister city. The fully guided tour featured intimate close experiences including participating in sacred Maya ceremonies with Maya priests and hHealers.



Mayor Willie Shaw, City Director Mike Fehilly, and President Beth Ruyle at the resigning of the Sister City relationship with Merida in 2019.

Kenney DeCamp and dancers from Mexico who performed at the Ringling Museum





Maya Performers in Merida

City Director Grisell Aleman Center, Assistant City Director Mike Fehily on the left. Grisell and Mike switched positions January 2-21. Julio Sauma, Merida Director of the Department of Citizen Outreach is on the right.



More photos at: https://meridasarasota.blogspot.com/

Rapperswil - Jona, Switzerland Friendship City - (2014)

Raperswil - Jona and Sarasota became Friendship cities in 2014. A friendship city is a prelude to a Sister City.This effort was supported by the Swiss American Club of Sarasota swissamericanclubsarasota.org. A photo of the club members below.



Famous Castle of Rapperswil - on Lake Zurich in Switzerland







Rapperswil-Jona and Sarasota both have a history with the Circus. A Beach volleyball group and a canoe club from Rapperswil-Jona have visited and competed in Sarasota. We enjoyed meeting them.



City Director Nellie Camardo and the Rapperswil-Jona Canoe Club, Charlotte Hull is the Assistant City Director.



Ruth & Primo Bader, Jack & Isabelle Wright hosted the athletes from Rapperswil-Jona

More photos of Rapperswill-Jona at rapperswil-jonasarasota.blogspot.com

Busseto, Italy Friendship City - (2019)



Busseto in Parma, Italy is our newest friendship city. Sarasota and Busseto are in the process of completing a Sister Cities relationship.
Busseto was the home of the famous composer Giuseppe Verdi. Sarasota Sister Cities has helped raise funding to restore his historic home.]In 1989 Sarasota Opera began The Verdi Cycle—a unique undertaking to perform the complete works of Giuseppe Verdi. The 2016 Winter Opera Festival marked the grand finale of this extraordinary journey with new productions of Aida and The Battle of Legnano with the final week devoted exclusively to the Italian master, including concerts of his music, talks, panel discussions, and other special events.

The completion of the Cycle has made Sarasota Opera the only company in the world to have performed all of Verdi's music! For more complete information on Sarasota Opera's Verdi Cycle, visit www.verdicycle.org.





L to R City Director Phil Gordon, President Toni Duval, President Beth Ruyle,
VP Isabelle Eidet



At the Opera House



Verdi's home at Sant'Agata
Sarasota Sister Cities helped raise funds to maintain the building

From Wikipedia

Villa Verdi is the house that composer Giuseppe Verdi owned from 1848 to the end of his life in 1901. It is located in the village of Sant'Agata in the comune of Villanova sull'Arda in the Italian province of Piacenza less than five miles from the village of Le Roncole, where he was born in 1813, and the town of Busseto where he lived from 1824.Click to read more: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Villa_Verdi

Busseto (Bussetano: Büsé; Parmigiano: Busèjj) is a comune in the province of Parma, in Emilia-Romagna in Northern Italy with a population of about 7,100. Its history has very ancient roots which date back to the 10th century, and for almost five hundred years it was the capital of Stato Pallavicino. The first written sources the name "Busseto" were in the form of "Buxetum", which dates from the early twelfth century.

More info at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Busseto

More photos of Busseto at: https://bussetosarasota.blogspot.com/

Board

SSC is led by a Board of Directors elected by the overall membership. There are currently 22 officers and a quorum is 12 members. Their functions and duties are described in the following chapters and their names and short bios are at the end of the book. We have a city director and one or more assistant city directors for all our Sister Cities and Friendship Cities. There is a vice president for each of our functional areas, a treasurer, a secretary and a youth ambassador.

Each member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors reports to the Board. Board member serves as an Officer of the Corporation in accordance with State of Florida incorporation requirements. Under Article VI, Section 1 of the By-laws, each officer is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year. Our Board usually meets once a month on the 4th Wednesday of the month. The meetings are chaired by the President. were conducted on Zoom during the Pandemic.



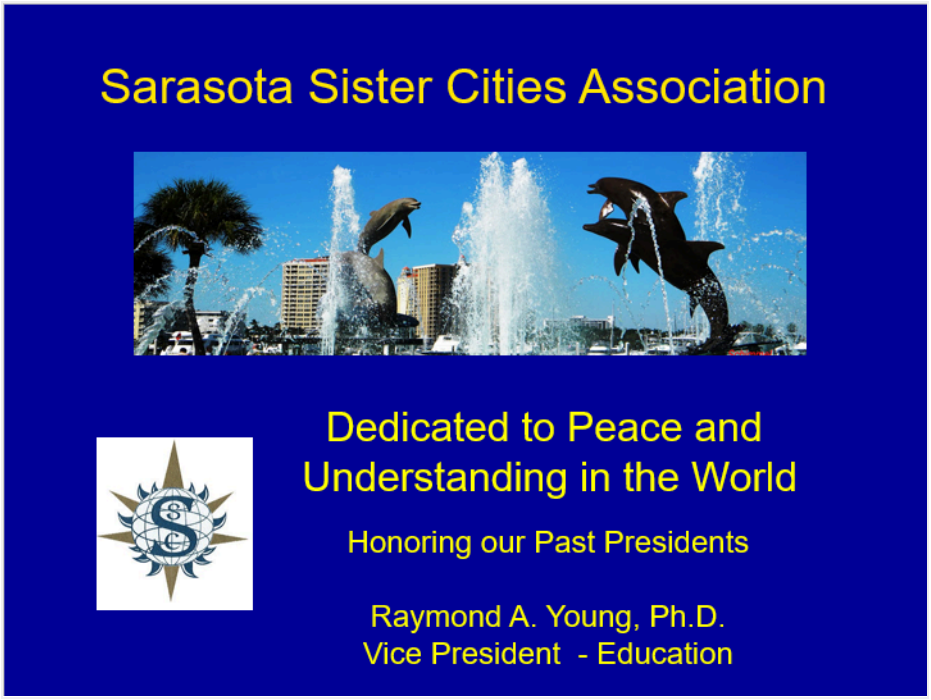
Presidents Current and Past

Dallas Dort 1963-1967
Donald Spivey 1968-1975
Wells Purmort 1976-1985??
Julio Claret 1989-1991
Asim Mohammed 1992-1994
Hope Byrnes 1995-2000
Linda Rosenbluth 2001-2005
William Wallace 2006-2007
Carla Rayman 2008-2011
John Halbert 2011-2013
Beth Ruyle Hullinger 2014-2016
Marianna Janz-Wecke 2016-2018
Beth Ruyle Hullinger 2018-2019
Toni Duval 2019-2021
Miriam Kramer 2021-2023
Diana Forman-Friedman 2023-

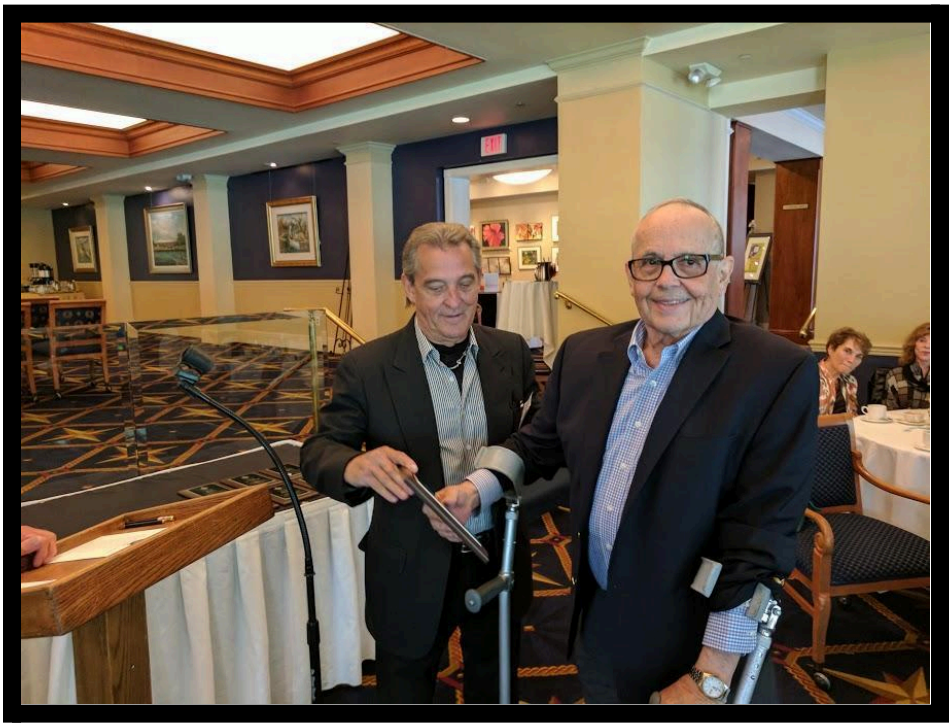


Honoring Our Past Presidents - March 15, 2017 Anniversary Celebration





Click to View The Presentation Honoring Our Past Presidents



President Wells Durmont



President Hope Byrnes



President Linda Rosenlbuth



President Bill Wallace



President Carla Rayman



President Tom Halbert

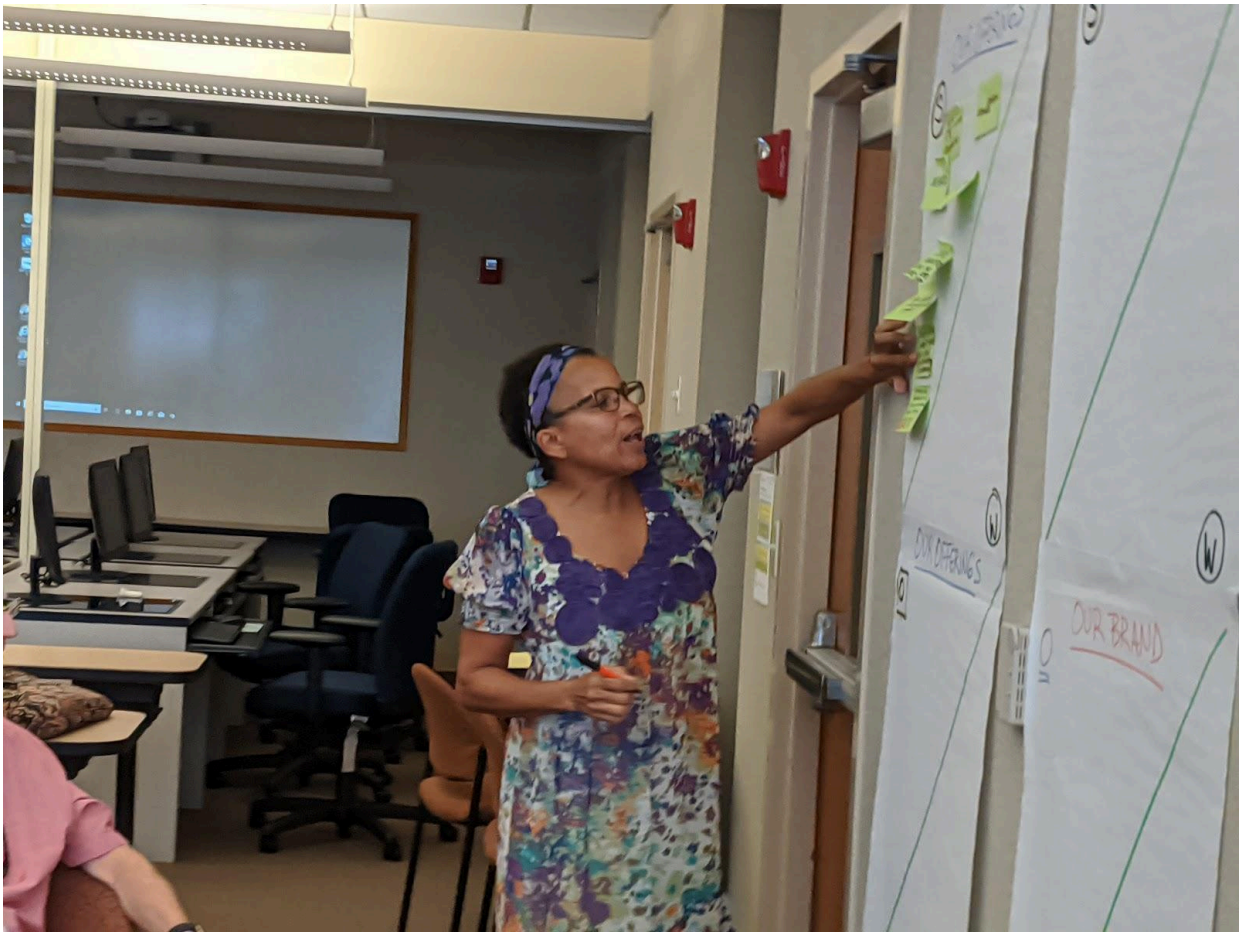


President Beth Ruyle Hullinger

President Marianna
Janz-Wecke Rest in Peace







President Toni Duval



From Right to Left President Miriam Kramer Past President Toni Duval, VP of Membership Isabelle Eidet, and VP of Communication Jana Stanley
Our Communication Team in 2020



President Miriam Kramer right at Meet and Greet

Luncheon honoring our Past Presidents





Treasurer



The Treasurer ensures that the organization is fiscally sound with excellent financial management. The program Quickbooks is used to provide clear and understandable financial statements.

