



Richard Hopkins  
Producing Artistic Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FST'S SUMMER PRODUCTION, *OFF THE CHARTS!*,  
TOURS ACROSS SARASOTA AND MANATEE COUNTIES**

(Sarasota, FL) – **Florida Studio Theatre** (FST) announces that it will tour a free, family-friendly musical production to seven locations from June – August. Featuring more than a dozen chart-topping songs from the past eight decades, ***Off the Charts!*** is a high-energy revue celebrating the universal language of music. With such hits as “Hound Dog,” “I Want to Hold Your Hand,” “Shake It Off,” and “Can’t Stop The Feeling,” *Off the Charts* explores music’s ability to make us think, feel, and connect across generations. Free public performances are scheduled at parks and libraries in Sarasota and Manatee Counties throughout the summer. A full schedule of public performances can be found at the end of this release. Audiences are encouraged to register for these free events at [floridastudiotheatre.org](http://floridastudiotheatre.org).

“After the impact of last year’s free outdoor theatre offering for families, we are excited to offer an all-new touring production, *Off The Charts!*” said **Caroline Saldivar**, FST’s Director of Children’s Theatre and one of the show’s co-creators. “This show features popular music from the 1950s through today and has songs that the whole family can enjoy. I hope that *Off the Charts!* can be a way for families to talk about the music they love and how the pop music of the past influences the music of today. We always love to see audience members singing and dancing along.”

FST has always held the belief that theatre is vital to the community. Today, the theatre continues to stand by this idea, understanding the importance of meeting the community where they are, wherever they are. This summer continues FST’s efforts to inspire individuals beyond the stage by going into nearby neighborhoods, new communities, and beyond.

“FST strives to bring music and theatre into the lives of as many people as possible,” said **Sarah Durham**, the show’s other co-creator. “*Off the Charts!* was specifically written for audiences of all ages. You never know when and how art will affect someone, bring someone joy, or inspire someone to reminisce. FST aims to make people feel all of these things with all of our programming, including Children’s Theatre.”

Featured in *Off the Charts* are four members of FST’s Acting Apprentice company: **Linnzie Hays, Caleb Lee, Harry Shaull, and Gemma Vodacek**.

*Off the Charts!* would not be possible without the valuable and generous support of individuals and Foundations, including the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of

Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, The Shubert Foundation, and the Bank of America Client Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee.

This music-filled show will also play during weekdays on FST's downtown Sarasota campus for registered camps and community groups from June 21 to August 5, 2022. To schedule a performance for your camp or group to attend, contact **Shelby Lynhall**, FST's Education and WRITE A PLAY Manager, at 941.366.9797 or [slynhall@floridastudiotheatre.org](mailto:slynhall@floridastudiotheatre.org).

## **FST THANKS THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

**City of Bradenton**

**Lakewood Ranch**

**Sarasota County Libraries**

**Sarasota County Parks**

## **SCHEDULE OF FREE PUBLIC EVENTS**

6/25 - Nokomis Community Park at 7PM

7/2 - William H. Jerve Jr Library in Venice at 10:30AM

7/9 - Lakewood Ranch Waterside Plaza at 7PM

7/16 - Selby Library at 2PM

7/23 - Phillippi Estate Park at 7PM

7/30 - Bradenton Riverwalk Mosaic Amphitheatre at 7PM

8/6 – Gulf Gate Library @ TBD

## **ABOUT FLORIDA STUDIO THEATRE**

Florida Studio Theatre (FST) is Sarasota's contemporary theatre. Founded in 1973, FST has grown to a village of five theatres located in the heart of Downtown, Sarasota. Each theatre is small in size and large in impact— providing intimate and engaging settings for high-quality, professional performances.

Today, FST has established itself as a major force in American Theatre. FST is the largest subscription theatre in the state of Florida and among the largest in the country, serving more than 230,000 live attendees each year across its six core programs: Mainstage, Cabaret, Stage III, Children's Theatre, The FST School, and New Play Development.

Even with its growth, Florida Studio Theatre remains firmly committed to making the arts accessible and affordable to as many people as possible. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Richard Hopkins, FST develops theatre that speaks to our living, evolving, and dynamically changing world. Hip and historical, entertaining and challenging, we are the theatre where the street meets the elite — where everyone is welcome to engage in the art of theatre.

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