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## Entertainment XML

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### Arts Briefs

#### Visual illusion contest

More than 1,000 vision scientists and the general public will meet from 3 to 6 p.m. Monday at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, Sarasota, to choose the "Best Visual Illusion of the Year" Researchers and illusion artists from all over the world have submitted their latest creations: more than 40 extremely spectacular visual illusions. The winners will take home a trophy designed by the renowned Italian sculptor Guido Moretti.

Winners of this event are chosen by the audience after the top 10 finalists present their illusions.

The event is free to the public and seating will be available on a first-come first-served basis. A reception will follow to allow the public mingle with the contestants and with the vision science community.

Information: <http://illusioncontest.blogspot.com> and <http://illusioncontest.neuralcorrelate.com>.

#### Monthly meeting

The Riverfront Theatre Guild, 102 12th St. W., Bradenton, will hold its monthly meeting at noon May 9 in the theatre lobby. The meeting will feature a guest speaker from the American Red Cross on hurricane preparedness. The theater is also taking reservations for the trip to Solomon's Castle on May 20, the deadline for this reservations are May 9. Light refreshments will be served. This is the final meeting for the 2005-06 season. Information and reservations: 792-1816.

#### Annual music festival

The Jack J. Geldbart Awards will be the first Annual Festival part of the Second Sunday Reservations and information...

#### Actress to speak

Actress Blair Brown will speak to members and the public at the Sarasota Cinemas, 506 Burns Lane. She is an award-winning television actress for her work on Broadway's "Copenhagen."

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The free event is open to the public. Information: 304-866-0222, ext. 22.  
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#### Play reading series

Florida Studio Theatre announces its line-up for Richard and Betty Burdick Play Reading Series as part of the ongoing commitment to new play development. The three play readings will be held at 1 p.m. Saturdays in the Keating Theatre and they are: "Echoes of Another Man" May 13, "Laughing Matters, Too" May 20 and "Hand of God" May 27. Subscriptions to see all three shows are \$25 per person. Those wishing to see only one of the productions may purchase a special single ticket for \$25. Tickets and information: 366-9000.

#### AIDS fundraiser

The Sarasota AIDS Theatre Project is celebrating PrideFest by producing "Out At The Golden Apple" 7:30 p.m. May 8 at the Golden Apple Dinner Theatre, 25 N. Pineapple Ave., Sarasota. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Cost: \$15 per person. Deserts will be available. Information: 957-7999.

#### Auditions

- The Manatee Players Riverfront Theatre, 102 Old Main St., Bradenton, will host

auditions for "Bodas De Sangre" (Blood Wedding) by Federico Garcia Lorca at 7 p.m. May 14 and 15. Ten actresses (three girls, two older women and five young or middle age) and 10 actors (two around 20 years old, an older man for Father of the Bride and seven others/no age limit but able to sing at the wedding) are needed. Two guitarists and two violinists are also needed. The performances will be July 14-16 and 21-23. The play will be performed in Spanish with English subtitles. Information: 720-1558.

- The Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, 1010 N. MacInnes Place, Tampa, will host auditions for Opera Tampa chorus members for the 2006-07 season on May 15. The auditions are for three performances in the 2006-07 season including "Romeo and Juliet," "Sacco & Vanzetti" and "Il Trovatore." Auditions are open to all voice types. Choral experience or vocal training is preferred but not required. Those auditioning are asked to prepare a short song or aria and to bring sheet music. An accompanist will be provided. Auditions are by appointment only. Information: (813) 222-1021.

#### Art classes

- ArtCenter Manatee, 209 Ninth St. W., Bradenton has released its summer schedule of classes and workshops. The classes will include watercolor, acrylic, oil and pastel painting, drawing, metal art and jewelry making, pottery, figure drawing and more including a new class in digital photography. For listings and more information call: 746-2862 or [www.ArtCenterManatee.org](http://www.ArtCenterManatee.org).

- The Anna Maria Island Art League, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach, offers a wide variety of classes for people of all ages. Classes such as figure drawing, oil painting, youth traditional arts, basket weaving, watercolor and photography are offered. Class space is limited. Registration information: 778-2099.

- Art Center Sarasota, 707 N. Tamiami Trail, offers a wide variety of classes for people of all ages. Classes include pottery, drawing, oil painting, digital photography, watercolor, collage, holiday crafts, and more. For a complete schedule of classes, including recently added spring workshop listings, call 365-2032 or [www.artsarasota.org](http://www.artsarasota.org).

- Sarasota School of Glass, 999A Cattlemen Road, offers 24 different classes in glass blowing, fusing, and stained glass, as well as a "fused glass retail center." The center offers a wide variety of supplies and tools and is open to the public. Information: 371-5492.

