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nounced at a pre-festival launch party and concert with a performance by the violin and bass trio Time for Three on Nov. 14 in the cultural arts center's black box theater. A soldout crowd of supporters and long-time and potential audience members attended. Another pre-festival event is scheduled for 3 p.m. Jan. 18 with the Israeli Chamber Project.

Chairman Charlie Siemon played an audio tape by violin great Itzhak Perlman, last year's headliner, supporting his protégé Arnaud Sussmann, who will play at the March 13 Mozart Gala for flute,

piano, violin and orchestra with James Galway.

"The big hook is 'West Side story' with a live symphony that premiered in Avery Fisher Hall two years ago," said Charles Letourneau, managing director, festivals and events, for IMG Artists that partners with the festival for the talent. "We'll finish with Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, and the Young People's Chorus of New York and the South Florida Master Chorale. The chorus will do a suite from 'West Side Story.'"

The Grammy Award-winning duo of Bela Fleck and Abigail Washburn will play banjos on March 7, and ballet night on March 8 will include prin-

cipal dancers from the American Ballet Theater, Boston Ballet, National Ballet of Canada, Washington Ballet and Russians, he said.

"Galway is turning 75, and during St. Patrick's week, he's going to the White House," Letourneau said about flutist James Galway, among the performers in the all-Mozart program on March 13.

"The city has stepped up and played a key role," Siemon said.

An agreement to provide \$150,000 for marketing and public relations and in-kind police and other staff services was approved by the Boca Raton City Council Nov. 12.

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senberg recently demonstrated how youngsters can play with small wooden toys made in Brazil or step into a colorful cloth fishing boat, hang it on their small shoulders and walk around as if they are sailing the ship.

At one small table, a youngster can sit and draw a picture of "Lara the Mermaid" on a pre-cut piece of colored poster paper. At another table, they can draw the face of the natural pink river dolphin, which is prevalent in Brazil.

There's also a replica

of a Banco do Brasil teller's station, and in a corner of the room, there are soccer dolls and a professional goalkeeper's gloves. In another corner is a map showing the country's geographical regions, and a slide show on one wall showcases its beautiful flowers.

Several Brazilian-themed events are planned to go along with the exhibit. Those include music and dance events on Nov. 15 and Dec. 6.

Simpson-Krar recently took over as director after serving three years as education direc-

tor.

"I am very excited to lead the children's museum staff into a new chapter," she said. "We hope to expand our reach in the Boca Raton community and beyond."

Dan and Natalia Murphy, visiting from Stony Point, N.Y., recently brought their 3-year-old daughter Anna to the museum.

"We just spent three hours in the museum and visited every room," Natalia Murphy said. "... We had fun. It's small but there's a lot in it."

For more information, visit Cmboca.org or call 561-368-6875.



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