

Willi Miller: Music students on once-in-a-lifetime trip to Greek isles

By Willi Miller

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If Ray Adams were to Skype with you this week, you would see the beautiful Greek island of Syros (www.gosyros.com) in the background. He, several chaperones and 10 of his students at Indian River Charter High School left Tuesday for the Festival of the Aegean, a music festival that is going to be on the airwaves all over Europe.

Beethoven's Ninth will be on the program, but Adams says he's "most excited to be working with John Rutter once again." The composer will conduct his Magnificat, to be on the program for a concert under the stars. Adams credits the musicians' earlier performances at Carnegie Hall with their invitation to the festival.

The two-week trip includes many hours of rehearsals, but allows for organized tours and free time, a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the students. They board their planes for the return flight July 18.

SEE ART DOWNTOWN

Whatever the name, this is the night to be in the art district, downtown Vero Beach. It's the first Friday of the month and galleries will be open, and some will have receptions. Judy Burgarella asked me to remind readers about the blog she produces for the arts community, www.verobeachartgalleries.blogspot.com.

TIDBITS

The Discovery Days Great Escapes series for youngsters begins 10 a.m. Wednesday at Bok Tower Gardens. A different book will be featured each week with "Holes" by Louis Saccher starring in the initial escape.

Keep Indian River Beautiful is in need of an artist to help people paint rain barrels July 14 at the Indian River Mall. Call Vicki Wild at 772-226-7738 if you're interested.

The genealogy department at the main library in Vero Beach was successful in its appeal to artists for donations to raise funds to support the department's programs. Now the staff is looking for friends to go into the library and bid on the art in a silent auction. It ends Sept. 11.



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