IN TIMES LIKE THESE
WHAT DO WE NEED?

A PUBLICATION OF ARTSWESTCHESTER SPONSORED BY:

The Liman Foundation
From the County Executive

Thank you for taking a few moments to read this April edition of ArtsNews. As you may already know, many arts events have been canceled or postponed as a result of the Coronavirus. These are unprecedented times, and we are all worried about the impact that COVID-19 can have on the health and well-being of all residents living in Westchester County.

Our arts community is one of many that are hurting, and many of our organizations will struggle to bounce back from the devastating impact of this illness. But, there are many groups that are doing everything they can to change and adapt during these challenging times – moving classes online, encouraging art-making on social media, live-streaming concerts and more. I encourage you all to take a few moments of respite, and participate if you can.

ArtsWestchester will be a resource for our struggling artists and arts group as this public health crisis unfolds. Our message is a simple one – the arts are here to help heal us, and the arts will still be here for us when we get through this crisis stronger than ever before.

Thank you,
George Latimer
Westchester County Executive

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The work of ArtsWestchester is made possible with support from Westchester County Government.

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County Executive

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ArtswNews (artsw.org), your guide to arts and culture in Westchester County, NY, is published by ARTSWESTCHESTER, a private, not-for-profit organization established in 1965. The largest of its kind in New York State, it serves more than 150 cultural organizations, numerous school districts, hundreds of artists, and audiences numbering more than one million. The goal of ArtsWestchester is to ensure the availability, accessibility, and diversity of the arts in Westchester.

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In Times Like These, What Do We Need?

In times like these, what do we need? A touch... a voice... perhaps a hand... a place to sigh, or cry... maybe we need a space to think of things to come, of ways to cope. In these uncertain times, we need a song to sing... a path to follow... a phrase to give us hope. Some words may help us believe again. We need a way, a means, to help us fathom the unthinkable. We need to embrace the wonder of ideas and the warmth of feelings. Can someone strike the chord we need? Or write the play to frame the past, or pen a book that speaks volumes? What we need is a spoken word of hope... a place to be inspired... a time to be uplifted... a room where we can listen and hear the sounds of healing. We need to see images that take us places or stir out memories. We need to dance and find joy again. What we need is the spirit of gathering. We need the arts.

FROM THE CEO

by Janet Langsam, ArtsWestchester CEO

Don’t miss Janet’s weekly blog posts at: thisandthatbyjl.com
LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

by Mary Alice Franklin, ArtsNews Editor

Look for the Silver Linings

It’s difficult to see the silver lining these days. Sure, the heartbreak part is easy, as we see so many artists, arts groups, local businesses and restaurants all forced to cancel events and close their doors. But if there’s one thing I can say for sure about our arts community, it’s that we’re resilient.

These tough times have forced our local arts organizations to challenge themselves, and they’ve risen to the occasion. Luckily, from these efforts have come successful new ventures that will continue well beyond the current state of quarantines and cancelations.

At Hudson Valley Writers Center (HVWC), all classes were swiftly converted to an online format. This venture has also brought in revenue to help keep them going. According to HVWC Director Krista Madsen: "We had wanted to get some online classes going for some time, and now suddenly we have to!" Soon, people who can’t make it to Sleepy Hollow can get their expert instruction online.

On a recent Sunday afternoon, I tuned in to a concert at Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts as I settled in for my self-imposed quarantine. The 2020 Schwab Vocal Rising Stars performed to an empty Music Room, and just like that – world-class music was in the living rooms of more than 300 people. My one-year-old son, hearing opera for the first time, stood up, smiled at me, and actually clapped! So you see, the stream introduced opera to a new audience, even the nursery set. Subsequently, more than 2,000 people watched the stream. According to Executive Director Jeff Haydon: "Given that we have a capacity of 180 in the Music Room, we had a much bigger impact with this performance than we had originally planned." The Center has now planned a "Caramoor Livestream" series through April.

