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## **BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS HONORS VOLUNTEERS**

*Fort Lauderdale resident Michael Waymire named "Volunteer of the Year"*

FORT LAUDERDALE – The Broward Center for the Performing Arts recently held its 28th annual volunteer recognition event, presented by Florida Blue, which paid tribute to the nearly 900 volunteers who donated 123,000 hours of community service during the past season to the Broward Center and its affiliate venues.

More than 500 volunteers attended an appreciation dinner and were entertained with musical performances by a cast member of Slow Burn Theatre Company's *9 to 5 The Musical*, the Broward Center Spotlights youth vocal ensemble and four talented head ushers.

Florida Blue Field Marketing Director Jorge Blanco announced the top three winners. Fort Lauderdale resident Michael Waymire was recognized as the 2019-20 "Volunteer of the Year" for donating 1,480 hours during the season, which was the most by any volunteer. The prize package included tickets to Broadway in Fort Lauderdale's *Fiddler on the Roof*, a dinner gift certificate to Marti's New River Bistro and gift basket filled with wine, snacks and Broadway show souvenirs.

Also recognized were Plantation resident Aven Roberts who contributed 1,260 hours and Fort Lauderdale resident Lorraine Schramm who donated 775 hours of volunteer time.

The Broward Center also recognized 23 volunteers who were applauded for service of 10 years or more, and received their gold bow tie signifying this level of service. Four volunteers were honored for their 20-year milestone of volunteering.

Volunteers usher and serve as community ambassadors for the Broward Center and its affiliate venues: the Parker Playhouse, the Rose & Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center at Nova Southeastern University and the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center. Volunteers commit to a regular weekly shift (choosing a regular evening or matinee) for the full season. The Broward Center volunteer ushers are a dynamic mix of theater-lovers, from retired seniors and baby boomers to high school students, many of whom earn community service hours and volunteer alongside a parent or grandparent.

Volunteers are eligible to begin ushering performances upon completion of a three-hour orientation session that includes a tour of the Broward Center and an introduction to ushering. For more information, contact the volunteer office at 954.468.2684 or e-mail [volunteer@browardcenter.org](mailto:volunteer@browardcenter.org).

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

For more information visit [BrowardCenter.org](http://BrowardCenter.org), like us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/BrowardCenter](https://www.facebook.com/BrowardCenter) and [Facebook.com/BrowardCenterEducation](https://www.facebook.com/BrowardCenterEducation), follow us on Twitter and Instagram @BrowardCenter,

subscribe to our channel at [Youtube.com/user/BrowardCenter](https://www.youtube.com/user/BrowardCenter) and join the conversation with #BrowardCenter.

The Broward Center 2018-2019 season is presented by the Broward Performing Arts Foundation. AutoNation, Bank of America, Brightline, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, JetBlue, MasterCard and Paramount Refreshment Solutions are proud sponsors of the Broward Center.

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About The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

One of America's premier performing arts venues, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts presents more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, showcasing a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events. Guest experiences at the Broward Center include the all-inclusive JetBlue Flight Deck on the Club Level, special events in the Huizenga Pavilion, waterfront dining at Marti's New River Bistro and innovative classes and workshops for all ages at the Rose Miniaci Arts Education Center. With one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, the Broward Center serves more than 150,000 students annually. The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. receives and maintains funds to sustain, develop and secure the future of the Broward Center. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, visit [BrowardCenter.org](http://BrowardCenter.org).

The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment Consortium is a cultural partnership between the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale History Center and the Historic Stranahan House Museum. It is supported by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. Programs are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.