



The museum building anchors Old School Square, now the cultural hub of Delray Beach. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

Delray Beach

City’s cultural center grew from long shot to long history

By Rich Pollack

For three and a half years, Frances Bourque and a small but tireless group worked on an enormous undertaking — which many at the time thought might never get done. Aiming to convert a 1913

elementary school and a 1925 high school into a cultural arts center, they held innovative fundraisers and made numerous trips to Tallahassee to persuade state officials to send down a bucketful of grant money, all the while rallying local support.

After months of restoration, renovations and construction, on one night in March 1990, the doors to the Cornell Museum of Art and History — the first building in what would evolve into Delray Beach’s landmark Old School Square

See **CENTER** on page 21

Gulf Stream

RICO suit alleges conspiracy, extortion

By Dan Moffett

In their federal racketeering lawsuit against Martin O’Boyle and Christopher O’Hare, attorneys for the town of Gulf Stream allege the two men have conspired to use the state’s public records laws as weapons to extort legal fees from hundreds of municipalities and contractors across the state.

Beyond Gulf Stream, the RICO complaint cites similar records assaults by O’Boyle in places far removed from South Florida, one of them in another small, affluent seaside community more than a thousand miles way.

In 2007, during a dispute with the borough of Longport in his native New Jersey, O’Boyle filed so many demands for public records that “the clerk went to the emergency room because of the stress she attributed to the flood of (Open Public Records Act) requests,” the suit says.

Gulf Stream officials know all about that kind of stress. Town Clerk Rita Taylor says she has been working seven days a week for the last two years to keep up with workload generated by O’Boyle and O’Hare.

Town Manager William Thrasher says these days he devotes virtually all his time to lawsuits and records requests. “There’s no end in sight. My job description has been altered forever,” Thrasher said. “When you look back, you get discouraged.”

The 49-page class-action civil

See **RICO** on page 6

Along the Coast

WHEN ‘THE MONSTER’ CAME OVER THE BRIDGE

After three decades, a death warrant may be near for Palm Beach County’s most notorious killer. We look back at the case that still haunts our memories.

By Randy Schultz



This portrait of Karen Slattery, who was murdered in coastal Delray Beach at age 14, hangs at the Karen Slattery Education Research Center for Child Development at Florida Atlantic University.

She last spoke with her mother at 10 that Saturday night. The sisters she was babysitting, ages 7 and 2, were asleep. She told her mother that no one else was in the house. Karen Slattery knew that no visitors were allowed when she babysat.

But there was someone else in the white house on that Delray Beach cul-de-sac. Harbor Drive offered lots of foliage for cover, especially late on that March evening 31 years ago when dark of the moon was approaching. He had been in the house earlier and left, unnoticed, waiting until the children went to sleep.

To pass the time, he had pedaled his bicycle south to a bar on A1A called The Gipper. He drank some beer and smoked some marijuana. Still, he had made sure to assess the house that first time and, in his way, to assess the 14-year-old freshman at Pope John Paul High School.

After he came back, he struck — perhaps as Karen Slattery was hanging up the phone.

Shortly after midnight, the parents came home to find their floors covered with blood. As March 24 became March 25, Delray Beach started to learn that evil could cross the Intracoastal Waterway.

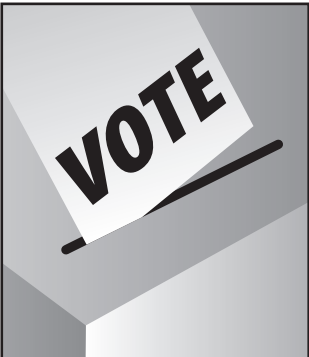
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Inside

**Law firm picks Boca**  
After seeking space in Boynton and Delray, Kanner & Pitaluga is taking 45,000 square feet. **Page 27**



**Homes on tour**  
Delray Beach houses showcase the art of design during annual event. **Page H1**



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**The ArtsPaper**  
**Festival of the Arts BOCA**  
There will be Beethoven’s Ninth and more. **Page AT11**



## 10 Questions

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Cynthia Brown

At this year's Festival Of The Arts Boca, you'll find ballet, banjo, Bernstein and, of course, books.

