



Current by artist Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong (photo courtesy of the New York State Thruway Authority)

ARTS NEWS

JULY 2020

A New Destination for Art

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From the
County Executive

Thank you for taking a few moments to read this July edition of *ArtsNews*. Over the past several months, many arts events in Westchester have been forced to be canceled or postponed in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. These closures were necessary to prevent the spread of illness, and we all continue to worry

about the health and wellbeing of Westchester County’s residents. With the peak of Coronavirus hopefully behind us, we are making great strides towards rebuilding our County back to what it was before. Westchester County will gradually start to resemble the home we all remember, and our thriving arts community will soon welcome you once again in person. ArtsWestchester continues to provide a robust schedule of strong virtual programming offered by arts groups throughout the county, including:

- new public art at the Mario M. Cuomo Bridge (see page A4)
- plans for upcoming outdoor events (see page A14)
- summer arts camps (see page A18)

I encourage all of you to take a few moments of respite, and participate in these wonderful opportunities if you can. As Westchester County makes its return to “normal,” remember that 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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Contents

- A4 A NEW DESTINATION FOR ART LOVERS
- A14 SPRAY CHALK: SUMMER’S HOT COMMODITY
- A17 ARTIST RELIEF FUND
- A18 CAMP OUT WITH THE ARTS THIS SUMMER
- A20 GET THAT COMMISSION
- A22 AMERICAN JAZZ WITH A GLOBAL TOUCH
- A24 A COLLECTIVE ARTISTIC VOICE EMERGES
- A25 BRIGHTER DAYS AHEAD AT RIDGE HILL
- A26 ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES
- A27 OPEN MICS AND FACEBOOK LIKES
- A28 PLAYING FOR RALPH AND THE ARTS
- A30 VIRTUAL ARTS OFFERINGS

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FROM THE CEO

by Janet Langsam,
ArtsWestchester CEO



(photo credit: Cathy Pinsky)

Art on the Bridge

There's something magical about a work of art that sends me an inaudible message from the artist. Usually, it's a clue that allows me to perceive the work in a totally unexpected way. That is how I felt about the eight artists who won ten coveted commissions for artworks on the new Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge. Their works all reflect different interpretations of the site of the former Tappan Zee Bridge and its successor.

"A salute to the future, to technological advancement, and to change" is how Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong describes the elegant steel arches of *Current*, her sculpture at the Westchester terminus. Its sleek lines echo the angles of the bridge itself. As its lights reflect the ebb and flow of the river, it is a playful counterpoint to the bridge, which is an engineering feat and a work of art in its own right.

On the Rockland Esposito Trail, Ilan Averbuch's monumental sculpture delivers a historical viewpoint. *Tappan Zee* consists of

ten abstracted figures sharing the weight of a stone canoe as they traverse a path alongside the river. It is a narrative that recalls the people who once lived in the region and the value of communal effort. It would be hard to view this work of art without thinking of the heavy load this bridge carries and appreciating the enormous effort that went into its construction.

Some visitors to the bridge will welcome the nod to environmental concerns captured in the work of Wendy Klemperer's *Leaping Sturgeon*. Wendy says: "I explore the continuity between all forms of life on earth. In this anthropocene age, which threatens vast swathes of biodiversity, focusing on the animal realm seems no less important to me than on that of humans." As a former scientist, she takes special note in her artistic practice of anatomy, behavior, evolution, and conservation status.

See pages 4-13 in this issue for more about these artworks.

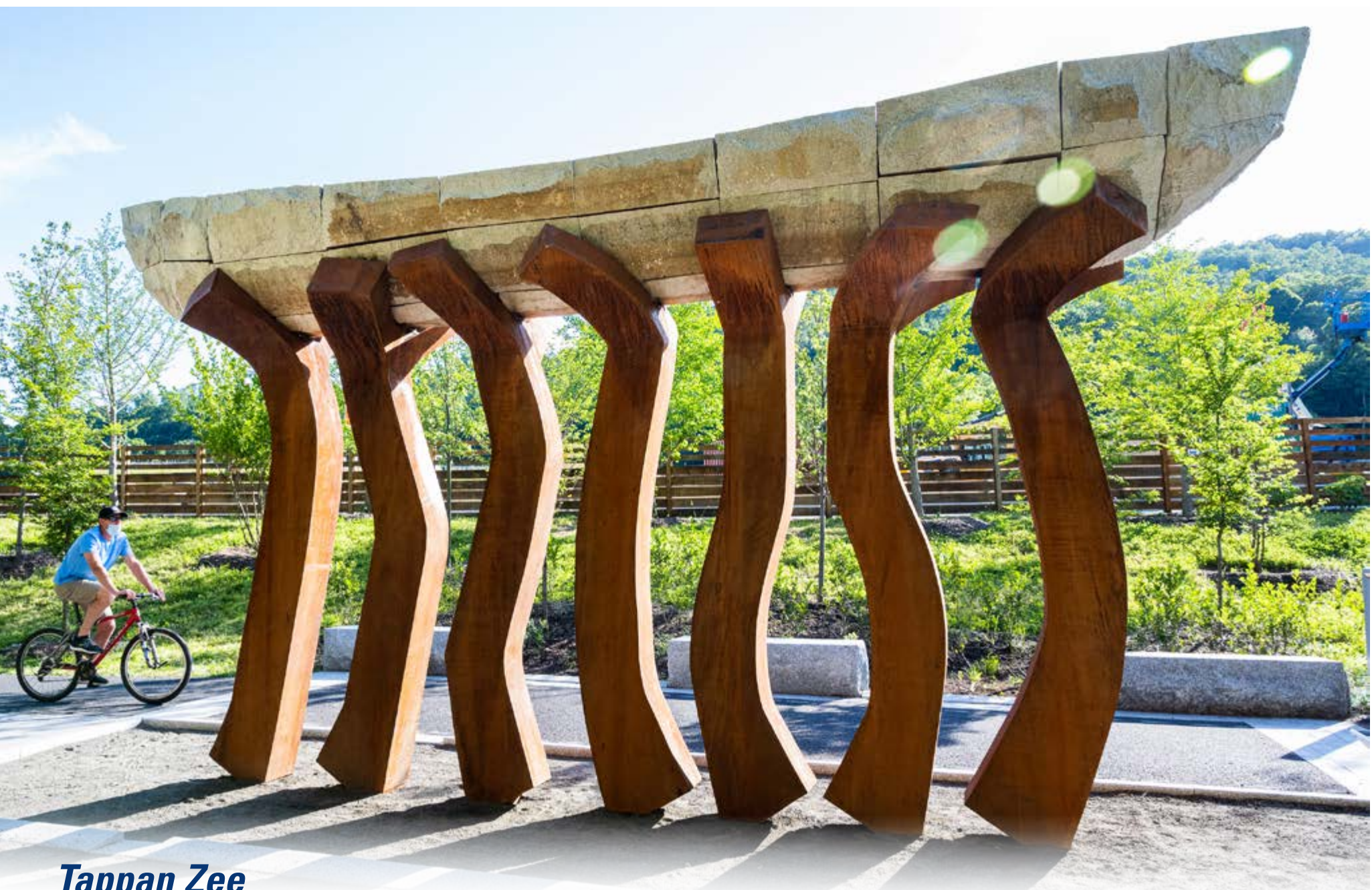


Leaping Sturgeon by Wendy Klemperer (photo credit: Tim Grajek)



Don't miss Janet's weekly blog posts at: thisandthatbyjl.com

feature



Tappan Zee
Ilan Averbuch

LOCATION 1

(photo credit: Margaret Fox)

A New Destination for Art:

GOVERNOR MARIO M. CUOMO BRIDGE

The 3.6 mile shared bicycle and pedestrian path of the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge is now open – and art-starved folks on both sides of the bridge are already heading out to enjoy its carefully curated collection of public art. ArtsWestchester worked closely with the New York Thruway Authority on the commission of 10 major works of public art by eight New York artists, all of which can be seen along the path. Explore some of these works on the following pages.



