

ARTS NEWS

AUGUST 2020

Up and Coming Jazz Stars



Connie Han (photo credit: Michael R. Pool)

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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 throughout the County (see pages 5-9, 20, 26)
- a virtual celebration of Jazz (see pages A10-17)
- recharging our wellness with the arts (see page A23)

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

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Floater 36 by Derrick Adams
2017
Acrylic paint and collage on
paper
50 x 50 inches
Private collection



(photo credit: Cathy Pinsky)

FROM THE CEO

by Janet Langsam,
ArtsWestchester CEO

Soaking Up Sun at the Museum

Two extraordinary exhibitions will stick around in Westchester just a little longer than planned. These are one-person shows by two brilliant African American artists that were set to open within days of when the coronavirus changed our world.

At the Katonah Museum of Art, the vivid portrait quilts of Bisa Butler reign in the galleries until October 4th, 2020 before traveling to the Art Institute of Chicago (AIC). *Bisa Butler: Portraits* is the first solo museum exhibition of the artist's work and features her vivid and larger-than-life quilts that capture African American identity and culture. Butler, a formally trained artist of Ghanaian heritage, broaches the dividing line between creating with paints on canvas and creating with fiber by fashioning magnificent quilts and elevating a medium hitherto designated as craft into one that is clearly high art. While quilts have historically been isolated in the history of art as the products of working women, Butler's work

not only acknowledges this tradition, but also reinvents it. What results are stunning works that transform family memories and cultural practices into works of social statement. Before you go, get to know the work and take a virtual tour of the exhibition by [clicking here](#).

Admission for *Bisa Butler: Portraits*, which is now opened to the public, requires [advance reservations](#) to ensure the comfort and safety of visitors and staff. Face masks are required for all visitors over age two. Twenty-five visitors will be permitted in the museum per time slot. Families are also welcome to visit the Museum's Learning Center with [timed tickets](#). If you are a senior citizen or have a compromised immune system, fear not. Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10-11:15am and Sundays from 12-1pm are reserved exclusively for visitors who are at a higher risk of more serious COVID-19 complications.

At the Hudson River Museum (HRM), a smashing collection of works by Derrick Adams is now also welcoming visitors. Due to social distancing guidelines, only 40 people will be allowed into the museum at one time and pre-registration is required.

Derrick Adams is a visual and performance artist whose work frequently references images and themes of Black culture in America. If you feel you missed out on soaking up the sun poolside this summer, check out the artist's *Floaters* series, which folks at HRM describe as "a world where joy, love, leisure and even prosaic normalcy play central roles." *Derrick Adams: Buoyant* will be on view until August 23, 2020, before traveling to the Museum of Fine Art St. Petersburg and his site-specific *We Came To Party and Plan* will be on view at HRM through October 18, 2020.

So here's what you need to know: All visitors to HRM are required to reserve timed entry tickets, which can be purchased [on their website](#) or over the phone (914-963-4550). Upon entry into the museum, visitors will be required to wear face masks. All staff will also wear masks. The HRM has created a set one-way route that adheres to social distancing regulations, where visitors will be able to engage with Derrick Adams' exhibitions. Here's a tip—stick around after the show to soak up the sunshine in the HRM courtyard, and—think about coming back for an evening show at the [HRM Amphitheater](#).



Broom Jumpers, 2019 by Bisa Butler
Cotton, silk, wool and velvet
98 x 58 in. (248.9 x 147.3 cm)
Mount Holyoke College Art Museum
South Hadley, Massachusetts

Murals Welcome Shoppers Back to Ridge Hill



Mural rendering courtesy of the artist

Over the past several years, Ridge Hill Shopping Center has become a beacon for colorful public art. A partnership between the Center and ArtsWestchester has produced several commissioned artworks to brighten the Center's retail space. In the hustle-bustle of shopping and dining, passersby will see a geometrically patterned

[2015 mural by Nick Kuszyk](#). In recent weeks, they will have also come across a collection of [newly installed banners](#) that feature designs by artist Alfredo Ponce. Now, the newest additions to the open-air shopping center will be a pair of vibrant murals painted by acclaimed artist Andrea von Bujdoss, or "Queen Andrea."

Von Bujdoss, who has a list of artistic skills under her belt – fine artist, muralist, graffiti artist, typographer and graphic designer – is inspired by urban landscapes. She makes her mark on each cityscape by creating a fresh veneer of bold colors, patterns and phrases. The new Ridge Hill murals will be painted on the temporary

wood panels of retail stores and will remain for as long as those closures persist.

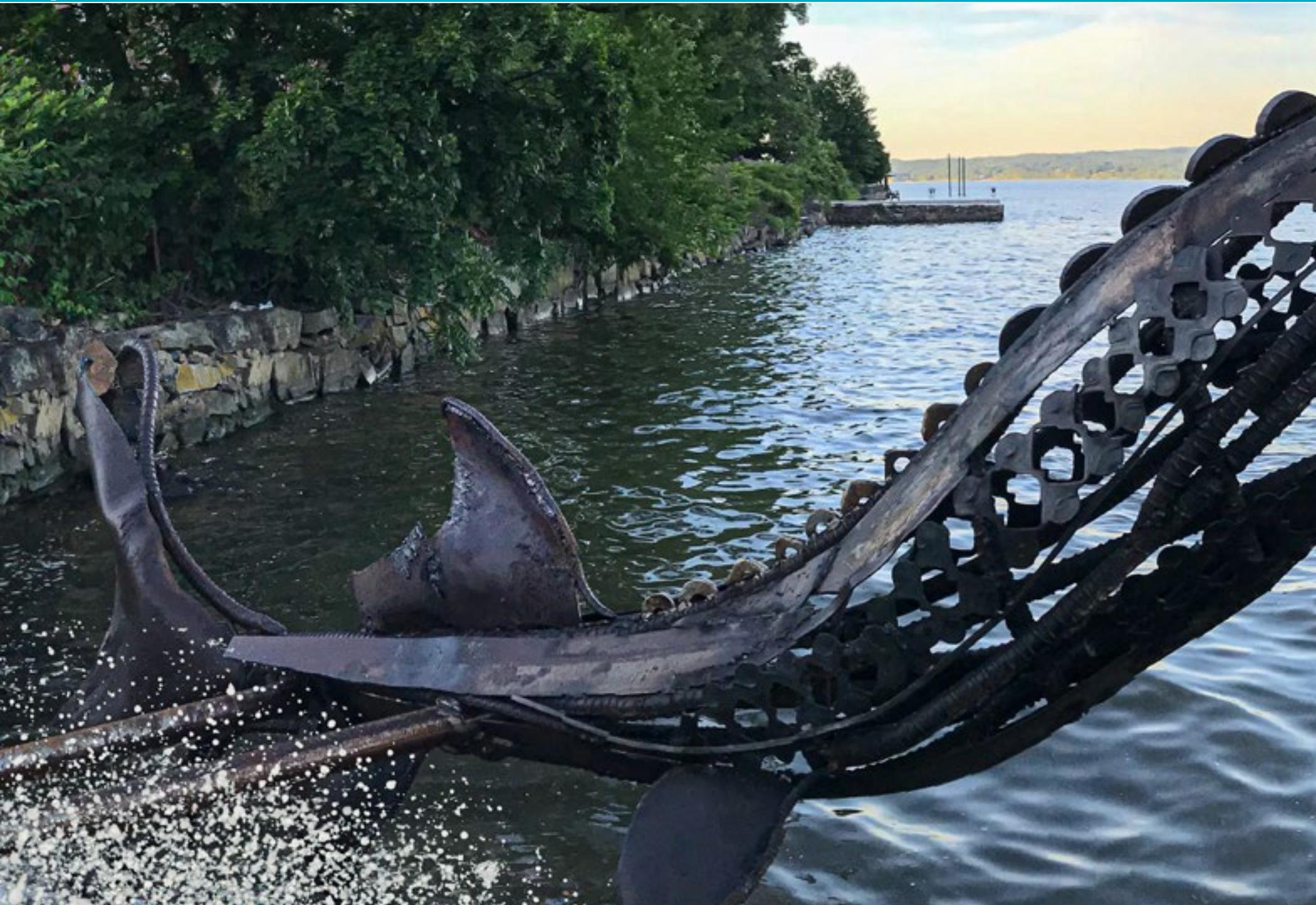
One mural, situated outside of TJ Maxx, beams with a pattern of intermingling colors. The symmetrical abstract design, inspired by the setting sun is, as the artist describes, "hopeful and calming."