From March 6 to 15, stars of the American Ballet Theater and other major companies will perform. Banjo virtuoso Bela Fleck will plunk. Leonard Bernstein's daughter, Jamie, will reflect on *West Side Story* and her father's musical legacy. And authors of both fact and fiction will discuss their books.

For the books and authors, thank Cynthia Brown. A festival volunteer since its inception eight years ago, the coastal Delray Beach resident and mother of three spends a good part of her year conjuring a roster of writers she'd like to bring, contacting their agents, finding who's available, how much they charge and steering them through their appearances.

"I usually pick the most expensive speaker first and work from there," she says. "We try very hard to present people with different ideas and opinions so we've got an interesting program."

This year, Brown has gathered novelist Richard Ford, *New York Times* columnist Thomas Friedman, environmental journalist Michael Grunwald and cancer researcher Siddhartha Mukherjee, among others.

"Sometimes they're not available and money's a limitation," she concedes. "These people are not inexpensive. That's the limitation. It would be wonderful to have Colin Powell, but that's not ever going to happen."

Does she have a favorite from her years of volunteering?

"The favorite of everybody would be Doris Kerns Goodwin, who is just the way she seems," Brown says. "She's a genuine, warm, interesting person, and she's interested in people."

"But I've been surprised, frankly, by how accessible everybody is. Nobody I've dealt with has been anything other than gracious and easy to work



Cynthia Brown has been instrumental in lining up the authors for the Festival of the Arts Boca since it began in 2007. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

with."

— Ron Hayes

**Q.** Where did you grow up and go to school? How do you think that has influenced you?

**A.** My son is engaged to a Midwestern girl and I realized then that Midwesterners just have solid values. They're very community-oriented, and I'm grateful for that. Growing up in Columbus, I couldn't wait to get out, and now I look back and think, "That was really something special."

**Q.** What professions have you worked in? What professional accomplishments are you most

proud of?

**A.** I worked on Wall Street for a while and I've always done something. I still sell clothes in trunk shows three or four times a year. In the early '90s, when I was living in Atlanta, I helped start a group in Georgia called Georgians For Children, a child advocacy group that would gather statewide data and work to improve their lives. I'm very proud of having done that.

**Q.** What advice do you have for a young person selecting a career today?

**A.** Think about what's important to you and what you like to do, and if you do that

you'll be happy in what you're doing. Do what interests you.

**Q.** How did you choose to make your home in east Delray Beach?

**A.** I moved here when I downsized. I was living in Boca Raton, and it wasn't even a conscious decision. I had a bull mastiff, Tembo (Swahili for elephant), and this was a place that would allow a bull mastiff, and it's been perfect.

**Q.** What is your favorite part about living in Delray Beach?

**A.** I love the fact that it's just easy to live here. Everything's



Festival details in  
Around Town, Page AT11

convenient. We have great restaurants, lot of things to do and it's pretty.

**Q.** What book are you reading now?

**A.** I'm finishing Richard Ford's latest novel, *Let Me Be Frank With You*, and then I'll move on to the next, probably *Smarter Than You Think*.

**Q.** What music do you listen to when you need inspiration? When you want to relax?

**A.** I like classical music for relaxing, or blues. But if I really want to relax I listen to absolutely nothing. I listen to the wind in the leaves.

**Q.** Have you had mentors in your life? Individuals who have inspired your life decisions?

**A.** My mother and father. They had some really good advice about things. My mother used to say — they were both birdwatchers — my mother used to say, "When things get tough, get working." My father used to say, "When you're feeling down, go birdwatching." And those are two really good pieces of life advice.

**Q.** If your life story were made into a movie, who would you want to play you?

**A.** Meryl Streep.

**Q.** Who/what makes you laugh?

**A.** Lots of things. Where would we be without laughter? I'll tell you what, though, I'm going to miss Jon Stewart.

# AUCTION

## By Order of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court

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## Boynton Beach

# Project gets CRA funding to boost downtown residency

By Jane Smith

Boynton Beach finally has a project to jump-start its mostly vacant downtown.

The city's Community Redevelopment Agency board unanimously approved in February to give the 500 Ocean owners about \$4.4 million over 10 years to help cover costs.

"The developer had asked for a 15-year agreement and \$3 million upfront," said Vivian Brooks, agency executive director, when explaining why the board should approve the deal. She emphasized there will be no money upfront and the deal cannot be passed along to the next owner.