- ① *Tappan Zee* by Ilan Averbuch
- ② *Bike Rack* by David Greenberg
- ③ *Approach* by Fitzhugh Karol
- ④ *The Flux of Being* by Chris Soria
- ⑤ *Bike Rack* by David Greenberg
- ⑥ *Leaping Sturgeon* by Wendy Klemperer

- ⑦ *Untitled, For Imre Lendvai* by Thomas Lendvai
- ⑧ *Bike Rack* by David Greenberg
- ⑨ *Converging Vistas* by Christopher Flick
- ⑩ *Current* by Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong



Recycled Steel Gives a Nod to the Old Tappan Zee

by Michelle Falkenstein

It took three years and an estimated 47,000 tons of steel to construct the Tappan Zee Bridge, which opened to the public on Dec. 14, 1955. According to historical sources, due to a steel shortage caused by the Korean War, the bridge was designed with a limitation that made it unable to transfer its weight in the event one of its supports failed. Meaning: its days were numbered as soon as it opened.

In 2019, after 62 years of service (12 years longer than its life expectancy), the Tappan Zee's eastern half was demolished, and the western half was lowered and carted away on a barge. But while the bridge is no more, a small percentage of its steel has been used in the sculptures being installed around its replacement, the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge.

Artists submitting project ideas for the new bridge's art program were encouraged to incorporate steel from the old bridge, and three of the 10 commissioned artworks do just that.

"It was an interesting challenge, and it was great to be able to do it," says artist Thomas Lendvai, who normally works in wood. "It took me out of my comfort zone." His sculpture, *Untitled, for Imre Lendvai* (dedicated to his father) is made from 90% reclaimed Tappan Zee steel. It consists of seven graduated octagons, increasing from three feet to nine feet wide, slightly askew to each other, with congruent interior angle sides. The sculpture was fabricated in Mount Vernon and painted a terracotta red.

Lendvai, who has done large-scale work before but not public sculpture, says his piece was designed to put the viewer in mind of an echo or ripples on the water, a fitting concept considering its permanent home on the Westchester side of the Hudson River.

"Using bridge steel got me to think of the sculpture as being more like a skeletal form," he says, as well as giving him ideas for future projects. "It will be exciting to see what comes after this one."

Artist Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong's sculpture, *Current*, also contains Tappan Zee reclaimed steel, both in its base and at the top of its 12 arches, which range in size from four-feet six-inches to 12 feet.

"For me, this deliberate material choice was a way to pay homage to the legacy of the old bridge through these artifacts as preserved memories of the industrial past, while uniting this with other tech-forward materials," says Wong, whose piece includes light animations and responsive LED illumination. Wong's piece can be found at the bridge's Westchester Landing.

Artist Fitzhugh Karol says you can still see stamps from Bethlehem Steel on the old bridge plates that make up his sculpture, *Approach*, as well as dings from more than six decades of hard use, but that's just fine with him.

So are the pieces of reclaimed steel with capsule-shaped holes carved into them, which he alternated with solid planks in his work. "I designed it as a solid form at first," Karol says, "but when I saw the perforated planks, I decided to use different types of steel in the best way for the form."

Karol's sculpture also contains pieces of the new bridge. While touring a temporary exhibit designed to illuminate its construction, Karol noticed two large steel rings on display. He asked the show's organizers if he could have them for his piece, and the response was immediate. "They took them out and said great," he recalls, and they are now part of *Approach*. See it on the Rockland side of the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge.





Untitled, For Imre Lendvai
Thomas Lendvai
LOCATION 7

(photo credit: Margaret Fox)



Approach
Fitzhugh Karol
LOCATION 3

(photo credit: Kathleen Reckling)



Current
Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong
LOCATION 10

(photo credit: Margaret Fox)



The Flux of Being

Chris Soria

LOCATION 4



Reflections on a Bridge: *a Conversation*

On June 15, Governor Andrew Cuomo cut the ribbon on the shared use path of the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge, officially welcoming pedestrians and cyclists to a 3.6 mile, bright blue, trailway across the Hudson River. The opening of the path was a capstone to the bridge itself – the biggest infrastructure project in the nation. The inclusion of 10 works of art by New York State artists was led by ArtsWestchester. Now that the path is open to the public, CEO Janet Langsam and Deputy Director Kathleen Reckling, reflect on some moments from the two-year collaborative process.

Janet Langsam: Given the Bridge's enormity and its importance as a gateway to the Hudson Valley, ArtsWestchester was proud and humbled to have played a tiny part this project.

Kathleen Reckling: Yes, it all started when we decided to honor the bridge as a work of art at our gala in 2017. I think the entire board was awed by the grace and beauty of the design.

JL: I suppose it was an easy leap from there for us to suggest to the powers that be that this public, iconic bridge should have some works of art. Fortunately, the idea resonated with Project Director Jamey Barbas and her team at the New York Thruway Authority. In fact, as an architect, Director of Public Outreach George Paschalis is someone close to the idea of creative placemaking, which is a concept we espouse.

KR: I think this was one of those moments when we said to each other: "Be careful what you wish for." Working in partnership with the New York State Thruway

Authority, and in collaboration with the Arts Council of Rockland, ArtsWestchester became the administering agency for the selection and fabrication of 10 major works of public art for the termini of the path: five sculptures, four bike racks and one mural.

JL: That one mural was a challenge. And it became quite a statement, covering 4,000 square feet. It wasn't a simple mural...it was a mural in a 75-foot-long tunnel that was painted on three sides so you can really feel enclosed in color. Like most of the artwork, it had to be scheduled around the bridge work.

“We were both struck by the way the artists responded so personally to the site and the community histories in their proposals.”

– Kathleen Reckling, Deputy Director of Public Programs at ArtsWestchester

KR: We started with a Request for Qualifications, which invited artists to submit their CVs and work samples. All in all, there were more than 100 entries for the various projects. The selection committee whittled the group down to finalists who were invited to do full proposals before finally choosing the winners. Each artist really stepped up to the challenge.

JL: Remember that we didn't start with 10 works, we started with two: one each for the Rockland and Westchester sides.

(photo credit: Margaret Fox)

KR: Once we got started, it was exciting to see the creative ideas that the artists brought to the bridge and the creative places the bridge team found to locate artwork. We were both struck by the way the artists responded so personally to the site and the community histories in their proposals. As the artists moved through the process, they received honoraria, but were also tasked with providing complete, well-researched visions. After they were chosen, it was like any other construction project, requiring preliminary designs, working drawings and engineering standards.

JL: At the end of the process, there was a sense that the artists had envisioned the future and the past...a nod to the steel of the bridge and to the people who lived in the area, the sturgeon that are coming back to the Hudson, and the old but beloved Tappan Zee Bridge.

KR: Imagining a new life for the Tappan Zee Bridge steel was perhaps one of the most exciting aspects of the project. Although the bridge is gone, we felt it could be memorialized in art. I was allowed to visit the salvaged steel before it was transported to the artists' workshops. There was something really moving about seeing the maker's imprint, and the dings from half-a-century of traffic moving across it. Those marks are now featured details in the works by Thomas Lendvai and Fitzhugh Karol.

(The mural) became quite a statement, covering 4,000 square feet...it was a mural in a 75-foot-long tunnel that was painted on three sides so you can really feel enclosed in color.

— Janet Langsam, ArtsWestchester CEO

JL: The opportunity for public art at the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge became more than a public art project for all of us. It became about creating a place for the community, an oasis at each terminus that has an identity rooted in the stories, values, and vision of that community. The bridge of course is primarily a twin crossing and that's its purpose. But, it's also a place for walkers and bikers. And now, with works of art, it becomes a destination. Take the family, spend the day...who ever thought about spending a day at a bridge?

