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## THE SARASOTA EXPERIENCE | WEDU PBS DOCUMENTARY | TREATMENT

Our community is alive, and made up of many parts.

I believe that no matter how you feel about something, the more you know about it, the more you appreciate it. You may love it, you may hate it, but to know it brings empowerment, empowerment to enjoy or help create change.

The theme for *THE SARASOTA EXPERIENCE* is "What makes a community thrive."

To analyze this thesis we will dive deep into a thorough and unfiltered look at the very beginning of the community of Sarasota. We'll speak with Uzi Baram, Professor of Anthropology at New College about the land of Florida and Sarasota before any inhabitants. He'll delve into its first indigenous people and their community all the way up until the present. We'll speak with people like Historian Jeff LaHurd about Sarasota's first white settlers, the creation of the city of Sarasota, the county of Sarasota, the roaring twenties, the hardship of the thirties, the WWII era all the way through the 50s and beyond.

We'll be speaking to "twilight-yearred" locals, some of whom have personal stories of way back when, lovely and fond memories of performing while attending Sarasota High School for the local WWII troops stationed in Sarasota.

One interviewee that we're terribly excited to speak with, past mayor Willie Shaw will share vivid stories of growing up in the Newtown area.

These many personal stories and information will be intercut with speakers concerning present day Sarasota.

The interviews concerning Sarasota's history will all be filmed in old iconic locations, enhancing the interviewees tone.

Michael Saunders will talk about the history of and the significance of real estate of yesteryear up until the present, and how it not only helped create Sarasota, but helps shape a community.

We'll be speaking to a Mote Marine scientist about climate change, how climate helps affect community and how it will specifically effect ours.

Sarah Wertheimer of Embracing Our Differences will speak with us about racism, diversity, inclusion and how that helps create or hinder a great community.

Megan Howell of Second Heart Homes will speak about the local homelessness, mental illness and ideas of getting the specific help these residents need.

After we hear the almost 20 diverse interviewees speak about the past, the present and their hopes for the future, we'll extrapolate this community trajectory and set our sights on the future of Sarasota.

Anand Pallegar of DreamLarge, a local important community and business leader will talk about the future of community, while Erin Silk, Chief Operations Officer at the EDC will touch upon the importance of business and how it shapes community.

The main interviews of *THE SARASOTA EXPERIENCE* will be shot in a three camera set up using as much natural light as possible. We'll have a wide static shot, a medium slider, and a static close to capture every essence and nuance of our interviewees.

In addition to the main interviews, we are creating an exciting video initiative that calls on the community of Sarasota to record themselves vertically on their phones answering one or all of the questions provided, questions that will allow us to put a thumbprint on the heartbeat of our community today. They will easily be able to submit their release form and video on the new home page we have already created at [www.triforcepictures.com](http://www.triforcepictures.com).

Our intention is to film three large narrative reenactments that will delineate the documentary into acts, creating a clear and easy to follow structure.

B-roll for *THE SARASOTA EXPERIENCE* will be ethereal shots of the beautiful and dynamically fast growing landscape of Sarasota with the cinema style of RED Cameras, along with sweeping drone shots, hyperlapse, old photos, maps, and seldomly seen old film footage.

Lastly, for the classic feel, we have old-time styled painted postcards of Sarasota courtesy of Jarred Wilson, and our plan is to have community members read excerpts from them, shedding light on the tone and lifestyle of our earliest community members.

Our highest hopes for the *THE SARASOTA EXPERIENCE* is to have a comprehensive documentary, a documentary that engages, educates, enlightens, entertains, a documentary that inspires questions or creates change, but to ultimately galvanize our community in some way, and invite people to use this knowledge to empower themselves, which in itself will empower others.