According to the artist: "The colorful art will help to address the reduction of engaging public events [at the center], a result of the pandemic. It is also a way to brighten up people's mood during such a difficult time."

As such, the second mural, located outside of WestMed, serves to literally welcome shoppers back to the center now that it has reopened after its COVID-related closure. Von Bujdoss' bold use of color and typographical know-how present a rainbow-colored arrow pattern with one distinct word: Welcome. The arrows act as a way-finding tool, warmly leading shoppers back into the retail space.

...Ridge Hill Shopping Center has become a beacon for colorful public art."

public art



Wendy Klemperer was on her way out to sea when she got the phone call. She had been awarded a commission for one of the 10 works of [public art on the shared use path](#) of the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge. Klemperer, who thinks of herself as a 19th century artist-explorer, has been to sea before. In fact, an artist residency, during which she studied deep water life aboard a scientific vessel, has influenced her current work. It is also what inspired *Leaping Sturgeon*, the sculpture that is now at the bridge, seeming to leap out of the landscape and into the Hudson River.

Her oceanic adventure was an opportunity for Klemperer to further delve into her two interests: art and the natural world. Her distinct body of work is comprised of dozens of life- and near-life-sized

sculptures of animals in motion, all made from reclaimed metal. Her practice draws on her early experiences as both the daughter of scientists and as a student of biochemistry and molecular evolution.

"I see art and science as being very connected in many ways," she says. "As a start, both are rooted in the observation of natural phenomena. But as a scientist, you have to take yourself out of the equation. As an artist, you are constantly part of the process, and that reinforces that we are living beings in a living world."

Klemperer was commissioned to create a sculpture of an Atlantic Sturgeon in her signature style for the Rockland Outlook of the bridge's path. Sturgeon were once abundant in the river's waters, but were nearly lost due to overfishing. In 2012, it was added to the



Return of the Sturgeon

by Kathleen Reckling, Deputy Director of Public Programs, ArtsWestchester

Leaping Sturgeon by Wendy Klemperer (photo credit: Margaret Fox)

endangered species list; however, hope for the fish's population came in 2018, when a 14-foot sturgeon was detected by sonar near Hyde Park. The siting indicated that the rigorous work of conservationists, and the partnerships among various state agencies including the New York State Thruway Authority, were successful in helping to bring the sturgeon back from the brink of extinction. Klemperer's *Leaping Sturgeon* is a majestic 15-foot tribute to the species that has now become a symbol for New York State's waterways.

The sculpture is comprised of reclaimed rebar and other metals from construction sites and junk yards, literally tons of which lay in organized piles in Klemperer's studio "yards." One of the distinguishing features of the sculpture is a row of diamond-like cutouts referencing

the fish's scutes, or bony plates, on its back. The steel had come into Klemperer's possession over a decade ago when a buyer paid for a sculpture with, in part, scrap metal from her husband's junk yard. Klemperer notes that "each piece contains a story about what it once was and where it came from."

Standing at the edge of the overlook, the sculpture curves away from the shore and draws viewers toward the towers of the new bridge, which rise from the Hudson River at its widest part. Considering its subject and its materials, the sculpture is in many ways a dynamic symbol of possibility and regeneration.

public art

A Place to Rest Your *Weary Wheels*

by Kathleen Reckling, Deputy Director of Public Programs, ArtsWestchester

For many, the term “public art” is synonymous with murals or sculptures. But sometimes it is less obvious. Bus stops, benches and bike racks all offer opportunities for artists to rethink objects that function in our daily experience with public spaces. The [Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge’s public art collection](#) is unique because it includes functional as well as experiential works. In addition to sculptures and a mural, artist-designed bike racks offer a creativity-infused spot for cyclists to rest their weary wheels after traversing the newly opened 3.6 mile shared use path.

As part of a statewide call to artists, sculptors and designers were invited to submit proposals for unique bike racks that would be placed at key locations of the Westchester and Rockland landings of the path. Bronx resident Christopher Flick was one of the artists awarded a commission through the competitive selection process that was conducted through a partnership between ArtsWestchester and New York State Thruway Authority, and in collaboration with Arts Council of Rockland. His sculptural bike rack, [Converging Vistas](#), a line drawing rendered in hand-buffed steel, is now situated on the Westchester terminus of the bridge.

The work was thoughtfully and diligently crafted in the basement of his apartment building, which was converted into a studio. There, he creates his works, transforming abandoned street signs into a child’s reading seat; converting discarded phone booths into arm chairs. The items are as comfortable as they are artful, as Flick frequently blends utility with whimsy.

As a welder for the MTA, he is acutely aware of the symbolic and functional role of infrastructure systems. Bridges, tunnels and train lines get people from point A to point B, but they also represent the exchange of ideas, shifting landscapes, homecomings and voyages. The valleys and peaks of *Converging Vistas* reference the urban skyline of Manhattan, with the Palisades cliffs to the south and the mountains and hills to the north. It is a work of art that offers a place for respite and reflection on journeys ahead.





Converging Vistas by Christopher Flick (photo credit: Margaret Fox)

jazzfest

JAZZFEST... WITH A Twist

Tasty cocktails and livestreamed jazz music will come together this September when ArtsWestchester combines two of its signature annual events during these unprecedented times. On September 8, the organization's staple ArtsBash event will kick off a four-day [JazzFest White Plains](#) program with a Virtual Mixology Party, featuring Jägermeister. JazzFest, which is presented with the City of White Plains and White Plains BID, will then continue on through September 11.

Though virtual this year, the festival remains true to its roots, presenting jazz from an outstanding roster of musicians, many of whom have ties to Westchester. The festival, now in its ninth year, will celebrate established jazz greats who have shaped jazz, as well as rising stars who are carrying the genre in new directions. This series of special programs, to be held on Zoom and Facebook Live, will consist of animated conversations and educational demonstrations, as well as the lively and intimate performances for which it has always been known. Read more [about the festival](#) on the following pages.



