

Boca Raton Center for Arts & Innovation Announces \$1M Additional Donation

The new gift comes just one week after the organization's first capital pledge of \$5 million

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES, August 24, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The Boca Raton Arts District Exploratory Corporation (BRADEC) is proud to announce a new capital gift of \$1M from a Director of the BRADEC Board, Elizabeth Dudley. Dudley's contribution will help build the [Boca Raton Center for Arts & Innovation](#) at the north end of Mizner Park in downtown Boca Raton. This pledge comes just one week after another generous donor announced the project's first seven-figure capital pledge of \$5 million.

The donors' lounge of this new world-class Center will be named after Elizabeth Dudley and her late husband, Richard. "Dick would be very happy and supportive in his quiet manner," Dudley says. "He recognized good, cultural entertainment and would appreciate that this will now have a place right here in the Boca Raton area."

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*Director of the BRADEC Board,
Elizabeth Dudley*



Boca Raton Arts Center Logo

Dudley, a frequent and lifelong patron of the arts, adds, "In addition to providing a home for the local organizations, this project will be an incredible opportunity for our city to bring more cultural events to the community, as opposed to the decades-long need to drive 30-plus minutes north or south. For so long, we have had to go where the arts are. Finally, there'll be a home where the arts come to Boca Raton."

In May, BRADEC won unanimous support from the Boca Raton City Council and the Boca Raton Community Redevelopment Agency to negotiate a lease for the Mizner Park Amphitheater site and an adjacent, 1.8-acre land

parcel. Following negotiations with the City, expected to be complete this calendar year, these capital gifts will enable BRADEC to continue the new Center's design, programming and community engagement.

"On behalf of BRADEC, we are very grateful to Liz for not only her service on the Board, but for this generous donation that has helped kickstart our campaign to cement this region of the Gold Coast as a place that exemplifies cultural excellence," says [Andrea Virgin](#), President of BRADEC. "In advance of a signed ground lease, these early capital gifts highlight the swelling momentum and support that continues to build daily for the Center."

Dudley has been deeply involved with several non-profit organizations in Florida since she moved to the state in 1991. She has held multiple directorial positions for the boards of Boca Ballet Theatre, Boca Pops, National Society of Arts and Letters, Louis and Anne Green Memory & Wellness Center and Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club Homeowners' Association. She has served on many gala committees for the Boca Raton Historical Society, the Tri-County Humane Society and Boca Ballet Theatre. She is also a member of American Ballet Theatre's Lucia Chase Society, the Dance Theatre of Harlem Legacy Society and Boca Ballet Theatre's Pavlova Legacy Society.

Nominated twice for the Junior League of Boca Raton's Woman Volunteer of the Year award for her service to Boca Ballet Theatre and Caring Hearts Auxiliary of FAU, Dudley has served the Boca Raton community well. Although retired, she continues her service to the nonprofit sector as an active board member for the Boca Raton Center for Arts & Innovation and Boca Ballet Theatre, and continues to contribute to numerous other causes and organizations in the South Florida area.

About the Boca Raton Center for Arts & Innovation:

Conceptually announced in 2018, the Boca Raton Center for Arts & Innovation is a non-profit initiative to build a state-of-the-art hub for arts, culture, technology, and education in Florida's Gold Coast region. The Center imagines six diverse and adaptive performance & event spaces — indoor & outdoor — ranging in capacity from 99 to 3,500 seats. These can be programmed as individual spaces or combined to host events for nearly 6,000 total attendees.

The venues include a state-of-the-art, 1,100-seat concert & performance hall, designed as a multi-form theater with several configurations including the ability to become completely flat-floor; an existing amphitheater stage that is improved to allow for a transformation into a 450-seat "Studio Theater" interior space, through the use of an innovative structural curtain; the 3,500-seat existing Mizner Park Amphitheater, which can be programmed simultaneously with the "Studio Theater" space; a jewel-box, 99-seat performance hall that can be converted into a large rehearsal studio or event space; an outdoor rooftop terrace, which can accommodate an estimated 200 patrons; and additional campus spaces that will enable technological innovation and education through the arts. An innovative canopy feature will shelter the Center's outdoor spaces from the elements.

For more information and updates, and details on how to assist the project team in bringing the vision for the Center to life, please visit <https://bocaratonartscenter.org/>.

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