The artist-designed bike racks within the collection presented an opportunity for us to demonstrate that utilitarian objects can be creative and be a way to spotlight community values and stories into built spaces. Functional

art can really serve as a meaningful way to engage stakeholders in public art, and to promote the work of its artists. For communities thinking about how to include the arts in their landscapes, bike racks can be an approachable alternative to larger-scale sculpture.

KR: As a whole, the public art on the bridge provides a national model for how governmental agencies can collaborate with grassroots arts organizations to invigorate and transform forgotten spaces into memorable destinations.





Leaping Sturgeon
Wendy Klemperer
LOCATION 6

(photo credit: Tim Grajek)

feature



SPRAY CHALK:

Summer's Hot Commodity

by Mary Alice Franklin, ArtsNews Editor

Spray chalk, it seems, will be a hot commodity this summer. As dozens of arts organizations plan to pivot their indoor events into an outdoor format, many will be marking off socially distanced areas in the grass with chalk to ensure safe gatherings. Another common refrain among them: masks, hand sanitizer, and awaiting a green light from New York State officials. Until then, with the uncertainty of their summer revenue stream at stake, they continue planning.

But don't worry, they aren't going anywhere. "I am trying to work on details – figuring out the number of possible participants and how best to maintain distance," says Lorraine Laken, Director of

the **Hammond Museum**. Outdoor tai chi has likely never seemed so complicated.

Jazz Forum Arts Executive Director Mark Morganelli hopes that the group's popular summer jazz concerts can go on as planned by shifting their timeline. The usual July/August concerts will now take place in August and September, and 10-foot chalk circles will encourage distancing. So will the removal of an intermission. "I've separately contacted each of our five partner venues with a suggested plan. Part of it includes shortening the concerts to one hour with no intermission to discourage grouping."

*Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts presents
Lawn event featuring Charles Turner & Uptown
(photo courtesy of Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts)*

For **Caramoor Center of Music and the Arts**, the plan includes cordoning off designated areas – some for gathering, others for wandering. No tables will be available for picnicking. Instead, a series of Saturday night concerts in the Center's wide-open Friends Field will feature large, socially distanced circles, marked with that ever-popular spray chalk, in which people can sit for the concerts and picnic.

At **Downtown Music at Grace (DTM)**, replace the chalk with strategically placed chairs on the lawn in front of Grace Church. Says Artistic and Managing Director Tim Lewis: "Along with consulting state guidelines, we've been speaking with an epidemiologist." To minimize contact, all programs and tickets will be distributed digitally – part of a long list of precautions the group has outlined. The musicians will play at the top of the steps. Meanwhile, **Hudson River Museum's** amphitheater, with limited capacity, will still be the site of a series of outdoor performances and programs, from open-air concerts to live astronomy shows under the stars in the late summer and early fall.

Music isn't the only outdoor arts offerings in sight. Says Mariadora Saladino, Director of Advancement & Communications at **Westchester Italian Cultural Center**: "We are indeed planning our outdoor Italian movie festival, 'Cinema Sotto Le Stelle,' for August. Among other considerations, we will have seniors arrive half an hour early and offer them seating at a distance from the other guests." **Pelham Art Center** offers "art stations," tables spread out across the Center's courtyard. Future programs will take the outdoor setting into account, such as plein-

air workshops that will allow for limited registrants to work six feet apart. Opening receptions for **Mamaroneck Artists Guild's** exhibitions will be held on the sidewalk in front of the gallery to allow for sufficient distancing for attendees.

...the plan includes cordoning off designated areas – some for gathering, others for wandering."

The Armonk Outdoor Art Show may be used to the outdoors, but with an Oct 3-4 show on the horizon, Executive Director Anne Curran says there are new things to consider in order to comply with state guidelines. Among them: reconfiguring the layout of artists' tents, creating wider aisles for patrons to walk, and spacing the timing by which visitors enter the show to avoid congestion. Says Curran: "With all safety precautions



ents a Concert on the
n Swing on August 1
r Music and the Arts)



Guests enjoy a drive-in movie presented by The Bedford Playhouse and John Jay Homestead (photo courtesy of The Bedford Playhouse)



Sculpture by Kit Demirdelen on display in RiverArts' YardArt tour (photo courtesy of RiverArts)

(continued from A15)

in place, putting on the show...will be extremely positive for our artists who have suffered devastating losses over months of show cancellations, and will be a boon to local commerce."

For those who prefer to keep a distance, the arts have that covered as well. **John Jay Homestead** and **The Bedford Playhouse** have partnered on a series of drive-in movies, including *The Goonies* and *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, while **New Rochelle Council on the Arts** has considered a drive-in concert in lieu of its usual outdoor concert series in Hudson Park. Meanwhile, visitors to the Rivertowns can tour the artwork of local artists by car. Through Labor Day, **RiverArts** invites residents to create and display sculptures on their property. Works will appear on front yards, balconies and apartment windows. Each will be added to an interactive Google Map, with information about the artist and their work for a drive-by sculpture tour.

UPCOMING OUTDOOR EVENTS:

As state guidelines for health and safety are updated, plans will be adjusted as well. Check with each presenter about procedures and events before attending these events.

Armonk Outdoor Art Show is a fine art and craft fair that features 185 juried artists, family activities, music and more. At 205 Business Park Dr., Armonk. October 3-4. More info: 914-629-7529.

Bedford Playhouse and **John Jay Homestead** present a series of drive-in movies, including *The Goonies* and *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*. At John Jay Homestead. July 10-11 & August 7-8.

Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts launches **Concert on the Lawn**, a late-summer series of open-air concerts. At Caramoor's Friends Field. July 18 & 25, August 1 & 18. More info: boxoffice@caramoor.org.

Downtown Music at Grace presents a series of outdoor concerts on Wednesdays at noon in the courtyard adjacent to the Grace Church in White Plains. September 9, 16, 23, 30.

Jazz Forum Arts presents free outdoor concerts in August and September. Locations vary.

Hammond Museum presents outdoor Tai Chi classes that focus on relaxation, health and balance. Date(s) TBD. More info: gardenprogram@yahoo.com.

Hudson Valley MOCA and the City of Peekskill present an outdoor sculpture trail walk, which highlights dozens of public artworks along the Peekskill waterfront and downtown area. Open year-round.

Mamaroneck Artists Guild presents an en plein air group art-making session and outdoor opening receptions for new exhibitions. Location TBD. September 1 (rain date: 9/2). More info: 914-834-1117.

New Rochelle Council on the Arts presents a drive-in concert. Location and dates TBA. More info: 914-654-2087.

Pelham Art Center presents **Outdoor Community Art Days**, featuring live painting demos and "Pelham Art Rocks" painting. At Pelham Art Center's Courtyard. July 5 & August 2. More info: 914-738-2525.

RiverArts presents **YardArt**, an outdoor driving and walking sculpture tour of works by artists and residents of the Rivertowns. Works will be displayed throughout the Rivertowns through Labor Day. More info: 917-742-7654.

Westchester County Parks presents two drive-in movie screenings: *The Secret Life of Pets* and *Wonder Park*, as part of its "Screening Under the Stars" series at Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla. July 17 & August 14.

Westchester Italian Cultural Center presents an outdoor Italian film festival and film screenings in Tuckahoe. Date(s) TBD.

Ten Artists Receive COVID-19 Relief Grants

With the belief that artists are at the heart of Westchester's creative community, a group of ten more artists will receive ArtsWestchester's Artist Relief Fund grants. These grants, each in the amount of \$500, are intended to help local Westchester artists who have been adversely affected by COVID-19. Like so many others, artists throughout Westchester are hurting because of the abrupt loss of work due to the pandemic. Through the Artist Relief Fund, a GoFundMe campaign that relies on donations, a total of 18 grants have now been distributed. The goal for the campaign was set at \$25,000, however the grants are available on a first-come, first-serve rolling basis. The number of artists is directly dependent on funds raised.