The organization raises and spends about $30,000 a year. In most years income and outgo are roughly balanced. An independent CPA annually conducts a thorough audit.

Sister Cities Association of Sarasota is financed by membership dues, charitable contributions, fundraising events and support from the City of Sarasota. Raising money is, of course, very important for any organization.

Our One World Gala often raises funds. We also work with the Sarasota Community Foundation on community wide fundraising appeals such as their Giving Challenge supported by the Patterson Foundation.

For example, in 2015 our very successful Giving Partner effort was covered by SNN TV. The figures from the CFSC indicated that our giving was $6,841 plus matching funds resulted in a total of $12,932. An additional $1,750 was received late so was not matched. Our total fundraising for that event came to $ 14,682. Thanks to everyone for their gifts and thanks to the volunteers for the great effort.



Gloria Grenier, Bill Wallace, Beth Ruyle at the Telethon in 2015

Former Treasurer Werner Knoop and Wife Briana. Werner was our treasurer for many years and vastly improved our Financial systems.





Treasurer Glorida Grenier 2018-2022

Secretary

The secretary is important in any organization. He or she makes, keeps, and distributes the memory of organization activities and decisions. Minutes are distributed and stored electronically allowing for easy editing prior to adoption or amendment by the Board.



Mayors Golan and Shaw and Secretary (then President) Beth Ruyle

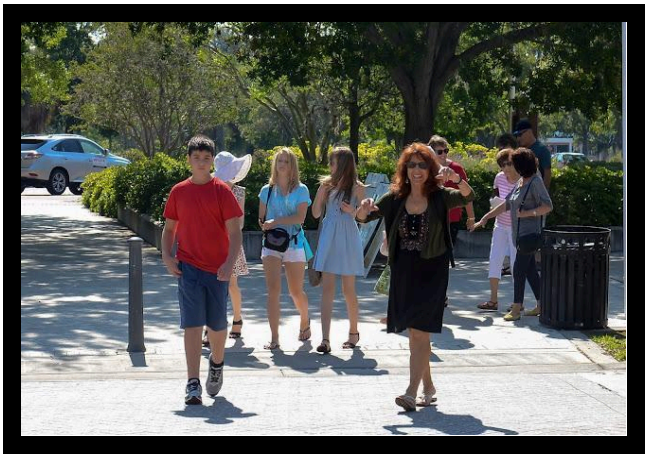


Beth Ruyle was our secretary from 2020-
She was previously President and Vice President of Cities.

View the Minutes at boardssc.blogspot.com

Vice Presidents

Arts and Culture



Sarasota Sister Cities is very active in promoting art and culture within Sarasota and our sister cities. One of our most interesting programs is in conjunction with Florida Studio Theatre's Write a Play Competition and Young Playwrights Festival. Elementary and secondary students are invited to submit plays which judges assess to determine the winning plays which professional actors present on stage during the Young Playwrights Festival. If students from our sister cities are winners, we host them for about a week in Sarasota. The students engage in local activities, sightsee, meet government officials, and see their play performed on stage during the Festival.



Sarasota Mayor Suzanne Atwell meets with the Young Playwrights group

Sarasota Sister Cities viewed a number of plays written by students, including students from our sister cities of Tel Mond, Israel, Vladimir, Russia, and Dunfermline, Scotland. The young

playwrights from Tel Mond and Dunfermline were in Sarasota to see their plays performed, and to sign autographs. The cast and creative director provided outstanding performances.



From left to right Aleksandra Radmoska, Kara MhairiClare McAuley, Ori Segev

Aleksandra and Kara are from St Columba's High School, Scotland. Their teacher is Miss McDonald. They are in the eighth grade. The play they wrote was entitled, "The Bonnie Old Visit at Sterling Castle". Ori Segov is from the Shelanu School, Tami Philosoph, in Israel. He is in the sixth grade. His play was entitled "The Promise. ".



Ori Segov and Bill Wallace



Camy Robbins escorted the young playwrights around Sarasota.



From Left to Right

Ori Segov, Camy Robbins, Aleksandra Radmoska, Kara MhairiClare McAuley.

Dear All,

What an incredible Team effort the FST visit was!!

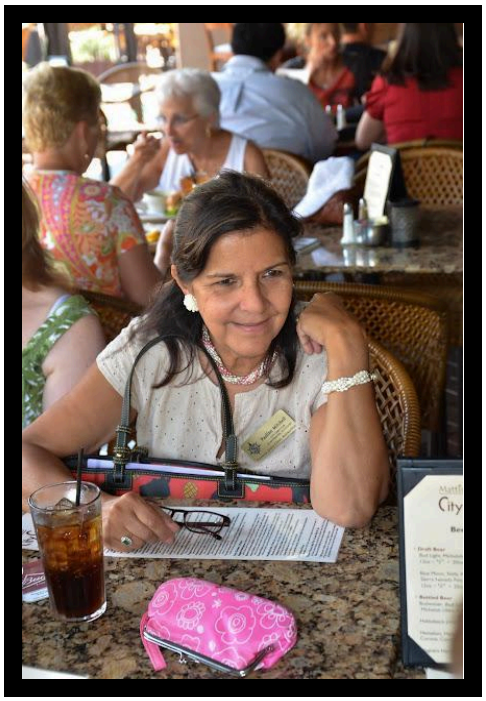
Thank you so very much for helping Sister Cities and ME (!) make this another successful visit. Clearly it could not have been done without everyone's participation and volunteering their time and efforts. Each and everyone of you in your own way contributed to our visitors leaving with memories of a lifetime. This is volunteering at its best.

As they say, "You're only as good as your next event", so I'm counting on you for next year to help me MAKE MEMORIES OF A LIFETIME!

Thank you again for being such perfect Citizen Diplomats.-

Kind regards,

Pauline Mitchell
Sister City Coordinator For the Young Playwrights Festival





Pauline Mitchell and her team did a great job making this effort an outstanding success. Our thanks to everyone involved.

Beth Ruyle Hullinger
President, Sarasota Sister Cities

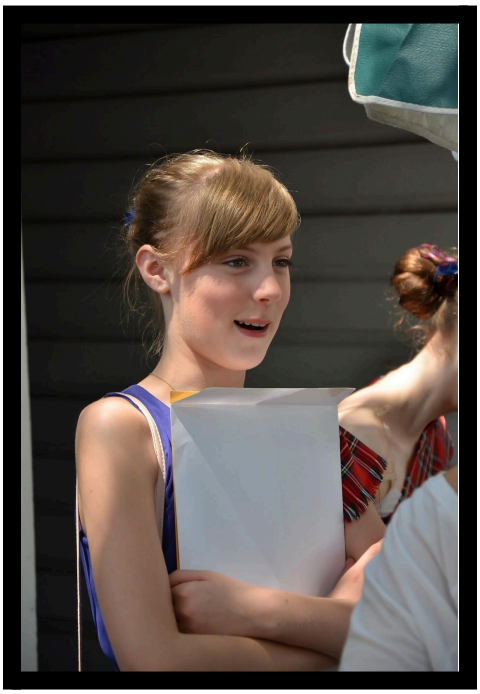


From Left to Right
Back: Miss Tami Philosoph, Ori Segev, Miss McDonald, Ellie Stoll

Front: Betty Greenspan, Camy Robbins, Aleksandra Radmoska, Kara Mhairi Clare McAuley.



Betty Greenspan and Kara Mhairi Clare McAuley.













The plays were performed by professional actors at the Florida Studio Theater.



Award Ceremony at the Young Playwrights Festival



Photo taken at the Awards Ceremony for the Young Playwrights

Alexander Pushkin's Birthday



On June 6, Russian people celebrate a very special holiday - the birthday of the most favorite and popular Russian writer and poet of the 19th century Alexander Pushkin (1799-1837). His literary heritage is taught in all our schools. His literary works are popular with young and old. Many Russians know Pushkin's poems by heart and love to recite them on holidays.

There are songs on Pushkin's lyrics, his poems and novels are often filmed and staged. Parents love reading his tales to their children. Very often Russian people say that "Alexander Pushkin is our everything in literature". Many of his works are translated into different languages of the world.

On his birthday many activities are organized in his honor: concerts, theatrical performances, translation and painting contests, quizzes, etc. Many people recite Pushkin's poems on this day and so do we. For our Sister Cities' friends we recorded a video with an extract from one of the most popular Pushkin's fairy tales in verse "Ruslan and Lyudmila" translated into English.

Here is the video link https://disk.yandex.ru/i/tyMxB1Unsn_phA

From: Semenova Marina

Communication with Dance
- Russian Dancers

Treasurer and former Vice President Glorida Grenier led our Young Playwrights efforts for many years. Vice President Sue Gordon now leads our efforts after having worked with Gloria. Sue previously led the FST Young Playwrights program for many years.

Gloria Grenier previously served as our Vice President of Arts and Culture.





Sue Gordon served as the Vice President of Arts and Culture in 2020-2022. She has long supported our successful Florida Studio Theater Youth program.

Cities and Candidate Cities



The Vice President of Cities and Candidate cities leads the City Directors of our Sister Cities and Friendship cities. The VP conducts meetings with the city directors and ensures that new City Directors (CD) learn their role.The VP also trains the new Assistant City Directors in learning their roles and duties.

The office is often a path to the Presidency of the organization. President Miriam Kramer and Past President Beth Ruyle both served as Vice President of Cities.

Rabbi Jonathan Katz began serving as our Vice President of Cities in 20212. He also serves as the City Director of Tel Mond, Israel.



Communication

Sarasota Sister Cities maintains an active communication effort.



Our Communication Team from the left - Jana Stanley, VP of Communication, Isabelle EIedlet, VP of Membership, Past President Toni Duval and President Miriam Kramer / CD of Vladimir.

The Communication Team developed an excellent website, sarasotasistercities.org. We also maintain a database of our members and of all those who have shown interest or need to know about our organization. We frequently email them about SCAS activities.

We also publish informative nNewsletters. Our current newsletters can be viewed on our website sarasotasistercities.org, while older newsletters can be viewed at bridgestotheworldssc.blogspot.com



Social Media
facebook.com/SarasotaSisterCities
videossarasotasistercities.blogspot.com
blogsarasotasistercities.blogspot.com
sistercitiessocialmarketing.blogspot.com
socialnetworkingreport.blogspot.com
sscsocialmarketing.blogspot.com
eventssarasostasister.blogspot.com

Events

The Vice President of Events plans and coordinates a variety of events. We have luncheons at Bird Key Yacht Club with speakers each month except in the summer.

We have monthly Meet and Greets usually preceded by a program with speakers. An annual Gala is held each year , and numerous other events both here and in the sister cities.





Gala L to R Vickie Swenson, Richard Mantayla, Byron Hill, Janet Hill



Dr. David Harralson, Dr. Richard Greenspan, Mime Kenney DeCamp



Emile and Pamela Langlois

Sister Cities at the Chamber of Commerce Event in Aug 2021







L to R Christine Rufino, Kenney DeCamp and Alice Cotman representing SSC at the Chamber of Commerce Event in Aug 2021

Events

The VP is responsible for developing, coordinating and organizing our events. She works to make sure that our luncheons and special events are interesting and worthwhile. A few of our successful events include





Tel Mond Dancers

Charlotte Hull is our VP of Events and Communication since 2019. She is also the ACD of Rapperswil-Jona, Switzerland.



Economic Development

Sustainable Economic Development



Sarasota Sister Cities has developed programs to help facilitate the sustainable economic development of our rRegion and of our Sister Cities. Sarasota, Florida is a great place to start or expand your business. And our Sister Cities are ready to help you expand your business into their countries. We will help with that process.

Sustainable "Green" Economic Development combines environmental improvement and traditional economic development into one discipline. Traditional economic development can be employed to increase employment while improving our environment. Economic dDevelopment and “Green” Development can be synergistic, improving our overall quality of life.

Our Blog for Sustainable Economic Development is www.sarasotasistercities.com which forwards to sarasotasistercities.blogspot.com. Click to view our economic development Brochure and Long Brochure.