When all is said and done, the arts will still be here, helping us through the hard times. They will provide solace, induce laughter and inspire us to find creative solutions.

Check the following page (A5) to see more ways in which local arts groups have kept the arts alive by going digital during these uncertain times. Let’s continue to think on our feet, connect, and work together to find the silver linings. After all, we’re resilient.

- Mary Alice Franklin
virtual activities

CHECK OUT THESE VIRTUAL ARTS ACTIVITIES WHILE YOU'RE HOME

ArtsWestchester offers weekly social media activities, such as “Art of the Week” assignments (every Monday), a look back at its staff’s favorite exhibited works (every Thursday), online arts workshops (soon to be announced) and more. facebook.com/artswestchester and instagram.com/artswestchester

Bedford Playhouse will offer virtual movie trivia every Wednesday for kids ages 5-9, will move its Classic Tuesday series online, is building a library of film recommendations, and more. facebook.com/bedfordplayhouse and instagram.com/bedfordplayhouse

Blue Door Art Center has announced that its Faces: Portraits exhibition will now be online. It will be on view from May 1-31. bluedoorartcenter.org

Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts has three livestream concerts scheduled: Vijay Iyer on April 4 (8pm), Aaron Diehl Trio on April 18 (8pm) and Conrad Tao on April 26 (3pm). youtube.com/user/caramoormusic

Copland House is posting videos of past performances for a new “Coping …with Copland House,” series. coplandhouse.org/copings

Downtown Music at Grace has been posting video excerpts from past concerts each Wednesday on their Facebook page. facebook.com/dtmusicgrace

Harrison Public Library is offering suggestions on its website for what to read, watch, listen to and learn. harrisonpl.org/explore

Hudson Valley Museum of Contemporary Art’s interactive digital tours will educate viewers about several exhibitions. A “Unity Quilt” will ask people to make swatches from home and mail them to the museum to be sewn into a collaborative quilt. hudsonvalleymoca.org

Hudson Valley Writers Center will now offer virtual classes, including The Prose Poem Master Class with Sean Singer (April 4) and Year of Deep Revision: Poetry with Jennifer Franklin (beginning April 15). writerscenter.org

Jacob Burns Film Center is highlighting staff-chosen films and updating its “Viewing and Doing” series, which provides short films with related activities. burnsfilmcenter.org/education/blog

Jazz Forum Arts has launched “Jazz Forum @ Home,” a series of live-streamed concerts on Facebook Live. facebook.com/jazzforumclub

John Jay Homestead presents interactive activities, such as children's projects, a virtual tour and downloadable worksheets on its website. johnjayhomestead.org

Katonah Museum of Art's slideshow and virtual tour of its upcoming rescheduled Bisa Butler: Portraits exhibition, as well as downloadable kids activities, introduce audiences to the artist’s quilted portraits. katonahmuseum.org

Madelyn Jordon Fine Art presents Abstractly Speaking: Six + One an online exhibition that features seven abstract artists, on view through May 9. madelynjordonfineart.com/exhibition

Mamaroneck Artists Guild is using Facebook to highlight the artworks of its artist members. facebook.com/MAG.Larchmont

Music Conservatory of Westchester: Registration is still open for private online/video lessons. musicconservatory.org/virtual-lessons

Neuberger Museum of Art provides live 20-minute guided meditations on Zoom. April 1, 8 and 15 from 1-1:20pm. purchase.edu/neuberger-museum-of-art/wellness-wednesday

Ossining Public Library’s Virtual Mother Goose Time will take place every Thursday at 10am on Facebook. facebook.com/ossiningpubliclibrary

Pelham Picture House is presenting short films, each with discussion questions and activities that can be adapted into teaching tools for students of any grade level. instagram.com/the_picturehouse

Play Group Theater will host two virtual Open House events on Zoom, at which guests can meet the Theater’s students and staff: April 5 & 26, 2020 at 4pm. playgroup.org

