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events]

DELRAY DON'T-MISS EVENTS

MARCH



FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS BOCA

WHERE: Mizner Park Amphitheater and the Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center WHEN: March 2-12

ABOUT: Festival of the Arts BOCA has earned a reputation for bringing world-class musicians, authors and historians to South Florida. Entertainers this year include: Branford Marsalis, Sarah Chang, Daniel Hsu, Joey Alexander, cartoonist Bob Mankoff, and author Jon Meacham. **COST:** From \$9.99 to \$125 **CONTACT:** 866/571-2787, festivalboca.org

BOCA BACCHANAL

WHERE: Mizner Park Amphitheater on Saturday and private residences on Friday WHEN: March 24 and 25 at 7 p.m. ABOUT: Now entering its 15th year, Boca Bac-

chanal celebrates the grape. The festival's signature event, Bacchanalia showcases offerings from 40 local restaurants, and Boca Bacchanal features exclusive vintner dinners on Friday night in private homes. Proceeds support education and historic preservation programs of the Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum.

COST: Bacchanalia is \$125 per person. Vintner dinners are \$325 per person. **CONTACT:** 561/395-6766 ext. 301, bocabac-

chanal.com

NINTH ANNUAL SAVOR THE AVENUE

WHERE: Atlantic Avenue from Swinton Avenue to Southeast Fifth Avenue

WHEN: March 27, 5:30 p.m.

ABOUT: For its ninth consecutive year, *Delray* and *Boca* magazines are working with Delray's Downtown Development Authority to create a table stretching five blocks with room for more than 1,000 dinner guests. Savor the Avenue will feature 16 restaurants, each offering a four-course menu paired with special libations. Reservations

calendar] BY RICH POLLACK

Top 5



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55th Annual Delray Affair

Where: Atlantic Avenue from two blocks west of Swinton Avenue to the Intracoastal Waterway When: April 7-9

About: Imagine sweet potato pie, 550 arts and crafts exhibitors and more than 100,000 visitors strolling 12 blocks of Atlantic Avenue. It's time for the Delray Affair, Delray Beach's signature outdoor event that began in 1962 and has become an annual tradition for residents and out-of-town visitors alike. With vendors offering everything from fine art to handcrafted jewelry, the 2017 Delray Affair is again expected to set attendance records. It doesn't hurt that the event, produced by the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce, remains free and open to the public. New for 2017 will be "Upcycle Delray" a student art show featuring plastic bags transformed into works of art or something fun and useful. Although the Delray Affair is a daytime event—10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and closing at 5 p.m. on Sunday-there will be plenty to do on the Avenue when the sun goes down. The Downtown Development Authority's Delray After Dark program is full of special merchant and restaurant promotions. Also new is Artrageous, a show at the Old School Square Pavilion at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, featuring artists painting with amazing speed along with music and choreography.

Cost: Delray Affair is free. Tickets to Artrageous are \$25 for adults, \$15 for students. **Contact:** 561/279-0907, delrayaffair.com



Our must-do events this spring include an affair with Delray and the longest dining table in Florida.

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Ninth Annual Savor the Avenue

Where: Atlantic Avenue from Swinton Avenue to Southeast Fifth Avenue When: March 27, 5:30 p.m.

About: For the ninth year in a row, *Delray* and Boca magazines are teaming up with Delray's Downtown Development Authority to create a table stretching for five blocks with room for more than 1,000 dinner guests. Savor the Avenue will feature as many as 16 restaurants, each offering a four-course menu paired with special libations. A must on the social calendar, Savor the Avenue is a chance for friends to dine under the stars on cuisine specially prepared for the evening by some of Delray Beach's top chefs. Bragging rights will be up for grabs as each restaurant tries to outdo the others with table décor. As in years past, the winner of the best table décor competition will be determined by a panel of judges. This year, for the first time, there will also be a People's Choice Award; guests may post photos of their nominations on Facebook or Instagram. Savor the Avenue will include a charity component, with \$3 for each reservation donated to the Delray Beach Public Library. Reservations are made directly with the participating restaurants and menus for the evening can be found at downtowndelraybeach. com/SavortheAvenue or bocamag.com/savor. **Cost:** Varies by restaurant

Contact: 561/243.1077, downtowndelraybeach. com/SavortheAvenue



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Tony Bennett

Where: Kravis Center for the Performing Arts When: March 3, 8 p.m.