The deal had languished for months and held back any improvements to the southwest corner of Federal Highway and Ocean Avenue.

"Our faith in Boynton Beach has not wavered," said Tom



The projected view of the project at the southwest corner of Ocean and Federal. Rendering provided

Hayden, development director at LeCesse Development Corp., a real estate company involved in the project. "There's been bumps in the road, but we believe in the location and we believe in Boynton Beach and looking forward to getting

started."

His team planned to submit plans for the site and the garage in February, plans for the six-story apartment building in March and then start construction in April, Hayden said, ticking off an ideal

schedule.

Only one person spoke during the public comment period. Dan Spotts, a frequent meeting speaker who owns the Miami Aqua-culture business in downtown Boynton Beach, directed his questions to

Hayden about the location.

"Do you realize that the FEC will run 30 freight trains, and if All Aboard Florida gets its way, another 32 trains a day? Are you prepared to warn your tenants that the entrance may be blocked about 60 times a day?" he asked.

Vice Mayor Joe Casello responded, "Boynton Beach can't stop this train from coming, but this gentleman here is proposing 341 apartments of residents in the downtown. Hopefully those people will bring commerce to fill up those empty storefronts. You need people. ... Give us credit, work with us."

The development also includes 6,600 square feet of Class A office space, 13,300 square feet of retail space and a seven-story parking garage.

Agency board members agreed to the deal by a 7-0 vote.

The money will come from tax revenue created when the development is constructed on 4.7 vacant acres. The \$4.4 million will be front-loaded giving more money to the developer in the early years. The agency estimates that its share will be \$4.7 million over 10 years.

The day after the deal was approved, Ocean Ridge resident Gary Kosinski sent an email blast to town commissioners alerting them to the "massive over-development of Boynton Beach."

"Assuming 2.5 renters per unit and two workers per 100 square feet of commercial, that is almost 1,000 new residents on a 4-acre lot," he wrote. "This is over 60 percent of the entire population of all of Ocean Ridge in a single block."

He asked town commissioners "to minimize the ever increasing nonresident vehicular and pedestrian traffic today."

Kosinski could not be reached for comment.

Ocean Ridge Town Manager Ken Schenck said the town already bans on-street parking, but he adds that the town can't tell Boynton Beach what to do. "There is a concern that more people will be using the beaches," he said.

In other business, agency staff updated the board members of the marina parking situation.

The association that owns the Marina Village Garage will start charging \$5 per day from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fridays through Sundays. The fee started Feb. 13 and will end on June 14.

Agency staff gave each of its marina tenants one parking pass each for the garage while they continue to negotiate for parking spaces with One Boynton LLC, which owns the empty property at 114 N. Federal Highway. The agency will clean up and stripe the lot and offer about 200 free parking spaces to marina tenants. ★

**Featured performances Include:**

**March 6**  
**West Side Story**  
Digitally Remastered Film with Live Festival Orchestra BOCA, Jayce Ogren, Conductor

**March 7**  
**Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn**  
Grammy-Winning Banjo Superstars

**March 8**  
**Richard Ford**  
Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author  
"Let Me Be Frank With You"

**March 14**  
**Beethoven's Ninth Symphony**  
With Young People's Chorus of New York City, Master Chorale of South Florida, Soloists and Festival Orchestra BOCA with Constantine Kitsopoulos, Conductor

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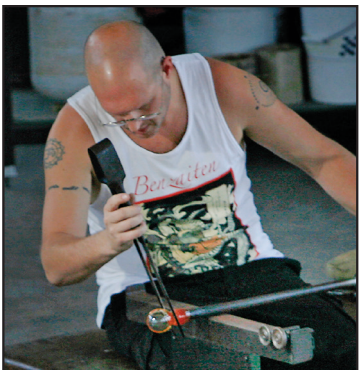
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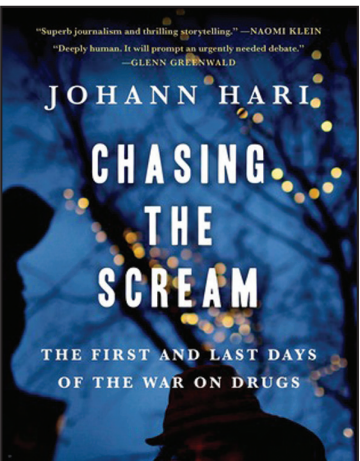
**Film**  
Julianne Moore is triumphant with an Oscar-winning turn in the tragic *Still Alice*.  
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**Art**  
The Holocaust, as seen through the eyes of GenZ.  
Page AT16



