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Tarrytown Music Hall - Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings

Historic Hudson Valley - Dickens’ A Christmas Carol

Public hearing on the County budget

See pg. A10
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Please don't shoot the goose that lays the golden eggs. The message from Westchester's cultural community is simple: Don't save them, the then chairman of the city's arts commission likened this foolish notion to the goose that laid the golden eggs. You remember that story: The goose was shot. Disaster. No more golden eggs. Last week, the County Executive proposed a similar plan. A nearly half million dollar cut to the arts in Westchester between ArtsWestchester and the Hudson River Museum. ArtsWestchester’s goose is one that has been leveraging county dollars on a one-to-$40 basis. That is to say, every dollar the county allocates to ArtsWestchester triggers another $40 in other funds. Put another way, the $330,000 cut to ArtsWestchester may cost the arts in this county some $13.2 million. I say “may” because I hope the Board of Legislators will restore the funds. The sad part is that sales tax is down in the county, and the goose that feeds the sales tax trough is getting shot.

The not for profit arts sector in Westchester has a $156 million economic impact and has grown and fueled some 5,000 jobs. These jobs are in the not for profit arts sector, as well as in places like restaurants and bars where folks go before and after the concert. This is the cultural infrastructure that has been built in Westchester with seed money from the county. This effort has yielded a 189% growth in economic impact over the twenty-year period between 1990 and 2010. Here’s another fact: the cultural sector in Westchester in 2010 returned more than $23 million to state and local government in the form of income and (guess what?) sales tax. In other words – the goose gives the county government many dollars for every dollar the county allocates to ArtsWestchester triggers another $40 in other funds. Put another way, the $330,000 cut to ArtsWestchester may cost the arts in this county some $13.2 million. I say “may” because I hope the Board of Legislators will restore the funds. The sad part is that sales tax is down in the county, and the goose that feeds the sales tax trough is getting shot.

So where are these golden eggs coming from? Well in 2010, some 2.7 million people attended cultural events in Westchester. Much of this money was from residents spending in their own county. However, about one third of the annual $156 million in economic impact comes from tourists spending more per-person than county residents do. The message from Westchester’s cultural community is simple: Don’t shoot the goose that lays the golden eggs.

Don’t Shoot!

Janet Langsam, ArtsWestchester CEO

Some thirty-five years ago, during New York City’s fiscal crisis, a proposal was made to cut the arts. To save them, the then chairman of the city’s arts commission likened this foolish notion to the goose that laid the golden eggs. You remember that story: The goose was shot. Disaster. No more golden eggs. Last week, the County Executive proposed a similar plan. A nearly half million dollar cut to the arts in Westchester between ArtsWestchester and the Hudson River Museum. ArtsWestchester’s goose is one that has been leveraging county dollars on a one-to-$40 basis. That is to say, every dollar the county allocates to ArtsWestchester triggers another $40 in other funds. Put another way, the $330,000 cut to ArtsWestchester may cost the arts in this county some $13.2 million. I say “may” because I hope the Board of Legislators will restore the funds. The sad part is that sales tax is down in the county, and the goose that feeds the sales tax trough is getting shot.

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Don’t Shoot!
The Schoolhouse Theater Names Bram Lewis New Artistic Director

Bram Lewis has been named Artistic Director at The Schoolhouse Theater (TST) in Croton Falls. Previously, Lewis launched and led The Phoenix Theater at The Masters School in Dobbs Ferry and worked with acting greats such as Alan Arkin, Ruby Dee and Francis Sternhagen. Lewis’ work directing five plays at TST between 1997 and 2003 prepared him for his new role: his inaugural production as Artistic Director will be his own adaptation of O. Henry’s short story, The Gift of the Magi, which will run from December 10-20. For more information about The Schoolhouse Theater and The Gift of the Magi, visit: schoolhousetheater.org.

Judith Weber Named President of Clay Art Center

Clay Art Center has appointed Judith Weber as its new board president. The Mamaroneck resident, who has been on the Center’s board since 2009, spent her professional career of more than 50 years working as a ceramic artist, teacher, designer and arts advocate. A main focus of her work has been motivated by the relationship between form and function, inspiring her to design limited edition dining accessories that have been featured in magazines and museum shops throughout the country. Weber explains of her new role: “As a ceramic artist, I know firsthand the transformative qualities of clay and the work that the Center does, bringing this wonderful experience to the community, students and working artists.” For more about Clay Art Center, visit: clayartcenter.org.

Neiman Marcus Supports ArtsWestchester

Neiman Marcus, Westchester and ArtsWestchester invite shoppers to attend a holiday reception on December 1 as part of ArtsWestchester’s #GivingTuesday campaign. Shoppers will preview the store’s exclusive holiday gift collection “Love to Give.” The shop includes luxurious candles for the home, quirky winter hats for the children, cookie gift sets for those with a sweet tooth—even gifts for playful pets. Now through December 24, 10% of sales generated from items in this collection will benefit ArtsWestchester. This season, shop for the perfect gift to support the arts in Westchester. The December 1 reception will take place from 11am-1pm at Neiman Marcus in The Westchester in White Plains.

Musicians: Play The Nutcracker with the New Westchester Symphony Orchestra

On December 12, New Westchester Symphony Orchestra welcomes area amateur and professional musicians for the rare opportunity to play through the complete score of The Nutcracker with its musicians. All skill levels and instruments are welcome. Musicians must bring music and stand. This event will take place at the Church in the Highlands, White Plains from 2:30-5pm. Registration at newsymphony.org.

The Arts and Businesses Partner in Westchester

ArtsWestchester regularly partners with corporations to bring art installations to their offices. Recently, it incorporated the healing arts in Westchester Medical Center’s newly-renovated Radiology Center with a collection of contemporary artwork. Additionally, it installed a selection of science and technology-themed artwork in the new buildings on the campus of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., which are meant to inspire conversation, teamwork and innovative thinking.

The Arts Matter #GivingTuesday

Tuesday, December 1

Help keep the arts alive in Westchester. Donate at: artsw.org/givingtuesday
holiday highlights

Holiday Tea Musicales: Concert and Afternoon Tea at Caramoor
December 3-17

Caramoor welcomes guests for an afternoon of festive live music, holiday treats and a variety of tea selections at its annual Holiday Tea Musicales from December 3-17. The concert and tea are set within the Music Room; however, guests are welcome to make a full day of their visit by upgrading tickets to include a tour of the Rosen House, a historic Mediterranean villa, before settling in for the show. Depending on the attendance date, guests will enjoy the Parisian jazz influences of Avalon Jazz Band, the 18th-20th century choral masterworks of the Westchester Oratorio Society, the elegant mezzo-soprano vocals of Kristin Gornstein, and more. CARAMOOR.ORG

Westchester Broadway Theatre: A Christmas Carol a Decade Later
December 3-27

Westchester Broadway Theatre presents Tim and Scrooge, the musical sequel to Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol. The play takes its audience a decade into the future, after the death of Ebenezer Scrooge, who has left his business to “Tiny Tim” Crachit. After giving away control of the business, a series of events threaten to tear Crachit away from his family and his love interest. Now it is up to Scrooge’s ghost to help set things straight and remind him of what is most important in life. Performances will take place from December 3-27. BROADWAYTHEATRE.COM

New Rochelle Opera Partners with New Rochelle High School
December 4 & 5

New Rochelle Opera (NRO) concludes its 30th season with Gian Carlo Menotti’s Amahl and the Night Visitors, which tells the biblically-inspired coming-of-age tale of an impoverished mother and son who are visited by The Three Kings on their journey to bring gifts to a “wondrous child.” In keeping with NRO's mission of exposing opera to the next generation, the chorus and dancers will be comprised of students from New Rochelle High School (NRHS)'s Performing and Visual Arts Education program. Performances take place on Dec 4 and 5 at NRHS’s Linda Kelly Theatre. NROPERA.ORG

Messiah Celebrated Throughout the County
December 4, 6, 11 & 13

Handel's Messiah is one of the most time-honored traditions of the holiday season – a triumphant anthem for those who observe Christmas, but also a celebration that can be enjoyed by all for its resounding appreciation of life. The arrangement will be celebrated by several organizations throughout the month: the New Choral Society pairs the piece with Vaughn Williams’ Fastasia on Christmas Carols on Dec. 4; New Westchester Symphony Orchestra encourages audience members to sing along with the famous choruses and accompanying music on Dec. 6; Purchase Symphony Orchestra and Chorus brings Messiah to the Performing Arts Center at Purchase College on Dec. 11; and Westchester Choral Society welcomes an “Open Sing” at St. Bartholomew Church in White Plains on Dec. 13.