Ruth Keeler Memorial Library highlights its digital collection, including e-books, audio books, music and streaming movies and TV shows for anyone with a library card. westchesterlibraries.org/listen-read

Rye Arts Center will offer April Break online classes and other weekly offerings on its social media channels. A virtual tour of its current exhibition, Brigitte Lorz Retrospective, will be on view through April 18. ryeartscenter.org (under Gallery>Current Exhibit)

Steffi Nossen Dance has been posting virtual classes recorded in the homes of some of its dance teachers. instagram.com/steffinossendance

Tarrytown Music Hall has launched a series of free one-hour workshops for kids. Previous topics included Shakespeare and Creative Writing. tarrytownmusic hall.org/academy

White Plains Public Library has built a “Stuck at Home” page on its website, which includes resources chosen by Josh Carlson, Manager of Youth Services. whitepla ineslibrary.org/2020/03/stuck-at-home-staff-picks
Let’s Get Through This Together

Let’s come together as an arts community and each send a bit of love to our favorite arts organizations. Send a note of support, choose to turn your canceled event ticket into a donation instead of a refund, or purchase a ticket to an already-rescheduled show. However you choose to show your support, please do so. Let’s get through this together!

Accent Dance NYC
Actors Conservatory Theatre
Alliance Francaise de Westchester
Actors Conservatory Theatre
Arc of Westchester
Arc Stages
Antonia Arts
Asbury-Crestwood United Methodist Church
Axial Theatre
Ballet des Amériques
Ballet des Amériques
Ballet des Amériques
Bedford Playhouse
Blue Door Art Center
Bronxville Women’s Club
Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts
Caramoor
CareerVisions
Chappaqua Orchestra
The Chappaqua Orchestra
Clay Art Center
CLC Foundation
Clockhouse Players
Color Camera Club of Westchester
Concordia Conservatory
Concordia Conservatory
Copland House
Country Dancers of Westchester
Croton Council on the Arts
Downtown Music at Grace
The Emelin Theatre for the Performing Arts
The Field Library
Friends of John Jay Homestead
Friends of Music at Holy Trinity
Friends of Music Concerts
The Friends of the North Castle Public Library
Friends of White Plains Youth Bureau
support the arts

Let’s Get Through This Together

(Cont’d.)

New Rochelle Opera
New Rochelle Public Library
New Westchester Symphony Orchestra
Northern Star Quilters’ Guild
Nowodworski Foundation
OCA - Asian Pacific American Advocates - Westchester Hudson Valley Chapter
Off Center Dance Theatre
Ossining Arts Council
Ossining Documentary & Discussion Series

Ossining Public Library
Paramount Hudson Valley Arts
Peekskill Arts Alliance
Pelham Art Center
Peekskill Arts Alliance
Pelham Art Center
The Picture House
The Picture House
PJS Jazz Society
Off Center Dance Theatre

REBEL Ensemble for Baroque Music
Rehabilitation Through the Arts
The Revelators
The Rye Arts Center
The Revelators, Inc.
Rivertowns Art Council
Rivertowns Art Council
Ruth Keeler Memorial Library
Ruth Keeler Memorial Library

Scarsdale Arts Council
Scarsdale Congregational Church Concert Series
Scarsdale Congregational Church, UCC
Scarsdale Congregational Church, UCC

The Schoolhouse Theater
The Schoolhouse Theater
The Schuyler Foundation for Career Bridges
The Schuyler Foundation for Career Bridges

Sound Shore Chorale of New Rochelle
St. Thomas Orchestra
Studio Theater in Exile
Steffi Nossen Dance Foundation
The Symphony of Westchester

Taconic Opera
Taconic Opera
Taghkanic Chorale
Taghkanic Chorale

Tarrytown Music Hall
Support These Restaurants That Have Supported the Arts

Now is the time to be here for one another. These restaurants have supported the arts in the past. Now it’s our turn. Get take-out if they are still open, order a gift card over the phone or send a note of support during these times of need.

