



# Steph Sez

## THE SHOW MUST GO ON

Hello my friends. Can you believe it is November already? It is so strange as sometimes I feel this has been the longest year and in some ways, it is flying by. One thing I am sure of is that we all need each other during 2020. Although it is harder than ever to see each other, spend time with your friends and family and socialize at all but as they say, "The Show Must Go On." Listen up to hear about Broward's Performing Arts Virtual show and also, on how to still have dinner with your loved ones even if you aren't in the same room.

### ROAD TO RECOVERY

More than 1,000 attendees tuned in online to the Broward Performing Arts Foundation's virtual 2020 Annual Reception sponsored by Bank of America. They were treated to captivating musical performances featuring Broadway stars singing songs from the shows in the next Bank of America Broadway in Fort Lauderdale season.

Guests had an opportunity to see something that has been missing from the Broward Center stages during the pandemic – performances from Broadway shows. The event also launched the Center's Road to Recovery Campaign, inviting those attending to help ensure that "the show will go on." To open the evening's program, Foundation board vice chair Senator George LeMieux welcomed guests and highlighted the Broward Center's legacy. "The Broward Center has always been a meaningful place where people gather to see the arts and enjoy our community," said LeMieux. "Although this has been a very difficult time, that still holds true today and we know we will get



Foundation President Lisa Kitei and Broward Center CEO Kelley Shanley updated guests on the impact of the pandemic.

through it with the help of the community."

The star-studded list of Broadway performers and their songs included Amber Iman ("Satisfied" from *Hamilton*), Nick Spangler ("Whaddya Do" from *Tootsie*), Eilyn Marie Marsh ("Rodeo Drive" from *Pretty Woman*), Adam Kantor ("Answer Me" from *The Band's Visit*), Josh Lamon ("Barry Is Going to Prom" from *The Prom*), Liz Callaway ("Memory" from *Cats*) and Eden Espinosa ("One Song Glory" from *Rent*).

Broward Center President and CEO Kelley Shanley updated guests on the pandemic's impact and what has been happening at Broward Center while the theater is dark. "This time has been devastating for the performing arts. Although we can't gather in person, our staff has been finding new and innovative ways to continue our mission of providing the arts to the community. I am inspired each day by the hard work of our staff and partners, and I know with your support during our Road to Recovery we will be ready to welcome you safely back into our theaters when the time is right."

After recognizing Bank of America for its support of the evening as well as its unflinching philanthropy

in the community, Foundation President Lisa Kitei urged guests to join the Broward Center's recovery campaign. "There has never been a time where your support is more important than it is right now," she said. "Funds raised through the Road to Recovery campaign will help us sustain operations as we prepare for the day when our doors reopen, the curtain rises and the lights return to the Broward Center stages."

### THINK OUT OF THE BOX

These days it's more important than ever to spend time with your friends and fam and you can still be at the same table even if you are across town, that's right! I just came across this amazing way to host an intimate dinner party, social affair, fundraiser and more in this crazy time we are living in. It's an "Event in a Box product", a curated "scene" that can be delivered to you by Creative Lab. Their B Scene Boxes are impacting the way people entertain in today's social environment.

With many people entertaining at home in smaller, more intimate ways, the need for a simple process that gives you the opportunity to have a virtual event planner who handles all the details

has never been more relevant. This company, Creative Lab offers the chance to plan an epic party, without the cost of the planner, while keeping you and your guests safe. I recently saw photos of a B Scene a Box event and I needed to know more. You see, these scenes can highlight any vibe; casual to formal, chic to sophisticated. And get this... the scenes are rockin' the coolest names too: "Sittin' Pretty, Tuck It In My Tuxe, Smokin' Hot, Green with Envy, Rock the Boat, Mr. Grey" and more. So, what is it exactly- it is the perfect table setting and details to make your party perfect! The scenes include: dinner plate, salad plate, placemat or runner, napkin, napkin ring, charger, flatware, and an all-purpose wine/water glass then you

you will need to take the stress out of entertaining then, at the end of the event, wash everything off and pack up your Scene back in the B Scene case(s) it/they came in and they'll pick it up the next day.

With the holidays just around the corner, why not make it easy on yourselves? If you can't physically be with your family and friends for your birthday, Thanksgiving, a special evening and more then why not feast at the "same table?" Yep, with the same place settings all in different homes, you can literally celebrate a virtual event together. The boxes can be sent to you at your home, your family in theirs and your uncle who works all the time, at his office and then you can all dine together with the same



It's time to think out of the box...be grateful and plan to B Scene with these innovative boxes!

can spice it up with details. It's all about the details...you can add flowers, place cards, menus, gifts (hostess gifts and dinner favors including mini-candles, custom chocolates, slippers, scarves and more) and even add a bar and a buffet scene. So smart!!

Now this is the coolest part, you can entertain with a carefully imagined, sophisticated (and sanitized!) box delivered directly to your door, packed with everything

scene! These scenes will make any setting feel like a special occasion.

Also, I found out they have these custom designed mini-boxes to mail out for that chic charity benefit, an anniversary commemoration, kids and adult bday parties and more then everyone won't miss celebrating your special occasion together!

For all the scoop and how to book your Scene, check out [www.creativelab.events](http://www.creativelab.events)

### STEPH SEZ SCOOP



Foundation board vice chair Senator George LeMieux welcomed guests and highlighted the Broward Center's legacy.



Allison Freidin, Gustavo Oviedo, and Alan Ket at Museum of Graffiti Presents The Grand Opening of Gustavo Oviedo: Symbiosis. Photo credit: Seth Brownnik/WorldRedEye.com.

STEPH SEZ: If you want your social item in my column, please email me at [stephsez@hotmail.com](mailto:stephsez@hotmail.com)  
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