Summary of our Strategy



KEEP

Keep our businesses and jobs
Expand the businesses we have
Enhance our community for business
Protect and improve our environment

Our Sustainable Economic Development Strategy can be found at:

sarasotasustainabledevelopment.blogspot.com, with a summary below.

Sustainable Economic Development Strategy

The Vision
Our communities will provide quality jobs at good wages while improving our environment.



Mission Statement
We are committed to providing an environment in which our natural resources, our people, and our economy are balanced. We will not compromise the future by focusing solely on the needs of today. We aspire to make our communities regional leaders who develop, promote, and improve the quality of our community through sustainable practices.

Proposals to improve our City and Its Environs
We have developed the proposals described in the blogs below. We periodically propose these possible improvements to the government and the private sector.

giftsforsarasota.blogspot.com
sarasotatownsquare.blogspot.com
animationsarasota.blogspot.com
honorepark.blogspot.com
Greensarasota.blogspot.com
sarasotatownsquare.blogspot.com
sarasotameridaeconomicdevelopment.blogspot.com



VISION 2070 MAP

Sustainable Economic Development will be the standard for future economic development and “green” environmental improvement efforts. We can and will improve our environment while providing jobs and tax base for our community. The New Mote Aquarium - One of the Great Gifts That Improves Our Region

For assistance in locating or expanding your business in Sarasota or in one of our Sister Cities contact:

Craig Hullinger
Vice President Economic Development
sarasotasistercities@gmail.com
941 312 1032



More about Sarasota Sister Cities efforts on Sustainable Economic Development at: Sarasotasistercities.com

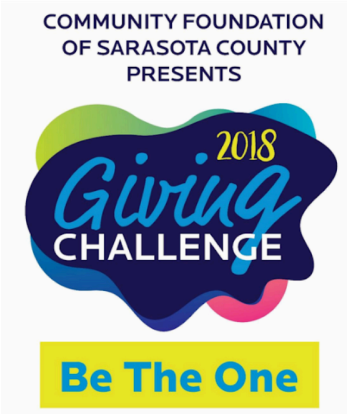
Fundraising

Sarasota Sister Cities is financed by membership dues, charitable contributions, and support from the City of Sarasota. Raising money is important for any organization.



Our Gala often raises substantial funds. We also work with the Community Foundation on community wide fundraising appeals. And we will gladly accept your contribution.

SSC participates with the Community Foundation in fundraising efforts. In some years the Foundations match gifts. In 2017 we raised substantial funds by conducting a Telethon in the Media room of City Hall. This was covered by our local TV station.



Giving Partnership Effort $14,682

Our Telethon was successful and was covered by SNN TV. The figures from the CFSC indicated that our giving was $6,841 and our matching dollars were $6,091 – for a total of $12,932. And we have a reported $1,750 yet to come in that won't be matched because of timing.

So our total fund. Thanks to everyone for their gifts.



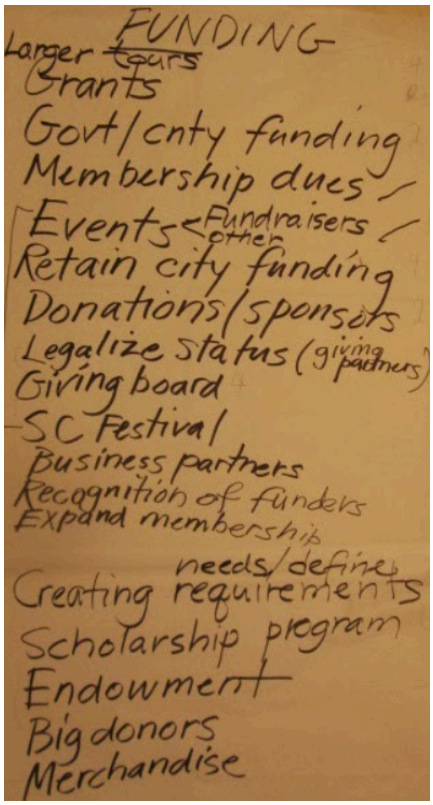
Finance Co Chairman

Thanks to everyone who donated. And special thanks to Finance Co-Chairman Bill Wallace and Kenney DeCamp, and Gloria Grenier, Carolyn Bloomer, David Harralson, and Craig Hullinger who worked the phones at the Telethon, and Bill Mallet who set up the equipment. And thanks to the Partners of the Giving Partnership who made this possible.





Gloria Grenier, Bill Wallace, and Beth Ruyle at the Telethon.



The text to the left was developed by the Board at a planning discussion on fundraising efforts.



Bill Wallace talking to SSN TV about our fundraising telethon.

Betty Greenspan is our Vice President of Fundraising. With her is her husband, Vice President of Sports Dr. Richard Greenspan. Betty took the photo below.





[Membership]

Membership is vital to any organization. The recruitment and retention of qualified Members is key to the success of Sarasota Sister Cities.

The VP of Membership works hard to attract and retain members. Working with the VP of Events and the VP of Communication, he or she ensures that our new members are engaged and involved. The Website,contact database, emails and attendance at events are vital.





Frequent and interesting events are a key to recruiting and retaining members. The event on the right were attendees of our Florida Studio Theater Plays written by students around the world and performed by the actors of the Florida Studio Theater.

These kinds of events help recruit new members.

New Members Coffee May 23, 2019







Isabelle Eidet is the Vice President of Membership from 2017 - 2022

Sports

Sister Cities supports a number of sporting exchanges and competitions with our Sister Cities. We have worked with the Swiss American Club of Sarasota to facilitate exchanges with the Rapperswil-Jona Canoe Club and Beach volleyball.



Beach Volleyball team: Remo, Luca, Jonas, Joel at the Sarasota Sailing Squadron with Nelly Camardo, Friendship City Director for Rapperswil-Jona, Switzerland.



Remo and Joel sailing on the trimaran

November 5 - 19, 2016 - The US Open Lawn Bowling

Sarasota Sister Cities assisted the International Lawn Bowling Competitions in Sarasota.





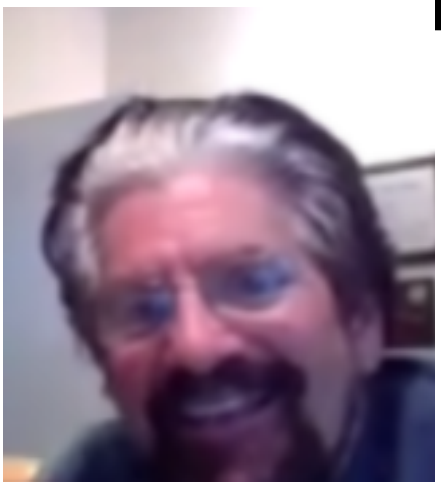
Sister Cities has supported Dragon Boat competitions at Benderson Park.



Beach Volleyball Players from Rapperswil-Jona-June 201

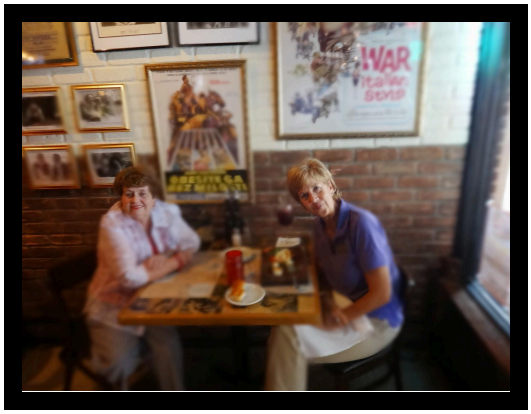
SCAS & SAC arranged a Welcome dinner for the R-J Beach Volleyball players at Clayton's Siesta Grille on Siesta Key. Great Evening with the group.





Dr. Richard Greenspan was the Vice President of Sports in 2021-2022

Programs and Planning



Sarasota Sister Cities provides a number of excellent programs for our members and the Sarasota community. Our monthly luncheons include a featured speaker with topics ranging from sister city exchanges to descriptions of programs in community organizations.

Another monthly event is held at the Selby Library and features presentations from community leaders and local government. Topics include new developments in the city, international travel and philanthropic activities. The Selby Library presentations are followed by a Meet and Greet at a local restaurant.

Sarasota Sister Cities Speakers Bureau -

List of Lectures for Offer

International Travel & Culture

France: A Tale of Two Cities: Paris and Perpignan

Emile Langlois, Barbara Frey & Gloria Grenier

Firth of Forth in Fife - Scotland and Dunfermline

Pauline Mitchell

Polynesian Cultures of the South Pacific

Raymond Young, Ph.D.

History

History of the Israel Connection to Sarasota-Manatee

Kim Sheintal

Arts, Science & Environment

City Sustainability Programs

Craig Hullinger

Essential Oils & Perfumes of the World,

Raymond Young, Ph.D.

Creativity & Innovation

Raymond Young, Ph.D.

Click to view speakers biographies

Meet and Greets /Programs

We set up meet and greets at an interesting restaurant, often preceded by an interesting program at the Selby Library. These events are free except for what you may eat or drink.









Our Programs at Selby Library are usually followed by a Meet and Greet





VP Ray Young (left) formerly led our Programs and Planning effort. Beth Ruyle took over the position in 2022.

Education

Sister Cities provides an array of educational programs in concert with our local schools and Sister Cities International

Our VP of Education works closely with our Youth Ambassador who is a local high school member who is a full member of our Board.



[Apply to be a High School Homestay Local Coordinator]

https://sistercities.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Toolkit-for-Sister-City-Programs.pdf

Ray Young was our VP of Education for many years.

Dawn Graver is our VP from 2018? -

The Vice President of Education works closely with the Youth Ambassador, who is generally a High School junior or senior.



Youth Ambassador



SSC Board Including Our Youth Ambassador Board ca 2017

Our Youth Ambassador is a student from a local high school, generally a Junior or a Senior, who serves as a full member of our Board under the Direction of the Vice President of Education. Part of the value of having a young person on our Board is to keep our Board cognizant of the interests of our communities' youth. And the Youth Ambassador takes back to their school what s/he has learned about Sister Cities and working with a Board of mature adults. Our Youth Ambassador in 2022 was Mathew Maloni



Activities

Sarasota Sister Cities conducts a wide range of activities. The following highlights some of our events.

Luncheons

Monthly, (except in the summer when many members are away, we host a luncheon with a speaker presenting a relevant local and/or international topic. Luncheon topics feature one of our sister cities or another community organization as shown in the list below.

Examples of Luncheon Presentations

Future of New College of Florida
Dr. Patricia Okker, New President, New College of Florida
Circus Arts Conservatory - Sailor Circus
Jennifer Mitchell, VP/COO
Embracing our Differences Program
Sarah Wertheimer, Executive Director
Friendship Center Programs - People Helping People
Robert Rogers
Director of Community Outreach
Perspectives on Marie Selby Botanical Gardens
Jennifer Rominiecki, President & CEO

Asolo Repertory Theater: Company, Community & Artistry

The Impact of the Arts in Sarasota
James Shirley, Executive Director
Arts & Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County
Madagascar and the Lemurs
Dr. Alison Grand, Executive Director Lemur Conservation Foundation, Myakka City
Barbara Frey, Sarasota Sister Cities
Cuba AC/BC: After Castro/Before Castro
Eladio Amores – Cuban Native, Member Sarasota Sister Cities
Global Body Language
Kenney DeCamp, Sister City Board Member
Economic Development in Sarasota
Craig Hullinger, VP Economic Development, SCAS
Steve Stancel & Destin Wells, Economic Development Corp, Sarasota
Sylva Kanderal, Sarasota Sister Cities
War & Peace
Craig Hullinger - US Marine Corps Retired Colonel
Troy Scott - US Army Retired Colonel

Beth Ruyle - Former IL Commission For The Support of the Guard & Reserve
Raymond Young - Fulbright Scholar





Luncheon / Annual Meeting May 9, 2014





One World Award Program



“An ode to our common humanity: “One World – Out of Many, We are One.”

The One World Award is the Sarasota Sister Cities premier international award that honors one remarkable individual and one organization that has enhanced “understanding and respect” among citizens of the world through their extraordinary work or volunteer service.

This award shines the spotlight on individuals and organizations that have demonstrated their continued ability to create and maintain strong bonds of peace and understanding among the world’s citizens through their extraordinary work and service to the community.

The awards are presented to honorees at our annual Gala Dinner.

Individual Laureates

2011 Robert Roskamp

Roskamp Institute is a worldwide leader in finding cures for Alzheimer’s disease and mental disorders.

2012 - Nicholas Bollettieri
IMG Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy, became the IMG academy, and now is the world’s largest and most advanced multi-sport training and educational institution.

