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## **Sarasota Orchestra Receives Arts Appreciation Grant from Gulf Coast Community Foundation**

**SARASOTA, FL – January 6, 2022** – Sarasota Orchestra was awarded a \$50,000 Arts Appreciation grant from Gulf Coast Community Foundation.

The grant will support Sarasota Orchestra’s 2021-2022 season, including the return of performances in a variety of formats, from Masterworks and Pops to Discoveries and Great Escapes, as well as the Orchestra’s Outdoor Pops at Ed Smith Stadium. The grant also supports Sarasota Orchestra’s extensive education programs and its On the Road with SO: Parks and Partners community concerts.

“Sarasota Orchestra is grateful for the generous grant from Gulf Coast Community Foundation and their tremendous support of the arts in Sarasota. The Foundation’s leadership during this extended pandemic has been notable,” said Sarasota Orchestra President and CEO Joseph McKenna. Sarasota Orchestra’s mission is to engage, educate and enrich the community through high-quality, live musical experiences.

### **About Gulf Coast Community Foundation:**

For more than 25 years, together with their donors, Gulf Coast Community Foundation has transformed the region through bold and proactive philanthropy. Gulf Coast is a public charity that was created in 1995 through the sale of the Venice Hospital. Since then, they have become the philanthropic home of nearly 1,000 families, individuals, businesses, and organizations that have established charitable funds here. Together, they have invested over \$425 million in

grants in the areas of health and human services, civic and economic development, education, arts and culture, and the environment. Learn more at [www.GulfCoastCF.org](http://www.GulfCoastCF.org).

**About Sarasota Orchestra:**

Since 1949, Sarasota Orchestra has inspired and entertained music-lovers across the region and visitors from around the world. As the oldest continuing orchestra in the state of Florida, each year the 76-member Orchestra performs more than 100 classical, pops, chamber music, and community outreach concerts. Sarasota Orchestra's acclaimed music education program includes the Sarasota Youth Orchestras, established in 1959. Sarasota Orchestra is also the parent program of the world-renowned Sarasota Music Festival, founded in 1965. For further information, please visit [www.SarasotaOrchestra.org](http://www.SarasotaOrchestra.org).

**Images Available:**

- High-resolution photography is available at [www.sarasotaorchestra.org/download](http://www.sarasotaorchestra.org/download)

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