Restaurants

Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza
Blaze Pizza
Blockheads
Boro6 Wine Bar
Cambria Hotels & Suites
Coopers Mill @ Westchester Marriott
Coriander Modern Indian
Crabtree’s Kittle House
Crowne Plaza White Plains-Downtown
DoubleTree by Hilton Tarrytown
Exit 4 Food Hall
Falafel-Taco
Graziella’s
Karenderya
La Bocca
Le Moulin Eatery Wine Bar
Little Beet
Maura’s Kitchen
Mediterraneo
Meritage/Saint George/Harper’s
Morton’s The Steakhouse
Nonno’s Trattoria at Empire City Casino
O Mandarin
Texas de Brazil
The Briarcliff Manor
The Horse and Hound Inn
The Pub at Empire City Casino
The Rare Bit
The Twisted Oak
The Whitlock
Tre Angelina
X2O

Vendors

Baked by Susan
Captain Lawrence Brewery
Cathy’s Biscotti
Chocolations
Coffee Labs Roasters
Decadent Ales
G&K Sweet Foods
Gristmill Distillers
Joseph Richard Florals
KAS Spirits
Lulu Cake Boutique
Nahmias et Fils
Oasis Day Spa
Penny Lick Ice Cream Company
StilltheOne Distillery Two, LLC
Theo Philip Entertainment
Toma Artisanal Bloody Mary Mix
Tower Isles Jamaican Patties
Tru Juice

Toma Artisanal Bloody Mary Mix participated in ArtsBash 2019 (photo credit: Leslye Smith)
When Business Council of Westchester President Marsha Gordon is not advocating for businesses in the County, she can be found at the cinema or theater. Read Marsha’s reviews on ArtsWestchester’s “As a Matter of Art” blog: artsw.org/artsblog.

**The Plot Against America (HBO)**

In this very challenging time, allow me to deviate from my movie reviews so I can recommend something that you can tune into from home. This time, a television show: *The Plot Against America*. In the interest of full disclosure, I should mention that my niece works on the series. I have also always been a fan of Phillip Roth, the author whose novel this miniseries is based on. In fact, I read the book as soon as it came out years ago. So I was inclined to like this series from the beginning. However, as we know, not all great books translate to the movie or television screen. Luckily, this one has exceeded my high expectations.

First we are transported back to Newark, New Jersey in the 1940s, which is before my time and not exactly my place, but there’s still so much to identify with. Words like “backyard,” games of hopscotch, mothers screaming to come in to dinner… how familiar these things are to so many of us. The family, secular Jews, could be so many of our families (Jewish or not) – with similar values, dynamics and dreams. It tugs my heart because I lived it. The production’s feel, colors and clothing are so authentic, you just feel you are there. The actors truly embody the characters they are playing.

And of course the overall specter of anti-Semitism, and the fear (or reality?) of what could happen in our beloved country “if”… That’s as far as I will go to stay non-political, though suffice it to say that this show IS a political commentary.

All of this to say that I just finished the second episode… and can’t wait for the rest. I’ll be watching from home in the coming weeks. You can tune into this one as well, on HBO. In the meantime: stay safe and stay well.
NOW WHAT? 
A practical guide for the arts community when the revenue stream dries up.

What can you do if you are an artist or a musician and temporarily have little money coming in, and you are forced to sit it out for perhaps a few months? Whatever you do, don’t waste this time by sitting around depressed and blue. The silver lining is that you now have a precious commodity – time. Make the best of it. From a strict business approach, the answer comes down to two strategies: 1. Optimize your time and 2. Find alternative revenue streams.