ALICIA OLATUJA

Alicia Olatuja is among the standout “Rising Stars” that will be showcased in [JazzFest White Plains](#), a four-day virtual celebration of jazz that will take place on September 8-11. In fact, Olatuja has been astounding audiences with her exquisite vocals, artistic versatility and captivating demeanor since she first came into the national spotlight in 2013, when she was the featured soloist with the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir at President Barack Obama’s second inauguration.

Olatuja, originally from St. Louis, Missouri, grew up immersed in a wide range of musical styles, including gospel, soul, jazz and classical – all styles that have informed her artistic journey. Now performing regularly in gospel and jazz concerts, her resume includes performances with esteemed artists like Chaka Khan, BeBe Winans and Christian McBride.

As an artist, Olatuja devotes her energy to celebrating feminine creative power. Her 2019 album, *Intuition: From the Minds of Women* features the songs of women composers not often performed by jazz singers, including icons and rebels like Joni Mitchell, Imogen Heap, Tracy Chapman, Kate Bush, and many others. Yet, she still offers a unique musical perspective that is her own. Her band, steadily and increasingly in demand, has performed at numerous festivals, including the Newport Jazz Festival, Monterey Jazz Festival, Jazz at Lincoln Center and the Jazz Standard. The September 11 “Jazz’s Rising Stars” program will also include Connie Han, Matthew Whitaker and Veronica Swift – all of whom are making waves in the genre. The program will take place on Zoom and Facebook Live. Read more about [JazzFest](#), including the “Rising Stars” program, on the following pages.



Alicia Olatuja (photo credit: Harrison Weinstein)

jazzfest



Experience the Rising Stars of Jazz

by Andy Katell, ArtsWestchester Board Member

While the coronavirus pandemic has been tough on the arts, this year's [JazzFest White Plains](#) offers jazz fans a silver lining, as emerging and veteran musicians perform and discuss their work in an online festival from September 8-11. Curated by ArtsWestchester's Director of Folk Arts, Aaron Paige, a lineup of live-streamed programs will be presented by ArtsWestchester, the City of White Plains and the White Plains BID, and sponsored by the Bank of America. All programs will be broadcast on Zoom and Facebook Live.

On September 11, the festival will focus on "Jazz's Rising Stars," during which four of the top young U.S. jazz musicians will perform live. A discussion, moderated by Keanna Faircloth of WBGO, will look at what it's like to come up through the ranks in the jazz world. Featured will be pianists Connie Han and Matthew Whitaker and vocalists Veronica Swift and Alicia Olatuja.

Steinway artist Connie Han, 24, says of her new release, *Iron Starlet*: "The music's intention is to continue a legacy of tough, primal and raw, but still intellectually engaging, jazz." In 2015, Han released her debut album, *The Richard Rodgers Songbook*, followed by *Crime Zone*. The title track is a Han original that showcases her blend of traditional and modern forms, and her precise execution and creativity, which produces an intense workout for her and the band.

Matthew Whitaker is the youngest artist to be endorsed by Hammond Organs in the company's 80+ year history. He was also the youngest musician, when he was 15, to be named a Yamaha artist. Now at 19 years of age, he is studying at Juilliard in New York City, received an "Outstanding Soloist Award" from both Jazz at Lincoln Center's Charles Mingus High School Competition & Festival and the Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival. Whitaker draws on rich traditions of jazz, blues, funk and soul to produce exciting originals and interpretations of classics.

Veronica Swift, 26, grew up on the road with her parents – jazz pianist Hod O'Brien and vocalist Stephanie Nakasian. At age nine, she recorded her first album and began professionally touring with them. Her latest release is *Confessions*. Swift is a dedicated master of tradition, relishing in the roots of jazz, with a breath of fresh air infused in standards. She was awarded second place at the Thelonious Monk



Veronica Swift (photo credit: Bill Westmoreland)

2015 Jazz Vocal Competition, maintained a residency at Birdland and has toured internationally.

Alicia Olatuja entered the national spotlight in 2013, when she performed as a featured soloist with the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir at President Barack Obama's second inauguration. She recorded her first solo album, *Timeless*, in 2014. Five years later, she released *Intuition: From the Minds of Women*, which focuses on the rich contributions of a diverse set of female composers. Her artistry is pure adventure – a blending of cultures, all with a purposeful, captivating story to tell.

These four musicians have embraced what they learned at a young age, from their parents and from the veterans of jazz. Now they're taking their music to new heights. Listen. Join their journeys. Hear their stories. Watch them grow. Watch yourself grow.



Q&A: Musing on Mentorship

On September 9, Pete Malinverni, jazz pianist and head of Jazz Studies at Purchase College, will moderate "Jazz, From One Generation to the Next." The [JazzFest White Plains](#) program will feature performances and discussions with master jazz artists and their mentees, including Alexis Cole & Lucy Wijnands, Bobby Sanabria & Gabrielle Garo and Ulysses Owens Jr. & Aaron Jennings. JazzFest Artistic Director Aaron Paige sat down for a conversation with Malinverni about the meaning of mentorship in jazz. Below is an excerpt from that interview.

Aaron Paige: Why are you excited about moderating this JazzFest program and why is the mentor-mentee relationship an important conversation to have?

Pete Malinverni: Without mentorship, jazz is doomed. If we want to keep our art form going, we need to make sure younger people know about it. So to me, it's important to really affirm those mentor-mentee relationships. It keeps the elders young while it gives the youngers a North Star toward which to tend. First, you are in the boat looking up at the stars and after, you realize now you have to guide somebody else safely and talk about the worlds you've seen.

AP: What does mentorship mean to you within the context of jazz?

PM: Jazz is an African American art form, but it's difficult to really know what is of African and what is of American seed. For me, one thing that is most definitely African is the notion of the elder – their responsibility to teach the youngers, and the youngers' responsibility to show respect to the elders. I was Minister of Music at an African American Baptist church for 18 years in Brooklyn and the young folks would never refer to an elder by their first name. That's why at

Purchase, we ask our students to call us "Professor." Not because we think we're all that, but to keep that mentor-mentee model alive. I tell my students, "I don't know who's the most talented in this class, including me – but one thing I do know is that I have more experience, and I'd like to share that with you." I was lucky to have teachers that were lovingly generous with what they knew. That was invaluable and it's my sacred duty to carry it on.

AP: Who were some of your greatest mentors in jazz? Would you reflect on some of those relationships...how they developed and the kinds of things you learned?

PM: I played in the great drummer Vernel Fournier's group and he worked in mine. He was the drummer in Ahmad Jamal's famous trio and had a real deep understanding of the beat and of how to present music. I learned a ton from him on the bandstand. He would have these

When they start to get older, you tend to be more concerned for them and that's beautiful. That's a life lesson right there.

AP: Have you ever experienced a time when one of your mentors learned something from you, the mentee?

PM: Dick Katz came to one of my recording dates, just to hang out. After the session, he was telling me about some of the stuff he had learned that day. I was almost embarrassed, you know. I'm like, "Come on, you?!" But it's beautiful. It's well known that Dexter Gordon was an early influence on John Coltrane. And then Coltrane turned around and influenced Dexter. This happens all the time. Coleman Hawkins is another one. He was the guy all the young cats liked because he accepted what they were doing. He didn't feel threatened by them. He saw it as another beautiful avenue, and that's why his music always sounds like it was recorded tomorrow... That kind of openness...that's what makes a good teacher great.

