



This Week in Sarasota: Thursday, Jan. 16

A look at our favorite events taking place this week

by: [Klint Lowry](#) Arts + Entertainment Editor

THURSDAY

'Sister Act'

7:30 p.m. at The Players Centre for Performing Arts, 838 N. Tamiami Trail. \$14-\$34
Call 365-2494.

First it was a movie, then a sequel, then it was adapted for the stage. You could say it was habit-forming — but we'd advise against it. But it is a divine musical comedy about a woman hiding in a convent who helps her fellow sisters find their voices as she rediscovers her own. Runs through Feb. 2.

FRIDAY

Sarasota Seafood and Music Festival

4-10 p.m., J.D. Hamel Park, 199 Bayfront Drive. Free

<http://www.seafoodfestivals.com>

Indulge in indulgences — eat, drink, shop, and listen to live music at the fifth annual installment of this three-day event build around a diverse menu of frutti di mare cooked fresh on site. The Humane Society will have their "Big Mac" mobile adoption center there, too. Runs through Sunday.

SATURDAY

Embracing Our Differences



Bayfront Park, 5 Bayfront Dr.

Free

Call 404-5710.

Once a year, Embracing Our Differences puts its mission of bringing people together through art and education on display with this annual outdoor juried exhibit. Fifty billboard-size works of art will be erected, each accompanied by an inspirational quote, all of which touching on the broad subject of diversity. Runs through April 5.

Celebrating Sondheim

4 p.m. at Riverview Performing Arts Center, 1 Ram Way. \$28-\$45

Call 387-4900.

Legendary Broadway composer Stephen Sondheim turns 90 later this year, and Choral Artists of Sarasota are sending out early birthday wishes with this show that includes tunes from "A Little Night Music," "Sweeney Todd," "Sunday in the Park with George" and more.

Jen Shyu: Nine Doors

8 p.m. at Harry Sudakoff Conference Center, 5845 General Dougher Place \$15

Call 487-4888.

Composer, singer, musician and dancer Jen Shyu sings in eight languages and plays the Taiwanese moon lute, Korean gayageum, piano, Japanese biwa, and Korean soribuk drum in this ritualistic solo performance. "Nine Doors" is about a young woman's journey through time and space as she finds guidance, strength, and solace in the face of trauma.

Victor Wainright and the Train

8 p.m., The Blue Rooster, 1525 Fourth St.

\$20 in advance, \$25 at the door

Call 388-7539 or visit <https://blueroostersrq.com>

Nothing like a case of the blues to liven up the weekend, so hop on board with Victor Wainright and the Train as their Frosty Funk Tour blows through town. Wainright, a Blues Music Awards nominee this year and a Grammy nominee last year, has been traveling and playing the blues for years, and he has the rangy repertoire to prove it.

SUNDAY

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute

3 p.m., Temple Emanu-El, 151 McIntosh Road

Free, donations accepted

Temple Emanu-El and the Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee will co-sponsor a musical and spoken word tribute to the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in an interfaith gathering in conjunction with events sponsored by the Newtown Tribute Committee. A cake and coffee social will follow the program, which is free and open to the community.

Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

7:30 p.m. at Booker High School, 3201 N. Orange Ave.

\$15-\$35 adults, \$5 students

Call 366-1505.

Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe presents a musical and spoken tribute to the civil rights leader. The program will include reenactments of some of King's speeches by the Rev. Charles McKenzie, and musical numbers performed by WBTT artists and students from Booker High School's VPA program. Runs through Monday.

MONDAY

SILL's Music Mondays: Charlie Albright

10:30 a.m. Church of the Palms and 3 p.m. Venice Presbyterian Church

Tickets \$10

Call 365-6404.

Pianist and composer Charlie Albright makes his third appearance to the popular interview series. Always a crowd-pleaser, Albright can compose a song in the spot or break loose with — who knows? Last time it was Jerry Lee Lewis' "Great Balls of Fire."

TUESDAY

The Greatest Love of All: A Tribute to Whitney Houston

8 p.m. at Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, 777 N. Tamiami Trail \$27-\$72

Call 953-3368.

Critics have hailed the production values of this show as being a dazzling tribute to the late singer. Vocalist Belinda David, in particular, has been praised for having the vocal to do justice to Whitney Houston's musical memory.

WEDNESDAY

'The Lifespan of a Fact'

1:30 p.m. at Asolo Repertory Theatre, 5555 N. Tamiami Trail \$26-\$72

Call 351-8000.

Should the news report "just the facts," or is there room for dramatic license, and who gets to draw the line? Based on actual events, this story pits a star journalist against a meticulous fact-checker, with their editor acting as referee as they wrestle with this question while facing a deadline.

'American Son'

8 p.m. at FST's Gompertz Theatre, 1241 Palm Ave.

Runs through March 22 From \$29

Call 366-9000.

Florida Studio Theatre presents a drama that tackles two themes, delving into the complexities of family relationships as an estranged couple seek answers about their missing son. At the same time, it raises questions about the degree to which race skews police procedure.