

MEDIA CONTACT

Su Byron; 941-955-8103; SuByron@HermitageArtistRetreat.org



Save the Date!

The Hermitage Artist Retreat's 2021 Artful Lobster: An Outdoor Celebration Sets Date for Saturday, November 13, 2021

This popular annual event on Manasota Key raises valuable funds for the Hermitage's nationally renowned artist residency program.

(March 25, 2021) The Hermitage Artist Retreat's annual Artful Lobster: An Outdoor Celebration will be Saturday, November 13, 2021, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Now in its 13th year, the Artful Lobster raises valuable funds for the Hermitage's renowned artist residency program. The event takes place outdoors beneath a large tent on the

Hermitage's historical beachfront campus, located at 6660 Manasota Key Road in Englewood. *Ticket information and additional details will be announced later in the year. For sponsorship inquiries, call 941-475-2098, Ext. 2.*

The 2020 Artful Lobster was one of the first live fundraisers in our region since the start of the pandemic to establish a new model for safe and socially-distanced gathering. With limited capacity and added safety precautions, 150 guests attended the sold-out feast and performance. Ralph Farris, an acclaimed Hermitage Fellow and founding violist and artistic director of the genre-bending string quartet ETHEL, headlined the event, impressing audiences with his original compositions created at the Hermitage, as well as his unique medley of Philip Glass, John Lennon's "Imagine," and "America the Beautiful." Michael's On East served a plentiful barbeque and much heralded lobster luncheon.

The Hermitage hosts artists on its Gulf Coast Manasota Key campus for multi-week residencies. Artists come from around the world and across multiple disciplines create and develop new works of theater, music, visual art, literature, and more. As part of their residencies, Hermitage Fellows participate in community programs, affording audiences in our region the unique opportunity to engage with some of the world's leading artists and to get a "sneak peek" into extraordinary projects and artistic minds before their works go on to major galleries, concert halls, theaters, and museums around the world. These free programs include performances, readings, lectures, interactive experiences, open studios, school programs, teacher workshops, and more, serving thousands in our Gulf Coast community each year.

*For more information about the Hermitage and its upcoming line-up of spring programs, visit **HermitageArtistRetreat.org**.*

About the Hermitage Artist Retreat:

The Hermitage is a nonprofit artist retreat located in Manasota Key, Florida, inviting accomplished artists across multiple disciplines for residencies on its beachfront campus, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. Hermitage artists are invited to interact with the local community, reaching thousands of Gulf Coast residents and visitors each year with unique and inspiring programs. Hermitage Fellows have included twelve Pulitzer Prize winners, Poets Laureate, MacArthur 'Genius' Fellows, and multiple Tony, Emmy, Grammy, Oscar winners and nominees. Works created at this beachside retreat by a diverse group of Hermitage alumni have gone on to renowned theaters, concert halls, and galleries throughout the world. Each year, the Hermitage awards the \$30,000 Hermitage Greenfield Prize for a new work of art, and the Aspen Music Festival awards the annual Hermitage Prize in Composition. For more information about The Hermitage Artist Retreat, visit HermitageArtistRetreat.org.

The Hermitage is supported by:

Hermitage programs are supported, in part, by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts; by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax Revenues; and by the Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council of Arts and Culture and the State of Florida (Section 286.25 Florida Statutes), as well as the Gulf Coast Community Foundation and the Community Foundation of Sarasota County.