How Do You “Optimize Time”?
Every day, set a goal to achieve something, to do something constructive for your career. Use the time effectively to facilitate your future. Approach every day with structured discipline and “go to work” on your future viability. Here are some things you now have time to do:

- Spend as many hours as possible in a day working the phone, emailing and generally reaching out to your network. It’s a great time to connect with others.
- Update your website, your press kit and media information.
- Set up future gigs or exhibitions. Contact old and new venues or galleries. Send out media kits and solicitations to get new bookings in places where you have not played or exhibited.
- Musicians can write new songs and work out new materials. Make demos at home and send them out to record labels, publishers and others who need songs for films, TV and commercials.
- Visual artists can take this time to be productive and create new work.
- Practice, practice, practice. Create, create, create.
- Use this time to take care of legal business. For instance, review your contracts and agreements.
- Musicians: For long term success, take this time to pitch any original songs you have to anyone who can use them. Send out your copyrighted materials to every feasible place, from Nashville to Austin. Approach big-name artists and let them hear what you can do.
- Publish an article in a print or online magazine. Get your name out in arts and music magazines.

Whatever you do to advance yourself is good. The worst thing is to do nothing.

Read Frank’s advice on finding alternative revenue streams in his full article at artsw.org/frankspicks.

Top: Artist Carrie Belk (photo credit: Mary Alice Franklin) Bottom: Musician performing with Arturo O’Farrell during JazzFest White Plains 2018 (photo credit: Gabe Palacio)
Emergency Resource List

**Artist/Individual COVID-19 Emergency Resource List**

- **Equal Sound Corona Relief Fund** – equalsound.org
  The Equal Sound Corona Relief Fund was set up on short notice to provide direct financial assistance to musicians who have lost work as a result of Coronavirus-related event cancelations.

- **Sweet Relief Relief Fund** – sweetrelief.org
  Sweet Relief is providing immediate assistance to musicians and music industry workers affected by the Coronavirus. Funds raised will go towards medical expenses, lodging, clothing, food and other vital living expenses for those impacted by sickness or loss of work.

- **Local 802’s Emergency Arts Workers Relief Fund** – local802afm.org
  Local 802’s Emergency Relief Fund has been set up to aid those 802 members in the freelance community who have received notice that single engagements filed under a local union agreement have been canceled.

- **CERF+ Emergency Medical Assistance** – cerfplus.org
  CERF+ has established the COVID-19 Response Fund. CERF+’s emergency relief grants will focus on people infected with the virus who require intensive medical care.

- **Arts Leaders of Color Emergency Fund** – gofundme.com/f/artsleadersfund
  Arts Leaders of Color Emergency Fund will support BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) artists and arts administrators who have been financially impacted due to COVID-19.

- **The Actors Fund** – actorsfund.org
  The Actors Fund is providing funding for emergency services to actors affected by the COVID-19 crisis.

- **AGMA Relief Fund** – agmarelief.org
  Any AGMA member in good standing is entitled and encouraged to apply for financial assistance through the AGMA Relief Fund. Grants are awarded based on need and AGMA is taking into account COVID-19 related issues.

- **MusiCares COVID-19 Relief Fund** – grammy.com/musicares
  The MusiCares COVID-19 Relief Fund is now available to eligible SAG-AFTRA members who have been impacted by this pandemic.

- **Anonymous Was A Woman and New York Foundation for the Arts** – nyfa.org
  The Foundation for Contemporary Arts has created a temporary fund to meet the needs of artists who have been impacted by the economic fallout from postponed or canceled performances and exhibitions.

- **Dramatist Guild Foundation Emergency Grants** – dgf.org/programs/grants
  The Dramatist Guild Foundation is focusing their attention on providing emergency financial assistance to individual playwrights, composers, lyricists and book writers in dire need of funds due to the effects of COVID-19.

- **Glad Day Lit Emergency Survival Fund** – gladdaylit.ca/emergfund
  Glad Day Lit has set up an emergency fund to help LGBTQ2S artists, performers & tip-based workers during the COVID-19 crisis.

- **SAG-AFTRA Members COVID-19 Disaster Fund** – sagaftra.foundation
  The SAG-AFTRA Foundation has created the COVID-19 Disaster Fund that is now available to eligible SAG-AFTRA members who have been impacted by this pandemic.