“It's important to really affirm those mentor-mentee relationships. It keeps the elders young while it gives the 'youngers' a North Star toward which to tend.”

little musical interludes, and he's want us to extend the form of a tune. I adopted that and do it to this day. You'll hear Miles [Davis], Philly Joe, Paul Chambers and Red Garland do that a lot too, because Miles used to bring his quintet to hear Ahmad Jamal's Trio.

When I was on tour with [Vernel's] group in Europe ,and also on my trio gigs, it got to the point where I would try to beat him to the gig, but I never could. Sometimes I'd get to the gig a half-hour early and he'd be sitting there having a cup of coffee, drums all set up. To me, that was absolute professionalism. Another thing he taught me: he'd say "one should have a dark suit and then other stuff. You wear your dark suit the first and last night, 'cause that's what [the audience] will remember, and you wear your other stuff in between." After he had a stroke, I would go visit him at his house and later in the hospital, and the relationship never changed. He would know that I loved him and I would know that he loved me. It's like how you are with your parents.

Ulysses Owens Jr. (photo courtesy of the artist)



ARTSWESTCHESTER PRESENTS

An ARTSBASH Virtual Mixology Party



featuring Jägermeister



Tuesday, Sept. 8 | 4:30-5:30pm via Zoom

Join us at a unique virtual cocktail hour and experience two of your favorite things – tasty cocktails and live jazz with the Rico Jones Trio. Since we can't gather at our favorite bar, ArtsBash brings the bar, the mixologist and the music to you.

To register, visit: artsw.org/jazzfest



Rico Jones



Photos courtesy of Jägermeister

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JAZZFEST

VIRTUAL EVENTS • SEPT. 8-11, 2020

presented by **BANK OF AMERICA****Enjoy Four Days of Free Virtual Jazz Happenings!****TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8** (Via Zoom and Facebook Live)**AN ARTSBASH VIRTUAL MIXOLOGY PARTY | 4:30-5:30pm**

A virtual cocktail hour with two of your favorite things - tasty cocktails and live jazz.

FEATURING: The Rico Jones Trio**PRESENTING JAZZ IN THE TIME OF COVID-19 | 6pm**

A discussion between some of Westchester's top jazz presenters /producers.

FEATURING: Mark Morganelli | John Brathwaite | Elizabeth Sander | Wayne Bass**WESTCHESTER JAZZ: THEN AND NOW | 8pm**

A discussion with, and performances by, jazz artists with deep ties to Westchester County. Moderated by Tom Van Buren, JazzFest Artistic Director (2012-17).

FEATURING: Art Bennett | Kathryn Farmer | Kenny Lee | Rocky Middleton**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9** (Via Zoom and Facebook Live)**ISABELLA MENDES & FLAVIO LIRA DUO | 12pm**

A special virtual performance of all original songs.

JAZZ EDUCATION IN WESTCHESTER | 6pm

A conversation between Westchester's top jazz instructors, with short performances by each artist. Moderated by Tom van Buren.

FEATURING: Tim Veeder | Ray Blue | Hiroshi Yamazaki**JAZZ, FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT | 8pm**

A discussion between master jazz artists and their mentees, along with live performances by each pair. Moderated by Pete Malinverni (Purchase College).

FEATURING: Alexis Cole & Lucy Wijnands | Bobby Sanabria & Gabrielle Garo | Ulysses Owens Jr. & Aaron Jennings**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10** (Via Zoom and Facebook Live)**JAZZ AT THE INTERSECTIONS | 8pm**

Live performances by each artist, as well as a moderated discussion about the world of jazz fusion.

FEATURING: Amir ElSaffar | Jomion & the Uklos | Pablo Mayor**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11** (Via Zoom and Facebook Live)**JAZZ'S RISING STARS | 8pm**

Live performances by each featured artist, plus a discussion about what it's like to be a young rising star in jazz today. Moderated by Keanna Faircloth (WBG0).

FEATURING: Connie Han | Matthew Whitaker | Veronica Swift | Alicia Olatuja

Matthew Whitaker



Veronica Swift (photo credit: Bill Westmoreland)



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JazzFest White Plains is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

spotlight

The New Open Studio

by Rocio De La Roca

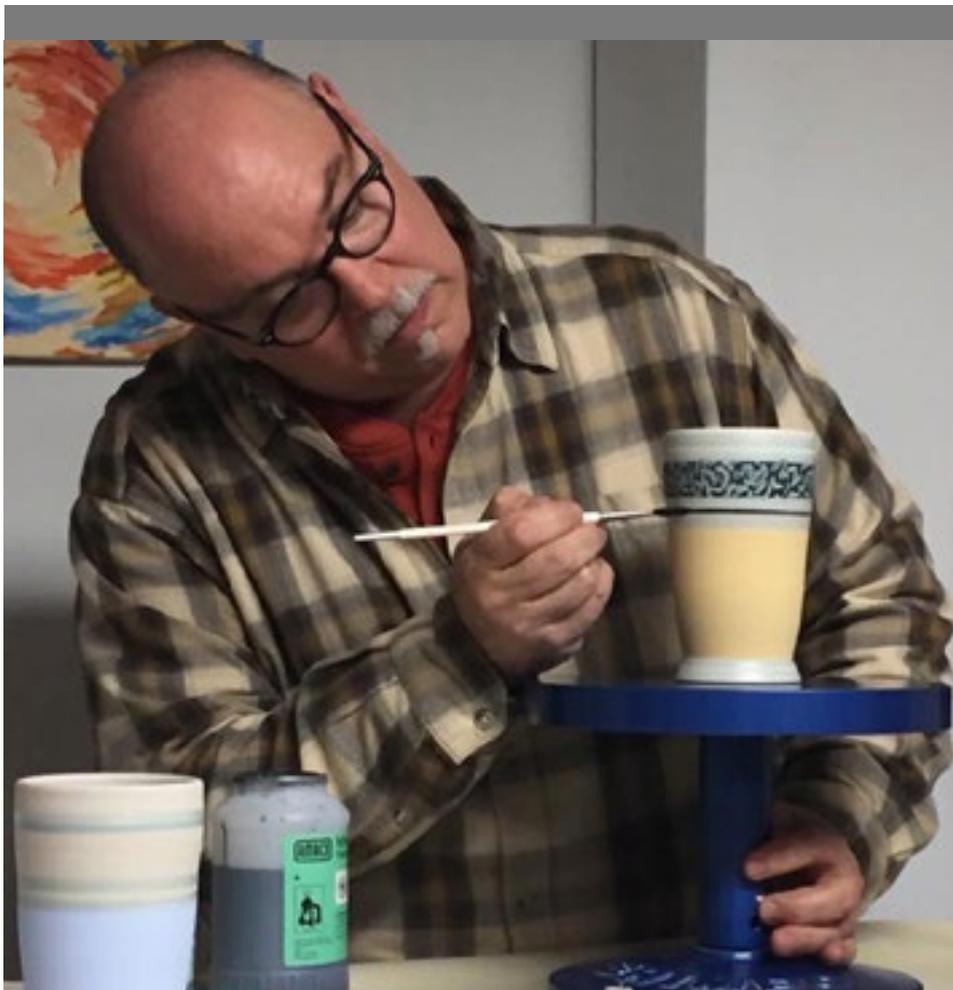
Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual studio tours and livestreamed demonstrations have become a popular new trend. It's the "new" open studio. Before COVID-19, visiting an open studio meant physically going to an artist's workspace and discovering art in its natural habitat. However, with quarantines and social distancing, studio visits are unlikely to happen too often these days. Luckily, artists have found new digital ways of inviting guests into their space and demonstrating their artistic processes.