A Holiday Evening of Gypsy Jazz and Swing Dancing at ArtsWestchester
December 5

ArtsWestchester’s Peckham and Shenkman galleries will be transformed into an intimate café setting for a holiday evening event on December 5. Guests will experience a night of jazz, with plenty of room for dancing, as Doug Munro and La Pompe Attack perform swinging jazz that brings together guitar, violin and clarinet for a festive show. The band will perform from their holiday repertoire, as featured on their A Very Gypsy Christmas album, and local swing dancers are welcome to join in the merriment. ARTSW.ORG/GYPSYSWING

A Christmas Carol Comes to Life in Westchester
December 5-20

This season, Historic Hudson Valley not only continues its Westchester holiday tradition of Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol, as told by master storyteller Jonathan Kruk, but it has doubled the capacity of this year’s performances due to popular demand. Enhanced by musical accompaniment, Kruk brings to life the story of Ebenezer Scrooge and his visit from the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future. Performances will take place at the historic Christ Episcopal Church in Tarrytown during weekends from December 5-20. HUDSONVALLEY.ORG
Get Crafty with New Rochelle Public Library  
December 5 & 28

Nothing beats a gift personally handmade by a child with love. This holiday season, kids will be immersed in the arts with craft workshops at New Rochelle Public Library (NRPL). On December 5, children (aged 5+) will make three gifts, with several options to choose from, including a personalized calendar, rainbow vases and more. On December 28, children from pre-k through grade 5 will create a winter wonderland using Model Magic clay. For those who want to get an early start to the day, this workshop is also offered at the NRPL’s Huguenot Children’s Library branch earlier in the day. All materials will be provided for all workshops. NRPL.ORG

The Nutcracker Comes to Life at The Picture House  
December 13

It just wouldn’t be the holidays without a production of The Nutcracker, and now this popular family tradition comes to The Picture House in Pelham. A December 13 matinee film screening of New York City Ballet’s production captures the same grace of Balanchine’s choreography and sweeping music of Tchaikovsky that is found in a live performance. The screening, which was filmed for its 1993 cinematic release, will be accompanied by a live performance by costumed ballerinas from Ballet Arts. The ballerinas will also greet guests and be available for photos opportunities during intermission. THEPICTUREHOUSE.ORG

Winter Pops! Features Broadway Star Ashley Brown  
December 20

A star will join the stage at the Westchester Philharmonic’s annual Winter Pops! concert on December 20 at the Performing Arts Center at Purchase College. The evening will showcase the young talent of singer Ashley Brown, of the original title role in Broadway’s Mary Poppins. She will join the Philharmonic, led by Ted Sperling, to perform American songbook standards and holiday favorites. Interspersed will also be some of Sperling’s favorite classical highlights like Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue, which will be performed by Julliard prodigy Joseph Mohan. Audiences can upgrade their tickets and attend the Pops After-Party!, where they can mingle with the musicians and enjoy live music, wine tasting and hors d’oeuvres. WESTCHESTERPHIL.ORG

More Holiday Events

- Dec. 4-6: Holiday Music Festival presented by Hoff-Barthelson Music School at Hoff-Barthelson Music School (Scarsdale)
- Dec. 4-27: Mr. Dickens Tells a Story  
M&M Performing Arts Company, Inc. at Lyndhurst Mansion (Tarrytown)
- Dec. 5-6: Greenwich Ballet Academy: The Nutcracker  
White Plains Performing Arts Center (White Plains)
- Dec. 8- Jan. 8, 2016: Erin McNally: All That Glitters  
Community College (Peekskill); during gallery hours
- Dec. 6: Holiday Concert presented by Westchester Choral Society at Rye Presbyterian Church (Rye)
- Dec. 11-20: The Gift of the Magi  
Schoolhouse Theater (Croton Falls)
- Dec. 13: Holiday Concert featuring Hudson Bells  
Ossining Public Library (Ossining)
- Dec. 13: Holiday Concert  
New Rochelle Public Library (New Rochelle)
- Dec. 13: Tchaikovsky in the Holiday  
presented by Yonkers Philharmonic at Saunders Trade High School (Yonkers)
- Dec. 13: Holiday Concert and Sing-Along  
presented by The Rye Arts Center (Rye)
- Dec. 16: Noonday Getaway Concert: Angelica  
Downtown Music at Grace (White Plains)
- Jan. 24, 2016: Cathedral Classics: Sacred Music by French Composers  
presented by Hudson Chorale at White Plains Presbyterian Church (White Plains)
holidays around the world

December 5: A Traditional Italian Christmas

The story of Christmas will be told through the traditions of Southern Italy on December 5 as the two singers and six instrumentalists of Newpoli, use folk music, traditional instruments and original dialects to represent a true Italian Christmas celebration. Included in the performance, presented by Smart Arts at Westchester Community College, will be tarantella dances and folk prayers. Readings in the dialect of Southern Italy, with English translations, will accompany the music. The concert will take place at the College’s Academic Arts Building Theatre in Valhalla. For more info, visit: sunywcc.edu/smartarts.

December 5 & 6: A Russian Christmas Tradition

Taghkanic Chorale presents two evening performances of unique Russian classical music. The Russian Christmas concerts, led by acclaimed music director Steven Fox on December 5 and 6, will feature selections of masters of the Russian choral music tradition, including Stravinsky, Chesnokov and Rachmaninoff, in a blend of Slavonic and English-based works. The December 5 concert takes place at Valhalla United Methodist Church and the December 6 concert takes place at Trinity Church in Ossining. For more info, visit: taghkanicchorale.org.

December 1-January 10: Nativity Scenes from the Americas

From December 1 through January 10, the College of New Rochelle’s Castle Gallery will demonstrate the cultural diversity in the way nativity scenes are represented in the Americas. Nativity Scenes from the Americas showcases selections from the Kate Cantry Creché Collection, which highlight common features from the story of The Bible. The works show how artists and craftspeople in Latin America, the Caribbean and American Southwest have presented this narrative with contemporary and eclectic traditions. Supplemental programming includes a reception on December 6 and a holiday arts workshop on December 12. For more info, visit: castlegallery.cnr.edu.

art & craft fairs

A Gift of Art | Mamaroneck Artists Guild (Larchmont)

Mamaroneck Artists Guild showcases one-of-a-kind fine art gifts in a variety of media, including painting, photography, sculpture and wearable art in its annual A Gift of Art holiday art show and boutique through December 28. A December 5 reception provides the opportunity for shoppers to meet the artists and receive a 10% discount on a wide assortment of merchandise. For more info, visit: mamaroneckartistsguild.org.

Holiday Art Show and Boutique | Blue Door Gallery (Yonkers)

With a wide range of gifts to choose from, Blue Door Gallery’s Holiday Art Show and Boutique gives shoppers an option for everyone on their shopping lists. Through December 22, guests can sip eggnog while they peruse the gallery and shop for one-of-a-kind handcrafted items by local artists, from jewelry and scarves to notecards and accessories. For more info, visit: bluedoorartcenter.org.

Craft-Tastic | Pelham Art Center (Pelham)

This display of handcrafted artwork from local and national artists showcases contemporary craft items born from both new and traditional techniques. These unique crafts act as a creative alternative to mass-produced gifts sold in popular stores. With a focus on generating social awareness through art, the exhibition and sale, which take place through January 2, also provide an opportunity of reflection for guests and shoppers. For more info, visit: pelhamartcenter.org.

More Art Fairs

Dec. 5: 5th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair (Mamaroneck)
presented by the Village of Mamaroneck
at Mamaroneck Public Library

Dec. 5-19: Gold in Your Attic (Chappaqua)
presented by New Castle Historical Society
at Horace Greeley High School

Through Dec. 23: Clay-Holiday (Port Chester)
presented by Clay Art Center
at Clay Art Center
**Introducing the New Orford String Quartet**

The Orford String Quartet, which disbanded in 1991 after 26 years performing together, was one of Canada’s best-known musical ensembles. Nearly two decades later, four stars of the classical music world – all principal players in the Montreal and Toronto Symphony Orchestras – came together to form the New Orford String Quartet. In joining their collective musical prowess, the band have grown to the fame and tradition of its predecessor, performing to consistently sold-out audiences. On December 13, the Westchester Chamber Music Society presents an opportunity for audiences to attend a special concert and meet the members: Jonathan Crow (violin), Andrew Wan (violin), Eric Nowlin (viola) and Brian Manker (cello). The Quartet is dedicated to promoting Canadian works, including the premiere of new commissions and the resurrection of neglected repertoires from the 20th century. The concert will take place at the Congregation El-Emanuel of Westchester in Rye. For more info, visit: westchesterchambermusicsociety.com.

**Disney Takes the Stage in Westchester**

With the new year comes live-action family fun inspired by classic Disney films: Tarzan swings into the White Plains Performing Arts Center from December 18-January 10, while The Little Mermaid swims into our hearts at Playgroup Theatre from January 9-24. Tarzan, set to music and lyrics by celebrated musician Phil Collins, tells the story of an infant boy orphaned in a shipwreck and subsequently raised by gorillas before discovering a whole world beyond his jungle home. The Little Mermaid takes us on a journey with the lovable yet naïve Ariel, a mermaid whose dream it is to be human. Ariel makes a bargain with sea urchin Ursula to trade her tail for legs, but things get complicated when she gets more than she bargained for. Hits like Under the Sea and Part of Your World will have audiences singing along. For more info, on Tarzan, visit wppac.com. For more info on The Little Mermaid, visit: playgroup.org.