- **Anonymous Was A Woman and New York Foundation for the Arts** – nyfa.org
  This emergency relief grant program supports women-identifying visual artists over the age of 40 who are impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. Application goes live on April 6.

**Non-COVID-19 Specific Emergency Relief Resources**

- **Jazz Foundation’s Musicians’ Emergency Fund** – jazzfoundation.org
  This Fund provides housing assistance, pro bono medical care, disaster relief and direct financial support to musicians who have made a living playing blues, jazz and roots music.
Emergency Resource List

(Cont’d.)

- **Adolph & Esther Gottlieb Emergency Grant** – gottliebfoundation.org
  This grant is intended to provide interim financial assistance to qualified artists whose needs are the result of an unforeseen, catastrophic incident, and who lack the resources to meet their needs.

- **NYFA & Rauschenberg Foundation Emergency Grants** – nyfa.org
  The New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) has partnered with the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation to provide Emergency Grants for visual artists, media artists and choreographers for emergency medical expenses beginning in May 2020.

- **Max’s Kansas City Emergency Grants** – maxskansascity.org
  The Max’s Kansas City project provides emergency funding and resources to professionals in the creative arts in New York State who can demonstrate need.

**Organization & Business COVID-19 Emergency Resource List**

- **NYC Community Trust Response & Impact Fund** – nycommunitytrust.org/covid19
  The NYC COVID-19 Response & Impact Fund was created to aid NYC-based nonprofits struggling with the health and economic effects of the Coronavirus. It will be providing up to $75M in grants and loans to NYC-based nonprofits that are trying to meet the new and urgent needs.

  The United Way of Westchester and Putnam announced that they will be awarding grants to nonprofits that are directly helping underprivileged populations displaced or actively impacted by the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Westchester County.

- **Americans for the Arts Resources** – americansforthearts.org
  Americans for the Arts is providing a host of resources, including surveys on impact, recommended steps for preparation, and relief and granting efforts for artists and arts groups.

- **Assistance and Guidance for NYC Small Businesses** – nyc.gov
  New York will provide relief in the form of zero interest loans, information regarding grant retention and guidance on best practices for businesses across the City that are seeing a reduction in revenue because of COVID-19.

- **ArtsReady** – artsready.org
  ArtsReady provides an online emergency preparedness service by and for arts/cultural nonprofits, and provides arts organizations with customized business continuity plans for post-crisis sustainability.

**RESCHEDULED DATE**

**ARTS WESTCHESTER ARTS AWARD LUNCHEON**

Tuesday, June 30, 2020 | Brae Burn Country Club

**Luncheon Chairs:** Deborah & Alan Simon

**Committee Chair:** Barbara Z. Monohan

For tickets, tables & more information: artsw.org/artsaward2020 or email afabrizio@artswestchester.org

If we are unable to hold this event in June due to COVID-19 concerns, the event will be re-scheduled for Wednesday, October 7
BRAVO...BRAVISSIMO

Every year, ArtsWestchester recognizes the work of local individuals and organizations that have significantly impacted the cultural life of Westchester. The annual Arts Award luncheon brings together artists, government officials and business leaders – all to celebrate the arts and applaud these honorees. This year’s luncheon has been postponed until June 30 due to the COVID-19 concerns. If the event cannot be held in June, it will be rescheduled for October 7.

Over the past several months, ArtsNews has been featuring the 2020 Arts Award honorees. This month, read about the Ossining Public Library and A-Chord With Kids. For more info about the Arts Award luncheon, tickets, and the full list of 2020 honorees, visit artsw.org/artsaward2020.