2013 - Former Mayor Lou Ann Palmer
As mayor, she led the development of Sarasota for many years and personally enhanced relationships with five Sarasota Sister Cities.

2014 – Linda Rosenbluth
Former President & City Director for SCAS. Linda organized the first “phonathon” for United Way & Sarasota’s first “AIDS Awareness Week”.

2015 – **Andrew Ezzell & JoAnn Patrick Ezzell**
SCAS Patron members, Andrew and JoAnn's Give Something Back Foundation built schools and classrooms in southeast Asia and Haiti, and established an international online education program.

2016 – **Dolly Jacobs and Pedro Reis**
Co-founders of the Circus Arts Conservatory, Dolly and Pedro continue the circus tradition of performance & education programming, outreach programs serving children & the elderly.

2017 – **Dr. Mary Elmendorf**
Internationally known anthropologist, Nobel Prize laureate.

2018 – **Kate Alexander**
Actress, Associate Director and the founder of the Florida Studio Theater's Theatre School, Kate Alexander established the "Write-a-Play" program as an international component of the Young Playwrights Festival so that our international Sister Cities students can participate.

2020 - **Maestro Víctor DeRenzi** Sarasota Opera's Principal Conductor and Artistic Director, Maestro Victor DeRenzi is lauded as the only Conductor to have performed every piece of classical music composed by Maestro Giuseppi Verdi. This historic effort known as the "Verdi Cycle" took 28 years to accomplish together with the Sarasota Opera, and garnered Maestro DeRenzi international praise. Verdi's home of Busseto, is our newest Friendship City.



One World Organization Award Laureates



ORT America received the "Organization Award" at the Second Annual SCAS One World Award Gala on March 28, 2012 at Michaels on East in Sarasota. Left to right in photo: GulfsidePalm ORT chapter president Marlies Gluck SaraMana ORT chapter president Lynn Sacks National ORT president Shelley Fagel SCAS president Tom Halbert

2013 – Sarasota Christian School
Educational program promoted diversity and international relationships.

2014 – Embracing Our Differences
Poster art program on City Island park promotes diversity.

2017 – Sarasota Audubon Society
Program educates and advocates for environmental protection.

2018 – Second Chance-Last Opportunity
Empowerment program for the underserved in our community.

2020 - The Sarasota Opera
Company completed the Verdi Cycle

In 2012, ORT America received the prestigious "One World" award at the One World Gala sponsored by Sister Cities Association of Sarasota. The following was read at the gala by Bill Wallace: "How in this One World could one even imagine trying to organize a program to educate 300,000 individuals annually across the globe. Just ask ORT – it seems able to do anything – and it's been doing it for over 130 years! And that's why ORT was the very first organization chosen to receive the prestigious One World Award of the Sarasota Sister City Association at ceremonies at Michael's One East on March 28, 2012.



"ORT Group" Left to right: Betty Greenspan, Bernice Goodman, Lynn Sacks, Kim Sheintal

ORT America president, Shelley Fagel from Chicago, Illinois, flew in to be present for the evening, and was invited to accept the award with local ORT chapter presidents Marlies Gluck-Upton and Lynn Sacks. Assisting with the arrangements was Andrew Polin, Associate Director, ORT America, Gulf Coast Region and local SSCA member and Tel Mond Vice City Director, Kim Sheintal. As ORT so ably professes, "If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. If you teach a man to fish, you feed him for a lifetime." Incredibly, ORT currently educates and develops career skills for so many individuals daily in 55 countries across every inhabitable continent. Although it is the largest Jewish educational institution in the world, it educates both Jewish and non-Jewish children and adults. Since 1960, ORT has been invited to sponsor humanitarian programs in more than 100 countries, tailoring its curriculum to the needs of the student population in that country. ORT had its beginnings in Tsarist Russia in 1880 and today

incorporates a focus on science and high-tech in addition to its other multiple course offerings. The Sarasota Sister Cities Association is privileged to present its first organizational One World Award to ORT."



Tom Halbert, Jan Thompson and Bill Wallace 2012 One World Gala



Janet Hill, Col John O'brien, Carol O'brien, Linda Wozniak, LtCol Ron Wozniak

“An ode to our common humanity: “One World – Out of Many, We are One.”
Honoring extraordinary people and organizations

The One World Award is the Sarasota Sister Cities premier international award that honors one remarkable individual and one organization that have enhanced “understanding and respect” among citizens of the world through their extraordinary work or volunteer service.

This award shines the spotlight on individuals and organizations that have demonstrated their continued ability to create and maintain strong bonds of peace and understanding among the world’s citizens through their extraordinary work and service to the community.



L to R Pauline Mitchell, Dolly Jacobs, Pedro Reis, Beth Ruyle

Pedro and Dolly receiving the One World Award in 2016



Scottish Dancers honoring Dolly and Pedro

Speaker Bureau Programs at the Gelbart Auditorium





Vice President of Programs & Planning Ray Young plans a variety of interesting programs at the Selby Library's Gelbart Auditorium. Ray invites speakers from both within Sister Cities and from alliance partners. We generally have ample time for questions and answers after the presentations. Beth Ruyle took over the position in 2022.



Selby Library
The Other Europe
Sep 12, 2019

Our Sarasota Sister Cities first event of the season, a presentation about Eastern Europe by Woijek Sawa, was a great success with 75 people attending. The violinist from the Sarasota Symphony, Margot Zarzycka-Whitelaw, played an exceptional series of violin vignettes from the region.









War and Peace 4:00 pm Community Room 1741 Main St, Sarasota - Presentation

Meets and Greets

Our Speakers Bureau lectures are often followed by a meet and greet social at a nearby bar or restaurant. Both the programs and the meet and greets are free except for your drinks and meals.









Write A Play Contest and Young Playwrights Festival

Each year Florida Studio Theater (FST) presents a WRITE A PLAY contest for students in kindergarten through grade 12. The winners' plays are presented by professional actors on stage during the Young Playwrights Festival.
Initially, only students from Florida participated but nearly 20 years ago, a cultural exchange program was established between FST and our sister city Tel Mond, Israel. Professional playwrights and actors from FST traveled to Israel to present in-class playwriting workshops to elementary and secondary students.



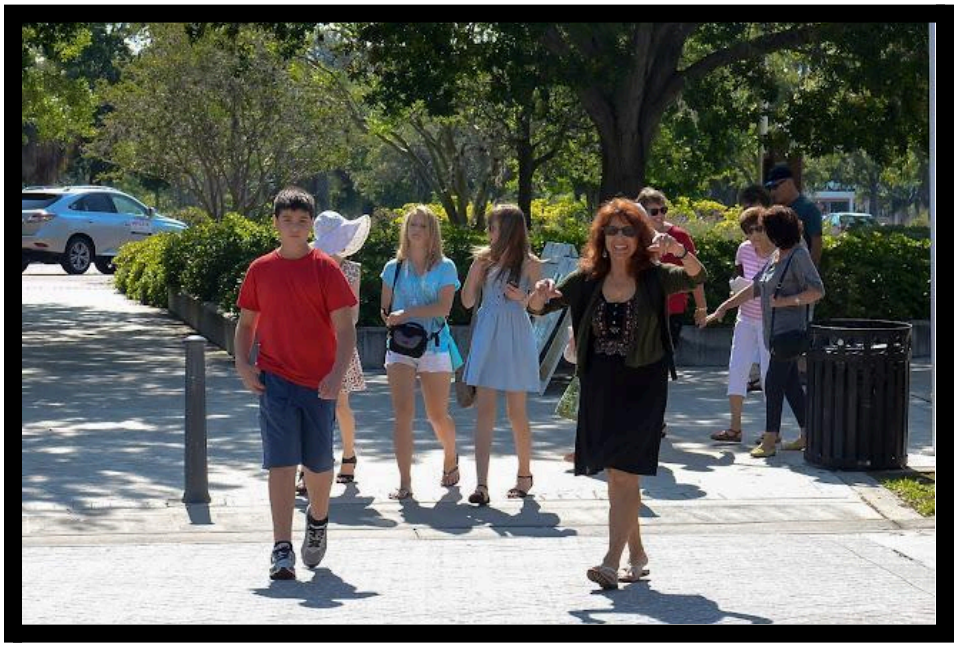
Later workshops were held in Dunfermline, Scotland and Vladimir, Russia so that plays poured in from those cities as well. Throughout the years, winning and honorable mention playwrights have come from the 3 cities mentioned and from our other Sister Cities: Xiamen, China; Treviso, Italy; and Perpignan, France.

SCAS invites the winning playwrights to Sarasota to see their plays performed at FST during the Young Playwrights Festival. While here, the winners meet with the mayor of Sarasota, visit several local attractions (including the beach), and interact with Sarasotans.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the WRITE A PLAY program went virtual. In the future, we look forward to again hosting international winners from our Sister Cities.



Sarasota Mayor Suzanne Atwell meets with the Young Playwrights group.



Sarasota Sister Cities viewed a number of plays written by students, including students from our Sister Cities of Tel Mond, Israel, Vladimir, Russia, and Dunfermline, Scotland.

Young Playwrights from left to right Aleksandra Radmoska, Kara Mhairi Clare McAuley, Ori Segev



Eighth graders Aleksandra and Kara from St Columba's High School, Scotland are pictured with their teacher Miss McDonald. Their play was entitled, "The Bonnie Old Visit at Sterling Castle.".

Ori Segov is a sixth grader from the Shelanu School, Tami Philosph, in Israel. His play was entitled, "The Promise.".









Florida Studio Actors, Director Adam Ratner on above left



g

Florida Studio Actors, Director Adam Ratner on above left



Left to Right, Ray Young, Hadda Lamatte ..... Marianna Janz-Wecke, Gloria Grenier





Left to Right, Ray Young, Hadda Lamatte ..... Marianna Janz-Wecke, Gloria Grenier


MUSEUM STORE



Florida Studio Theatre





Signage and Memorials



Sarasota Sister Cities is represented throughout the city with signage and memorials at numerous locations. Several highways leading into Sarasota have a sign designating our sister cities.

We are also represented on Sarasota's Bayfront Island with several descriptive plaques and signs that include our mission of peace and understanding in the world and a list of our sister







cities. Our Sister Cities Tree walk has a tree dedicated to each of our sister cities with a sign providing the date of acceptance by our city government. Bayfront Island and Park is located in downtown Sarasota near O'leary's Tiki Bar.

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Location of the Memorial Signs and Trees





Location of the Memorial Signs and Trees











Vice President Ray Young ensures that the signs are well maintained and replaced when necessary

The “Welcome to Sarasota” signs are on highways leading into the city and identify our Sister Cities. This one is on Fruitville Road on the westbound side just before Cardinal Mooney High School.



Rededication of the Scottish Memorial on the Bayfront.







Gala

Sarasota Sister Cities holds a Gala Dinner event once a year. This is a major social event and fundraiser. The Gala features entertainment and the awarding of our One World Award to the honorees, both individual and organizational.

Some photos below.

[One World Gala March 29, 2015 University Park Country Club]



Gala Organizers Kenney DeCamp and Gloria Grenier



Andrew Ezzell, Beth Ruyle Hullinger, and Joann Patrick-Ezzell
President Beth Ruyle presenting award to Andrew and Joann



Charlotte Hull and Sylva Kanderal Checking people in at the 2022 Gala at Michael's On East

Click For More Photos photos.app.goo.gl/bwCwJmpJDXNFMKNf6



Vickie Swenson, Richard Mantayla, Byron Hill, Janet Hill



Dr. David Harralson, Dr. Richard Greenspan, Mime and Maestro Kenney DeCamp



Emile and Pamela Langlois



John and Pauline Mitchell



Carrie Weaver, Beth Ruyle Hullinger, Kathryn Young



Bill Wallace, Bianna Knoop



Beth Ruyle, Sarasota City Commissioner Susan Chapman, Kenney DeCamp



Werner and Brianna Knoop



Marine Colonel Byron Hill, Carol O'Brien, Army Colonel John O'Brien, Janet Hill



Left to Right Kenney DeCamp, Carrie Weaver

with the Silent Auction Donations



Opera Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Victor Derenzi,

Sarasota Commission Member Liz Alpert



Left to Right

Opera Director Richard Russell

Rabbi Jonathan Katz,

City Manager Marlon Brown

Highland Games

Each year Sarasota Sister Cities supports the Sarasota Highland Games in honor of our Scottish Sister City, Dunfermline. Each Clan and Sarasota Sister Cities maintain a tent to tell people about our organization. The games include all kinds of traditional Scottish feats of strength.







Pauline Mitchell has led our efforts for 19 years, and the event is fun and worthwhile. Pauline in action above, winning the hearts and



minds of our Scottish friends.