**Discovering The Life of Frank Sinatra**

The story of “Ol’ Blue Eyes” comes to Pleasantville on December 14 as Jacob Burns Film Center (JBFC) presents a Q&A with the author of Sinatra: The Chairman, the second in a two-volume Frank Sinatra biography by Westchester author James Kaplan. While the first volume in this biography documented Sinatra’s rise to fame, Sinatra: The Chairman picks up the day after the crooner claimed his Academy Award in 1954. An evening of film clips and a discussions between Kaplan and JBFC Board President Janet Maslin will give audiences a behind-the-scenes view of not only the prominence of this top recording artist, but of the man behind the fame as well. Tickets to this event, which takes place just two days after what would have been Sinatra’s 100th birthday, include an autographed copy of the book. For more info, visit: jacobburns.org.

**Inspiration from Morning Talk Radio**

Many Hudson Valley residents have listened to WHUD’s Mike & Kacey in the Morning for years, and now is their chance to really learn the story behind the voice. M&M Performing Arts Company, Inc. will present All I Need to Know About Life, I Learned on the Radio, an hour of inspiration with Kacey Morabito-Grean at Harrison Public Library on December 6. Morabito-Grean has learned many “rules of the radio” during her 15 years on air with WHUD – “smile, keep moving forward and tell the truth” – and now she wants her fans and audiences to know how those lessons translate to the “rules of life.” The radio host will tell inspiring and uplifting stories and share songs from her years at the station. A Q&A session with Morabito-Grean will follow the presentation. For more info, visit: mmpaci.com.

**Highlights**

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Ridge Hill Launches Arts Connection Initiative With New Mural

Forest City Ratner Companies (FCRC)’ Ridge Hill Shopping Center in Yonkers has announced the establishment of its Ridge Hill Arts Connection program, an initiative that unites all of the Center’s commissioned artworks, arts partnerships and arts programming. “Art augments the original vision of Ridge Hill as a place where the family can build memories and where friends can meet for dinner,” says Kathryn Welch, FCRC Executive Vice President for Retail Development. Ridge Hill’s most recent commission, the 5th at this property, is a multi-colored geometric mural by artist Nick Kuszyk, who was selected in a competitive process by ArtsWestchester. Janet Langsam, ArtsWestchester’s CEO, adds that the mural “is an example of how the arts and businesses can partner to make more dynamic community spaces,” even calling the mural “an optimal spot to snap a selfie.” In December, artist Ann Ladd will be adding hand-painted planters to Ridge Hill’s visual landscape. Kuszyk’s mural is located on Cole Street.

Experience Art, From Start to Finish

Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art presents an afternoon of art-in-the-making on January 31, 2016. Live Art Fest lets guests experience the creative process of more than 20 artists, including painters, musicians, sculptors, dancers and performance artists. As artists of all genres create works from start to finish throughout the afternoon, guests will not only be able to watch the progress unfold step-by-step, but they can participate in the creation of the art. The family-friendly festival will include special art activities for young artists, making the fun accessible to all ages. Workshops will include clay sculpture and clay throwing, dancing and painting, with activities still be added. There will also be special performance by rock-violinist Daisy Jopling. For more info, visit: hvcca.org.

An Evening of Female Folk Music

Irvington Town Hall Theater presents nationally recognized singer-songwriter Dar Williams on December 5. Off the heels of her latest album, Emerald, Williams, who grew up in Chappaqua and resides in Cold Spring, will return to the Westchester stage to perform her folk-infused lyrics about her personal experiences and the broader culture of community. Opening the evening will be The Nields, a band whose honest lyrics and folk-infused melodies meditate on time, love and a deep hope for the future. The sister duo’s latest release, XVII, was primarily inspired by their hero, Pete Seeger. Seeger’s profound influence on the music world will be abundantly clear when this female-focused lineup takes the stage and helps to keep the love of folk music alive and well. For more info, visit: www.irvingtontheater.com.

Peter Noone in Conversation with Micky Dolenz

On January 8, Tarrytown Music Hall presents a conversation between two musical icons. Peter Noone is leader of the 60s pop band Herman’s Hermits who currently hosts Something Good on SiriusXM Radio. Micky Dolenz, drummer and lead singer of The Monkees, has penned some of the most recognizable and beloved songs of the 60s. They have both sold millions of records and continue to entertain, but for a limited 3-night tour, the two will join together on stage for an intimate evening of conversation. Fans will now get the rare opportunity to hear two dynamic musicians from internationally successful bands share candid, never-heard-before stories about their lives both on and off stage. For more info, visit: tarrytownmusichall.org.
**Exhibition Highlights**

**Nature Is Turned On Its Head at Katonah Museum of Art**

In manipulating elements from our everyday environment, the six contemporary artists in Katonah Museum of Art (KMA)’s new exhibition, *SupraEnvironmental*, from tree bark to bicycle tires, are represented in works that discuss the preconceived notions of these materials’ functions. For instance, Henrik Håkansson presents a tree that hangs suspended horizontally, while Rodney Graham’s inverted photograph demonstrates that a human’s perception can be skewed. KMA Executive Director Darsie Alexander explains: “*SupraEnvironmental* exposes the powerful relationship between art and our everyday physical reality… it captures the wonder and vulnerability of our ecosystem.” Artists include: David Brooks, Wim Delvoye, Roger Hiorns, Rodney Graham, Henrik Håkansson and Nick Van Woert. These installation, sculpture and photography works will be on view through January 24, 2016. For more info, visit: katonahmuseum.org.

**Bullseye Glass Provides Self-Reflection**

On view through February 13, 2016, *Mend*, a new exhibition at Bullseye Glass, uses the ideas of “connections” and “mending,” both acts of joining things together, as an avenue for self-reflection and understanding. Jennifer Halvorson focuses on the human relationship with the home by exploring peoples’ intimate interactions with everyday objects. This examination allows the viewer to reflect on what they consider important based on what they choose to mend rather than discard. Schnuckel, with an interest in materials that carry glass-like tendencies or associations – fragility, transparency, gloss – joins words and images into sculpture and installations. He incorporates visually-manipulated handwritten notes, which contain personal thoughts and experiences, into his work. By encapsulating this content, he creates new meaning from existing ideas. For more info, visit: bullseyeglass.com.

**The Examination of a Half-Century of Art**

The Neuberger Museum of Art’s current exhibition, on view through March 13, 2016, begins with a year of turbulent politics, economic inequality and racial injustice. *After 1965: Art in a Time of Social Unrest* looks at this time period, and how artists reacted to the world around them. The Neuberger examines those artworks, which often resulted from an artist’s struggle to communicate his or her feelings about these occurring events. This show, which displays only monochromatic works in black and white, also asserts that these unsettled social issues continue to this day. In the years between then and now, the art world has produced an array of work that influences the cultural landscape today. Special programming for *After 1965* includes a lecture on *Power, Visibility and Violence* on February 11 and a series of screenings on March 9 that explore how films and video represented the time period examined in the show. For more info, visit: neuberger.org.
The Arts Have an Impact on the Economy, but It Also Changes Lives

The arts in Westchester are in jeopardy of a 20% cut in the 2016 Westchester County budget. Recently, Westchester arts leaders greeted the news with concern and spoke out about how these cuts will affect their organizations. Many attended the budget hearing in Yonkers on November 19, wearing red artist berets.

Leigh Taylor Mickelson
Executive Director, Clay Art Center

It is hard to imagine that a cut in funding would make us eliminate programs; but in reality, we are not able to find funds from elsewhere, we will do less free workshops for Port Chester residents, perhaps offer fewer scholarships, and we have seen in lean years that the Special Needs offerings make it possible to reach communities like those at Westhab, Hope House, and NY School for the Deaf.

Debralynn Press
Artistic Director, Sleepy Hollow Performing Artists

Our work with at-risk youth has saved lives and created change in entire families. At least 12 of our students have been the first in their families to graduate high school; 30 of our students have been the first to graduate college. There are at least 24 students who have received scholarships to college. Many are children of immigrant parents. One of our students, whose father committed suicide when she was 9, now has a dance scholarship at the University of Virginia. Recently a young male student spoke for the first time about how we have helped him with his bi-polar disorder. He is now a dance therapist and national dance champion. Dance is for everyone and it can be therapeutic.

Syndie Heslop (15 years old)
Student at Youth Theater Interactions, Inc.

I live in Mount Vernon and attend Youth Theater Interactions (YTI), a non-profit performing arts program located in Downtown Yonkers. YTI is one of the many organizations supported by ArtsWestchester.

I recently found out that the county’s proposed budget calls for arts funding to be cut. This worries me because the only reason my parents are able to send me to a performing arts program is because YTI offers their classes at such an affordable rate — in part because of ArtsWestchester’s funding. So, I am very afraid of what will happen next year and how it will affect the program.

