



SPOLETO FESTIVAL

*Opening Gala*

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026

THE COOPER

CHARLESTON, SC



Please join us for  
**SPOLETO FESTIVAL**

# ***Opening Gala***

**THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026**

**6:00pm Cocktails**

**7:00pm Dinner and Live Auction**

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**THE COOPER**

**176 Concord St, Charleston, South Carolina 29401**

**BLACK TIE**

*Kindly RSVP by April 27, 2026 by returning the enclosed response card.*



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2026 Opening Gala Host

CAROLYN MURRAY

WCBD-News 2 Anchor

*Explore the live auction items*



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# SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA

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Spoletto Festival USA was founded in 1977 by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Gian Carlo Menotti, who created it as the American counterpart to the Festival of Two Worlds he launched in Italy in 1958. Nearly five decades later, Spoleto Festival USA has become the country's premier performing arts festival—and a signature part of spring in Charleston. For 17 days and nights, the Festival transforms the city. World-class opera, theater, dance, and music—from chamber and symphonic to choral and jazz—fill Charleston's historic theaters, soaring church sanctuaries, and open-air stages. Led by General Director & CEO Mena Mark Hanna, the 2026 Festival runs May 22–June 7, bringing acclaimed artists and bold new work from around the world to Charleston's stages.



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**2025–2026**

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