Ossining Public Library to Receive the Sophia Abeles Education Award

The Ossining Public Library offers the Westchester community with frequent, affordable and direct access to arts programming. From concerts to film screenings, the Library’s Camille Budarz Theater is home to numerous programs throughout the year. Its art gallery features the work of local artists, with new exhibits each month. Now in its 125th year, the Library has served the Ossining community through two World Wars, the Great Depression, and an unprecedented boom in technology. Today, it offers a diverse calendar of events. Recent happenings have included a drumming circle for teens, a theatrical performance about Anne Frank, a weekly “I Heart Art” program that encourages children to explore art, and live jazz performances. There is also family story-time, memoir writing, art workshops and more.

Not only does the Library provide the community with arts programming, it also embraces the community within those programs. For instance, the Ossining Union Free School District is featured in an exhibition each May.

A-Chord With Kids to Receive Education Award

A-Chord With Kids is a youth-run music program through which one young generation shares its talent with a future generation. This youth-to-youth peer program, which was founded in 2012 by Austin Weber, Chase, Alex and Cameron Goddard, students at Rye Country Day School, consists of volunteers who help children to build confidence and self-esteem through music education and mentorship. The program’s students are members of the Carver Center in Port Chester, a community-based organization dedicated to meeting the needs of underprivileged youth.

During the A-Chord program, these youth are introduced to different musical genres, learn music theory and sight-reading, and explore instruments with one-on-one instruction. They are also instructed on different types of musical ensembles, from orchestra to jazz band. The young volunteers in this program prove that anyone, no matter their age, can make a significant difference in their communities.
spotlight

AN ODE TO THE LENAPE PEOPLE

by Will Bermingham

The first of ten original works of art is scheduled to be installed on the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge path this month*. A massive sculpture, **TAPPAN ZEE**, is the work of artist Ilan Averbuch. It is one of the site-responsive works chosen in a competitive selection process managed by ArtsWestchester in collaboration with the New York State Thruway Authority and the Arts Council of Rockland.

*TAPPAN ZEE, representing the native Lenape people of the Hudson River Valley, depicts a procession of seven abstract figures as they carry a traditional canoe on their shoulders. The sculpture sends a nod to historic naval travelers of the River, like Henry Hudson and the Dutch settlers of New Netherland. The name "Tappan Zee" itself is a combination of the Lenape term meaning "cold water" and the Dutch term for "sea," which is symbolic of the shared regional heritage represented by the sculpture.

The concept behind the piece evokes the enterprising collaborations of society, and is symbolic of community and the movement of people in boats. Says the artist: "The piece conveys the concept of a group effort to cross the river, like the movement across the bridge, as well as the collaborative effort of making the bridge."

The ten works of art are by eight New York State artists and will be located on or near the bridge's 3.6-mile bicycle/pedestrian path. This landmark Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge Public Art Program is a collaborative initiative between artists, engineers, architects, fabricators, and state and cultural leaders.

*As we go to press, we hear that this project may be postponed. Stay tuned for additional details.

Rendering (top) and progress photo (bottom) courtesy of to courtesy of the New York Thruway Authority.
A life-sized bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln in Peekskill tells the story of Lincoln’s only visit to Westchester more than 150 years ago. The statue captures the President-elect during his stop in Peekskill on February 19, 1861, during his inaugural train trip from Illinois to Washington D.C. At the train depot, the soon-to-be President gave a brief but powerful address, in which he implored more than 1,000 Peekskill residents for support in the emerging secession conflict.

To commemorate this historical event, members of the Lincoln Society in Peekskill, along with its president, former Mayor of Peekskill John G. Testa, had the statue installed in 2007. “Lincoln in Peekskill” stands at that very same 19th century train depot where Lincoln’s speech took place, now also the site of the Lincoln Depot Museum.

Designed and created by the late sculptor Richard Masloski, the 2007 statue depicts the artist’s vision of what Lincoln might have looked like as he spoke to Peekskill citizens during his address. Masloski incorporated illuminating components into the statue, such as a solid black granite base to represent the baggage car that Lincoln climbed before he made his speech. He also gave the statue Lincoln’s exact height to portray the audience’s authentic view as they heard him speak.
A note of Hope and Best Wishes

by Michael Boriskin, Artistic and Executive Director at Copland House

*Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gain'd,
To bow and to bend we shan't be asham'd,
To turn, turn will be our delight,
Till by turning, turning we come round right.