Even with lockdown in place, arts lovers got to peek into artist Derrick Adams' studio via Zoom and watch as he demonstrated the process behind the works in his *Buoyant* exhibition, which is currently on view at Hudson River Museum. When RiverArts' annual Studio Tour was canceled due to COVID-19, the Rivertowns artists who would have shown at the event were able to share their works with audiences at home when they were showcased on the organization's social media channels.

Mixed-media artist Manju Shandler creates works that address current events through a mythological lens. The artist states that



Manju Shandler (photo courtesy of the artist)



Don Reynolds (photo source facebook.com/donreynoldsceramics)

the flexibility of online platforms has allowed her to share her work in a fun, informal way to large groups of supporters and new audiences. On August 20, she will livestream a [virtual studio tour](#) and demonstration as part of Pelham Art Center's ongoing "Virtual Studio Tours" series. Shandler will also discuss her *Persistent Mothers* installation, which features 30-inch figurative sculptures that comment on her role as a woman and a mother in society. The installation will be exhibited in the Center's upcoming *Domestic Brutes* exhibition, on view September 12-November 7. It's all possible with the help of Zoom. Shandler explains, "I had never heard of Zoom a few months ago and now it has become a necessary part of all of our lives."

On August 13, ceramist Don Reynolds, a Clay Art Center (CAC) instructor, will demonstrate how to decorate bone dry ceramic wares with underglaze and wax. Attendees of [this CAC Zoom event](#) will observe how Reynolds animates surfaces with textures that are inspired by African fabrics, Japanese fashion and more. The artist will also show various stages of progress in order to demonstrate each step for his "visitors." Reynolds is one of several notable ceramic artists that CAC has collaborated with for artist talks and demonstrations throughout the pandemic.



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.

A Place to Call Home

(Available for purchase through Acorn TV, YouTube, iTunes and more.)

This show is six seasons of pure delight. It's about family dynamics – sometimes dysfunctional, often painful, and ultimately loving. It is also about history – post war, with people scarred by the aftermath of that period, and coming to terms with the realities of their lives... and about societal change – intermarriage, gay love and single mothers. It is about community – with its gossip, secret trysts and murders, but also care. *A Place to Call Home* shows compassion about healthcare. It shows the struggle to understand and accept those with different backgrounds. Yes, this show includes a little bit of everything.

Don't worry. It's not all sugar-sweet. There is pain, violence, manipulation, deception and people you grow to hate (I mean really despise). This became my home for many months and I loved every minute, especially after learning that this show is based on a true story.



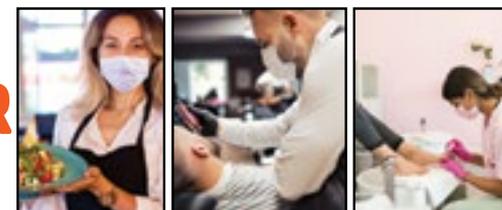
Promotional still from *A Place to Call Home*

