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LOS ANGELES

**'Black Panther'
Costume Designer to
Receive Career Award**

Ruth E. Carter, the creator of the stunning costumes of "Black Panther" and numerous other Hollywood films, will receive the career achievement award at next year's Costume Designers Guild Awards. The guild announced Tuesday that the two-time Academy Award nominee will receive the honor at the 21st annual ceremony held Feb. 19 in Beverly Hills.

— The Associated Press

Backstage Pass

INSIGHTS ON STAGE, SCREEN AND BEYOND

**Tenor to Bring
Life and Family
To Sharon Stage**

By KRISTEN FIORE | Daily Sun Senior Staff Writer

Fernando Varela spent a recent weekend in Los Angeles performing with Gladys Knight and David Foster during "Carousel of Hope," a gala for childhood diabetes.

Varela is a tenor who performs on tour with Canadian musician David Foster. He's also the executive director of Victory Productions, the arts outreach organization that puts on many of the shows at The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center and Savannah Center.

The "Carousel of Hope" event raised more than \$2 million, and Varela got to speak with influences like Jay Leno, Quincy Jones and Clive Davis.

After the event, he came home for a few days and then flew out with Foster to Vancouver, where the two visited Michael Bublé.

They met Bublé's family and toured his house, which has a hockey rink in it.

Varela then went back to L.A. to do a fundraiser event for ALS. On a night off, he went to dinner at the home of Carole Bayer Sager and Bob Daly and

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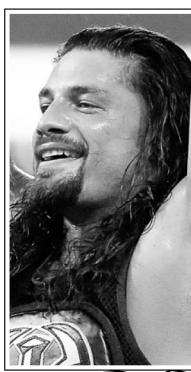
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CELEBRITY SPOTLIGHT



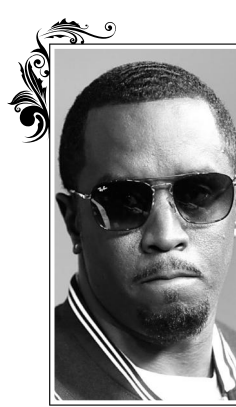
CATHERINE DENEUVE

French film star Catherine Deneuve received Japan's most prestigious art award, the Praemium Imperiale, on Tuesday at a ceremony in Tokyo, where she was greeted by Emperor Akihito.



ROMAN REIGNS

WWE wrestler Roman Reigns, 33, says he will step away from the ring because he has leukemia. Reigns, whose real name is Joe Anoa'i, made the announcement Monday night to open the episode of "Raw."



SEAN "DIDDY" COMBS

The artist has pledged \$1 million to a network of charter schools for a new location in the Bronx. Capital Preparatory Schools has been approved to open the school in September with 160 6th- and 7th-graders.

LOS ANGELES

Nicki Minaj Being Sued for Copyright Infringement

Rapper Nicki Minaj is being sued for sampling a Tracy Chapman song without permission. Chapman filed a copyright infringement lawsuit Monday in a Los Angeles federal court. The Grammy-winning singer says Minaj's unreleased track "Sorry" incorporates the lyrics and vocal melody from her 1988 single "Baby Can I Hold You." The lawsuit states that Chapman repeatedly denied to sample Minaj's song. — The Associated Press



Tenor Fernando Varela performs with Canadian musician David Foster.



Fernando Varela recently met with singer Michael Bublé.

home to Orlando to see his wife, Susan, and his 8-year-old son, Zeke, for even a day, he does.

Currently, Varela is looking forward to a short break, during which he will perform at home.

His show, "Better Together" features his family and what it's like to have a family with his career.

Varela will do the show at 3 and 4 p.m. on Nov. 3 and 4 at The Sharon.

"We couldn't be more excited to perform at home for once," Varela said.

The show also will add Zeke's perspective.

"He's 8, so when I'm gone, he misses me," Varela said. "It's difficult at times for him, but

he's been able to be on the road with me and see what I do."

"Better Together" is a show with an intimate atmosphere and plenty of theatrical songs.

Tickets for the show range in price from \$30 to \$65 and can be purchased online or at any Villages Box Office location.

"I love the performing arts and I love The Villages," Varela said. "The Villages has given me so many wonderful opportunities as a performer and now as a producer."

Kristen Fiore is a senior staff writer with The Villages Daily Sun. She can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 5270, or kristen.fiore@thevillagesmedia.com.

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watched a screening of "Bohemian Rhapsody," a movie about Queen that comes to theaters Nov.

Diane Keaton and Babyface were among the dinner guests.

For Varela, a performer, producer and concert promoter, this was a typical week in the life.

Being both a performer and a producer gives Varela an interesting opportunity, as the two go hand in hand.

Through the events at which he performs, Varela is able to network with other performers who could possibly come to The

Villages.

In fact, that's how the Beach Boys came to The Villages for the first time — Varela had been on tour with them in Europe.

However, while the lifestyle may seem glamorous, it can take a toll, Varela said.

"It's a blessing that I get to see parts of the world that I would never get to see, have incredible experiences and be part of big charity events that raise a lot of money and do a lot of good," Varela said. "But the hard part is being away from my family."

It's exhausting to travel so much, but if he can come

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