— by Elder Joseph Brackett, 1848
[used in Appalachian Spring, Aaron Copland]

Just over 75 years ago, during the darkest days of World War II, Aaron Copland and Martha Graham created an iconic ballet about friendship, love, loyalty and renewal. Their message: the community succeeds only by joining together. Those same enduring virtues will be essential as we cope with, and conquer, the current health crisis.

In the turmoil of the unpredictable coming weeks, Copland House will follow the recommendations of the CDC, New York State, and other authorities about public interaction and best health practices. We will also keep you posted about scheduling changes for our concerts and other activities.

In the meantime, we are thinking of all of you near and far – our friends, colleagues, collaborators, and supporters – and hoping that you stay safe and healthy. As the beloved Shaker tune at the heart of Appalachian Spring suggests, we also hope you all find solace during these challenging days in simple gifts – family, home, friends, love, compassion – and we look forward to the time when we can again “come down where we ought to be [and] find ourselves in the place just right.”

Copland House has launched a new feature, “Coping... With Copland House,” which will periodically highlight audio clips, video clips and more on its website at coplandhouse.org/coping.
Federal Stimulus Relief Package Includes Nonprofit Arts Sector

Congress has passed a $2 trillion emergency stimulus package, subsequently signed by the President, which includes $300 million in economic relief for arts and humanities groups, as well as additional relief opportunities for independent contractors.

The arts funding in the package includes $75 million each for National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, $50 to the Institute of Library and Museum Sciences, $25 million for the Kennedy Center and $7.5 million for the Smithsonian. Of the NEA and NEH funds, 40 percent is for state and regional art organizations, while the remainder is to be allocated for direct grants.

Luckily, the bill also takes into account the creative workforce, such as individual actors, musicians and artists, as well as nonprofit organizations and small businesses. For instance, Emergency Economic Injury Disaster Loans can use up to $10 billion for items like paid sick leave and operating costs. Similarly, $350 billion is allotted to the Small Business Administration (SBA) for emergency loans that small businesses can use for essential costs like rent, utilities and payroll. These SBA loans apply to nonprofits, but also independent contractors and those who are self-employed.

Other items in the bill include expanded unemployment insurance, to be made available to furloughed workers, freelancers and others in the creative workforce, and a tax incentive that now allows for non-itemizer taxpayers to deduct charitable contributions of up to $300 from their tax return.

While this funding is helpful, it does not match the significant financial loss from absent revenue and thousands of lost jobs that the industry has already seen. Americans for the Arts (AFTA) surveyed more than 8,000 organizations in the industry at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and, within just two weeks, estimated that the direct loss of income was $3.6 billion. These numbers continue to rise as the full damage caused by this virus is realized.

In the end, this overall loss to the nonprofits arts sector will affect the economy as a whole. An AFTA study in 2017 found that in Westchester County alone, the arts sector generates $172.3 million in total economic activity, delivers $25.8 million in local and state government revenue and supports 5,179 full-time equivalent jobs. The local economy and quality of life relies on the arts.

ArtsWestchester is standing by its vital community of artists in this unprecedented time of need by establishing an artist relief fund. Applications open on May 1 and continue on a rolling basis. For more info, contact Debbie Scates at dscates@artswestchester.org.
4/1 WEDNESDAY


4/2 THURSDAY


4/3 FRIDAY


4/4 SATURDAY


ArtsWestchester continues to monitor events during this current COVID-19 crisis. As calendar events have been canceled, we instead direct you to the list of virtual activities featured on page A5 and at artsw.org. We look forward to sharing news of future arts events with you. Follow @ArtsWestchester on social media for additional updates. Stay safe, Westchester!
Visit artsw.org for our Top 5 Virtual Arts Picks during this difficult time.