When I started high school, I noticed a change in a lot of my friends. They started to get in trouble in a lot of different ways and peer pressure is really, really hard to avoid. Because I’m fortunate enough to be in a program such as YTI, it has been really easy to stay away from those bad influences. I have these amazing instructors that care about me and my future, and I’m so busy taking dance classes that I don’t really have time to get into trouble.

Being a part of YTI has kept me on the right track. I’ve learned to work well with others, I have more confidence in myself and my abilities, and most importantly I have a sense of pride knowing that I have somewhere to go where I can be myself and where my cultural heritage is validated.

Since I joined YTI, everyone noticed that there was a huge change in not only my attitude but also my grades and my involvement in school activities. Currently I have the fourth highest GPA in my grade and last year I was so inspired by everything YTI has done for me and the community that I submitted a film about YTI to the White House film festival where I received an honorable mention from President Barack Obama.

YTI has done so much for me — you can’t put a price on it.
JEFF HAYDON  
*CEO, Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts*

The county support of the arts enables us to fulfill our non-profit missions, which makes our county a more desirable place to live, work and visit. Caramoor is an anchor for cultural tourism in Westchester County. It draws 50,000 people each year for concerts, educational programs and community events. These visitors also patronize local restaurants, stores, hotels and transportation services, making a significant economic impact on the region. During most of the year, Caramoor has 18 full-time and 11 part-time staff; during the summer it employs an additional 80 part-time staff.

In 2015, support from ArtsWestchester helped us to present over 50 music performances to audiences from throughout the county and beyond, mentor 65 young musicians, and provide approximately 6,000 local schoolchildren with exceptional arts education experiences. County funding has been particularly important in helping us to undertake our Underserved Youth Arts Initiative. Through this program, we focus on schools from underserved districts, such as the Yonkers Public School District, offering 3,000 students fee waivers, bus transportation and scheduling priority.

LIVIA STRAUS  
*Executive Director, Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art*

As Director of the HVCCA in Peekskill, I see the difference that the presence of the visual, musical and performing arts have made in this community. The arts inject a tourist base that had not come here before, both from the greater NY region, as well as from overseas; by beautify the city, including being a vector for the exceptional sculpture trail that is now in place on the Peekskill waterfront; by encourage investment in the city with 4 and 5-star restaurants now in place; and encourage a movement of those who are now purchasing homes and taking Peekskill as their city of residence.

KAYLEN RATTO GIANNINI  
*Executive Director, Steffi Nossen Dance Foundation*

As one of the few organizations dedicated to the development of dance audiences in the county, and one of the only organizations that teaches dance classes to children and adults with special needs, the elimination of these programs would have a profound effect on the quality of life for Westchester County residents. This past year support from ArtsWestchester has allowed us to expand our programming for our neediest residents. Our students, families, agencies, constituents and audiences come from all over Westchester County.

DARREN M. MORTON, ED.D.  
*Commissioner, Department of Recreation, City of Mount Vernon*

ArtsWestchester's funding is an essential part of our cultural arts initiative in the City of Mt. Vernon, a highly, densely populated urban city, where children and seniors have limited exposure to the arts. Given the demographics of our City, providing cultural and arts programs enriches the population and serves as a deterrent to other social ills typically found in urban environments.

MICHAEL BOTWINIK  
*Director, Hudson River Museum*

Overlooking the Hudson River and the Palisades, the Hudson River Museum, the oldest and largest museum in Westchester, is home to contemporary galleries, a planetarium, a permanent environmental learning gallery and Glenview, an 1876 Victorian home on the National Register of Historic Places. Founded in 1919, the museum is dedicated to broadening the cultural horizons of its visitors through exhibitions and educational programming with interests that connect art, history and science. With a focus on art from the 19th to the 21st century and contemporary art, the Museum presents exhibitions throughout the year and offers programs for adults, seniors, and youth.

The Hudson River Museum serves more than 60,000 visitors each year, including 20,000 school children from every school district in the County. More than half of the school groups use the Museum’s planetarium which was upgraded at a cost of more than $1.5 million 18 months ago. It is the only public planetarium between NYC and Albany. With travel time and the high cost of school busses and program fees, the Planetarium saves Westchester schools as much as 50% more than the cost of a visit to the Hayden Planetarium.

We present hundreds of programs and workshops for children and families every Saturday and Sunday of the year. The museum’s amphitheater provides music, dance and theater programming every summer weekend, to thousands of Westchester residents for FREE.

The Museum works in partnership with other area museums (Katohah, the Neuberger, the Aldrich, the Bruce, HVCCA, and Wave Hill) to honor each other’s members with free admission, thereby broadly extending the value for Westchester residents.

The proposed cuts will mean staff layoffs, program cancellations and fewer family and senior programs.
the arts make a difference

JEAN NEWTON  
*Executive Director, Music Conservatory of Westchester*

Music has the power to change lives:

- Picture the look on a mother’s face when her autistic child in a music therapy session makes eye contact, smiles and calls her “Mommy” for the very first time.
- Imagine a hospitalized child with traumatic brain injury who, with the music therapist by his side, is able to tolerate the painful treatments that will save his life.
- The child who dreams of cello lessons that his parents could never afford without scholarship assistance.
- The immigrant mother and her toddler who learn English together in “First Notes” classes.
- The high school student who will be the first in her family to go to college because music study has helped her gain confidence, discipline, creativity and academic success.

All of these miracles can happen through the transformative power of music.

LYNN HONEYSETT  
*Executive Director, Pelham Art Center*

Arts are a sector that stimulates the Westchester economy – even during the recession. It provides quality-of-life amenities that attract businesses and new homeowners. Attracting homebuyers from NYC, particularly younger first-time buyers, with assurances that they will not lose their close proximity to culture, seems like a key Westchester differentiator that’s about to get compromised.

Real estate agents tell us all the time that new buyers from the city are attracted to Pelham exactly because of the cultural activities offered by the Pelham Art Center and The Picture House.

When school arts programs were being cut across Westchester, Pelham Art Center doubled down and increased its free public arts activities to underserved communities, afterschool arts programs and school exhibition tours/workshops to make up for the deficits.

DENISE BESSETTE  
*Co-Founder and Artistic Producer, Hudson Stage Company*

Our theatre has been growing and building our artistic presence here in Westchester throughout these past 17 years. We serve the entire county as one of the ONLY professional non-profit theatres to have survived the recession. We had been optimistic as our ArtsWestchester grant has increased incrementally, based on our new theatre in the Armonk library and the costs of production constantly rising. A backslide would be an unfortunate financial situation.

TRACY FITZPATRICK  
*Director, Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase College, SUNY*

As the Director of the Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase College, SUNY, I witness first-hand each day how art, in all its forms, enriches the lives of our students, our community, and our Westchester residents. What we do here matters for everyone who has the right to experience great art in their everyday lives. While the proposed cut to the arts is devastating enough, our concern is that it sets a dangerous precedent – that support for the arts is eroding at a time when our community needs it most.

THOMAS J. SCHWARZ  
*President, Purchase College, SUNY*

The Arts inspire people to become creative and in turn create jobs and attract jobs. The County can’t have it both ways. Creative people in biotech and other fields won’t want to live here without a vibrant arts scene. We at Purchase College will continue to do our part with the elementary school students who attend Arts in Education events at the Performing Arts Center, the families who look forward to introducing their children to art for the first time at the Neuberger Museum of Art, and countless audience members who expand their minds at performances and exhibits created by our talented students. What we do here matters.

How YOU Can Support The Arts

Contact Your Legislators and let them know that the arts matter to you: artsw.org/speakupforthearts.