Nationally, according to a survey by Americans for the Arts, the COVID-19 outbreak has dealt a nearly five-billion dollar blow to America's nonprofit arts sector as of May 4. ArtsWestchester CEO Janet Langsam explains: "We are thrilled to be able to provide some support to members of the artist community who

have been deeply hurt due to the abrupt loss of work during the COVID-19 crisis. Artists throughout Westchester County are feeling the pinch of canceled gallery exhibits, darkened theaters, shuttered museums and no artist residences in schools or community sites."

The new artist grantees include painter and freelance art handler Greg Beise (White Plains), representational artist and co-founder of the Main Street Atelier Emily Denise (Tarrytown), ceramic artist and art therapist Vicki Youngman (Hastings on Hudson), saxophonist and composer Matthew Garrison (Yonkers), Paraguayan harpist Nicolas Carter (White Plains), dance instructor Marion Archer (Yonkers), folk-rock musician Marc Black (Katonah), multi-disciplinary artist Miguel Cossio (New Rochelle), self-taught ink painter Wang Mansheng (Dobbs Ferry) and soprano, composer and educator Yolanda Johnson (Tarrytown).

Thanks to you... our Artist Relief Fund

has raised more than **\$15,369** for emergency grants to artists adversely affected by COVID-19!

Help an Artist Today.

The number of artists we can support is directly dependent on how much funding is raised. So, please consider a gift today.

Donate Today

ARTSW
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feature

Camp Out With the Arts This Summer

by Rocío De La Roca, Communications
Associate at ArtsWestchester

Summer has arrived, and kids and adults still anxiously wait to escape the monotony and strain of quarantine. Most summers, families look forward to enrolling in summer camps, a vital ritual and aid for many children and their working parents. Yet with COVID-19 still looming, countless summer camps have decided to close or cancel their programs for the summer season. Arts organizations in Westchester are providing hope for those who are looking to break away from quarantine routines to step outdoors, or simply have fun while remaining safely at home.

By reinventing and modifying their summer camps to comply with New York State safety regulations and protocols, these organizations are safely connecting with their communities. "Our main goal is to give kids the opportunity to have some fun after being stuck inside for so long while still learning from industry professionals about theatre," explains Stephen Ferri, Executive Producer and Resident Musical Director at **White Plains Performing Arts Center (WPPAC)**. WPPAC is one of more than 15 arts organizations in Westchester that will host adaptable summer camps this year.

The WPPAC expanded its annual Summer Theatre Academy into an on-site and online program to accommodate its audiences' needs and preferences. From July 13 through September 3, children in grades K-9 will learn acting, singing and dancing techniques during



Hoff-Barthelson Music School student (photo credit: Steven Schnur)

the Center's in-person camps, which will culminate with live theatre productions, including Disney's *Descendants*, *Moana JR* and *The Wizard of Oz*. Daily disinfecting of all WPPAC's facilities, contact-free temperature checks for campers and staff, and limited enrollment of camps are some of the program's new health protocols that are being implemented to ensure social distancing and the safety of all participants. If parents are uncomfortable with in-person classes, WPPAC's new two-week Online Musical Theatre Intensive program for kids aged 7-17 will be available via Zoom to help kids develop their performing skills and create an actor reel from the comfort of their homes.

Other arts organizations, such as **Hoff-Barthelson Music School (HBMS)**, are moving their camps entirely online so that families can participate in stimulating opportunities but continue to practice social distancing. HBMS's Summer Arts Program Online is a personalized three-day-per-week program that offers students in Grades 1-12 with the opportunity to try new instruments, practice their music skills and perform while minimizing screen time. The range of classes offered

includes classical music performance, jazz and popular music, music technology, musical theater, composition and arranging, and more.

Young campers will be encouraged to get outside with masks and put pencil to paper during **Hudson Valley Writers Center's** Creative Writing Camp, presented in partnership with the **Tarrytown Arts Camp** (TAC). The live virtual writing workshops, held on Wednesdays through July 22 via Google Meet, will ask students in Grades 5-8 to consider the advantages and disadvantages of life during the pandemic. Workshops will provide an opportunity for young writers to voice their feelings about being isolated from friends and confined inside their homes.

TAC Director Anna Povich de Mayor explains: "During these times, if there is anything vital to our wellbeing, it is the arts. We are happy to provide our children with an outlet to express their feelings, provoke their imaginations, and bring joy during this challenging moment in time."

Summer Camps:

- [Summer Camps for Non-Francophone Children: French through Play](#)
Presented by Alliance Française de Westchester
- [SummerStage 2020](#)
Presented by Arc Stages
- [Summer Performing Arts Camp Sessions](#)
Presented by Broadway Training Center
- [The Summer Youth Arts Technology Program](#)
Presented by Center for Digital Arts, Peekskill
- [Virtual and In-Person 2020 Summer Camp Sessions](#)
Presented by Concordia College's Conservatory and Osilas Art Studio
- [Summer Dance Programs on Zoom](#)
Presented by Dance Cavise Studios
- [Summer Arts Program Online](#)
Presented by Hoff-Barthelson Music School
- [Virtual Environmental Writing](#)
Presented by Hudson Valley Writers Center and Tarrytown Arts Camp
- [Summer Camp Spymaster Activity Box](#)
Presented by John Jay Homestead
- [Summer Music College Prep Program and Summer Super Sessions](#)
Presented by Lagond Music School
- [Virtual Summer Music & Arts Program](#)
Presented by Music Conservatory of Westchester
- [Camp PGT Summer 2020](#)
Presented by The Play Group Theatre
- [Summer 2.0](#)
Presented by Rye Arts Center
- [SummerDance Online](#)
Presented by Steffi Nossen School of Dance
- [The Summer Theatre Academy](#)
Presented by The White Plains Performing Arts Center



Summer campers at White Plains Performing Arts Center performed Disney's Frozen Jr. (photo credit: Kathleen Davisson)

spotlight



GET THAT COMMISSION!

4 Artist Tips for Responding to an RFP

by Kathleen Reckling, Deputy Director of Public Programs, ArtsWestchester

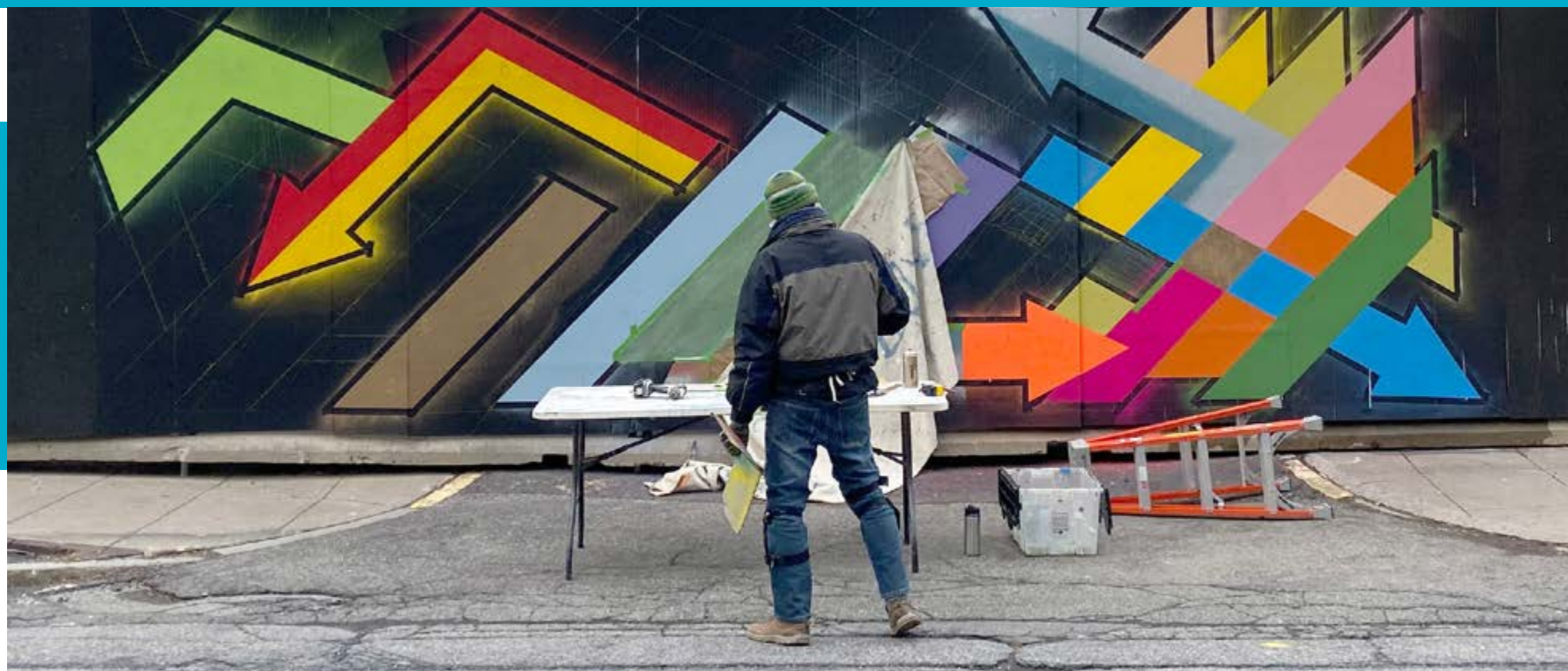
Public art is on the rise in Westchester, in New York State, and beyond. And a national trend suggests more opportunities for muralists, sculptors, and others are on the way. At first, it may seem daunting to assemble your materials into a package that will support, and show off, your artistic vision in its best form. However, some thoughtful work can yield meaningful rewards. Here are a few tips to help you approach your next application.