Photos [2022](#) [2020](#) [2019](#) [2018](#) [2017](#)

Speakers Bureau



The Sister Cities Association of Sarasota has developed a Speakers Bureau from which we offer a variety of presentations to organizational meetings, social events, etc. The list of presentations shown below are from members of our Board of Directors and display the range of interests we are prepared to convey to your group. Also attached is a list of brief biographies of our speakers.

An honorarium to our organization for the presentation would be greatly appreciated and would foster our objective to develop respect, understanding and cooperation through citizen diplomacy with our eight sister cities. Additional information about our organization is available on our website at: sarasotasistercities.org
Raymond A. Young

Our Speakers Bureau was started and developed by Dr. Raymond A. Young, Ph.D. when he was Vice President of Education.

Sarasota Sister Cities Speakers Bureau - List of Lectures for Offer

International Travel & Culture

France: A Tale of Two Cities: Paris and Perpignan - Emile Langlois, Barbara Frey & Gloria Grenier

Contemporary Chinese Culture: The Old and the New - David Harralson, Ph.D.

Traveling in Italy - Susanna Wriston

The History and Complexity of Italian Wines - Susanna Wriston

Firth of Forth in Fife - The Scottish Contribution to the World, America and Sarasota - William Wallace

Polynesian Cultures of the South Pacific - Raymond Young, Ph.D.

History

Golden Age of Sarasota - Dave Harralson, Ph.D.

Hemingway Unknown – The Italian Years - Susanna Wriston

History of the Israel Connection to Sarasota-Manatee - Kim Sheintal

The Harmony of the Gospels? The Formation of the First Books of the Christian Scriptures - Dave Harralson, Ph.D.

The Origins of the First Five Books of the Old Testament = Dave Harralson, Ph.D.

Arts, Science & Environment

City Sustainability Programs - Craig Hullinger

Essential Oils & Perfumes of the World - Raymond Young, Ph.D.

Creativity & Innovation - Raymond Young, Ph.D.

Click to view speakers biographies



Newsletters



Sarasota Sister Cities publishes informative Newsletters. Included in the newsletter are updates on our programs with our sister cities, recent exchanges with our sister cities, local activities and events, and general interest articles. Our current newsletters can be viewed on our website sarasotasistercities.org.

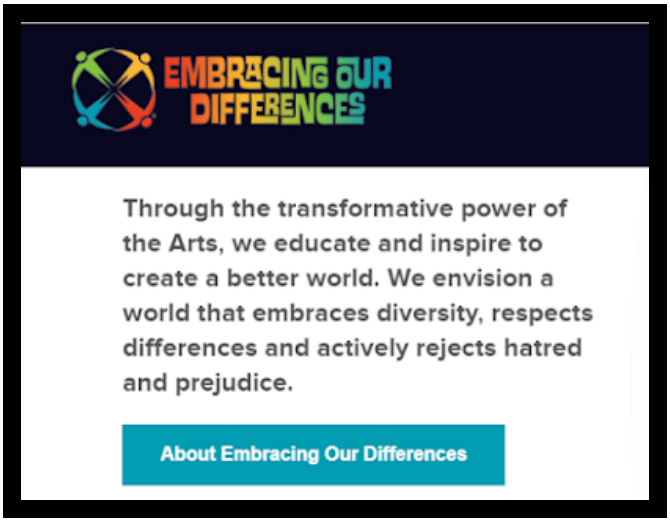


Our older historic Newsletters can be viewed at bridgestotheworldssc.blogspot.com.



[Embracing Our Differences]

The Sarasota Sister Cities Association works in cooperation with the Embracing Our Differences program which promotes diversity in the world. We invite contributions of paintings and photos as well as quotes from our Sister City communities and friends, families and affiliates in Manatee and Sarasota counties to take part in the annual International Contest of "Embracing Our Difference". This contest is open to everyone regardless of location, age or occupation. A further description of the program is given below.





The Sister Cities Association of Sarasota presented its coveted “One World” International Award to two area “exceptionals”, the first to an individual, Linda Rosenbluth, and the second to an organization, “Embracing Our Differences”, at its One World Gala, March 16, 2014 at Michael's On East.

As the international arm of the city of Sarasota, the Sister City Association of Sarasota (SCAS) is celebrating its 51st year of citizen exchanges among peoples of the world in the arts, business, civic activities, education, sports and government to increase understanding and respect among all peoples of the world, with the goal of ending violence and war across the globe. Embracing Our Differences mission is “to promote diversity and respect, not as an alternative to a sense of cultural and national identity, but as an essential part of life in the 21st century.



During April and May each year, Embracing Our Differences employs art as a catalyst to spark discussions and promote the importance of peaceful coexistence, creating a huge outdoor exhibit at Sarasota’s Island Park, displaying the art of both national and international artists, photographers, writers and students.



In 2013, the exhibit drew over 4,400 international submissions representing 52 countries. Since its inception a decade ago, the exhibit has attracted more than 22,000 submissions from 64 countries. During the past several years, 20% to 25% of all artists selected for inclusion in the exhibit were international and in 2013, 18 artists from 14 foreign nations were honorees, including “Best of Show Adult” - an Israeli artist who had previously visited Sarasota with her family to see the display.

In responding to the announcement, Michael Shelton, Executive Director of Embracing Our Differences said, “We’re making a difference. The One World Award is a recognition of that. It’s a formidable honor and we’re deeply grateful.”

In 2013, 248,000 visitors viewed the exhibit, with 90 percent indicating the display favorably influenced their opinion regarding diversity and inclusiveness of people everywhere.

Artists from four of Sarasota’s eight sister cities: Dunfermline, Scotland; Vladimir, Russia; Tel Mond, Israel and Xiamen, China have had winning billboards at the EOD annual exhibit.

Sarasota's other four sister cities are Hamilton, Canada; Merida, Mexico; Perpignan, France, Treviso, Italy and Friendship cities Raperswil-Jona, Switzerland and Busseto, Italy. Click to learn more about the program: embracingourdifferences.org



Sarasota's "Embracing Our Differences" Public Art Exhibit

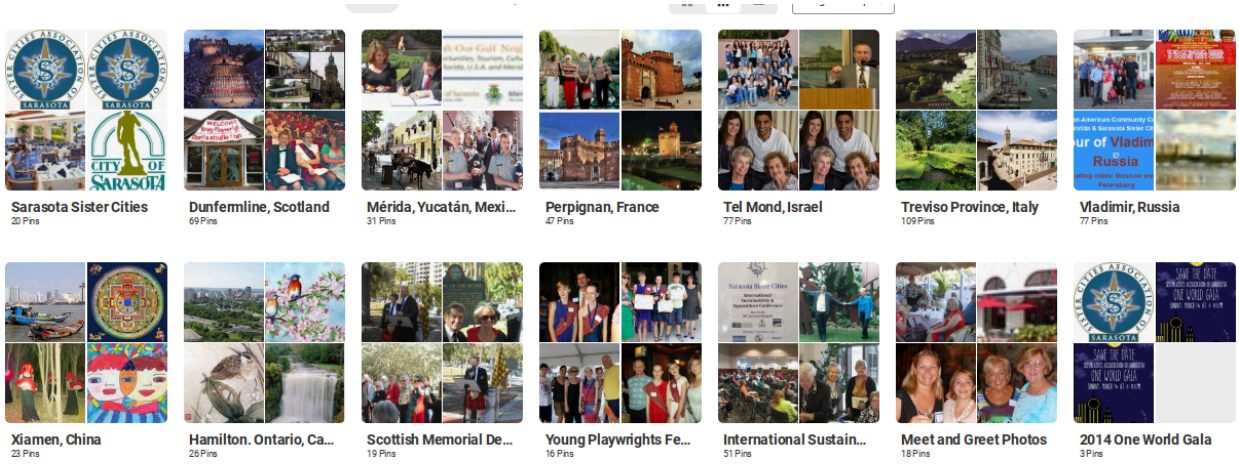


Sarasota's popular public art exhibit "Embracing Our Differences" is located at Bayfront Park adjacent to the Sarasota Sister Cities from January 20 through April 1 with messages of love, diversity, and inclusion displayed on billboard-sized banners throughout the park. Entry and exhibit viewing is entirely free to the public.

Click for more photos: https://photos.app.goo.gl/u92KuDZbUbTK2ViHA

Information

History



The History of Sarasota Sister Cities is covered in many of the chapters in this book, as well as on our website and pinterest page:

Sarasotasistercities.org

And: historysarasotasistercities.blogspot.com

And: pinterest.com/sarasotasister



From the Sarasota Herald Tribune Mar 25, 2019

Sarasota Mayor Liz Alpert, Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch and 12 other former mayors gathered to celebrate the 55th Anniversary of Sarasota Sister Cities at the first-ever Sister Cities

Association of Sarasota Mayoral Luncheon. Former Mayor Kelly Kirschner hosted the luncheon program, “Building Bridges of Peace and Understanding,” and delivered a message of community involvement through collaboration and communication.

The luncheon menu, a tribute to each of the Sister Cities, inspired table conversation and storytelling about the importance of citizen-to-citizen diplomacy and exchanges between Sarasota and its nine Sister Cities. The program was hosted by SCAS VP Communications Toni Duval and VP Education Dr. Raymond Young, who shared the “Sarasota Sister Cities Story” in pictures highlighting the mayors’ involvement with Sister City “twining” and other exchanges. Sister Cities organizations nationwide create city-to-city programs which establish linkages and foster friendships among citizens around the world. SCAS coordinates arts, economic, sports and other people-to-people exchanges with its Sister Cities: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada; Perpignan, France; Vladimir, Russia; Tel Mond, Israel; Dunfermline, Scotland; Treviso (Province), Italy; Xiamen (Siming District) China; Merida, Mexico; and Rapperswil-Jona, Switzerland. For more information, visit www.sarasotasistercities.org.



The 2013 Florida Sister Cities State Conference at the Helmsley Sandcastle Resort on Lido Key in Sarasota - From L to R - SCI President & CEO Mary Kane; Chair of the SCI Honorary Board & SCI State Coordinator for Georgia Launa Kowalski; SCI State Coordinator for Florida Pat Buchanan, and SCI Board Member Ron Gossett.

Photos



Happy Hour Meet And Greets During the Pandemic
Turtle Beach Siesta Key Dec 9, 2020

A number of members of Sarasota Sister Cities have shared their photos, many of which we have put on online. You can view some of them on:

Photossarasotasistercities.blogspot.com

Bigphotossarasotasistercities.blogspot.com

Galaobserver.blogspot.com

Our award winning photos from international competition:

awardwinningphotos.blogspot.com







Presenting to the Sarasota City Commission

More photo Links

birdsofsarasota.blogspot.com

Sunsetssarasota.blogspot.com

2003 visit to Perpignan, France - Mayor Palmer and Barbara Hopkins



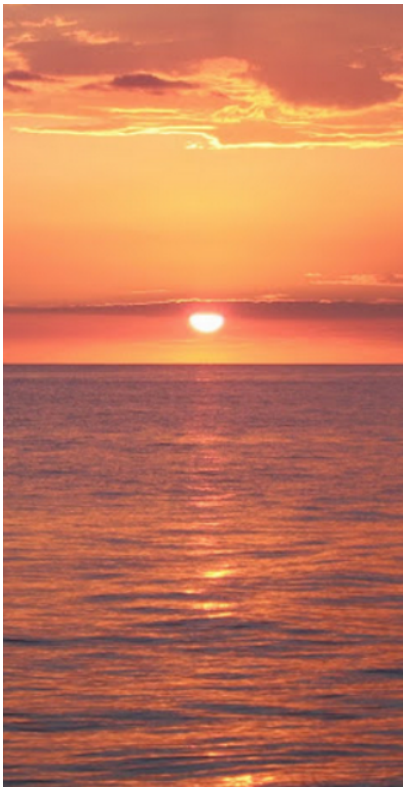
Songs

Sarasota Sister Cities is fortunate to have our own songs. The Tel Mond, Israel song, ***"The Bridge",*** features Sid Krupkin on vocal and guitar and Eli Matsree, the co-writer, on vocal, in Hebrew and English, as well. It was recorded at his home in Israel.

Click to Listen to: ***"The Bridge"***



Eli Matsree is 3rd from left; Sid Krupkin is 4th from left, Linda Rosenbluth is at the right, in Tel Mond, Israel



The Hamilton, Ontario,Canada song, ***"Sunsets"*** was recorded by Sid as a demo in Sarasota. Some lyrical changes were later made but this is the only recorded version I have.