Attend a Public Budget Hearing. The last one takes place on:

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 7PM**  
at Westchester County Board of Legislators Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains

For more information, or to confirm your attendance along with friends and family, RSVP to: acroyle@artswestchester.org.
ARTS CALENDAR

12/1 TUESDAY

Music: Sarah Lawrence College presents Music Tuesday featuring Peter Brendler Quartet. The Peter Brendler Quartet performs original jazz compositions, led by acclaimed bassist Peter Brendler. Featuring saxophonist Rich Perry, trumpeter Peter Evans and drummer Vinnie Sperrazza. 1:30pm. sarahlawrence.edu

Fundraisers: ArtsWestchester presents Neiman Marcus “Love to Give” Shop Reception and Preview. Join ArtsWestchester for a reception and preview of exclusive holiday gifts at Neiman Marcus’ “Love to Give” shop. When you shop from this collection now through 12/24, 10% of the proceeds will benefit ArtsWestchester. 11am-1pm at Neiman Marcus, White Plains. artsw.org

12/2 WEDNESDAY

Lectures: Sarah Lawrence College presents The Longest Shortest Apprenticeship: On Writing Your First Book and Life After the MFA. This talk focuses on strategies to keep hold of a writing project’s initial spark while organizing and revising it over time, as well as the practicalities of sustaining creative momentum and community after the MFA. 2pm. sarahlawrence.edu

Music: The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College presents Purchase Symphonic Winds. Co-directed by Graham Ashton and Peter Reit, the ensemble performs virtuosic arrangements from the baroque to 21st century – this season features the music of Richard Strauss and Modest Mussorgsky. 7pm. artscenter.org

Music: Downtown Music at Grace presents Cambiata Trio. Comprised of Pamela Sklar (flute), Suzanne Mueller (cello) and Mark McCarron (guitar), Cambiata performs classical, jazz standards, original music and arrangements of music by other composers ranging from Handel to Villa-Lobos to Ian Anderson. 12:10pm at Grace Church, White Plains. dtmusic.org

Film: Jacob Burns Film Center presents Sci-Fi Trivia Night. Geek out and celebrate the release of Star Wars: The Force Awakens with a Sci-Fi trivia night, covering science fiction in film and television from its earliest manifestations through today in a multimedia competition hosted by JBFC Programmer Andrew Jupin. 7pm. burnsfilmcenter.org

12/3 THURSDAY

Music: Purchase College Conservatory of Music presents Purchase Jazz Orchestra. The Purchase Jazz Orchestra 17-piece band performs jazz from every era – from staples like Ellington and Basie, to more modern works by today’s leading composers and arrangers. 7pm. purchase.edu

Music: Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts presents Holiday Tea Musicales Concert and Afternoon Tea. An afternoon of festive song and delicious tea within Caramoor’s majestic Music Room. 12/3-17: Wed-Sun, 2pm. caramoor.org

Theater: Sarah Lawrence College presents Tommy’s World. This theatre production follows the life of Tommy, a gifted puppeteer with his own children’s TV show. 7pm. sarahlawrence.edu

Theater: Westchester Broadway Theatre presents Tim and Scrooge: A Carol for a Later Christmas. This musical theatre production picks up ten years after the end of A Christmas Carol. Performances 12/3-27, times vary. broadwaytheatre.com

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings. The band has traveled the world for more than a decade, blowing minds with their explosive live performances and their raw, hand-crafted studio recordings. 8pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

12/4 FRIDAY

Festivals: Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents Holiday Music Festival. Featuring boutique shopping, international cuisine, a raffle and silent auction, and music performed by the school’s ensembles. Opens Fri, 12/4 with a Jazz Preview Night from 7-9pm. Continues on Sat, 12/5: 10am-4pm and Sun, 12/6: 10am-3pm. hbms.org

Music: Purchase College Conservatory of Music presents Purchase Latin Jazz Orchestra. Featuring top students from the Purchase College Conservatory of Music, the Latin Jazz Orchestra explores numerous genres including Mambo, Cha-Cha, Danzon, Festejo, and Porro. 8pm. purchase.edu

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Music: Emelin Theatre presents The Lonely Heartstring Band. These young musicians – all in their 20’s – display remarkable musical maturity and inventiveness with influences that include Bill Monroe, Flatt & Scruggs, Paul Simon, and the Beatles. 8pm. emelin.org

Music: The New Choral Society presents Handel’s Messiah. The Christmas portion of Handel’s Messiah has become the traditional season-opener for the New Choral Society. Fri, 12/4 at 8pm and Sun, 12/6 at 3pm at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church. newchoralsociety.org

Spoken Word: Lyndhurst presents Mr. Dickens Tells A Christmas Carol at Lyndhurst. A theatrical performance recreating Charles Dickens’ own readings of the classic tale that brings the travails of Ebenezer Scrooge and the Beatles. 8pm. emelin.org

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents Vienna Boys Choir: Christmas In Vienna. The world-renowned Vienna Boys Choir returns to Tarrytown with their celebrated holiday program. 8pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

12/5 SATURDAY

Festivals: Mamaroneck Public Library presents Village of Mamaroneck’s 5th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair. More than 38 vendors will display one-of-a-kind works such as distinctive jewelry, fine art, hand-painted scarves, knitted and crocheted items, paintings, pottery, photographs, bags, glass creations and more. 10am-4pm. mamaronecklibrary.org

Folk Arts: Smart Arts presents Newpoli: A Traditional Italian Christmas. Newpoli presents the Christmas Story as told through the folk music of Southern Italy, from shepherd songs of the Apennine Mountains to music from the courts and piazzas of Naples. 8pm at Westchester Community College’s Academic Arts Building Theatre. sunywcc.edu/smartarts

Folk Arts: Pelham Art Center presents Diwali, Hindu Festival of Lights: Folk Art Series. Celebrate new beginnings of light over darkness with hands-on workshops followed by a traditional dance performance. 1:30-3:30pm. pelhamartcenter.org

Music: The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College presents A Chanticleer Christmas. The all-male choir celebrates the season with vocal interpretations of holiday music from Renaissance to traditional to contemporary pop. 4pm and 7pm. artscenter.org

Folk Arts: ArtsWestchester presents Holiday Evening of Gypsy Swing and Swing Dancing. The ArtsWestchester gallery will be transformed café style with room to dance for this performance by Doug Munro and La Pompe Attack, in the style of the iconic guitar and violin partnership of Django Reinhardt and Stéphane Grappelli and Hot Club de France. 7:30pm. artscenter.org

Fundraisers: New Castle Historical Society presents Gold in Your Attic: Special Holiday Sale at the Horace Greeley House. Visitors to the Greeley House will have the opportunity to purchase unique treasures through this special holiday sale. 12/5-12/19: Tues-Sun, 10am-4pm and Thurs, 10am-7pm. newcastlehs.org

Music: Taghkanic Chorale presents Russian Christmas. Features selections by masters of the Russian choral music tradition, including Bortniansky, Kastalsky, Stravinsky, Chesnokov, Rachmaninoff, Gribinoff and Tavener in a unique blend of church Slavonic and English based works. 8pm at Valhalla United Methodist Church. taghkanicchorale.org

Spoken Word: Historic Hudson Valley presents Dickens’s A Christmas Carol. Master storyteller Jonathan Kruk regales audiences with his adaptation of Charles Dickens’ classic story, complete with musical accompaniment. 12/5-12/20 at Christ Episcopal Church in Tarrytown. Times vary. hudsonvalley.org

Theater: Emelin Theatre presents J. Edgar Klezmer: Songs From My Grandmother’s FBI Files. A musical doc-
Dance: Hudson River Museum presents *Gallery Stage Dance Performances*. Performances curated by choreographer LeAnn Yannelli for dance students from high school and college programs, as well as dancers from New York City dance companies. 1pm and 3pm. hrml.org

Music: New Rochelle Public Library presents *Young Musicians Concert*. Top student musicians in grades 7-12, selected through a competitive audition process, will present a variety of works. 2pm. nrl.org

Music: Westchester Choral Society presents *Holiday Concert*. The program features Durante/Pergolesi’s *Magnificat*, Bonia Shur’s *Kol Haneshamah*, Craig Courtney’s *A Musical Journey Through the Twelve Days of Christmas* and other holiday favorites. 3pm at Rye Presbyterian Church. westchesterchoralsociety.org

Music: The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College presents *Ray Chen, Violin Recital*. The acclaimed young violinist Ray Chen, just 26 years of age, has been described on National Public Radio as “the finest current violinist you don’t yet know, but soon will.” 3pm. artpaccenter.org

Music: Taghkanic Chorale presents *Russian Christmas*. Features selections by masters of the Russian choral music tradition, including Bortniansky, Kastalsky, Stravinsky, Chesnokov, Rachmaninoff, Gretchaninoff and Tavener in a unique blend of church Slavonic and English based works. 4pm at Trinity Church, Ossining. taghkanichorale.org


Theater: M&M Performing Arts Company, Inc. presents *All I Need to Know About Life I Learned on the Radio by Kacey Morabito-Grean*. With stories and music, Kacey Morabito-Grean of 100.7 WHUD creates an inspiring and uplifting hour of entertainment, followed by a Q&A. 2pm at Harriman Public Library. mmpaci.com

Music: Purchase College Conservatory of Music presents *Purchase New Music Concert*. Featuring new music written by the Purchase College composition studio specifically for the Purchase New Music Ensemble. 8pm. purchase.edu

Music: Downtown Music at Grace presents *Noonday Getaway Concert – Tableau Vivant!* Karen Marie Marmer (violin) and Dongsok Shin (harpsichord), principals of the celebrated baroque ensemble, REBEL, are joined by guests David Ross (baroque flute) and Arnie Tanimoto (viola da gamba) for *Telemann in Paris*, featuring works by George Philipp Telemann. 12:10pm at Grace Church, White Plains. www.dtmusic.org

Music: The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College presents *Purchase Jazz Showcase*. Come see the Purchase Jazz Orchestra perform jazz from every era, and the Purchase Latin Jazz Orchestra’s tenacious ensemble playing. 7pm. artscenter.org