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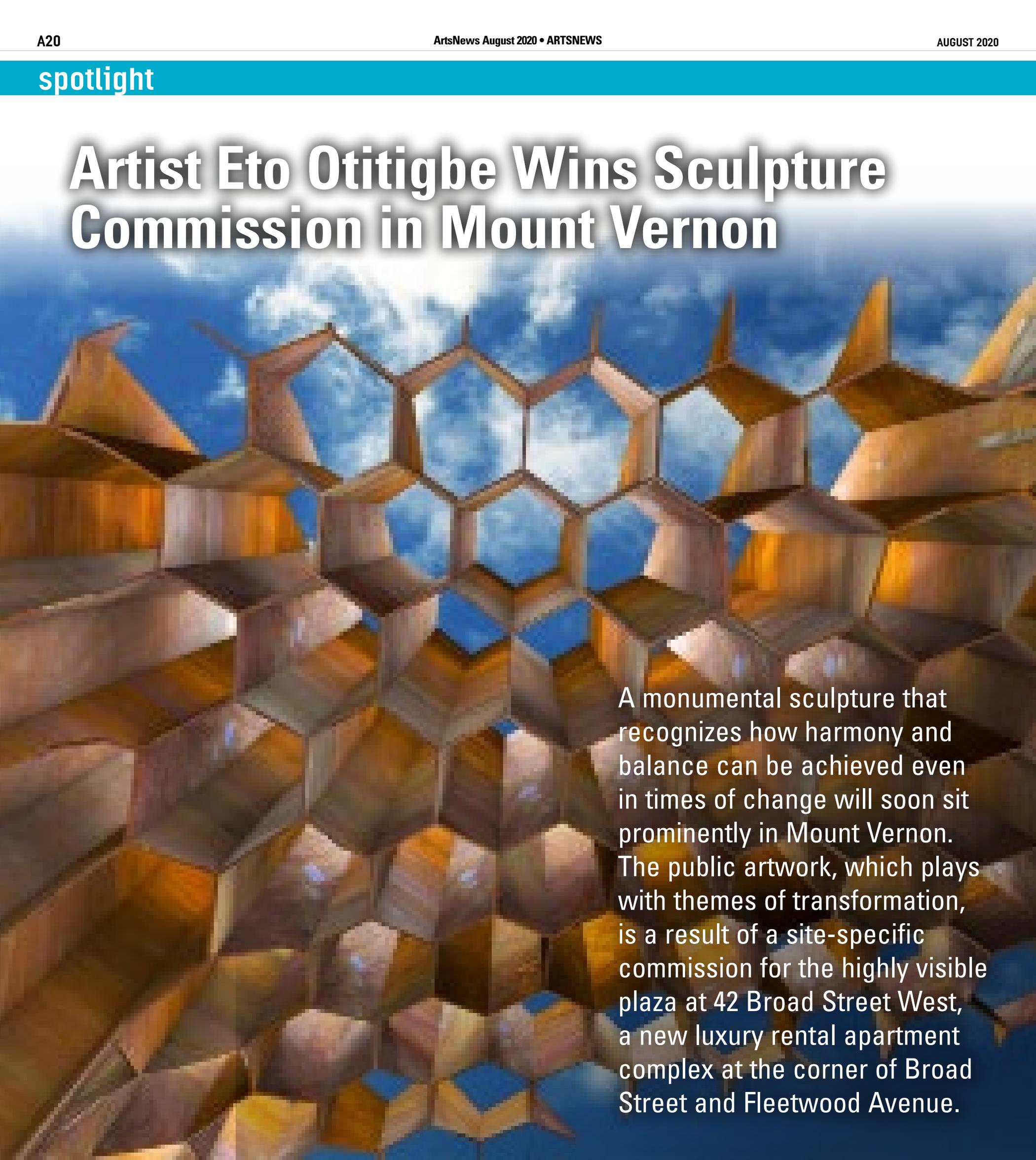
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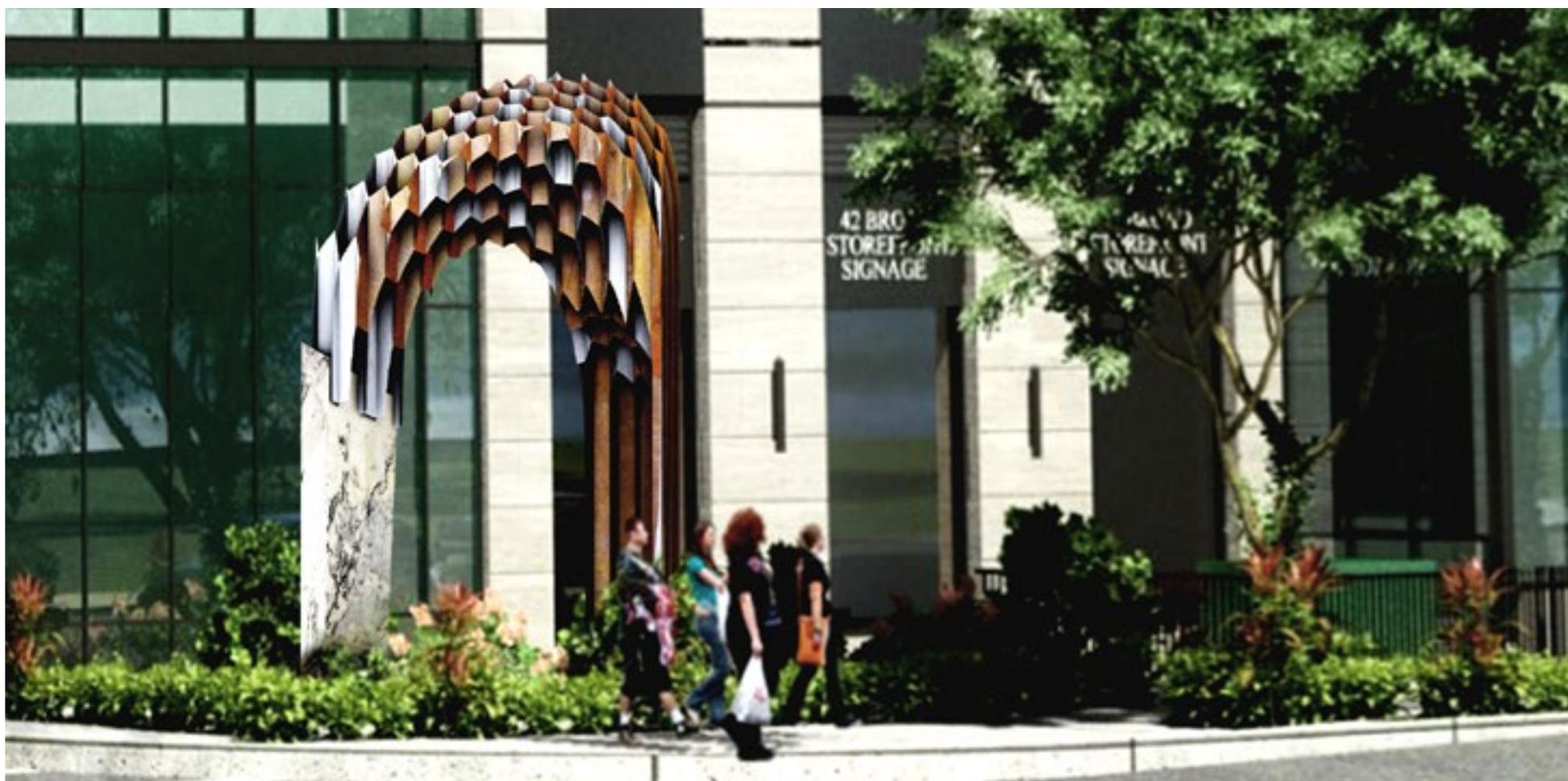
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spotlight

Artist Eto Otitigbe Wins Sculpture Commission in Mount Vernon



A monumental sculpture that recognizes how harmony and balance can be achieved even in times of change will soon sit prominently in Mount Vernon. The public artwork, which plays with themes of transformation, is a result of a site-specific commission for the highly visible plaza at 42 Broad Street West, a new luxury rental apartment complex at the corner of Broad Street and Fleetwood Avenue.



(left and above) Renderings courtesy of the artist

While more than 50 artists submitted proposals, Brooklyn artist Eto Otitigbe was announced the winner by ArtsWestchester and 42 Broad, which is a joint venture of Alexander Development Group, The Bluestone Organization and institutional investors advised by J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Otitigbe is a polymedia artist whose interdisciplinary practice lies at the intersections of race, power and technology. On the inspiration behind this commissioned work, the artist says: *"Peaceful Journey* is inspired by various points of interest, such as architecture, physics and hip-hop music... Fleetwood as a community is experiencing change as new development projects like this one attract people to Mount Vernon... Personally, I was experiencing a transition [when this work was conceptualized] as well, along with the joys and challenges of being a new father. So I wanted to make something to represent a sense of harmony and balance amidst change."

The title of the sculpture is borrowed from the title of a song and album by rapper Heavy D, a native of Mount Vernon. The concept of the artwork has ties not only to Westchester and pop culture, but also

hits home for Otitigbe on a personal level. The artist, explaining that the song "offers a thoughtful and complex picture of the lives of Black and Brown people [living] in places like Mount Vernon, Bronx or Los Angeles," says that the performer's music was transformative for him in his youth. He elaborates: "This sculpture offers me a chance to pay tribute to Heavy D, R&B and hip-hop culture, all of which had an immense influence on me as I navigated my youth. It's a way-mark for

our personal journeys."

Mark Alexander, principal of 42 Broad, says: "Public art is integral to our development philosophy. In this particular project, we are allocating a sizable budget for highly visible art that will help to create a

memorable place, promote community pride and raise the level of aesthetics and energy in the city."

Janet T. Langsam, ArtsWestchester CEO and public art partner to the project, adds: "Investment in public art is an investment in a community, because signature artwork like this helps to create more livable, creative and enjoyable communities."

The sculpture will be visible to thousands of passersby every day.

I wanted to make something to represent a sense of harmony and balance amidst change."

spotlight

THE PLAY'S THE THING

by Mary Alice Franklin, ArtsNews Editor

Bram Lewis, Artist Director at [The Schoolhouse Theater](#), had been determined since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic to “carve out a virtual space” that would keep the theater connected with its audience. After a long discussion with Managing Director Madeline Rae, they came up with just the thing: The Pandemic Players.

The discussion was the humble start of a full series of short lunch-hour plays intended to bring entertainment to audiences and give a “treasure trove of ace New York artists something to sink their teeth into.” So each Friday afternoon, for one hour, those who tune into the weekly Zoom event will get a reprieve from their busy day in the form of a one-act play. Sometimes there will be a brand new script; other times, a scary classic. It’s the “new” matinee.

Explains Lewis: “In a world without theater, The Pandemic Players will do their best to replace it through these readings. While you won’t have the thrill of fighting over the armrests in a theater, you’ll

still have the transformative experience of a live performance.”