Click to Listen to: ***"Sunsets"***



Videos

We have a number of videos about Sarasota Sister Cities. You can view them at:

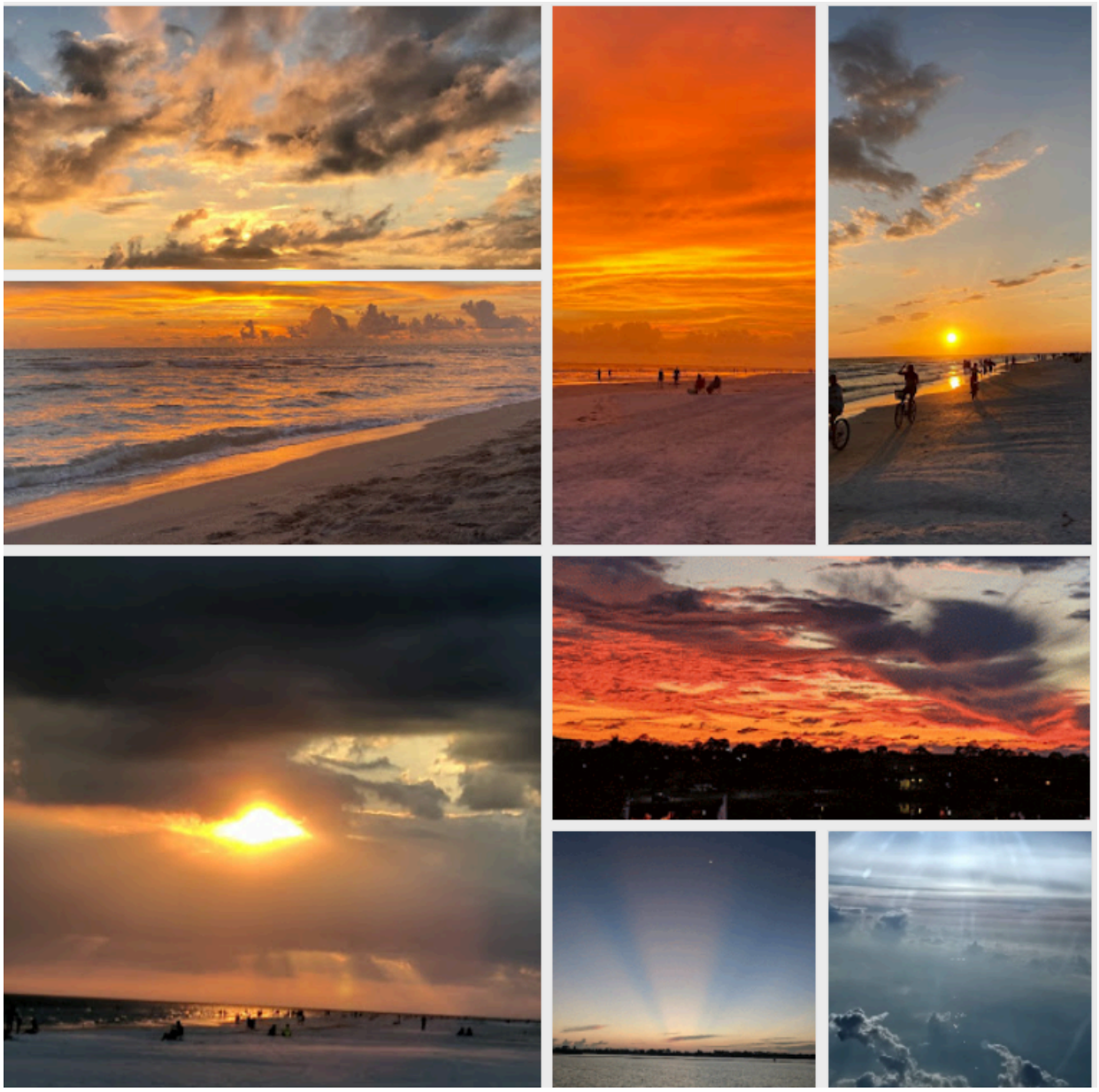
Videossarasotasistercities.blogspot.com

Bridges of Peace and Understanding https://youtu.be/8aUlWe1kKm8

Chamber of Commerce Video https://youtu.be/8aUlWe1kKm8



Sunsets, Birds, and Alligators



We have nice photos of sunsets taken by our members. Click sunsetssarasota.blogspot.com to view more. We have nice photos of Birds and Alligators taken by our members.



Birdsofsarasota.blogspot.com

gatorsfl.blogspot.com



Office



The City of Sarasota provides very nice office space for Sarasota Sister Cities. We are located on the first floor of the historic Federal Building at 111 South Orange Avenue. It was constructed in 1931 in a Neoclassical Revival Style as a Post Office. The building was described as a “Classical design of the Corinthian type, fireproofed throughout with steel structure piling in the foundations. One radical innovation in the new Post Office is the use of marble and aluminum where metal is ordinarily employed in parts of the building used by the public.”



Job Descriptions



Executive Committee of the Board

President

- Serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors.
- Serves as an Officer of the Corporation in accordance with State of Florida incorporation requirements.
- Elected by the Board of Directors and holds office year to year.
- Responsible for the general supervision of the affairs of the Corporation and over its other officers.
- Signatory of all official documents and communications of the Association.
- Responsible for submitting a report to the Corporation of the business transacted during the past year at the annual general meeting (AGM) of the membership, together with a report of the general financial condition of the Corporation.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Entitled in an emergency to authorize expenditures not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) on any single item without approval of the Board of Directors.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer is followed, including notification of President and Treasurer of all membership transactions
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Presiding at all meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors;
    2. If unable to preside due to absence or disability, ensure that these duties are performed by a vice President, the Secretary, or the Treasurer.
    3. Preparation and submission of annual Corporate report required by the State of Florida (Department of State) and City of Sarasota.
    4. Provides leadership to the Board of Directors, who sets policy and to whom the Chief Executive is accountable.
    5. Encourages Board's role in strategic planning
    6. Appoints the chairpersons of committees, in consultation with other Board members.
    7. Serves ex officio as a member of committees and attends their meetings when invited.

Treasurer



- Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; reports to the Board.
- Serves as an Officer of the Corporation in accordance with State of Florida incorporation requirements.
- Under Article VI, Section 1 of the By-laws, as an Officer, is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year.
- Custodian of the funds of the Corporation.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Establish money handling procedures to be followed by all board members.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Keeping regular books and accounts in accordance with GAAP, together with vouchers, receipts, records and other papers normally incident to this office, and making these records available to the Board or their authorized representatives at reasonable times;
    2. Ensuring that checks in an amount exceeding Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) are signed by two officers of the Board;
    3. Providing timely reports on the financial status of the Corporation to the Board of Directors;
    4. With input from the Board, developing an annual Budget for the Corporation, and monitoring its status throughout the fiscal year.
    5. Prepare documentation necessary for submission of annual Federal Income Tax forms, plus fulfilling State of Florida Corporate, Sales Tax Exemption and Charity reporting requirements.

Vice President – Business & Economic Development

- Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; reports to the Board.
- Under Article VI of the By-laws, is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Strengthening people-to-people relations between sister cities, through involvement of Cultural

Mote Sea - Newest Gift - Economic Development



Coast businesses and those in our sister cities.
2. Keeping informed about the business climate of the community with special emphasis on identifying partnership opportunities for individual sister cities and for SCAS;
3. Identifying and developing opportunities to make business leaders aware of the possibilities for value-added relationships with SCAS and its member sister cities.
4. Keep Economic Development Info on sarasotasistercities.com

Vice President - Cities & Candidate Cities

- Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; reports to the Board.
- Serves as an Officer of the Corporation in accordance with State of Florida incorporation requirements.
- Under Article VI of the By-laws, as an Officer, is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year.
- Responsible for acting as liaison between the City Directors (CDs) and the Executive Committee.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Coordinating activities among CDs;
    2. Helping CDs to identify resources with and outside of the organization;
    3. Acting in an advisory capacity in the development and management of CD's individual city committees.
- Oversees the process of evaluating prospective candidate cities to ensure that Board-approved criteria for selection are adhered to.
- Assists prospective sister cities to appreciate the obligations of both candidate and full-status sister cities.
- Makes recommendations to the Executive committee and the Board with regard to the admissibility of applicant sister cities.

Vice President - Communications

- Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; reports to the Board.
- Under Article VI of the By-laws, is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year.
- Responsible for developing and implementing SCAS's communications plan.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media
- distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Sets up and maintains the Sarasota Sister Cities email system, Sister City Blog,



The Communication Team

Facebook page, Twitter account, LinkedIn account, and Pinterest pages.
- Blog: http://sarasotasistercities.com
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Ensuring that SCAS's message to the community is clear, consistent, and effectively communicated;
    2. Seeking opportunities for public exposure of SCAS and its projects in print, electronic and social media;
    3. Planning the design and content of a SCAS marketing and communication package.
    4. Acts in an advisory and oversight capacity for the SCAS Newsletter Blog, its design, writing, and production.
    5. Acts in an advisory and oversight capacity for the SCAS Website, its development, content, and maintenance.
    6. Acts in an advisory and oversight capacity for special events, ensuring that clear objectives have been identified, and that an effective communications plan is in place.
    7. Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
    8. Assists in the planning and promotion of members' luncheons.

Vice President - Culture

- Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; reports to the Board.
- Under Article VI of the By-laws, is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year.
- Responsible for developing and nurturing contacts with leaders in the cultural sector: museums, galleries, schools of art, theatre, film, the Arts Council, and others as appropriate.
- Responsible for planning and implementing SCAS Board-approved projects and special initiatives in the areas of culture; and for developing and nurturing relationships between cultural institutions and SCAS, in order to identify and promote partnership opportunities.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.



- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Holding regular
    Young Playwrights From Dunfermline, Scotland
    2. meetings with leaders in the
    3. various areas of the cultural sector to identify opportunities for collaboration with one or more of our sister cities;
    4. Analyzing and recommending collaborative projects for consideration, including the budgetary implications of such projects;
    5. Facilitating and evaluating approved projects;

6. Acts in an advisory and oversight capacity for the City Directors and event chairs, being a resource for those who plan individual cultural projects.

Vice President - Education

- Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; reports to the Board.
- Under Article VI of the By-laws, is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year.
- Responsible for planning and implementing SCAS Board-approved projects and special initiatives in the area of education;
- Develops and nurtures relationships between educational institutions and SCAS, in order to identify and promote partnership opportunities.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Overseeing and planning SCAS educational projects to ensure that:
        a) Project objectives have been clearly defined;
        b) A sound budget has been developed and sources of financing identified;
        a) Assisting the VP for Communications in creating event marketing and communications plans;
    2. Overseeing the implementation of projects, and monitoring their progress.
- Acts in an advisory capacity to the Community Youth Department appointed member to the SCAS Executive Board, filling the Youth Ambassador position.
- Acts as a resource for City Directors who plan individual educational projects.

Vice President – Fundraising



- Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; reports to the Board.
- Under Article VI of the By-laws, is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year.
- Responsible for developing an active program to obtain donations and grants to assist the organization in meeting established goals and unfunded initiatives of the organization.
- Acts as a resource and advisor for identifying possible sources for donation or grant support for City Directors who plan unfunded events and have established defendable budget requirements.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.

Vice President – Membership

- Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; reports to the Board.
- Under Article VI of the By-laws, is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year.
- Responsible for maintaining the current SCAS membership database, alliance member database, including electronic and non-electronic contact with membership records.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.
- Responsible for developing and implementing SCAS's membership outreach planning.
- Responsible for reviewing written Alliance membership nominations for completeness; evaluating whether the nomination meets SCAS criteria; and referring the nomination to the Executive Committee with a rationale for recommending acceptance or rejection of the nomination.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Create a welcome letter and a new member handbook to be provided electronically or by mail to new members. Solicit interests of new members as a follow-up to welcome and handbook distribution.
    2. Notify board members, including city directors, of names and interests of all new members.
    3. Acts in an advisory capacity for special events, ensuring membership outreach initiatives have been identified.

Vice President - Sports



- Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; reports to the Board.
- Under Article VI of the By-laws, is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year.
- Responsible for planning and implementing SCAS Board-approved projects and special initiatives in the area of sports events and exchanges.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Identifying opportunities for individual and team sport projects in Sarasota aimed at involving our sister cities; (e.g., tournaments; camps, etc.)
    2. Identifying opportunities for individual and team sport exchanges between Sarasota and our sister cities;
    3. Ensuring that proposals put forward by CDs are well-thought out as to logistics,

budget, timeframes and resources, etc.
4. Serving as a resource for City Directors regarding opportunities for sports exchanges.

Vice President of Events

- Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; reports to the Board.
- Under Article VI of the By-laws, is elected by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting and holds office year to year.
- Responsible for planning and implementing SCAS Board-approved events.
- Responsible for coordinating monthly members' luncheons and other members' special events.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Booking the venue where the luncheon/event will take place;
    2. Determining the menu, in consultation with the originator;
    3. Collecting money for and recording reservations;
    4. Creating name tags and place cards, as appropriate for each event;
    5. Coordinating volunteers to greet guests and staff reservation tables.