**Art**  
Delightful glass works at Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts in Lake Worth.  
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**Books**  
Our worst drug addiction is to the useless 'war' against them, author contends. **Page AT20**

# The Arts Paper

www.palmbeachartspaper.com

Arts

## On Day 10 of Boca festival: Beethoven's Ninth

By Dale King  
ArtsPaper Arts Writer

Not all that ago, the Festival of the Arts Boca ended its weekly run with a gala performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, led by violinist Itzhak Perlman.

This year, for the ninth version of the performing arts-and-literature gathering that commandeers the west end of Mizner Park in Boca Raton, Beethoven's Ninth will again bring the festival — at least the musical events — to a close.

But this year, the Festival Orchestra will be joined by the Master Chorale of

South Florida and the Young People's Chorus of New York City for the symphony, a work that had a huge impact on all the composers who came after the piece's premiere in May of 1824.

Soloists will include soprano Melody Moore, mezzo-soprano Margaret Mezzacappa, tenor Joseph Kaiser and bass Salomon Howard; the March 14 concert will be conducted by festival music director Constantine Kitsopoulos.

The entire festival, which opened March 6 and lasts through March 15, is under the direction of Joanna Marie Kaye, who as "Joanna Marie" interviewed many a classical musician for more than

10 years at WXEL-90.7 FM.

It's a job that helped give her a wide knowledge of the area's arts climate.

"I have been involved with it for many years," said Kaye, who now works for the people she used to converse with on the radio, festival chairmen and co-directors Charlie Siemon and Wendy Larsen. She got the job last July when she returned to Boca after a two-year gig as managing director at WQED in Pittsburgh.

Schooled in broadcasting, and with a degree in music performance, Kaye is never far from the arts scene. Her

See BOCA FESTIVAL on page AT12

Film



Kristin Wiig stars in director Shira Piven's *Welcome to Me*, which will open the Palm Beach Film Festival. Photo provided

## Palm Beach Film Festival gets permanent venue

By Hap Erstein  
ArtsPaper Film Writer

Remember when the Palm Beach International Film Festival was born? Believe it or not, that was 20 years ago, and the eight-day celebration of movies from around the world that begins on March 26 will "dazzle and surprise our audiences like they've never seen before," according to the festival's president and CEO, Randi Emerman.

Some 130 films — features, shorts and documentaries — will unspool at venues throughout Palm Beach County, including 12 world premieres and 15

United States premieres. Filmmakers and screen talent, including the remarkable young subject of the Oscar-winning *Boyhood*, Ellar Coltrane, will be in attendance, as well as songwriter George McCrae.

Independent director Shira Piven, whose career has been nurtured by PBIFF, will open the festival with her latest, *Welcome to Me*, and director Noah Baumbach closes it with, *While We're Young*, following a retrospective of his body of work.



Coltrane

Perhaps the most tangible evidence of the festival's financial health is the announcement that it will be acquiring the darkened Plaza Theatre in Manalapan as a year-round venue, to show films, hold seminars and other educational events, as well as renting out the space for live theater.

Just as the festival has matured over two decades, so have many of the filmmakers showcased here. For instance, Piven's first feature, *Fully Loaded*, was in the 2009 Palm Beach festival and it won the Audience Favorite Award. She

See FILM FEST on page AT12

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## FILM FEST

Continued from page 11

has since been back with a documentary, and now she returns in the coveted lead-off spot with *Welcome to Me*, a story of good luck that evolves into a compelling and darkly humorous drama. Featured in the cast are Kristin Wiig, James Marsden, Tim Robbins and Joan Cusack. Director Piven will attend.

Emerman describes it as a “quirky comedy. I don’t know how Kristin Wiig stays straight-faced throughout this movie. I couldn’t imagine being there and not laughing.”