First, it is important to clarify some vocabulary:

RFQ (Request for Qualifications) vs. RFP (Request for Proposals). An RFQ asks artists to submit documentation that demonstrates they are qualified for the project. Documentation may include a Curriculum Vitae (CV) or resume, an artist statement and work samples. An RFP, on the other hand, asks you to submit a vision for a work of art. RFPs require a serious commitment, but can also help to hone your artistic vision.

In situ. Sometimes, you'll be asked to provide an "in situ" rendering. "In situ" means "in position" and, in this case, is a rendering that illustrates how the realized artwork will look at its intended site.

Artist Jana Liptak as she worked on her mural in downtown White Plains



Artist Daniel Carello as he worked on his mural in downtown White Plains

Helpful tips on submitting an application:

1

Read the brief.

The most important thing you can do in preparing to submit an RFP or an RFQ is to thoroughly read the materials provided by the funder/organizer. Understand what is expected of you as the potential artist. Is this purely a design competition, or will you be ultimately responsible for the fabrication and installation of the final work of art? If the funder provided context materials, an FAQ document, or is offering an info session, take full advantage of the resources they've made available.

3

Think like a curator.

What work shows you off the best in this particular context? This is not just about work samples (pick those that are closest to the type of project for which you're applying). It is also about your CV. Trim your list of accomplishments down to the ones that are the most prestigious and the ones that best suit the opportunity.

2

The budget is the budget.

If the all-inclusive budget is \$10,000, then the all-inclusive budget is \$10,000. Your responsibility is to stretch your imagination and propose something unique...but something that can be realized with the funds provided. Related to this, it's worth your time to do your homework. Get some rough quotes from potential subcontractors or vendors so you're not surprised later down the road.

4

Present a clear vision.

While most selection committees include arts professionals, it is possible that some committee members may be public officials or business owners who are not as well-versed in the arts. Present a well-articulated vision statement and high-quality renderings that clearly represent your vision for the project. Don't make people guess what your artwork will look like, show them.

spotlight



American Jazz with a Global Beat

The Amir ElSaffar Quintet (photo credit: Adam Kissick)

Jazz musicians Amir ElSaffar, Pablo Mayor and Samuel "Jomion" Gnonlonfoun, are each part of a growing cohort of composer/musicians who are expanding jazz's vocabulary through engagement with traditions alongside and *outside* of jazz. A live-streamed JazzFest White Plains program, "Jazz at the Intersections," will bring together this group of New York composer/musicians known for blending, crossing, challenging and transcending musical boundaries.

Each of these three musicians, in his own way, brings jazz into conversation with musical traditions that are tied to his ethnic identity. ElSaffar, who is Iraqi-American, is conversant not only in the language of contemporary jazz, but in the centuries-old and now endangered tradition of Iraqi Maqam. Using microtones and ornaments idiomatic to Iraqi and Arabic music, this trumpeter creates a wholly unique approach to harmony and melody in his jazz composition and improvisation.

Pianist Mayor, originally from Cali, Columbia, is known for combining jazz with Colombian folk rhythms, salsa and Cuban charanga. His concept and aesthetic of "Folklore

Urbano" is revolutionizing the ways in which audiences hear and understand the relationship between jazz and Latin American music.

Gnonlonfoun is a renowned musician from Benin, West Africa, who today lives in Brooklyn with his brothers and daughter. Jomion & the Uklos, their family band, combines the rhythms and songs from Beninoise *vodun* culture with reggae, salsa and jazz. The result is a new vibrant hybrid dance music that Gnonlonfoun dubs "whedo-vodun-jazz."

For the health and safety of the community, this year's JazzFest, sponsored by Bank of America, will be presented virtually as a series of live-streamed evening programs taking place on September 8-11. Programs will allow audiences an intimate view of the jazz industry's rising stars, jazz mentorships and more. The September 10 "Jazz at the Intersections" program described above will feature live performances by each of these three artists, followed by a moderated discussion about the topic of hybridity and fusion in contemporary jazz composition.



MARSHA ON THE MOVE

Monthly Web Feature

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.

Just Mercy

I remember when I was at the movies (yes...there was a time), and I ran into someone I knew. They had just finished watching *Just Mercy* and were visibly moved and shaken. It had been on my "to watch" list ever since. So I was delighted to see it become available on Amazon Prime. I totally feel my friend's emotions now, for this is one of the most powerful and thought-provoking films I have recently seen. This film, a true story, is about the injustices of the law, the prison system and treatment of African Americans (especially in the South). It's about the goodness of people who choose to defend those who have no one else, to stand up for what is just. For those who support the death penalty, this presents a jarring reality. This is a socially important movie with powerful (yes, I have used this word twice deliberately) actors and an "edge of your seat" experience.



Promotional still from Just Mercy

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spotlight

Collaborations Reclaim a Sense of Community

by Mary Alice Franklin, ArtsNews Editor

Many artists thrive in shared creative spaces – but the appearance of COVID-19 caused most of them to shelter in their homes. Along the way, several arts organizations have provided opportunities for collaboration, offering meaningful approaches for reclaiming a sense of community. These projects are providing a strong outlet for artists, who are cut off physically but connected creatively.

In August, Pelham Art Center's first physical exhibition since lockdown will showcase works from *USPS Art Project*, which the center embraced during the pandemic. This project encourages collaboration between a pair of artists. Each begins a postcard-sized artwork, and then mails it to their partner who completes the work. Artist Katharine Dufault explains: "I am used to working alone in the studio and socializing at gallery openings, exhibitions and art fairs... so the idea of collaborating with other artists during the self-isolation period became a great way of maintaining contact with members of the arts community."

The Community Writing Project at Blue Door Art Center incorporated collaboration into its programming when poet-in-residence Golda Soloman decided to transition the center's ArtSpeak/From Page to Performance series to a virtual space. For the resulting program, Soloman encourages anyone to submit writings and musings, offering to create 'cento' or 'patchwork,' poems, which are composed of lines from poems

by other poets. Participants also get together to share works, or works-in-progress, in a non-judgmental gathering via Google Meet. In the end, the works are assembled in a shared issue that is offered

online. Soloman says: "I believe that we are all artists, all writers and all poets," adding that with collaboration comes "a shared creative energy."