About: Here's a little perspective: when Tony Bennett recorded his first hit, "Because of You," Harry Truman was still in the White House. Most of the performers he has recently sung with-Lady Gaga, k.d. Lang, Andrea Bocellihadn't even been born yet. His best known hit, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," was recorded more than a half century ago, and he won his first of 19 Grammy Awards when he was 37. Now 90, Bennett is still enjoying a comeback that began in the early 1990s including Grammywinning albums such as "Duets" in 2000, which brought him to the attention of a younger crowd. Although audiences have changed over the years, Bennett's musical style has endured for decades. With worldwide record sales in the millions and dozens of platinum and gold albums to his credit, Bennett is a musician who still touches listeners with his charming stage presence and a voice that conjures up memories. He received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001 and in 2014 teamed up with Lady Gaga to record a Grammy Award-winning album of jazz standards, "Cheek to Cheek." He won his most recent Grammy last year with "The Silver Lining: The Songs of Jerome Kern."

Cost: Starting at \$36 **Contact:** 561/832-7469 or 800/572-8471,

Kravis.org

march/april

Festival of the Arts

[2]

Festival of the Arts BOCA

Where: Mizner Park Amphitheater and the Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center When: March 2-12

About: Since it began more than a decade ago, Festival of the Arts BOCA has earned a reputation for bringing world-class musicians to South Florida, along with well-known authors and historians. This year, the festival continues on the same track, with an eclectic mix of outstanding musicians from both the classical and the pop music worlds plus writers and editors with unique perspectives. Featured performers include saxophonist Branford Marsalis, who will join The Symphonia Boca Raton in a program with music from John Williams and violinist Sarah Chang, who will perform the Violin Concerto in G Minor by Bruch. Opening the program with The Symphonia Boca Raton will be the young American pianist Daniel Hsu, performing Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1. Thirteenyear-old jazz piano prodigy, Joey Alexander, who wowed festival-goers last season, will also be returning. The final performance of the festival will be by Sergio Mendes & Brasil 2017 in an exclusive South Florida appearance. Among those in the festival's Authors & Ideas program will be Bob Mankoff, the cartoon editor for The New Yorker and authors Jennifer Egan, Brian Green and Jon Meacham. Cost: From \$9.99 to \$125 Contact: 866/571-2787, festivalboca.org

[1]

Boca Bacchanal

Where: Mizner Park Amphitheater on Saturday and private residences on Friday When: March 24 and 25 at 7 p.m. About: The Boca Bacchanal, now entering its 15th year, is a two-day celebration of the grape, which includes Bacchanalia, a Saturday night event held this year at the Mizner Park Amphitheater and the popular vintner dinners taking place in private residences. More than 2,000 bottles of wine from some of the best wineries in the country will be uncorked and about 250 Champagne bottles will be popped. The festival's signature event, Bacchanalia, is a must for wine aficionados and showcases offerings from 40 local restaurants. The event will also feature DJ and electric violinist Timothy Lovelock along with a fashion presentation from Saks Fifth Avenue and a high-tech auction. For wine and food connoisseurs interested in a more intimate experience, Boca Bacchanal features exclusive vintner dinners on Friday night in private homes. Participating chefs include Brian and Shanna O'Hea from The Kennebunk Inn in Maine and Phillipe Reynaud from the Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo. Proceeds from Boca Bacchanal support education and historic preservation programs of the Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum. Cost: Bacchanalia is \$125 per person. Vintner dinners are \$325 per person. Contact: 561/395-6766 ext. 301, bocabacchanal.com



Boca Bacchanal

Spring Music and Mayhem

OUR SPRING CALENDAR HAS EVERYTHING FROM JETHRO TULL TO A SHOTGUN WEDDING

MARCH 3: RYTHMETRIC CIRCUS at

the Pavilion at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave.; 8 p.m.; \$25 for adults, \$15 for students; 561/243-7922; oldschool. org. Home-grown hoofers from Minneapolis hit the road with a trunk full of tap shoes, funky costumes and a big brass band, ready to burst onto the stage with "Feet, Don't Fail Me Now." In this joyous parade of genre-hopping music and hardhitting percussive dance, you'll be jumping out of your seat and dancing to the beat.

MARCH 3 AND APRIL 7: FIRST FRIDAY ART WALKS, Delray Beach Arts District, including Artists Alley, Pineapple Grove Arts District and Atlantic Avenue; 6 p.m.; free; 561/243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com/firstfridayartwalk. A self-guided tour, the First Friday Art Walks in downtown Delray Beach feature an evening of art, education and relaxation through 29 participating galleries showcasing special exhibits, artists and promotions.