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents *Squeeze Acoustic: The At Odds Couple An Evening with Difford and Tilbrook*. For the first time in the U.S. in almost 20 years, Squeeze’s Chris Difford and Glenn Tilbrook will be heading out on the road as a duo with The At Odds Couple tour that will see them present their songs and story in a unique way. Wed, 12/9 at 8pm and Sun, 12/13 at 7pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

12/10 THURSDAY

Lectures: Chappaqua Library presents *Lidia Bastianich*: Lidia’s Mastering the Art of Italian Cuisine: Everything You Need to Know to Be a Great Italian Cook. Best-selling author and Emmy-winning host of *Lidia’s Kitchen*, Lidia Bastianich, in conversation with Jay Lippin, Executive Chef at Crabtree’s Kittle House. Book signing to follow. 7pm. chappaqualibrary.org

Music: Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents *HB Artist Series: Tomoko Uchino, Piano*. Pianist Tomoko Uchino with fellow HBMS faculty will present a program of works by Anton Arensky, Nino Rota and Robert Schumann. 8pm at Greenville Community Church, Scarsdale. hbms.org

Theater: The Schoolhouse Theater presents *The Gift of the Magi*. Based on the short story written by O. Henry. Directed by Bram Lewis. Performances 12/10-20: Thurs-Sat, 8pm and Sun, 3pm. schoolhousetheater.org

**Visit www.artswestchester.org for more event information**
Theater: Sarah Lawrence College presents Marie Antoinette. A contemporary take on the young queen of France. 12/10, 11 & 12 at 7pm each night. sarahlawrence.edu

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents Ronnie Spector's Best Christmas Party Ever! Ronnie’s Christmas show is a cherished holiday tradition, a raucous, rocking, and intoxicating blend of Ronettes hits and cult gems from her catalog. 8pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

12/11 FRIDAY

Music: The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College presents Purchase Symphony Orchestra and Purchase Chorus present Messiah. The Purchase Symphony Orchestra perform Handel’s Messiah, joined by the Purchase Chorus. David J. Recca, conductor. 7pm. artscenter.org

Music: Emelin Theatre presents Lez Zeppelin: All Girls. All Zeppelin. All-female tribute band, Lez Zeppelin, has gained worldwide critical acclaim for the prowess, passion and genderbending audacity they bring to the music of Led Zeppelin. 8pm. emelin.org

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents The Marshall Tucker Band. After more than 40 years of recording and touring, this band will still rock your socks off. 8pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

12/12 SATURDAY

Family & Kids: Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts presents Santa Claus Visits the Rosen House. Kids will be in for an adventure with “I Spy a Santa or Two in the Music Room,” followed by a concert of sing-a-longs when Santa Claus will appear to delight the whole family. 10am. caramoor.org

Music: Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents Hoff-Barthelson Music School Master Class Series: Pamela Devenport. Devenport will coach young HBMS cello students in the first of nine master classes to be given during the 2015-2016 season. The public is invited to attend free of charge. 2pm. hbms.org

Music: Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents Hoff-Barthelson Music School Festival Orchestra Winter Concert with Guest Artist Ida Kavafian, Violin. The Hoff-Barthelson Music School Festival Orchestra performs its winter concert Life in the Country, with guest artist Ida Kavafian, violin. 7pm at Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, White Plains. hbms.org

Music: New Westchester Symphony Orchestra presents Play-In: Tchaikovsky's Complete The Nutcracker. Conductor Benjamin Niemczyk leads a fun afternoon of exploration of Tchaikovsky's complete Nutcracker Suite. Play along with area amateur and professional musicians; all instruments welcome, no section limits. 2:30pm at The Church in the Highlands, White Plains. newsymphony.org

Music: Walkabout Clearwater presents Pete Seeger: Pete You Never Heard. A special evening devoted to the music of, and stories about, Pete Seeger. 7:30pm at Memorial United Methodist Church, White Plains. walkaboutclearwater.org

12/13 SUNDAY

Music: The Rye Arts Center presents Holiday Concert and Sing-Along. Come hear a variety of traditional holiday favorites performed by music faculty and friends, and add to the spirit by joining in a sing-along for the whole family. 3pm. ryeartscenter.org

Music: PJS Jazz Society, Inc. presents Solomon Hicks. Solomon Hicks, the young jazz guitar phenom, brings his jazz and blues innovations to the PJS Second Sunday Jazz concert series. 5:15pm at First Presbyterian Church, Mount Vernon. pjsjazz.org

Music: New Rochelle Public Library presents BID Family Holiday Concert. Jazz vocalist Gabriele Tranchina performs holiday favorites accompanied by Joe Vincent Tranchina on piano. 3pm. nrlpl.org

Film: The Picture House presents The Nutcracker Magical Matinee. This annual tradition for families and kids features a screening of the cinematic version of New York City Ballet’s production of The Nutcracker, and a live dance performance by youth members of Ballet Arts’ dance program. 3pm. thepicturehouse.org

Music: The Symphony of Westchester presents All-Baroque Concert. Violinists Alexander Abayev and Benjamin Hellman perform works by Bach in an all-Baroque program. 3pm at Iona College’s Christopher J. Murphy Auditorium. thesymphonyofwestchester.org

Music: New Westchester Symphony Orchestra presents Free Concert: New Westchester Symphony Orchestra at White Plains Public Library. The audition-free community orchestra performs its annual program of holiday favorites. 3pm. newsymphony.org

Visit www.artswestchester.org for more event information
**Music:** Westchester Choral Society presents Messiah Sing. An open sing of Handel’s Messiah, conducted by Frank Nemhauser. 4pm at St. Bartholomew Church, White Plains. westchesterchoralsociety.org

**Music:** The Hudson Valley Writers’ Center presents Po’Jazz on Hudson. Experience musicians and poets in a rich tapestry of sound and word. 4:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Music:** The Hudson Valley Writers’ Center presents Po’Jazz on Hudson. Experience musicians and poets in a rich tapestry of sound and word. 4:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Music:** Yonkers Philharmonic presents Tchaikovsky in the Holiday. The Yonkers Philharmonic, under the baton of Tong Chen, celebrates the holidays with The Nutcracker Suite, Variations on a Rocco Theme with cellist, Paolo Maliksi, and Symphony No. 4. 3pm at Saunders Trade High School. yonkersphilharmonic.org

**Music:** Westchester Chamber Music Society, Inc. presents New Oxford String Quartet. The New Oxford Quartet, comprised of violinists Jonathan Crow and Andrew Wan, violist Eric Nowlin and cellist Brian Manker, has seen astonishing success and critical acclaim since its creation in 2009. 4pm at Congregation El-Emmanual of Westchester. westchesterchambermusic.org

**Music:** Chappaqua Library presents Concert: A Conversation with Zoe & Her Cello. Zoe’s interactive cello concert will include pop, jazz and classical music. 3pm. chappaquailibrary.org

**Music:** Ossining Public Library presents A Holiday Concert featuring the Hudson Bells. The Hudson Bells are a women’s choral group, singing three- and four-part harmony, both a capella and with piano accompaniment. 2pm. ossininglibrary.org

**12/14 MONDAY**

**Lectures:** Jacob Burns Film Center presents Q&A: Author James Kaplan (Sinatra: The Chairman) with JBFC board president Janet Maslin. James Kaplan, author of Sinatra: The Chairman, the definitive biography of Frank Sinatra, will join Janet Maslin for an evening of film clips and discussion that will go behind the legend to give us the man in full. 7:30pm. burnsfilmcenter.org

**Music:** The Picture House presents The Swingles Live in Concert. Following the success of their 2015 album Deep End, the seven young singers that make up the UK-based group The Swingles celebrate a particularly poignant year in their history with the release of a new collection of holiday and winter-themed pieces. 7:30pm. thepicturehouse.org

**12/16 WEDNESDAY**

**Lectures:** Chappaqua Library presents Pig Tales: An Omnivore’s Quest for Sustainable Meat by Barry Estabrook. Estabrook, a two-time James Beard Award-winning journalist and author of Tomatoland, was a contributing editor at Gourmet magazine. 7pm. chappaquailibrary.org

**Music:** Downtown Music at Grace presents Noonday Getaway Concert – Angelica. Women’s chamber choir, Angelica, will present a program drawn from medieval, renaissance and 20th century music celebrating the wonder and beauty of the Christmas season. 12:10pm at Grace Church, White Plains. www.dtmusic.org

**12/18 FRIDAY**

**Music:** Alvin & Friends Restaurant presents Tammy McCann. Classically trained, Chicago-based jazz singer Tammy McCann has been praised for owning one of the most luxuriant voices in jazz. 7:30pm. alvinandfriendsrestaurant.com

**Theater:** White Plains Performing Arts Center presents Tarzan, The Stage Musical. The king of the apes swings onto the stage in this powerhouse musical adaptation of the Disney film. Performances 12/18–1/10, times vary. wppac.com

**Music:** Tarrytown Music Hall presents Cherish the Ladies – A Celtic Christmas. In this program, the Ladies perform classic Christmas carols, in their signature arrangements, highlighting unique Celtic instrumentation, beautiful harmonies, and spectacular step-dancing. 8pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

