

'Spirit of America' at FAU



From June 21-23, Florida Atlantic University Libraries will host the inaugural "Spirit of America Festival: A Celebration of Music and Arts," a three-day festival saluting iconic composer Leonard Bernstein (pictured). (Submitted photo / June 2, 2014)

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From Monday, June 16 through Friday, July 11, Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Libraries will be hosting the inaugural "Spirit of America Exhibition," a presentation of rare materials from the Marvin and Sybil Weiner "Spirit of America Collection" and the Harold L. Glasser Collection. The exhibition will take place on the fifth floor of the Wimberly Library at FAU's [Boca Raton](#) campus (777 Glades Road).

The exhibition features influential texts that have contributed to Western Civilization since the invention of the printing press 500 years ago and materials from the Glasser Collection, which honors the World War II bombardier and former president of Miss Universe, Inc.

The exhibition's hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Viewing by appointment is available by calling 561-297-3787 or 561-297-2693, or by emailing lysca@fau.edu.

From June 21-23, FAU Libraries also will host the inaugural "Spirit of America Festival: A Celebration of Music and Arts," a three-day festival saluting iconic composer Leonard Bernstein and showcasing the libraries' Print Music Collection, the Weiner "Spirit of America Collection" and the Glasser Collection.

The festival kicks off with "An Intimate Conversation with Jamie Bernstein," a conversation about family and the Bernstein legacy with Leonard's daughter, Jamie. This event will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 21 at the Wimberly Library and includes a reception. Tickets are \$25.

At 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 22, Maestro Aaron Kula's 50-member Klezmer Company Orchestra will be joined by six guest opera singers and guest of honor Jamie Bernstein for the Florida premiere of the concert version of "On the Town," Bernstein's 1944 Broadway musical comedy. Kula has been working with the Bernstein Organization in New York for more than a year on the concert. The concert — the festival's main event — will take place at FAU's Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium. Tickets are \$20 to \$42.

Concluding the festival, at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 23 at the Wimberly Library, is "Bernstein on Broadway," a piano-vocal recital with commentary by South Florida theater critic Bill Hirschman. During the recital, two distinguished vocalists will perform selections from "West Side Story" and other songs composed by Bernstein, who often used New York City and Broadway as inspiration for his musicals. Tickets are \$15.

Festival guest vocalists are from throughout the tri-county area and live in [Boca Raton](#), [Coral Springs](#), [Davie](#), [Fort Lauderdale](#), [Lake Worth](#), [Miami](#), [Miami Beach](#), [Pembroke Pines](#), [Plantation](#) and [West Palm Beach](#). The orchestra and FAU Libraries patrons also come from all over the tri-county area.

The festival is made possible by its sponsors: the Weiner Family, Marny Glasser, First Union Bank and The University Club at FAU. Festival tickets can be purchased by calling 800-564-9539 or at <http://www.fauevents.com>.