The series, which began in July with a female version of Neil Simon’s *The Odd Couple* read in two parts over two days, is now cast and scheduled through August with no end in sight. Lewis excitedly boasts that Broadway veterans Tim Jerome and Austin Pendleton will be part of what he affectionately refers to as the “merry band of players.” Jerome will perform *Sullivan & Gilbert* on August 21, while Pendleton will tackle the Tennessee Williams classic *Vieux Carrè* in September. Also on deck are *Whose Life Is It, Anyway?* (August 14), *Molly Bloom’s Night Dreams*, *Bedtime Story* (both August 7) and *Night Must Fall* (August 28).

Soon, you may not need to tune into Zoom at all. Lewis says the theater is in talks with several radio stations to bring the performances to a wider audience. “After all,” he playfully quipped: “The play’s the thing.”

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Meditation and yoga instructor Janelle Berger, Wellness Wednesdays, Neuberger Museum of Art (photo courtesy of Neuberger Museum of Art)

The arts can provide a path to wellness. As health and safety concerns keep us distanced from our everyday lives, arts organizations are offering their virtual audiences activities to help them recharge. After all, five months of sheltering in place can take a toll on our mental, emotional and physical wellbeing.

“In these times especially, it’s vitally important to recharge and reconnect with ourselves and others,” reads the online description for a virtual class by RiverArts titled [“Mindfulness and Art.”](#) Each of the weekly sessions begins with guided meditation and a breathing exercise before participants are led through a simple art-making activity. Classes, which take place on Tuesdays throughout August, may include activities like watercolor painting or creating sculptures with natural materials.

Weekly Zoom gatherings hosted by [ART 4 WELLNESS](#) also begin with meditation and deep breathing before the participants turn their cameras to their artwork. A DJ plays uplifting sounds while the participants create works based on a weekly theme. After, the artists share their artistic process during a networking experience. According to Luisa Baptista, who founded the group with artists Katori Walker and Evan Bishop, ART 4 WELLNESS “was birthed out of this current global pandemic as a support mechanism for artists. [Its] intention is to provide a supportive space.”

Meanwhile, as it turns out, origami is “not just a craft...it is

a therapeutic exercise and a joyful meditation,” says [Hammond Museum](#) Director Lorraine Laken. The museum’s Origami Therapy class on August 11 aims to heighten participants’ senses, increase their focus and exercise their brain. Included in a list of benefits: “Folding paper correctly...builds muscle memory; memorizing the steps stimulates the brain.” The Museum also hopes to offer outdoor tai chi, a form of martial arts that focuses on meditation and movement.

For those who say they don’t have time for self-care, [White Plains Public Library](#) hosts weekly “Lunchtime Meditation at the Library” sessions, on Wednesdays beginning in September. The midday respite begins with brief instruction, followed by meditation. Additionally, Harrison Public Library offers [“Yoga for All Ages.”](#) relaxing yoga sessions for the whole family each Thursday.

Last, the Neuberger Museum of Art (The Neu) began Wellness Wednesday sessions in its gallery last year, a series that will resume in August with a focus on community and connectedness. Live Zoom sessions on [August 5 and 9](#) will begin with a community conversation, followed by a five-minute guided meditation. Says Diana Puglisi, Curator of Education, Youth and Adult Programs at the Neu: “It was important to us to continue supporting the bodies, minds and spirits of those in our community.” [Recordings](#) will be available after the events.

spotlight



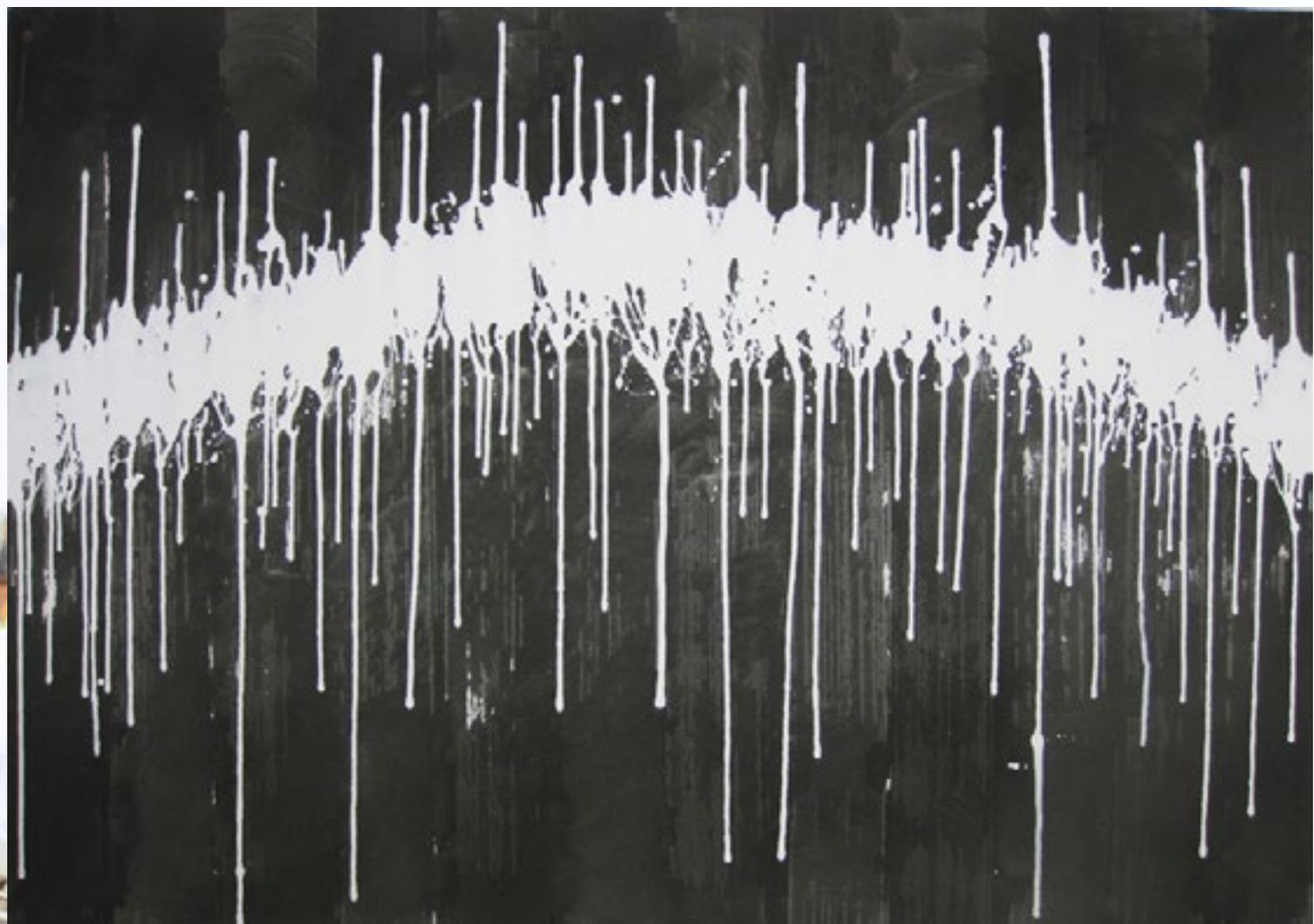
In Memoriam: KIYOSHI OTSUKA

Painter [Kiyoshi Otsuka](#), who recently passed away, was born in the mountains north of Tokyo, Japan and studied in Paris – but it was in Westchester County that he found a permanent home for his studio. He was a resident artist in ArtsWestchester’s building in White Plains for many years. In his studio, the paint flowed freely. This is evidenced by the Jackson Pollack-esque floor, the sentimental painted door he kept when he moved to a new floor in the building, and the 800 canvases that still live in his studio.

