Festival of the Arts BOCA brings together film, music, literature

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

There will be a violinist, a jazz trumpet legend — and his wife — and classic film with a live soundtrack.

The 10th Annual Festival of the Arts BOCA, presented by the Schmidt Family Centre for the Arts, is scheduled for March 4-16 at Mizner Park in Boca Raton.

Headlining the festival will be violin superstar and conductor Joshua Bell, who will be the soloist and conductor in a performance of Vivaldi’s “Four Seasons” with the Lynn Philharmonia.

The opening March 4 will feature the Florida premiere of “Raiders of the Lost Ark,” presented with live orchestra. Digitally remastered, the film that gave the world one of its greatest movie heroes, Indiana Jones, is back. John Williams’ score will be performed live to picture by the Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra from the University of Miami’s Frost School of Music and conducted by Constantine Kitsopoulos. Concertgoers are invited to participate in a Raiders-themed treasure hunt with prize packages at the Mizner Park Amphitheater prior to the show.
Other highlights include jazz trumpet legend Herb Alpert and his wife, Grammy Award-winning singer Lani Hall; Cirque de la Symphonie, featuring cirque acts with live orchestra and free pre-show party under the big top with games and activities for kids of all ages; 12-year old jazz piano phenom Joey Alexander, recently featured on "60 Minutes," in the Florida premiere of the Joey Alexander Trio; and Mozart’s "The Magic Flute" in a new family-friendly, semi-staged 90-minute English translation by festival music director Mr. Kistopoulos, featuring international singers, as well as local students and chorus.

This season’s Authors & Ideas program will welcome Fareed Zakaria, CNN host, contributing editor at The Atlantic, a Washington Post columnist and author; Dr. Robert Sapolsky, a MacArthur "Genius" Fellow, professor of biology and neurology at Stanford University and author; Laila Lalami, who will talk about her novel, "The Moor’s Account," which was a finalist for the 2015 Pulitzer prize; Dr. Jay M. Winter, former professor of history at Yale University, award-winning author and specialist on World War I; and Irwin Stovroff, U.S. veteran and founder of Vets Helping Heroes.

Trumpeter Herb Alpert and his wife, singer Lani Hall, will perform together.

Now this season is a free official Festival of the Arts BOCA app, a digital pocket guide featuring GPS directions, schedule of events, ticket purchasing, contests, links to social media channels, videos, sneak previews of upcoming performances and more. Users will have the ability to enable push notifications for up-to-the-minute schedule changes, emergency information and traffic updates. To download, visit the app store on your mobile device and search for Festival BOCA.

Events will be held at the Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, and Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center, 201 Plaza Real (second floor) in Boca Raton.

Tickets range from $15 to $225 per person and are available at festivalboca.com or by calling (866) 571-ARTS (866-571-2787). Multi-event and full festival packages are also available.