Hudson Valley MOCA (HV MOCA) and Studio Theater in Exile (STIE) are slowly unwrapping *Climbing the Walls*, a project for which artists across all disciplines were asked to contribute works that respond exclusively to COVID-19 – a call that was ultimately opened up to include the recent protests as well. The submissions, which include monologues, poetry, photography and more, are then combined to make what Jo-Ann Brody, who does graphic design and installation for HV MOCA, describes as "a more powerful statement." She explains: "Some of the backgrounds for the readings are the submitted art. Meanwhile, submitted music becomes the soundtrack for performances or images. We have interwoven [submissions], creating a collaborative online, devised performance piece." STIE Co-Founder and Artistic Director Mara Mills describes: "Theater is collaborative – it uses all of the arts to tell a story: the set, lights, script, costume.... When COVID-19 came, with quarantine soon after, I realized that theater as we know it will have to adjust... So the integrative aspect

of theater became the format [for *Climbing the Walls*]." As a result, a collective artistic voice of the "now" emerges. The co-created art becomes a lasting emblem of its time.



Artists Katharine Dufault and Anki King collaborated on the USPS Art Project. The top artwork was created by Dufault and the bottom is the same artwork with King's contribution (images courtesy of Katharine Dufault)



Artist Designs Banners for Ridge Hill

Rendering of a banner with artwork by Alfredo Ponce, courtesy of the artist

This month, banners displaying the artwork of local artist Alfredo Ponce will be installed on lampposts throughout Ridge Hill Shopping Center in Yonkers. ArtsWestchester, in partnership with the Center, invited artists to submit designs for the commission project. As the open-air center reopens to shoppers, Market Street, where Ponce's design will appear, will be converted into a pedestrian-only zone so that visitors can enjoy the outdoor environment while social distancing comfortably.

Ponce works primarily in collage, deconstructing print media and transforming it into new representations that are broken down into two distinct elements: colors and shapes. The resulting

works are abstract or figurative compositions in a style that Ponce refers to as "Collage-Minimalism." He explains: "As a longtime resident of Yonkers, I wanted my proposals to highlight the diversity of the City: its various people, cultures and ideas. Two of the designs, *Community is Unity I & II* are the result of a call for unification during these complicated times...[The third design,] *Move*, represents an attitude of fun, joyful happiness together in brighter days ahead."

Ponce's artwork was selected through a competitive panel process, which included representatives from ArtsWestchester and Ridge Hill.

spotlight

Artist OPPORTUNITIES

ArtsW.org is Westchester County's guide for all-things-art. On its "Artist Opportunities" page, artists in all disciplines can find nearby working opportunities that will help to strengthen and further their careers. Below is a sampling of some upcoming opportunities. To get these opportunities sent directly to your mailbox, [sign up here](#).

Calling All Playwrights

Clocktower Players' "AMAZE Short Play Competition" is looking for new original "Zoom-friendly" plays to be performed by its students. Submitted plays can be performed by a minimum of two and a maximum of nine performers. Four categories include plays written for performers aged 7-9, 10-12, 13-17 and 18+.

Deadline: July 12

More Info: clocktowertroupes@gmail.com



Two Separate Worlds by Jeff Kuratnick (photo courtesy of Clay Art Center)

Call for Entries: Connections Virtual Exhibit

Clay Art Center invites ceramic artists from all over the country to participate in a nationwide response to the situation we all find ourselves in due to the coronavirus. Artists can submit a digital image postcard of their ceramic works, along with a written message, to be included in an ongoing virtual gallery and a gallery exhibit that will take place at a later date.

Deadline: July 15

For More info, [click here](#).

Calling All Artists: Hudson Valley Plein Air Festival 2020

Artists from around the country will paint "en plein air" (out-of-doors) in various locations around the Hudson Valley region on October 13-18, 2020. Artwork created during the festival will be exhibited publicly at the Wallkill River School, online until December, and then will travel to various public and business locations around Orange County until April 2021.

Deadline to apply: August 15, 2020

For more info, [click here](#).



(photo courtesy of Hudson Valley Plein Air Festival)



While sticking it out at home for several months, the isolation can really set in. “Young artists need outlets for creativity,” says Georgia Didier, Development Assistant at Lagond Music School. Of course, the same can be said for adults. That’s where virtual open mic events come in. Several local organizations have provided open forums for participants to express themselves during the recent pandemic, giving them a voice – even from home.

Sharing in the creative process with other musicians is a critical part of learning as a musician.”

– Georgia Didier, Development Assistant, Lagond Music School

In Lagond’s open mic events, teenagers perform everything from popular cover songs to original works for an expanded digital crowd. According to Didier, the Facebook Live format allows students to interact with a wider audience and helps the school to showcase their students’ talent to more people than their usual in-person events. She explains: “Sharing in the creative process with other musicians is a critical part of learning as a musician.” The school plans to offer both in-person and virtual open mic

programs even after the county reopens.

Arc Stages treats open mic events like an in-person event. Participants sign up in advance, do a soundcheck, and get announced by a host. When they are done performing, whether it’s an original song, dance or a cooking lesson, the rest of the Zoom attendees are unmuted so they can applaud. Real-life gig training. Like Lagond, Arc Stages intends to provide both in-person and Zoom open mic events moving forward. But the point was to keep students connected. Says Stephanie Kovacs Cohen, the organization’s Artistic Director of the Educational Stage: “It is part of Arc’s mission to be a haven for the community. It seemed obvious that we should continue that journey virtually in any way possible.”

Many people have been separated from their families during the pandemic. However, Hudson Valley Writers Center (HVWC)’s Open Mic program “has fostered a ‘family feel,’” according to its host, Bill Buschel. He explains: “Once a month we’re able to get the family together.” The open mic events were already the center’s most popular recurring event, according to HVWC Managing Director Krista Madsen. She added: “But our online presence has grown greatly...to include people from as far as California. And for the others who could never come for whatever reason, be it geography, a disability, etc., this [virtual platform] opens a new set of possibilities to consider when it comes to being able to be more inclusive.”

spotlight



Ralph Martinelli

The late Ralph Martinelli loved the game of golf and he played it whenever he could. He also loved his family, his friends, and everything about his home county of Westchester, especially the arts. On Tuesday, September 22, the arts will show their love of him as well. At its annual golf outing, ArtsWestchester will honor the memory of Martinelli. The first "ArtsWestchester Ralph Martinelli Memorial Golf Outing" will be held at Wykagyl Country Club in New Rochelle, where the annual outing has been held for over five years. The event is one of ArtsWestchester's most popular fundraisers, raising a record \$100K last year for the organization. Members of Martinelli's family, and many of his friends, play in support of the arts organization, where Martinelli served as a board member for almost fifteen years until his passing.

Says Josh Worby, Executive & Artistic Director of the Westchester Philharmonic, of Martinelli's support of the arts: "The

Westchester Philharmonic was fortunate to exist within Ralph's sphere. He didn't place borders around his willingness to go further. [During a meeting,] I mentioned a nettlesome problem I was working on. It was at that moment that the generous, kind, selfless and deeply attentive Ralph Martinelli was revealed to me with those four magnanimous words every not-for-profit loves to hear: 'how can I help?' At that moment, he was no longer a trusted business ally, but a true friend."

The ArtsWestchester Ralph Martinelli Memorial Golf Outing is a tribute to Martinelli, who celebrated creativity in everything he did. Whether building *Westchester Magazine*, or creating a brand like the publication's "Best of Westchester" awards, he showed a generosity of spirit that attracted friends from all over. Martinelli was a patron of the arts and a lover of life who believed in what he did, and did it with passion.

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virtual activities

Virtual Arts Offerings: July



A livestream concert with Calidore String Quartet, Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 7/16 (photo credit: Mich)

Alliance Française de Westchester offers a selection of [French summer camps](#) and [intensive online classes for children, teens and adults](#) who want to improve their French.