Committees of the Board

City Director

- Reports to the Vice President, Cities & Candidate Cities.
- Member of the Board of Directors.
- Elected by the Membership for a two-year term of office; reelection shall be for a term of one year.
- Responsible for managing and enhancing the relationship between SCAS and the individual sister city.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Portfolio of other responsibilities includes:
    1. Maintaining verbal, electronic, and written communications with the individual sister city;
    2. Chairing a sister city committee representative of local volunteers and volunteer associations;
    3. Identifying opportunities for collaboration between SCAS and the sister city, and/or among a group of sister cities;
    4. Facilitating periodic exchanges between the sister city and Sarasota;
    5. Bringing forward recommendations for projects suggested by the sister city;
    6. Developing and submitting to the Board an annual budget;
    7. Specifying budgetary implications for proposed projects before they are undertaken;
    8. Building awareness on the part of the Board and general membership about the special characteristics of the individual sister city through web presence, presentations, articles for publication, and use of our social media sites.
    9. Evaluating the individual sister city relationship on an annual basis.

Youth Ambassador

- Reports to the Vice President - Education
- Appointed annually to be a member of the Executive Board by the Alliance member Sarasota County Youth Development organization.
- Responsible for representing the views and interest of youth on the Board of Directors.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.
- Responsible for submission of articles about youth interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Becoming knowledgeable about how not-for-profit Boards function;
    2. Bringing forward opportunities for SCAS involvement in youth initiatives;
    3. Carrying through on projects assigned by the Board, with the view to increasing awareness and expertise in aspects of not-for-profit management.
    4. Being project manager for use of SCAS Facebook & Twitter outreach to youth in the Cultural Coast and our sister cities, in coordination with the VPs for Communications. Education and Membership.



K – 12 Education Committee Chair

- Reports to the Vice President - Education

- Member of the Board of Directors.
- Elected by the Membership for a two-year term of office; reelection shall be for a term of one year.
- Responsible for developing and nurturing contacts with leaders in the public elementary and secondary education sector, and with select private schools.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Holding regular meetings with leaders at the various levels of the K – 12 educational sector to identify opportunities for collaboration with one or more of our sister cities;
    2. Analyzing and recommending collaborative projects for consideration, including the budgetary implications of such projects;
    3. Facilitating and evaluating approved projects;
    4. Acting as an educational sector resource person to the city directors.

Higher-Education Committee Chair

- Reports to the Vice President – Education.
- Member of the Board of Directors.
- Elected by the Membership for a two-year term of office; reelection shall be for a term of one year.
- Responsible for developing and nurturing contacts with leaders in the university and college sector.
- Ensure money handling procedures established by SCAS Treasurer are followed, including notification of the President and Treasurer of all membership transactions.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Holding regular meetings with leaders of the local colleges and universities to identify opportunities for collaboration with one or more of our sister cities;
    2. Analyzing and recommending collaborative projects for consideration, including the budgetary implications of such projects;
    3. Facilitating and evaluating approved projects;
    4. Acting as a higher education sector resource person to the city directors. Writing and producing promotional materials, with the assistance of VP - Communications;
    5. Developing and implementing member recognition events;
    6. Notifying appropriate Vice-Presidents and City Directors of new general and Alliance members' expressed interests.

Assistant City Directors & Special Contributors
(Non-voting members of the Board)

Assistant City Director

- Nominated by the City Director and approved by the President.
- Non-voting member of the Board of Directors.
- Reports to the City Director.
- Responsible for assisting in the management of the relationship between SCAS and the individual sister city.
- Responsible for submission of articles about specific city interests and events for publication on SCAS web and social media sites, general media distribution and the SCAS newsletter.

- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Helping to maintain verbal, electronic, and written communications with the individual sister city;
    2. Assisting in chairing the sister city committee of local volunteers and volunteer associations;
    3. Helping to identify opportunities for collaboration between SCAS and the sister city;
    4. Assisting in facilitating periodic exchanges between the sister city and Sarasota;
    5. Helping to promote the sister city through presentations, articles in the newsletter, and other forms of communication, etc.
    6. Assisting in the management of specific projects as assigned by the City Director.

Protocol Advisor

- Reports to, and is appointed by, the President.
- Non-voting member of the Board of Directors.
- Responsible for ensuring that Board Members and others associated with SCAS are aware of the protocol requirements for international and national delegations.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Familiarity with the Florida League of Cities International Relations Protocol book and other recognized protocol guidelines;
    2. Researching the specific protocol requirements for foreign delegations and for SCAS foreign visitations;
    3. Briefing city directors and other members of SCAS Board on the proper protocol for the city or country in question for visitations and foreign delegations;
    4. Developing a list of appropriate official gifts for foreign dignitaries;
    5. Recommending appropriate gifts that reflect the seniority of the recipient vis á vis his or her subordinates;
    6. Developing and maintaining a Gift Log, to avoid duplications and inappropriate gifts (i.e., gifts already given to a subordinate, etc.).

Grant Writer

- Appointed by the Vice President – Fundraising.
- Reports to the VP for FundRaising.
- Non-voting member of the Board of Directors.
- Responsible for identifying traditional and crowd giving funding opportunities for SCAS projects, writing proposals to obtain funds, and providing follow-up with funders.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Assisting city directors in selection of well-thought-out cases for support;
    2. Identifying appropriate funding sources for specific projects;
    3. Maintaining the SCAS file of documents required for grant submissions required by Guide Star, Florida Department of Agriculture (CH Forms) and Community Foundations.
    4. Ensuring that required documentation is submitted with grant proposals, including project budgets;
    5. Ensuring that all fiduciary, reporting, and recognition requirements are adhered to;
    6. Maintaining contact with relevant funding sources and promoting SCAS

interests, per direction of the VP for FundRaising.

Newsletter Editor

Sarasota Sister Cities publishes an online Newsletter. The Newsletter can be found at sarasotasistercities.org.

- Appointed by, and reports to, the VP for Communications. (currently is the VP of communications
- Non-voting member of the Board of Directors.
- Responsible for editing and production of the SCAS Newsletter Blog.
- Portfolio of responsibilities includes:
    1. Collecting content from Board members and other sources
    2. Obtaining approval from SCAS President or VP for Communication
    3. Overseeing the newsletter production and distribution process.

Board of Directors 2022

Elected May 19, 2021
22 Voting Members, Quorum is 12

President	Miriam Kramer
Past President	Toni Duval
Treasurer	Gloria Grenier
Secretary	Beth Ruyle
Vice Presidents	
Arts and Culture	Sue M. Gordon
Communications	Jana Stanley
Events	Charlotte Hull
Economic Development	Craig Hullinger
Fund Raising	Betty Greenspan
Membership	Isabelle Eidet
Programs and Planning	Raymond A. Young
Sports	Richard Greenspan
Education	Dawn Graber
Youth Ambassador	Mathew Maloni

City & Candidate Cities VP Rabbi Katz

Vladimir	Miriam Kramer
Busseto	Phillip Gordon, ACD Kenny DeCamp
Dunfermline	Pauline Mitchell, ACD Karen Malesky
Merida	Grisell Aleman, ACD Mike Fehilly
Perpignan	Marie des Neiges Grossas
Raperswil-Jona	Nelly Carmardo, ACD Charlotte Hull
Tel Mond	Rabbi Katz, ACD Alice Cotman, Kim Shiental
Xiamen	Douglas Sparks, ACD Larry Bennison, Duane Finger

Board Meeting By Zoom Jan 26, 2022





Authors Short Biography



Background of our Board Members and Authors

March 20, 2022 Please send your updates to: sarasotasistercities@gmail.com

President Miriam Kramer
Miriam has worked for many nonprofits in the fields of international media and peacebuilding. She was the Director of Communications and Development for the Alliance for Peacebuilding. She has an MA in International Studies and Diplomacy and a BA in English Literature and Russian Language/Area Studies. Miriam Kramer is also the City Director for Vladimir.

Past President Toni Duval
Toni joined SCAS and served as the VP Communication in 2017. She was the President from 2018 to 2020. She moved to the Sarasota area in 2016 from Knoxville, TN where she owned TLD-Training and Leadership Development, a full-service employee development consulting business.

Treasurer Gloria Grenier
Glorida Grenier has been the Vice President of Arts and Culture for Sarasota Sister uCities for many years and currently serves as Treasurer. She has traveled widely and has been in the leadership of Sister Cities for over ten years.

Secretary / Past President Beth Ruyle
Beth led Sister Cities as President for a total of four years. is the former Director of the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association in Chicago and an Economic Development Consultant with Ehlers Incorporated. She also worked for the Atlanta Regional Commission. She has an MA in Government from Georgia and a BA from the University of Florida.

Vice President Fundraising Betty Greenspan
Betty is the newly elected Vice President of Fundraising for Sarasota Sister Cities. She was previously the Assistant City Director of Tel Mond. She is a retired psychiatric nurse.

Vice President Sports Richard Greenspan
Dr Richard Greenspan is a recently retired General Practice Dentist. He has been a president of his college fraternity, college IFC, The Greater Danbury Dental Society, The Landings Treehouse Association and his local Synagogue. He's also a parliamentarian. He's been a long time active member of SCS along with his wife Betty, visiting several of our Sister Cities. He's also a good sport.

Vice President Events Charlotte Hull
Charlotte Hull is originally from Switzerland. She creatively organizes our events ensuring interesting locations and programs. She also serves as the Assistant City Director for Raperswil-Jona and knows the community well, having owned a restaurant for many years in the City.

Vice President Economic Development Craig Hullinger
Craig Hullinger is from Illinois and was a County Planning Director, Village Manager, City

Economic Development Director and City Planning and Economic Development Consultant. He is a Vietnam Veteran and a retired Marine Colonel. He has a BA in government and an MA in Planning. Craighullinger.com cityplanningnews.com

Vice President Membership Isabelle Eidet
Isabelle Eidet was based in Washington, DC and worked for the Department of State for many years and has lived and worked in Italy, France, Switzerland, Austria, Philippines, Indonesia, Kenya, and India. Isabelle has wide Board experience having served as President & Vice President on many NGO Boards in the US and overseas. She has served on the SCAS BOD since 2016 in various positions and designed and launched our website in 2019. She is also co-chairing the 2021 OWA Gala.

Vice President Arts and Culture Sue Gordon
Dr. Sue Gordon is professor emeritus from Fielding Graduate University and past principal of the Center for Informed Practice, Policy and Research in Beverly, MA In Sarasota she is a volunteer tutor for GED and ESL students. She loves the many insights and adventures offered by domestic and foreign travel.

Vice President Communications Jana Stanley
Jana Stanley is the Vice President of Communications. She is originally from Malaysia, was a teacher teaching Mandarin as a foreign language to students K-12, both in the US and abroad in international schools. She has a BA in Chinese and MEd in Early Childhood Education. She loves to travel and enjoys learning about different cultures.

Vice President Programs and Planning Raymond A. Young
Dr. Ray Young is the Vice President of Programs and Planning. He was a Professor for 30 years at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His international experience included a year as a Fulbright graduate student at the Royal Inst. of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden and a year at the Aristotelian Univ. in Thessaloniki, Greece as a Senior Fulbright Scholar. He also was employed as a Process Supervisor in fine paper production for the Kimberly-Clark Corp in Niagara Fall, NY for one year.

Vice President Education Dawn Graber
Dawn serves as Vice President of Education. She is a Senior Consultant with the Design Group International.

Youth Ambassador Matt Maloni
Matt Maloni serves as Youth Ambassador, coordinating and initiating activities aimed at students.



The Board ca 2017

City Director Busseto Phillip Gordon
Phillip moved to Sarasota with his wife in 2014. He is a native of Australia and - prior to moving to the U.S. - he lived many years in both Italy and Switzerland. His career was in the travel industry and before retiring, Phillip was the CEO and Chairman of Globus N.A.

Assistant City Director of Busseto Kenney DeCamp
Kenney is an Assistant City Director of Busseto, Italy. He has served in numerous capacities with Sister Cities, including VP of Sports and Finance. He works as a special event organizer and event promoter.

Vice President of Cities and City Director Tel Mond Rabbi Jonathan Katz
Rabbi Jonhathan Katz is the City Director of Tel Mond, Israel. Rabbi Katz is the Community Chaplain The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee, leading the Jewish Healing Program.

Assistant City Director Tel Mond Kim Shiental
Kim Sheintal has given several presentations about the history of Tel Mond and has a section about Tel Mond in her book, Jews of Sarasota-Manatee. She has been the Assistant City Director of Tel Mond for many years. She also led our International Photo Competition.