**Music:** The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College presents Rob Mathes Holiday Concert. This annual celebration is a heart-warming evening of original tunes, holiday classics and Mathes favorites that will put you in the spirit of the season. Fri. and Sat., 12/18 and 12/19, both nights at 8pm. artscenter.org

**12/19 SATURDAY**

**Family & Kids:** Tarrytown Music Hall presents The Laurie Berkner Band – A Holiday Celebration. The queen of children’s music Laurie Berkner and her band return to Music Hall with a festive holiday concert that includes traditional songs like Jingle Bells, Frosty the Snowman and more. 11am. tarrytownmusichall.org

**Music:** Rockland Jazz and Blues Society presents The Richard Sussman Ensemble World Premiere Concert. A compelling integration of jazz, contemporary classical music and electronics. 7:30pm at ArtsWestchester. artsw.org

**12/20 SUNDAY**

**Music:** Westchester Philharmonic presents Winter Pops! with Ted Sperling and Ashley Brown. The Westchester Philharmonic and one of Broadway’s brightest stars, Ashley Brown (Mary Poppins), perform classical highlights, Bernstein’s Times Square, Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue and much more. 3pm at The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College. westchesterphil.org

**Music:** Tarrytown Music Hall presents Judy Collins: Holiday & Hits. The award-winning singer-songwriter is esteemed for her imaginative interpretations of traditional and contemporary folk standards and her own poetically poignant original compositions. 7pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

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**Visit www.artswestchester.org for more event information**
visit www.artswestchester.org for more event information

12/29 TUESDAY
Family & Kids: New Rochelle Public Library presents Live Show: Dragons & Dreams with Scientetellers. The science of fire and ice is revealed through a tale of dragons and dreams, and experiments of flash paper, exploding bottles, “cool” dry ice and much more. 2pm. nrpl.org

12/30 WEDNESDAY
Family & Kids: New Rochelle Public Library presents Live Show by Circus Performer Remarkable Renaldo. Back by popular demand, Remarkable Renaldo will amaze all ages with his juggling, circus pranks, magic and other antics. 2pm. nrpl.org

1/1 FRIDAY
Lectures: Color Camera Club of Westchester presents Do’s and Don’ts of Street Photography with Larson Harley. Learn the basics of telling stories with your street images, whether you shoot with a high-end Nikon or with an iPhone. 7:30pm. colorcameraclub.org

1/6 WEDNESDAY
Family & Kids: New Rochelle Public Library presents BID Family Day: Three Kings Day Event. The cultural traditions of Central and Latin America will again come alive in this annual event marking the close of the holiday season. 5:30pm. nrpl.org

1/8 FRIDAY
Spoken Word: Tarrytown Music Hall presents Peter Noone in Conversation with Micky Dolenz. Join Peter Noone and Micky Dolenz of Herman’s Hermits and The Monkees for an evening of conversation as they share stories about what really happened during their life in the Rock & Roll spotlight both on stage and off. 8pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

1/9 SATURDAY
Music: New Rochelle Public Library presents Chamber Concert by Con Brio Ensemble. Members of the Con Brio Ensemble will perform a rich program of classical works by Beethoven, Bach and more on oboe, piano and violin. 3pm. nrpl.org
Theater: The Play Group Theatre presents Disney’s The Little Mermaid. In a magical kingdom beneath the sea, the beautiful young mermaid Ariel longs to leave her ocean home to live in the world above. 1/9-1/24: Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 2pm. Special Monday performance on 1/18 at 2pm. playgroup.org

1/10 SUNDAY
Lectures: New Rochelle Public Library presents Postcards as Collectible Treasures of the Past. In this free illustrated presentation, Roderick Kennedy, president of Metropolitan Postcard Club, will discuss the evolution of picture postcards and the pleasures of collecting these historical cameos. 2pm. nrpl.org
Music: PJS Jazz Society, Inc. presents Antonio Hart. Alto saxophone player Antonio Hart brings the spirit of Cannonball Adderley to the PJS Second Sunday Concert Series. 5:15pm at First Presbyterian Church, Mount Vernon. pjsjazz.org
Music: The Schoolhouse Theater presents The 28th Annual Houston Person Jazz Concert. Recipient of the prestigious Eubie Blake Jazz Award, Houston Person has played with some of the greatest performers in the world, including Etta James, Lena Horne and Lou Rawls. 7:30pm. schoolhousetheater.org
Spoken Word: The Hudson Valley Writers’ Center presents Word Master: Jonathan Galassi. Jonathan Galassi, President and Publisher of Farrar, Straus and Giroux, reads from his new novel, Muse. 4:30pm. writerscenter.org

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1/14 THURSDAY

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents The Musical Box performs Genesis’ The Black Show. The Musical Box, Internationally acclaimed for its historical re-enactment of early Genesis’ works, is coming to America to perform The Black Show, the emblematic 1974 performance that made Genesis and Peter Gabriel attain rock star status. 8pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents The Blind Boys of Alabama & The Dirty Dozen Brass Band. Gospel icons The Blind Boys of Alabama join together with the Crescent City’s pre-eminent brass band pioneers The Dirty Dozen Brass Band for a joyous night of Southern spiritual music and New Orleans rhythms. 8pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

1/15 FRIDAY

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents The Blind Boys of Alabama & The Dirty Dozen Brass Band. Gospel icons The Blind Boys of Alabama join together with the Crescent City’s pre-eminent brass band pioneers The Dirty Dozen Brass Band for a joyous night of Southern spiritual music and New Orleans rhythms. 8pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

1/16 SATURDAY

Music: Emelin Theatre presents Jonatha Brooke. Soulful American singer-songwriter Jonatha Brooke is known for her folky pop performances and songs about life, love, loss and coping. 8pm. emelin.org

1/21 THURSDAY

Theater: Emelin Theatre presents Drunkie Vanya: A Boozy Retelling of a Chekhov Classic. Three Day Hangover, a NYC theatre company that produces fresh productions of classic plays in bars, puts their boozy twist on Chekhov’s classic, Uncle Vanya. 1/21-1/23, Thurs-Sat at 8pm at Molly Spillane’s in Mamaroneck. Must be 21+ to attend. emelin.org

1/22 FRIDAY

Spoken Word: The Hudson Valley Writers’ Center presents An Evening With Max Ritvo. Emerging poet Max Ritvo will read from his new full-length poetry manuscript and his chapbook, Aeons. 7:30pm. writerscenter.org

1/23 SATURDAY

Music: Concordia Conservatory presents Gershwin & Friends. Gershwin & Friends brings together song, chamber and jazz works celebrating the music and influences of American composer, George Gershwin. 6:30pm at Concordia College Sommer Center. concordiaconservatory.org

1/24 SUNDAY

Music: Hudson Chorale presents Cathedral Classics. Hudson Chorale begins its 6th season with a program that will transport you musically to the great cathedrals of France, featuring French composers who have all achieved international recognition. 3pm at White Plains Presbyterian Church. hudsonchorale.org

Music: New Rochelle Public Library presents Folk Concert: Caroline Doctorow Performs The Great American Song Revival. Vocalist and champion of American folk music Caroline Doctorow presents a tribute to songwriters of the 1960s. 3pm. nrpl.org

1/25 MONDAY

Lectures: Color Camera Club of Westchester presents Jim LaSala: Using All Your Resources (Including Your Heart) to Tell Your Story. Brooklyn-born photographer Jim LaSala holds degrees as a Master of Photography and Master of Electronic Imaging, and received numerous state, national and international awards. 7:30pm. colorcameraclub.org

Music: Hudson Valley Music Club presents Hudson Valley Music Club January Concert. Sylvia Volpe, violinist, accompanied by Vivian Chang, piano, will perform Dvorak’s Romance in F minor, sonatas for violin and piano by Debussy and Brahms, and a song by Gershwin. 1pm at Dobbs Ferry Woman’s Club.

1/29 FRIDAY

Spoken Word: The Hudson Valley Writers’ Center presents An Evening with Rickey Laurentis and TJ Jarrett. Readings by writers Rickey Laurentis and TJ Jarrett. 7:30pm. writerscenter.org

1/30 SATURDAY

Music: White Plains Performing Arts Center presents Jim Brickman: The Platinum Tour. Marking the 20th year in his dynamic career, Brickman showcases new music along with the hits that made him the most charted Billboard® Adult Contemporary artist, and earned him two Grammy® nods and four gold albums. 8pm. wppac.com

Music: Emelin Theatre presents Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys. Matching their respect for tradition with a forward-looking vision, Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys have set the standard for modern Cajun music with their superior musicianship, songwriting skills, harmony vocals and irresistible grooves. 8pm. emelin.org

1/31 SUNDAY

Spoken Word: The Hudson Valley Writers’ Center presents Women Reading Women. Helen Klein Ross and Abigail Thomas read from their new work and discuss their literary influences in a lively Q&A. 4:30pm. writerscenter.org

visit www.artswestchester.org for more event information
exhibitions

Arc of Westchester – gallery265
arcwestchester.org
- **Featured Artists Exhibit.** Exhibition of work by abstract painter Susan Green, sketch artist Antoine Hawkins, watercolor painter Daniel Kabakoff, and fiber artist Nadine Temperman. On view through 12/31, Mon-Fri: 8:30am-4pm.

