

Presents

The Business of Performance

Monday, November 4 at 6:00 p.m.

U. Tobe Recital Hall, Music Building FGCU Campus, 10501 FGCU Blvd S, Ft. Myers



Sandi Moran



Ken Davenport



Kristen Coury

The evening will focus on "The Business of Performance," and feature a panel of world-renowned industry professionals. Sandi Moran and Ken Davenport are Tony Award®-winning Broadway producers, while Kristen Coury is the Founder, CEO, and Producing Artistic Director of Gulfshore Playhouse in Naples, FL. They will share stories about their experiences and the workings of the theatre industry from a perspective that we don't often hear about. The evening will focus on the professional and business aspects required to create a successful performance, including creative collaboration, creating a sustainable business model, and overcoming industry obstacles. This discussion is free and open to the public and will be followed by a light reception.

Sandi Moran is an American Theatre Producer and Philanthropist. A three-time Tony Award® winner, some of her Broadway, West End and Tour credits include *Moulin Rouge!* (Best Musical), *Hadestown* (Best Musical), *Once on This Island* (Best Revival of a Musical), *A Beautiful Noise: The Neil Diamond Musical*, *Harmony*, *Gutenberg*, *Tina Turner The Musical*, *Anastasia*, Deaf West's *Spring Awakening*, *The Visit*, and more.

Sandi, a sixth-generation Floridian, has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Naples Children & Education Foundation and has been a Trustee, along with her husband Tom, since 2010. She currently serves on the board of the Gulfshore Playhouse.

Ken Davenport is a Tony Award®-winning Broadway producer whose credits include A Beautiful Noise: The Neil Diamond Musical, Oh! Mary, Once On This Island (Best Revival of a Musical), Harmony, Gettin' the Band Back Together, The Play that Goes Wrong, Groundhog Day, Deaf West's Spring Awakening, It's Only a Play, Macbeth starring Alan Cumming, Godspell, Kinky Boots (Best Musical), The Visit, Mothers and Sons, The Bridges of Madison County, Allegiance, Chinglish, Oleanna starring Bill Pullman and Julia Stiles, Speed-the-Plow, Will Ferrell's You're Welcome America, Blithe Spirit starring Angela Lansbury, and 13.

Off-Broadway, Ken has produced *Daddy Long Legs*, *Altar Boyz* (Co-Conceiver), *My First Time* (Author), *The Awesome 80's Prom* (Creator), *That Bachelorette Show!* (Creator), and *Miss Abigail's Guide to Dating, Mating & Marriage* (Author). Ken's productions have been produced internationally in over 25 countries around the world. Ken's unique production and marketing style has garnered him international attention in numerous publications, including *Vanity Fair* and *The New York Times*. Upcoming projects include *The Griswolds' Broadway Vacation*, *JOY the Musical*, *The Ten* and a musical based on the life of Harry Belafonte. For more information, visit www.KenDavenport.com.

Kristen Coury is the CEO and Producing Artistic Director of Gulfshore Playhouse. She founded the Playhouse in 2004, after moving to Naples from New York City. Kristen is also a frequent investor in Broadway productions, most recently A Beautiful Noise: The Neil Diamond Musical. Kristen has directed over 50 productions for the Playhouse, including a ten-person, 2 piano My Fair Lady, the world premiere of The God Game by Suzanne Bradbeer and the final production in the Norris Center, She Loves Me. She has just completed a \$72M capital campaign to build a new Theatre and Education Center at the gateway to downtown Naples, opening in late October 2024.

Up-to-date event information and directions can be found at FGCU.EDU/BSMA