- [Virtual Cooking Workshop for Children](#): July 1 at 10:30am
- [Online Celebration of Bastille Day](#): July 14 at 6pm

Arc Stages presents online adult and children's classes, live-streamed concerts, open mic night sessions and summer camps both on-site and online classes in Acting Technique, Choreography, Music and Vocal Technique, and more. arcstages.org/connects

- [SummerStage Camp](#): On site from July 6-August 15 at 9am-3pm and Online from July 6-17 at 9:30-11:30am via Zoom

Arts and Culture Committee for Town of Greenburgh presents [The Kids Short Story Connection](#), a two-hour workshop series for kids who love to write. The workshops will be held on Saturdays from July 11-August 1 at 10am via Zoom.

ARTS 10566 provides fun and enriching instructional lesson-based activities through its new interactive platform, available for students, parents and the community. New classes are posted every Monday at 3pm. To learn more, [click here](#).

ArtsWestchester is providing weekly social media activities, such as Art of the Week assignments every Monday, virtual [ArtsMobile activities](#), [Teen Tuesday and Thursday programs](#) and more. facebook.com/artswestchester and instagram.com/artswestchester

- [Lawrence Salley Photography Award and Virtual Exhibition](#): On view now

The Bedford Playhouse's "Virtual Playhouse" and "Culture at Home" bring a selection of interactive programs, from comedies to environmental documentaries, author talks, weekly trivia for kids and more. For a full list of current programs, [click here](#) and visit

facebook.com/bedfordplayhouse and instagram.com/bedfordplayhouse.

- "Galaxy Quest" Zoom Conversation: July 2 at 7:30pm
- COVID: The Mental Health Crisis: a Talk with Andrew Solomon: July 7 at 8pm
- Drive-in Movies (in partnership with John Jay Homestead): July 10-11 & August 7-8

Blue Door Art Center's Shattered: Glassworks exhibition is available online. The center will also host a series of free [art workshops for kids and writing workshops for adults](#) on Saturdays via Zoom.

Broadway Training Center offers week-long virtual summer camp sessions via Zoom for the month of July, and 2-week camp sessions in August that will either be via Zoom, or a blended mix of Zoom and in-person, if safety guidelines permit.

Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts offers a variety of music and family programs. Audiences can enjoy new live-streamed concerts and past performances by world-renowned artists on youtube.com/c/caramoor.

- Listening to Tom-Tom (streamed): July 9, 7pm
- Decoda (streamed): July 12, 3pm
- Calidore String Quartet (streamed): July 16, 7pm
- Chris Thile (live): July 18, 7pm
- Musicians from The Knights (streamed): July 23, 7pm
- Rachael & Vilray (live): July 25, 7pm

Center for the Digital Arts, Peekskill will host all summer classes online and via remote learning. The Center's [Youth Arts Technology program](#) is an online STEAM program focused on engaging youth in arts technology integration. [Click here to register for Summer classes.](#)

Clay Art Center presents virtual classes for adults and kids, as well as artist lectures and demonstrations. The Center's [Connections](#), a virtual exhibition of postcards that document ceramic artists' experiences during this time of social distancing, will be on view through July 15.

- Pottery for Beginners with Logan Wall: Thursdays through July 9 at 10am

Concordia Conservatory's Summer Program is a four-week virtual summer camp program held through July 24. For more info, [click here](#).

Copland House is posting videos of past performances through its "Coping ...with Copland House" series. coplandhouse.org/coping

Dance Cavise offers a [Summer Dance Program](#) with beginner, intermediate and advanced dance intensive level Zoom classes from July 6-31, as well a [Broadway Master Class Series](#) on Fridays from July 10-31 at 10am-12pm. dancecavise.com

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

Emelin Theatre's Virtual Screen Room streams the best in independent, international and documentary film for the price of a movie ticket. For the complete list of offerings, [click here](#). More streaming opportunities are available on [Facebook](#).

Hammond Museum presents monthly [virtual exhibitions](#). An artist reception is broadcast live on the first Saturday of each month. For a complete list of programs and workshops, visit hammondmuseum.org.

Harrison Public Library is offering suggestions on its website for what to read, watch, listen to and learn, as well as [virtual workshops](#) for teens and adults via Zoom, online book clubs, yoga classes for adults and more. For a complete list of programs, virtual classes and workshops, visit harrisonpl.org/events/harrison

- Sur-Fis Elements X 3 virtual exhibition: July 1-31

Historic Hudson Valley offers digital content on its website, including home craft videos like tinsmithing and its *People Not Property* interactive documentary about the history of Northern colonial enslavement through the personal stories of enslaved people. hudsonvalley.org/article/history-at-your-fingertips/

Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents an [Online Summer Arts Program for grades 1-12](#), which will offer students the opportunity to grow in their enjoyment and practice of music. The school will also offer a new online [Summer Early Childhood Music and First Instrument program](#) for children and families on July 6, July 20 and August 3. hbms.org



virtual activities

Hudson River Museum's [Museum From Home](#) offers a variety of recorded programs and workshops, with new content being added each week. Audiences can also explore the museum's [Derrick Adams: Buoyant online exhibition](#) on Google Arts and Culture.

- [Awesome Astronomy Live: Space-Truth or Space-Fiction?](#): July at 4pm via Facebook Live

Hudson Valley Museum of Contemporary Art's interactive digital tours will educate viewers about several highlighted exhibitions. Virtual tours of the exhibitions [How We Live](#) and [.edu: Art Faculty of the Hudson Valley](#), and an in-depth [Sculpture Trail walk](#) are available on the Museum's website. Also:

- [Climbing the Walls - A Virtual Theater, Poetry and Image Project](#): On view now
- [Making Masks](#): Submissions from the Museum's mask-making competition, including its winners, can be viewed online

Hudson Valley Writers Center will present free readings throughout the month, and a special offer on SHP chapbooks. A series of classes and readings, all online are ready for immediate registration. For a complete list of youth programs, virtual classes, workshops and online readings, visit [writerscenter.org](#).

- [Improvise Your Story with Sloane Miller via Zoom](#): July 18 at 12:30pm
- [An Evening with Mona Awad & Quan Barry via Zoom](#): July 31 at 7-8:30pm

Jacob Burns Film Center is highlighting staff-chosen films, as well as its "Viewing and Doing" series, which provides short films with related activities. [education.burnsfilmcenter.org/education/blog](#)

Jazz Forum Arts has launched Jazz Forum @ Home, a series of concerts live-streamed on Facebook Live every Saturday at 7pm, and [Jitterbugs @ Home](#), an online jazz program for kids ages 2-7, which will be held on July 12 and August 16 at 11am. [facebook.com/jazzforumclub](#)

John Jay Homestead offers interactive activities, such as children's projects, a virtual tour and downloadable worksheets on its website. [johnjayhomestead.org](#)

- Drive-in Movies (in partnership with The Bedford Playhouse): July 10-11 & August 7-8

Katonah Museum of Art's presents a slideshow and [virtual tours](#) of its upcoming rescheduled [Bisa Butler](#) exhibition, as well as [downloadable kids activities](#) that introduce audiences to the artist's quilted portraits. [katonahmuseum.org](#)

Lagond Music School will offer a 4-week [Summer Music College Prep Program](#) from July 20-August 14, which will prepare students for the

college application and audition process. The School's [Summer Online Super Sessions](#), for students in grades 2-12 who are interested in voice, keyboard, songwriting classes, will be held through August 28.

