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Save the Dates!

**The Hermitage Artist Retreat Announces Dates for
2024-2025 Benefit Events:**

**The 16th Annual Artful Lobster: An Outdoor Celebration
Saturday, November 9th, 2024**

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

**2025 Hermitage Greenfield Prize Dinner
Sunday, April 6th, 2025**

*The 2025 Hermitage Greenfield Prize will be presented at Michael's On East in **Sarasota** as part of a weekend of events surrounding this distinguished national prize. This year's prize will be awarded in the discipline of music.*

May 16, 2024 — **The Hermitage Artist Retreat** (Sarasota County, Florida) announced today that its annual **Artful Lobster** benefit will be held on **Saturday, November 9th, 2024**, from 11:30am to 2pm. Now in its 16th year, this signature outdoor event raises valuable funds for the Hermitage's renowned artist residency program. The Artful Lobster is the only Hermitage benefit to take place on the grounds of the historic Gulf front campus – outdoors beneath a large tent – located at 6660 Manasota Key Road in Englewood. Michael's On East offers a delicious lobster feast, with performances from award-winning Hermitage Fellows. Past artists who have shared their talents at this popular event include acclaimed string quartet **ETHEL**, celebrated musical theater composer **Adam Gwon**, internationally renowned flutist **Claire Chase**, accomplished violinist **Daniel Bernard Roumain** and more.

The 17th annual **Hermitage Greenfield Prize Dinner** will be held on **Sunday, April 6th, 2025**, starting at 6pm at Michael's On East in Sarasota. This elegant annual dinner heralds the jury-selected recipient of this prestigious prize, which will be awarded this season in the discipline of music. The Hermitage Greenfield Prize (HGP) is a

distinguished national commission awarded by the Hermitage Artist Retreat in partnership with the Philadelphia-based **Greenfield Foundation**; the \$35,000 award rotates annually among music, theater, and visual art. The 2025 HGP winner's newly commissioned work will have its first public presentation in Sarasota in the spring of 2027. Past performers at this event have included Tony Award-winning Hermitage Fellows **Gavin Creel** and **Rachel Bay Jones**, Tony Award nominee **Leslie Rodriguez Kritzer**, renowned classical musicians, and more.

Sponsorship information and additional details for both events will be announced at a later date. For early sponsorship inquiries, call (941) 475-2098, Ext. 2.

Past recipients of the Hermitage Greenfield Prize include: **Deepa Purohit**, playwright (2024) **Sandy Rodriguez**, visual artist (2023), **Rennie Harris**, dancer/choreographer (2023); **Angélica Negrón**, composer (2022); **Aleshea Harris**, playwright (2021); **Helga Davis**, composer/performer (2019); **Martyna Majok**, playwright (2018); **David Burnett**, photojournalist (2017); **Coco Fusco**, interdisciplinary artist (2016); **Bobby Previte**, composer/drummer (2015); **Nilo Cruz**, playwright (2014); **Trenton Doyle Hancock**, visual artist (2013); **Vijay Iyer**, composer/pianist (2012); **John Guare**, playwright (2011); **Sanford Biggers**, visual artist (2010); **Craig Lucas**, playwright (2009); and **Eve Beglarian**, composer (2009).

A leading national arts incubator, the Hermitage is the only major arts organization in Florida's Gulf Coast exclusively committed to supporting the development and creation of new work across all artistic disciplines. The Hermitage hosts artists on its Gulf Coast Manasota Key campus for multi-week residencies, where diverse and accomplished artists from around the world and across multiple disciplines create and develop new works of theater, music, visual art, literature, dance, film, and more. As part of their residencies, Hermitage Fellows participate in free year-round community programs, offering audiences in the region a unique opportunity to engage with some of the world's leading artists and to get an authentic "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 and innovative programs include performances, conversations, readings, interactive experiences, open studios, school programs, teacher workshops, and more, serving thousands in our regional community each year.

For more information about the Hermitage and upcoming programs, visit: **HermitageArtistRetreat.org**.

The Hermitage Artist Retreat

Sarasota County, Florida
Andy Sandberg, Artistic Director and CEO

The Hermitage is a leading national arts incubator and multidisciplinary artist retreat located on Manasota Key, Florida. For more than two decades, the Hermitage has invited 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 15 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 and accomplished group of Hermitage alumni have gone on to renowned theaters, concert halls, and galleries throughout the world. Each year, the Hermitage awards the Hermitage Greenfield Prize for a new work of art, the Hermitage Major Theater Award for an original theater commission, and the Aspen Music Festival's Hermitage Prize in Composition.

For more information, visit HermitageArtistRetreat.org.

The Hermitage is supported by:

Hermitage programs are supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts; Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax revenues; the State of Florida through the Division of Arts and Culture and the National Endowment for the Arts; as well as the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation, and the Community Foundation of Sarasota County.

HermitageArtistRetreat.org

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