Assistant City Director Tel Mond Alice Cotman
She is the Asst. City Director. She attended the 1999 signing ceremony of the Sister City documents between Tel Mond and Sarasota and helped with all the functions that took place during their visit to Sarasota. Alice visited Tel Mond the following year in 2000. She has been present and participated in all of the visits from Tel Mond including the Tel Mond Dancers, Tel Mond Singers, and all the Young Playwrights Festivals.

City Director of Vladimir Miriam Kramer
Miriam Kramer is also the VP of Cities and Candidate Cities. (See more information under that heading.) In addition to living and traveling to other places all over the world, she studied in St. Petersburg and lived and worked in Moscow. She has a degree in Russian Studies and will be attending the Russian Language School at Middlebury College this summer as a Kathryn Davis Peacebuilding Fellow.

City Director of Dunfermline Pauline Mitchell
Pauline's international life started in Indonesia where she was born. Educated in The Netherlands and Switzerland, her career took her to Spain, Portugal and Australia. Her deep interests lie in Scotland, a country she traveled through for many years, contributing to ten wonderful years as City Director Dunfermline for Sister Cities of Sarasota. The numerous trips to Dunfermline have resulted in outstanding relations and lifelong friendships with our Sister City.



Assistant City Director of Dunfermline Karen Malesky
Karen is the Assistant City Director of Dunfermline, Scotland. She is a retired teacher from the Manatee School District. She enjoyed her Sister City visit to Scotland and working on environmental issues.

City Director Merida Grisell Aleman
Grisell is the City Director of Merida, originally from Mexico City, she moved to Merida when she was 13 years old and lived there for 16 years. She is a graphic designer and product photographer.

Assistant City Director of Merida Mike Fehilly
Mike is the Assistant City Director of Merida and was the City Director of Merida. He teaches Spanish at the College level and has officially visited Merida numerous times and helped host delegations from Merida to Sarasota.

City Director Perpignan Marie des Neiges Grossas
Dr. Marie des Neiges Grossas is a resident of both Sarasota and our Sister City Perpignan, which gives her a unique perspective.

City Director Raperswil-Jona Nelly Carmardo
Nelly is the City Director of Raperswil-Jona and is the President of the Swiss American Club of Sarasota.

Assistant City Director of Raperswil-Jona Charlotte Hull
Charlotte is the Assistant City Director of Raperswil-Jona, Switzerland. She formerly lived in

Raperswil-Jona and operated a successful business there before moving to Sarasota.

City Director Xiamen Douglas Sparks
Club of Sarasota.

Assistant City Director of Raperswil-Jona Charlotte Hull
Charlotte is the Assistant City Director of Raperswil-Jona, Switzerland. She formerly lived in Raperswil-Jona and operated a successful business there before moving to Sarasota.

City Director Xiamen Douglas Sparks
Sparks earned his PhD in Anthropology from the University of Texas at Austin with a focus on China and later obtained a MBA and completed graduate work in computer science. Sparks held senior technology leadership roles in global companies in France, China, Canada, South Africa, Ghana and Kenya. His primary interests today are the comparative study of mysticism, reengaging with China and relearning Mandarin, and duplicate bridge.

Assistant City Director Xiamen Larry Bennison
Larry is a Chevron Retiree, Caltex Petroleum, Financial Manager and Director in Hong Kong, Seoul, Singapore, Manila, Tokyo and Dallas Corp Office, Education Purdue BS1964 Penn, Wharton MBA1966, Veteran, Captain MSC, Office of Surgeon General Wash DC. My interests are in International affairs and travel, Asian Art & Maps and world financial markets, Member Sarasota World Affairs Council.

Assistant City Director Xiamen Duane Finger
Duane is the Assistant City Director of Xiamen. He has a long time interest in China.

Past President Bill Wallace
Bill served as the President of Sarasota Sister Cities and also as Vice President of Finance. He was very active with Dunfermline, Scotland.
Assistant City Director Xiamen Larry Bennison
Larry is a Chevron Retiree, Caltex Petroleum, Financial Manager and Director in Hong Kong, Seoul, Singapore, Manila, Tokyo and Dallas Corp Office, Education Purdue BS1964 Penn, Wharton MBA1966, Veteran, Captain MSC, Office of Surgeon General Wash DC. My interests are in International affairs and travel, Asian Art & Maps and world financial markets, Member Sarasota World Affairs Council.

Assistant City Director Xiamen Duane Finger
Duane is the Assistant City Director of Xiamen. He has a long time interest in China.

Past President Bill Wallace
Bill was the President of Sister Cities and President of the Caledonia Club. He also was the first City Director for Dunfermline. He wears his Scottish Kilt proudly. He also served as Vice President of Fund-Raising and initiated the "One World" fund-raising galas.

Past President Tom Halbert
He was the President of Sister Cities and guided the organization through difficult times, rebuilding our finances. He led the development of our first website. He wrote an excellent history that formed the basis for this book. historysarasotasistercities.blogspot.com

Past President Carla Rayman Kidd
Carla was the President of Sister Cities and led the signing of Sister Cities agreements with

Xiamen, China and Merida, Mexico. She is a realtor with Coldwell Banker of Sarasota and the 2016-2020 National Association of Realtors ® Global Coordinator to North America, Central America, & the Caribbean. She is an International instructor and speaker.

Past President Hope Byrnes



Hope Byrnes was President of Sister cities for seven years and restarted the Association with the help of City of Sarasota leaders. She was the first to report projects monthly to the City government meetings. She visited most of our cities, and hosted visits to and from several of our cities. Hope spent her career in Washington, D.C. on Capitol Hill and later as a wife of a US Foreign Service Officer. She was President of several other organizations in Sarasota including the Sarasota Opera Guild, and the Asolo Theatre Guild.

Past President Linda Rosenbluth



Linda served for five years as President and was instrumental in the adoption of Tel Mond, Israel as Sarasota's fourth sister city and was its first "City Director". Linda Rosenbluth is an educator – a reading specialist and political science teacher- as well as a fun loving artist. She helped create the Florida Studio Theatre Children's Write a Play program and also Sarasota's Embracing Our Differences exhibit.

Past President Marianna Janz-Wecke Rest in Peace

Mariana served as President from 2016 until her untimely death in 2018. She worked with the German American Club and the Swiss-American Club in supporting the development of the Friendship City Rapersville-Jona, Switzerland. Marianna was a realtor and community leader.

Former VP of Cities and Candidate Cities David Harralson

Dr. David Harralson has been a leader in Sarasota Sister Cities for many years. He also published our newsletter: bridgestotheworldssc.blogspot.com**.** He is a civic leader in Sarasota and was a Professor.

Past Events Coordinator Gayle Maxey

Gayle was the events Coordinator. She organized numerous well attended meetings and events for our members and prospective members. She also developed a very well developed

Pinterest page providing a great history of our organization.
pinterest.com/sarasotasister

SSC Member Fred Bloom
Dr. Fred Bloom is a Member of SSC and of Embracing Our Differences. He coordinates the installation of the Embracing Our Differences on the Sarasota Bay Front each year. He is also an allergist and civic leader.



Meet and Greets at Siesta Key Beach During the Covid-19 Pandemic - 2021

Help Wanted

Sarasota Sister Cities Needs

a Few Good People

Please let us know if you would like to provide assistance to Sarasota Sister Cities. Positions come up periodically. Please let us know if you are interested.

In 2022 we need a Publicity Director and a Director of Grants. And other positions frequently become available.

We also need assistance with our programs and Sister Cities. Please let us know if you have an interest in working with our sister cities in Canada, China, France, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Switzerland, Russia, or Scotland.

We welcome your help for any position on the Board. You can volunteer to help one of our officers in a field you are interested in, which is the way to get to help, to know people, and to eventually move on to a Board position.



Email us if you would like to help out and we will put you in touch with the right person.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sarasotasistercities@gmail.com



Logos

Sarasota Sister Cities has used various logos over the years. Our first logo is shown on the right, showing the world and points on the compass.



The header above incorporates our new logo with a skyline of our city.

The logo below was developed by Pauline Michell, and adds the name of the organization around the logo, and enhances the color.





The logo above illustrates the flags of our sister cities.

The next pages combine our older logo with our story on one page.

Citizen Diplomacy
The Sister Cities Story

In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower proposed a people-to-people program under the National League of Cities as a "citizen diplomacy." He envisaged persons and organizations in individual U.S. cities interacting on a one-to-one basis with their peers in foreign cities and nations, believing that such personal relationships would lessen the chance of future world conflicts.

The rapidly growing program became the nonprofit Sister Cities International in 1967. Even before that, in 1963, Sarasota residents had already established the Sarasota Sister Cities Association. Today official relationships have been forged with Hamilton, Canada; Mérida, Mexico; Perpignan, France; Vladimir, Russia; Tel Mond, Israel; Dunfermline, Scotland; Treviso, Italy; Xiamen, China.



Sister Cities Association of Sarasota

The mission of Sister Cities Assn. of Sarasota (SCAS) is to foster international relationships between Sarasota and cities that have similar interests by creating exchanges in areas of culture, education, tourism, business and government. SSCA's objective is to develop respect, understanding and cooperation through citizen diplomacy. To accomplish this mission we develop relationships with people in cities that have cultural, education, tourism and business environments similar to Sarasota's. Working outside the realm of government, but with its support, we encourage and facilitate cultural and education exchanges, business opportunities and increased tourism.

This logo is used by the City of Sarasota, which reflects our statue of David at the Ringling Museum.

We used the header below

for our older Newsletters.





And the one above for our newer Newsletters

Links and References

Web	sarasotasistercities.org
Facebook	facebook.com/SarasotaSisterCities
Pinterest.	pinterest.com/sarasotasister
Twitter	twitter.com/#!/SarasotaSisterC
LinkedIn	linkedin.com/in/sarasotasistercities
Email	sarasotasistercities@gmail.com

The following blogs are used by Sarasota Sister Cities.

Sister City Blogs
dunfermlinesarasota.blogspot.com
hamiltonsarasota.blogspot.com
meridasarasota.blogspot.com
perpignansarasota.blogspot.com
rapperswil-jonasarasota.blogspot.com
telmondsarasota.blogspot.com
bussetosarasota.blogspot.com
vladimirsarasota.blogspot.com
xiamensarasota.blogspot.com



bigperpignan.blogspot.com
telmondsarasota1.blogspot.com
sarasotavladimir.blogspot.com
Rapperswil-jonasarasota.blogspot.com

History
historysarasotasistercities.blogspot.com



Sustainable Economic Development
sarasotasistercities.com
Sarasotasistercities.blogspot.com
animationsarasota.blogspot.com
economicdevelopmentreports.blogspot.com
greensarasota.blogspot.com
sustainablesarasota.blogspot.com
sarasotasistercitiesdevelopment.blogspot.com
sarasotatownsquare.blogspot.com
sarasotasustainabledevelopment.blogspot.com
sarasotacityplanning.blogspot.com
bradenrivertrail.blogspot.com

Newsletters
bridgestotheworldssc.blogspot.com

Photos
photossarasotasistercities.blogspot.com
bigphotossarasotasistercities.blogspot.com
galaobserver.blogspot.com

Communication / Social Media
videossarasotasistercities.blogspot.com
sistercitiessocialmarketing.blogspot.com
socialnetworkingreport.blogspot.com
sscsocialmarketing.blogspot.com
eventssarasostasister.blogspot.com

Miscellaneous
sistercitysongs.blogspot.com
birdsofsarasota.blogspot.com
sunsetssarasota.blogspot.com
sscnewsletter.blogspot.com
sscplan.blogspot.com
policydocuments.blogspot.com
sscitiesnew.blogspot.com
sscgraphic.blogspot.com
germansistercity.blogspot.com
germansarasota.blogspot.com
Logosssc.blogspot.com
Warandpeacesarasota.blogspot.com



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en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dunfermline
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tel_Mond
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vladimir,_Russia
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%C3%A9rida,_Yucat%C3%A1n
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en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santo_Domingo
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Busseto
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peoriastrategy.blogspot.com
renaissanceparkpeoria.com
ilapa.org/news/2010/Apr10/greeninf.html



2020 Highland Games. From Left to Right Isabelle Eidet, Toni Duval,
Beth Ruyle Hullinger, Kenney DeCamp, Pauline Mitchell, Marie des Neiges Grossas

Conclusion

Sarasota Sister Cities is a vibrant organization dedicated to the cause of World Peace. We will be 60 years old in 2023 which is a good time to reflect back on the past and to look forward to our future efforts. We have achieved a great deal of good will in the world and we look forward to the future.

This book will be updated periodically and can be found on our website sarasotasistercities.org and at booksarasota.blogspot.com. Please send your comments and suggestions to sarasotasistercities@gmail.com to be included in future editions of the book or blogs.