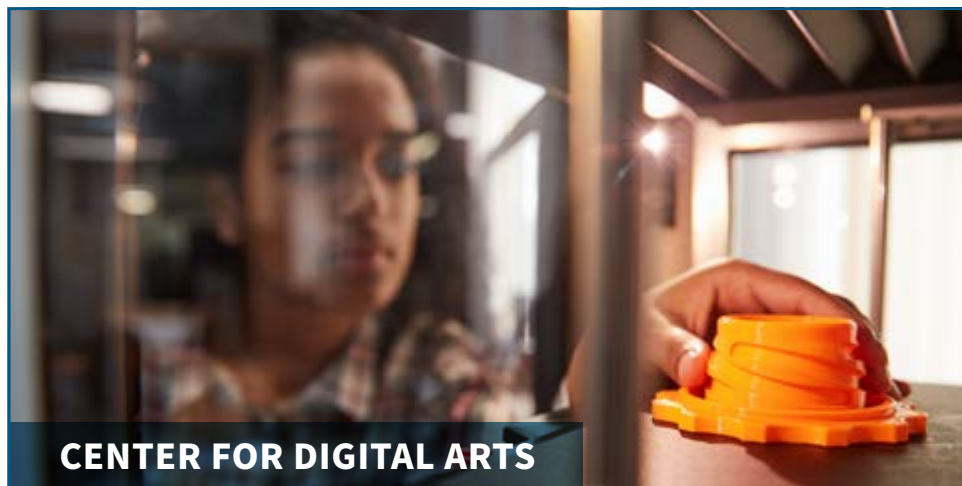
Lyndhurst presents virtual tours of the mansion and its Bowling Alley, as well as a virtual aerial tour of the site. [lyndhurst.org/about/virtual-tours/](#)

Mamaroneck Artists Guild presents *White and Black*, a group exhibition on view through July 11, and uses Facebook to highlight the artworks of their artists. [facebook.com/MAG.Larchmont](#)

M&M Performing Arts Company and the Red Monkey Theater Group will continue their virtual readings of [The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes on YouTube](#).

Music Conservatory of Westchester is offering [Virtual Summer Programs](#) to kids in grades K-7. Participants will experiment with music, learn to play instruments, write songs, perform musical theatre scenes and more. Select dates through August 7.

Neuberger Museum of Art provides pre-recorded [20-minute guided meditations](#) on its website, as well as [virtual curator-led exhibition tours](#) on Zoom and weekly [art-related projects and activities for kids](#). [purchase.edu/neuberger-museum-of-art](#)



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New Choral Society has shared some of its choral highlights from the past 26 years on a new [SoundCloud channel](#). The channel includes works by Mozart, Bach, Brahms, Gounod and Rossini. A video of the Society's [Messiah December performance](#) is also available.

Oak and Oil presents [Spring is in the Air](#), a virtual exhibit of contemporary florals by Cynthia Mullins. [oakandoil.com](#)

Ossining Public Library's Virtual Mother Goose Time will take place every Thursday at 10am on [Facebook](#), and other resources while we are all [Stuck at Home](#).

Pelham Art Center is hosting a series of virtual studio visits and works. Look for additional online events on the Center's [event page](#) and [Facebook page](#).

- [Community Art Days](#): July 5 & August 2 at 1-3pm

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](#).

The Ground Glass will present [The Decisive Moment Revisited](#), a virtual photography exhibition inspired by the works of famous photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson. The exhibit will be on view on The Ground Glass website. [thegroundglass.org](#)

The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College's online offerings include a range of live, recorded and curated events, education and entertainment. [Click here](#) to learn about [The PAC in Your Living Room](#) initiative.

Play Group Theater's [PGTonline program](#) allows audiences to enroll for virtual classes and the PGT Project 24 via Zoom. The Theater will also launch [Camp PGT](#) from July 6 through August 14. The summer camp will provide professional virtual theater camps in every subject, from filmmaking to design.

Rehabilitation Through The Arts (RTA) offers screenings of two documentaries: [Amazing Grace](#), a film about RTA's original performance at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, and [Dramatic Escape](#), which follows

RTA through the process of mounting Aaron Sorkin's play *A Few Good Men*.

RiverArts presents [#100DaysOfStudioTour](#), an online showcase of the Rivertowns artists who would have shown at this year's Studio Tour, via its [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages. In [YardArt](#), a driveable art tour through Labor Day, sculptures on display throughout the rivertowns. Virtual music and dance classes are also available.

- [Monica Shulman Virtual Studio Tour](#)
- [Six-Pack Music Lessons](#)
- [Virtual Dance Lessons with Mary Ford-Sussman](#)



Kahori Kamiya in her mask, the winner from Hudson Valley MOCA's Making Masks competition. All masks can be viewed on the museum's website.

virtual activities

[Ruth Keeler Memorial Library](#) highlights its digital collection, including e-books, audio books, music and streaming movies, TV for anyone with their library card. westchesterlibraries.org/listen-read

[Rye Arts Center](#)'s new [Summer 2.0](#) program offers [online classes](#), [private online lessons](#) and [Musical Theater workshops](#), as well as other weekly offerings on its [Facebook page](#). For a complete list of virtual classes, [click here](#).

[Steffi Nossen Dance](#) has launched [SummerDance](#), a virtual summer dance camp for a variety of ages, levels and disciplines. Preschoolers to pre-professional dancers can enroll in any or all of the school's one-week and two-week offerings.

[Tarrytown Music Hall](#) has launched a series of free one-hour workshops for kids. Previous topics included Shakespeare and Creative Writing. tarrytownmusichall.org/academy

- Morning Story Time for parents and Pre-K, K and 1st-grade kids: Mondays at 10-10:30am.

[Untermeyer Performing Arts Council](#) presents free art classes for children, led by well-known artist Zafiro Acevedo via Zoom on July 11 and 18 at 1pm. For registration, email zafiroyonkersartist@gmail.com.

[Westchester Children's Museum](#) has created WCM at Home, a page on their website with creative and fun projects for families to do at home. For more information at WMC at Home, [click here](#).

[Westchester Chordsmen](#) has shared a YouTube video of its performance *Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor*, which features excerpts of a poem by Emma Lazarus with music by the Chordsmen's Music Director Keith Harris. [Click here](#) to listen.

[Westchester Italian Cultural Center](#) presents [live-streamed webinars](#), featuring lectures, concerts and demonstrations.

[White Plains Performing Arts Center](#)'s [Summer Theatre Academy](#) offers an online Musical Theatre Intensive and in-person 1-3 week camp sessions for kids. In-person camps will conclude with musical performances, including Disney's *Descendants*, *Moana JR*, *The Wizard of Oz* and more.

[White Plains Public Library](#) has built a ["Stuck at Home"](#) web page, which includes resources chosen by Josh Carlson, Manager of Youth Services. whiteplainslibrary.org/2020/03/stuck-at-home-staff-picks

[YoFi Digital Media Center Friday Film Series](#) presents an evening of independent film and conversation every Friday. For info on upcoming screenings, visit yofidmac.com



Toni Morrison in Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am, a Magnolia Pictures screening from Jacob Burns Film Center (photo credit: Timothy Greenfield-Sanders / photo courtesy of Magnolia Pictures)



Arts leaders recently discussed reopening and recovery of the arts in Westchester during a Zoom meeting

ARTSWESTCHESTER NEWS BRIEFS

Arts Leaders Discuss Reopening and Recovery of the Arts in Westchester

ArtsWestchester, along with Caramoor CEO Jeff Haydon and Clay Art Center Director Emily Peck, organized a recent planning meeting via Zoom, which brought together arts organizations and local county and state officials to discuss the gradual reopening of the arts in Westchester. More than 50 arts organizations joined together with New York State Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblywoman Amy R. Paulin, New York State Council on the Arts Executive Director Mara Manus, Director of Westchester County Office of Economic Development Bridget Gibbons, Director of Westchester County Tourism Natasha Caputo and The Business Council of Westchester President & CEO Marsha Gordon to discuss how the arts industry can safely and successfully reopen in the coming weeks and months.

Westchester County Task Force Includes Arts Representation

ArtsWestchester CEO Janet Langsam was among those chosen for Westchester County's Reopening Task Force, which was announced by County Executive George Latimer to help local businesses deal with the process of reopening after the state's recent lockdown. The group will focus on a variety of vital economic sectors, including healthcare, labor, hospitality and the arts, for which representatives will provide valuable input from the field. According to Latimer's announcement, the group will "advance the interests of local businesses in the post-coronavirus economy and find solutions to problems that are encountered during the recovery period." Each representative is communicating with businesses and nonprofits in their sector about best practices and providing guidance to help facilitate a successful reopening process.



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