Blue Door Gallery
bluedoorartcenter.org/gallery
- **Holiday Art Show and Boutique.** One of a kind, hand-crafted items by local artists on display and for sale. Thurs-Fri: 3-8pm & Sat: 12-5pm. Holiday hours: 3-8pm on Mon, 12/21 and Tues, 12/22.

Bullseye Glass Resource Center
bullseyeglass.com
- **Mend.** An exhibition of glass sculpture and panels by artists Jennifer Halvorson and David Schnuckel. Artist Reception: Sat, 12/5, 3-5pm. On view through 2/13/2016, Tues-Fri: 10am-6pm and Sat: 10am-5pm.

Clay Art Center
clayartcenter.org
- **Clay Holiday.** With the holiday spirit everywhere, Clay Art Center treats you to a full table of ceramics by its own artists as well as from around the United States. On view through 12/23, Mon-Fri: 10am-6pm & Sat: 10am-4pm.

- **Rising Stars 2016: Student Show.** Work created by Clay Art Center students in 2015, featuring ceramic sculptural and functional work. On view through 1/6–1/23/2016, Mon-Fri: 10am-6pm & Sat: 10am-4pm.

- **Tristate of Mind.** A regional juried exhibition of emerging artists within a 75 mile radius of Clay Art Center’s facility in Port Chester, NY, to visually represent the culture, trends, and theories surrounding clay practice in the region. On view 1/30–3/19/2016, Mon-Fri: 10am-6pm & Sat: 10am-4pm.

Hudson River Museum
hrm.org
- **Dancers Among Us: Photographs by Jordan Matter.** Jordan Matter’s dance photography appears in this solo show containing more than 30 images — photographs from his acclaimed book Dancers Among Us, new images from his upcoming book *Tiny Dancers Among Us*, and several from the region. On view through 1/17, Wed-Sun: 12-5pm.

Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art
hvcca.org
- **Peekskill Project 6.** A public art festival devoted to bringing contemporary art out of the museum and into the community. On view through 12/31.

- **Love: The First of the 7 Virtues.** Artistic depictions of love in all its varieties. On view through 12/6, Fri: 10am-2pm & Sat-Sun: 12-6pm.

- **Hermann Nitsch’s Leviticus.** Installation featuring Nitsch’s *Leviticus* opened to the segment describing the sacrificial services of the High Priest. Surrounding walls feature 12 terragraph prints and accompanying extracts in Hebrew and German. On view through 12/6, Fri: 10am-2pm & Sat-Sun: 12-6pm.

Katonah Museum of Art
katonahmuseum.org
- **SupraEnvironmental.** Brings together the work of contemporary artists who transform natural and man-made materials and provide new pivots and vantage points onto our contemporary environment. On view through 1/24, Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm & Sun: 12-5pm.

Mamaroneck Artists Guild
mamaroneckartistsguild.org
- **A Gift of Art.** The annual holiday show and boutique of the Mamaroneck Artists Guild, showcasing affordable, original fine art in a variety of media including paintings.
photography, sculpture, handmade jewelry, ceramics and wearable art. Open 11/27-12/24, Tues-Sat: 12-5pm. Reception: Sat, 12/5, 6-8pm.

- **Twelve by Twelve, Show and Sale at A.I. Friedman’s.** Works of art by members of the Mamaroneck Artists Guild for sale, each 12” x 12” in size and priced at $200. On view 12/1-12/30 at A.I. Friedman’s in Port Chester, Mon-Sat: 9am-9pm & Sun: 10am-7pm. Opening reception: Sat, 12/12, 2-4pm.

**Neuberger Museum of Art**
nueberger.org

- **Liza Lou: Color Field and Solid Grey.** Color Field, the artist’s largest sculpture to date, is an abstract work of colorful glass beads that covers the entire floor of the Neuberger’s largest gallery. The exhibit also includes Lous’s Solid Grey and Color/White canvases, a series of monochromatic woven beaded works in a range of subtle hues. On view through 2/21/2016, Tues-Sun: 12-5pm.

- **After 1965.** A selection of works through which the period of cultural production from the mid-1960s through the early 1970s, and its influences fifty years later, is examined. On view through 3/13/2016, Tues-Sun: 12-5pm.

**New Rochelle Public Library**
nrpl.org

- **Adolph Grant Award Show.** Sponsored by the New Rochelle Art Association, the annual Adolph Grant Award Show is open to all exhibiting members of the Association with the grand prize reserved for a New Rochelle resident working in oils, watercolors, acrylics or pastels. On view 12/6–1/7/16 during library hours. Reception and awards ceremony: Fri, 12/11, 5:15-6:30pm.

**Ossining Library**
omssininglibrary.org

- **Photography Exhibition.** Photo exhibition featuring award-winning photographer Anastasia Tompkins. On view throughout December during library hours. Opening reception: Sat, 12/19 at 2pm.

**Pelham Art Center**
pelhamartcenter.org

- **Craft-Tastic: An Exhibition and Sale of the Handmade.** This year’s Craft-Tastic exhibition will include local and national artists with an extensive collection of contemporary craft material. On view 11/13-1/2, Tues-Fri: 10am-5pm & Sat: 12-4pm.

**The Rye Arts Center**
ryeartscenter.org

- **Members Exhibition.** The Rye Arts Center celebrates its diverse population of artist members. On view through 1/9/2016, Mon & Sat: 9am-3pm and Tues-Fri: 9am-6pm. Opening reception: Sat, 12/5: 1-3pm.

**transFORM Gallery**
transformgallery.com

- **Cross County: YoHo Meets NewRo.** YoHo (Yonkers Artist Community) members Ginny Fox, Alex Grace and Catherine Latson travel the Cross County Parkway for transFORM Gallery’s New Rochelle group show with Scarsdale artist John Folchi and New Rochelle artist Pasquale Miele. On view through 1/9, Mon-Fri: 9am-6pm & Sat: 10am-4pm.

**Westchester Community College Center For The Digital Arts**
sunywcc.edu/peekskill

- **Erin McNally: All That Glitters.** An exhibition of seasonal décor designed to act as a perfunctory antidote to the distractions that inhibit our holiday celebrations. On view through 1/8/2016, 10am-5pm. Reception: Tues, 12/8, 5:30-7:30pm.

New Rochelle Public Library
nrpl.org

- **BID Family Day: Make a Gift Fair.** Children ages 5 years and older are invited to make three wonderful gifts to give to family, friends or teachers this holiday season. Sat, 12/5: 11am-1:30pm.

- **Make a Winter Wonderland Workshop.** Children in Pre K–Grade 5 are invited to create their own magical winter wonderlands using Model Magic clay. 11am-12pm in the Huguenot Children’s Library, and 1pm-2pm in the Main Library Meeting Room.

- **Family African Dance.** Anthony Wooden, Director of Bokandeye African Dance and Drum Troupe, returns to the library for another series of free African dance workshops for children ages 7 and up, as well as their parents. 1/27–2/23/2016: Saturdays, 11am-12:15pm.

**The Rye Arts Center**
ryeartscenter.org

- **Duct Tape Board Game Workshop.** Join this fun-filled workshop with Richela Fabian Morgan and make your own board game out of duct tape. Ages 9+. Sat, 12/5: 10-12pm.

**Westchester Community College Center For The Digital Arts**
sunywcc.edu/peekskill

- **Digital Literacy.** This beginning level digital course utilizes a variety of software and social media to introduce basic digital skills while demystifying computers and personal digital assistants (phones, tablets) as tools for personal expression. Mon, 12/7: 6-9pm.

**Westchester Community College**
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50th anniversary gala in photos

On November 20, more than 400 guests gathered for ArtsWestchester’s golden gala at the Ritz-Carlton, Westchester to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The organization honored its presidents, from the time of its inception in 1965, for their tireless support of the arts. For more gala photos, visit: artsw.org/photogallery.

2. Founding President George Newlin with Janet T. Langsam, Stephen K. Dishart, Froma B. Benerofe and A. Maren Hexter
3. Deputy County Executive Kevin Plunkett, Rosemary Plunkett and Tony Maddalena
4. Gerard and Bonnie Bell Curran with Barbara Monohan
5. N.Y. State Assemblyman David Buchwald
6. Sherry and Robert Wiener
7. Kenneth J. Gould and Betty Himmel
8. Steve Juscen
9. Maria Ferreira, Janet T. Langsam and guest
10. Jamie, Lynda and Barry Shenkman
11. Randy and A. Corwin Frost with Jean Marie Connolly and Mark Iannucci
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