The bookend of the festival will be Baumbach’s *While We’re Young*, an exploration of aging, ambition, and success whose cast includes Amanda Seyfried, Naomi Watts, Ben Stiller, Adam Driver and Charles Grodin.

During the week, such Baumbach films as *Kicking and Screaming*, *The Squid and the Whale* and *Frances Ha* will be screened.

### Festival highlights

At presstime a month away from the festival, it was still evolving, but here are some highlights so far:

- The world premiere of *Any Day*, about an ex-fighter finding redemption from his troubled past, with cast members Kate Walsh and Tom Arnold confirmed to attend.
- A special screening of *The Record Man*, a documentary on Henry Stone and TK Records.
- The return of The Jewish Experience, a collection of



Ben Stiller and Naomi Watts star in *While We're Young*. Photo provided



Baumbach



Piven

current, cutting-edge Jewish/Israeli-centric films, including two world premieres, an official Oscar submission (*Bulgarian Rhapsody*), and an Ophir (Israel’s equivalent to the Academy Awards) nominee for Best Film (*Is That You?*).

- Coltrane, who grew before our eyes over a 12-year-period in *Boyhood*, will be honored at the festival with its Shooting Star Award.
- In a tribute to the late Michael Clarke Duncan, fondly remembered for an appearance at PBIFF several years ago, there will be a screening of his last movie, *The Challenger*,

### IF YOU GO

Palm Beach Film Festival screenings will be held at Muvico Parisian 20 in West Palm Beach, Cobb Downtown at the Gardens and Cinemark Palace 20 in Boca Raton. Individual tickets and packages ranging from \$175 to \$450 are available. Call 362-0003 or visit pbiffilmfest.org.

about a Bronx boxer trying to fight his way to a better life. Writer-director-star Kent Moran will be in attendance and “Michael will be here in spirit,” adds Emerman.

The festival hopes to open its permanent venue in Manalapan’s Plaza del Mar later this year, after sprucing up the theater and making necessary equipment installations. “We will show films there throughout the year,” says Emerman. “It’s a great space. It gives us a home year-round.”

## Fest celebrates 20 years with host of premieres

By Thom Smith

Lights, camera — and lots of action. But what would you expect at a 20th birthday party for the Palm Beach International Film Festival?

It seems only yesterday the festival took its first cinematic breaths, as organizers and fans held theirs while waiting for a certain director or actor to confirm — sometimes gasping when they did, sometimes crying, sometimes laughing as stories unfolded on screen.

The full breadth of emotions no doubt will be on display March 26 at Muvico Parisian 20 at CityPlace in West Palm Beach as festival President Randi Emerman snaps the clapperboard for *Welcome to Me*. The dark comedy, starring Kristen Wiig, James Marsden, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Tim Robbins and Joan Cusack, was directed by PBIFF veteran Shira Piven. Her first feature, *Fully Loaded*, won “audience favorite” in 2011. An opening party follows at Revolution.

The festival closes April 2 with Noah Baumbach’s *While We’re Young*, starring Ben Stiller and Naomi Watts as a middle-aged couple whose lives are upended by a disarming young couple, played by Amanda Seyfried and Adam Driver.

In between, fans will be

treated to 12 world and 15 U.S. premieres, plus shorts, documentaries, presentations and lots of already and soon-to-be familiar faces.

In the summer of 1974, *Rock Your Baby* sold more than 11 million copies. Recorded at the legendary TK Records in Hialeah, it became the first great disco hit and was *Rolling Stone*’s record of the year. The singer was George McCrae, son of the first African-American cop in West Palm Beach.

On March 28, the festival will screen *The Record Man*, which chronicles TK Records and founder Henry Stone. McCrae will be presented the key to West Palm Beach by Mayor Jeri Muoio. Jimmi Bo Horne, another TK artist, also from West Palm Beach, will perform.

The evening will be a homecoming of sorts for documentary filmmaker Mark Moorman. Before his film *Tom Dowd & the Language of Music* was nominated for a Grammy and *For Once in My Life* won the audience award at SXSW, Moorman was a volunteer with the Palm Beach festival.

More music: A candid documentary, *Nat King Cole: Afraid of the Dark*, is set for March 30 at Muvico Parisian 20. The famous singer’s daughters Timolin and Casey Cole will attend the screening and a reception.