MARCH 3-4: JETHRO TULL'S MARTIN BARRE BAND at Arts Garage, 180 N.E. First St.; 8 p.m.; \$45-\$75; 561/450-6357; artsgarage.org. Martin Barre has been Jethro Tull's guitarist for 43 years and a sound that's been key to its success. Album sales have exceeded \$60 million and represent an enduring part of classic rock history.





MARCH 4: CELTIC WOMAN at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach; 3 p.m. & 8 p.m.; \$29 and up; 561/832-7469, kravis.org. Captivating Irish vocal ensemble Celtic Woman returns to the Kravis Center for an evening of traditional Irish fare along with contemporary hits from artists such as Enya and Josh Groban.

MARCH 9: 0 SOLE TRIO FROM PAVAROTTI TO POP at the Crest Theatre at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave.; 8 p.m.; \$35/\$45; 561/243-7922; oldschool.org. O Sole Trio is a new, vibrant musical ensemble with an exhilarating show that captures the essence of the Italian-American songbook. Having toured the U.S. and beyond, the trio has garnered rave reviews from audiences and critics alike.

MARCH 5: SHOTGUN WEDDING

at the Pavilion at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave.; 7 p.m.; \$30; 561/243-7922; oldschool.org. A New York City country band, Shotgun Wedding is two parts twang, an ounce of rock-n-roll and a dash of swing, all shook up. Perhaps the world's first city-country band, Shotgun Wedding pays homage to classic country music, without cowboy hats or western wear. MARCH 11: CATHERINE RUS-SELL at Arts Garage 180 N.E. First St.; 8 p.m.; \$30-\$45; 561/450-6357; artsgarage.org. Grammy-Award-winning jazz and blues singer and one-of-a-kind vocalist Catherine Russell has toured the world, performing and recording with top artists like David Bowie, Steely Dan, Cyndi Lauper, Paul Simon and many others. Russell's albums and tracks have topped jazz charts and earned an array of awards.

MARCH 12: SERGIO MENDES & BRASIL 2017 at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton; from \$15-\$100; 866/571-2787; festivalboca. org. One of the most successful Brazilian artists of all time, Sergio Mendes has recorded more than 35 albums, many gold or platinum, and won three Grammy Awards. Sergio Mendes & Brasil '66 achieved global stardom performing "The Look of Love" at the 1968 Oscars.

MARCH 13 & 14: LESLIE ODOM

JR. at the Crest Theatre at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave.; 8 p.m.; \$57/\$72; 561/243-7922; oldschool.org. Tony Award winner, Leslie Odom Jr. is perhaps best known for his starring role as Aaron Burr in the mega-hit Broadway musical "Hamilton." He made his Broadway debut in the cast of "Rent" when he was 17 years old and is well-known for his portrayal of Sam Strickland on NBC's "SMASH."

MARCH 15: KARLA BONOFF at the Crest Theatre at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave.; 8 p.m.; \$57/\$77; 561/243-7922; oldschool.org. Karla Bonoff has been described as one of the finest singer/ songwriters of her generation. With a career spanning four decades, Bonoff has enjoyed critical acclaim, commercial success, enduring popularity and the unwavering respect of her peers. In addition to charting with her own recordings, she has seen her songs become hits for Bonnie Raitt, Wynona Judd and Linda Rondstadt. MARCH 16: THE KLEZMATICS at the Pavilion at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave.; 7:30 p.m.; \$25; 561/243-7922; oldschool.org. Since their emergence more than 25 years ago, The Klezmatics have raised the bar for Eastern European Jewish music and helped change the face of contemporary Yiddish culture. Often called a "Jewish roots band," The Klezmatics have led a popular revival of this ages-old, nearly forgotten art form.

MARCH 18: VICTOR GOULD TRIO at

the Arts Garage 180 N.E. First St.; 9 p.m.; \$30-\$45; 561/450-6357; artsgarage. org. As a member of the Donald Harrison Quartet, Victor Gould recorded three CDs and a DVD, and toured the United States and Europe. He has performed with Esperanza Spalding, Terence Blanchard, Branford Marsalis, Nicholas Payton, Ralph Peterson, Wallace Roney and many others.



MARCH 24: FRANK VIGNOLA & VINNY RANIOLO at the Arts Garage, 180 N.E. First St.; 9 p.m.; \$30-\$45; 561/450-6357; artsgarage.org. Frank Vignola and Vinny Raniolo are the amazing guitar duo with extraordinary technical skills. They play the first movement of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony as a non-stop romp, and they cover the classics from "Rocky III, Eye of the Tiger," along with works by Bach, Bizet, Grieg, and Sting.