## BOCA FESTIVAL

Continued from page 11

husband, trumpeter Jeffrey Kaye, is artistic director and principal trumpeter of the Symphonia Boca Raton.

For its final day, the festival will feature National Public Radio personality Martin Goldsmith discussing his book, “Alex’s Wake.” Kaye said planners had hoped for a last-minute performance to fill the vacant March 15 spot, but it didn’t happen. Still, she noted, ending the mainstage events with the Beethoven Ninth “is an excellent closing.”

The festival opened March 6 with a screening of the film version of Leonard Bernstein’s musical *West Side Story*, accompanied live by the Festival Orchestra Boca, keeping its original vocals and dialogue intact. It’s something Jamie Bernstein, one of Bernstein’s two daughters, says is “so vibrant when it’s live, even if you aren’t familiar with the musical.”

One of the songs from that show, *Somewhere*, will return on the March 14 concert along with the Beethoven Ninth. Jamie Bernstein, a narrator, writer and broadcaster, gave a talk about her father and his work as a festival preview on March 4.

“He was so multifaceted.



The Young People’s Chorus of New York City will perform Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony on March 14. Photo provided

We all know he was a composer, but he wrote for musical theater, symphonies and ballets... and he was a conductor,” she said. “He was also into education. Everything he did was a form of teaching.”

*West Side Story*, she said, “is an extraordinary work. It is popular for a reason, because it is incredibly sophisticated. It was interesting how my father put music together. He borrowed from the classics. He wanted to take the walls down between the genres.”

Musically, the festival has other important performers, including Sir James Galway, master of the flute, who returns to the festival he helped launch in 2007 for a Mozart gala March 13 that also features pianist and composer Conrad

Tao, who at 13 years old made his debut at the 2008 festival, and violinist Arnaud Sussmann, a Perlman protégé. They’ll also be joined by Kitsopoulos and the Festival Orchestra.

The great banjoist and bluegrass artist Bela Fleck is featured March 7 along with his wife, Abigail Washburn, and on March 8, it’s a dance program called Stars of International Ballet.

While the musical events take place on the amphitheater stage under a large tent, the literary events convene at the Cultural Arts Center on the east end of Mizner Park in the old Cartoon Museum building. The lineup here is impressive, with *New York*

### IF YOU GO

Tickets range from \$15 to \$125 per person and are available at festivalboca.com or by calling (866) 571-2787. The All-Authors pass is \$152 per person or \$244 per person for premium seating. The festival schedule includes:

- March 7**  
3 p.m., *Girl Rising* (documentary film), Cultural Arts Center  
7:30 p.m., Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn, (banjoists), Amphitheater
- March 8**  
4 p.m., Richard Ford, “Let Me Be Frank with You,” Cultural Arts Center  
7 p.m., Stars of International Ballet, Amphitheater
- March 9**  
7 p.m., Siddhartha Mukherjee, “The Cancer Puzzle,” Cultural Arts Center
- March 10**  
7 p.m., Clive Thompson, “Smarter than You Think: How Technology Is Changing Our Minds for the Better,” Amphitheater
- March 11**  
7 p.m., Thomas Friedman, “That Used to Be Us,” Amphitheater
- March 12**  
7 p.m., Michael Grunwald, “Saving Paradise,” Cultural Arts Center
- March 13**  
4 p.m., Lucinda Franks, “Love and Politics,” Cultural Arts Center  
7:30 p.m., Mozart Gala: James Galway, Conrad Tao and Arnaud Sussmann with Festival Orchestra Boca, Constantine Kitsopoulos, conductor, Amphitheater
- March 14**  
7:30 p.m., Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Young People’s Chorus of New York City, Master Chorale of South Florida and Festival Orchestra Boca, Amphitheater
- March 15**  
4 p.m., Martin Goldsmith, “Alex’s Wake,” Cultural Arts Center

*Times* columnist Thomas Friedman (March 11, in the amphitheater), Pulitzer Prize-winning fiction master Richard Ford (March 8), and physician and cancer “biographer” Siddharta

Mukherjee (March 9). Also on tap are journalist Lucinda Franks (March 13), technology expert Clive Thompson (March 10) and *Time* correspondent Michael Grunwald (March 12).