Otsuka’s wife, artist Sue Koch, reminisces: “Kiyoshi was amazingly prolific. He painted nearly every day, even at home when he could no longer get to his beloved studio... He was exploring new [artistic] avenues up until July 2020 when he passed away.”

Otsuka’s abstract acrylic works, in his own words, “speak to the beauty, intensity and mystery of nature and our deep connection to its ever evolving and transformative power.”

He was a member of Silvermine Guild, the Katonah Museum Artist Association, the Carriage Barn Arts Center and Greenwich Art Society and has exhibited in galleries in New York, London, Pennsylvania and Japan.



Images: left: Kiyoshi Otsuka (photo credit: Leslye Smith)
above: Nagare Boshi (Shooting Star) by Kiyoshi Otsuka

spotlight

ARTSWESTCHESTER NEWS BRIEFS

Westchester Arts on the National Map

ArtsWestchester's CEO Janet Langsam recently received a prestigious leadership award from Americans For the Arts (AFTA) during its annual convention and Public Art & Civic Design Conference. The Selina Roberts Ottum Leadership Award recognizes an individual working in arts management in the U.S. who "has made a meaningful contribution to their local community and who exemplifies extraordinary leadership qualities." Langsam is one of six leadership award recipients honored nationally by AFTA in 2020.

ArtsWestchester Inducted into Business Council of Westchester's Hall of Fame

ArtsWestchester was recently inducted into the Business Council of Westchester's (BCW) Hall of Fame, having received the "Chairman's Recognition Award" during the Council's 2020 virtual ceremony. According to BCW President and CEO Marsha Gordon, the awards "recognize visionaries who have grown their businesses through innovation and inspired leadership and whose commitment to excellence has added to the economic vitality of Westchester's economy."

The Arts are the Best of the Best



This year, the arts are front-and-center in *Westchester Magazine's* annual "Best of Westchester" feature. The 20th annual highlight gives kudos to the best-of-the-best businesses throughout the county in a number of lifestyle categories, such as Health & Beauty, Home & Garden and Fun &

Leisure. According to the Magazine's announcement of winners, these accolades "showcase the ways in which Westchester is a marvelous place to dine, shop, play, explore and grow up."

A number of arts groups were among the winners, including Actors Conservatory Theatre (Best Live Theater, Best Family Theater), ArtsWestchester (Best Gallery), Hudson River Museum (Best Innovative Programming, Best Nonprofit Event for "HRM After Dark," Best Historic Site), Ossining Public Library (Best Children's Library), Play Group Theatre (Best Place to Take the Kids That Isn't a Restaurant) and Untermyer Park and Gardens (Best Tourist Attraction).

Of the 372 winners, 111 were editors' selections and 261 were voted by readers, the result of nearly 39,000 ballots. The winners will be celebrated at the "Best Of" party on September 23 at Glen Island Harbour Club in New Rochelle.

Local Youth Lend a Hand in Yonkers Public Art Project



Mural at Nepperhan Community Center (photo courtesy of Katori Walker)

The exterior walls of the Nepperhan Community Center in Yonkers are home to a new mural created by CareerVisions, NY and local artists Evan Bishop and Katori Walker. *The Legacy Mural* features prominent historic Black figures, such as Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks and President Barack Obama alongside colorful West African symbols. Local youth assisted in the creative process by participating in a series of virtual workshops with the artists. This project was made possible with a Yonkers Arts Initiative grant administered by ArtsWestchester and supported by Westchester County Government.

NEW LEADERSHIP IN WESTCHESTER ARTS

RiverArts Appoints Managing Director

RiverArts has recently implemented a new two-person management team, which will feature former Executive Director Doug Coe, now acting as part-time Artistic Director in tandem with the organization's first Managing Director, Josh Suniewick. Coe will continue to lead the organization's artistic endeavors and programs, while Suniewick will handle marketing, financial and fundraising operations. Suniewick began his tenure at RiverArts in May 2020 and brings to the role diverse experiences in arts, business and corporate finance. Outside of the office, Suniewick is a musician and visual artist.



Josh Suniewick



Adam Levi

Rye Arts Center Appoints New Executive Director

Adam Levi was recently appointed the new Executive Director at The Rye Arts Center (RAC), where he has worked for twenty years in a variety of roles. Prior to his appointment, Levi served as RAC's Senior Director. According to the Center's Board President, Rob Weber, Levi is a "natural successor" for the position, as he "has played a major role in nearly every program at The Rye Arts Center." Levi replaces former Executive Director Meg Rodriguez, who has left the position after five years of leadership.

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ARTSW
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virtual activities

August Art Offerings



Lyndhurst Mansion_The Rose Garden Tour_photo source facebook.com (4)

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.

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 **(IN PERSON)**

ART 4 WELLNESS offers weekly Zoom gatherings, which offers an artist community for artmaking and networking.

ARTS 10566 provides instructional lesson-based activities through its new interactive platform that is 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. [Instagram.com](#) and [youtube.com](#)

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

The Bedford Playhouse's "Virtual Playhouse" and "Culture at Home"



offer 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.

- [Drive-In Movie: The Goonies](#): August 7 & 8 at 7:45pm at John Jay Homestead **(IN PERSON)**

[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 two-week camp sessions that will be via Zoom or, if safety guidelines permit, a blended mix of Zoom and in-person.

[Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts](#) offers a variety of music programs: new live-streamed concerts and past performances by world-renowned artists on youtube.com/c/caramoor.

- [Live: Charles Turner & Uptown Swing](#): August 1 at 7pm **(IN PERSON)**
- [Livestream: Sandbox Percussion](#): August 6 at 7pm

- [Live: Flor de Toloache](#): August 8 at 7pm **(IN PERSON)**
- [Live: Beginner's Ear Concert on the Lawn](#): August 9 at 10am **(IN PERSON)**

[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](#) has reopened its studios for [open studio sessions](#) by appointment **(IN PERSON)**. The Center also offers virtual classes, [artist](#)

[lectures and demonstrations](#), as well as a portion of its [Connections](#) exhibition online.

- Virtual Artist Talks: [Natalia Arbelaez](#) (August 1), [Georgia Tenore](#) (August 7), [Don Reynolds](#) (August 13)

[Copland House](#) is posting videos of past performances through its "Coping ...with Copland House" series. coplandhouse.org/coping

[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](#).

[The Ground Glass](#) will present online exhibits on view on The Ground Glass website. thegroundglass.org

- [The Decisive Moment Revisited](#), inspired by the works of famous photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson.
- [Sustained Investigations: A Virtual Photography Exhibit](#): Ongoing

[Hammond Museum](#) presents [Artist Members Virtual Gallery](#), featuring works from the museum's members. For a complete list of programs and workshops, visit hammondmuseum.org.

- [Livestream August Artist Reception](#): August 1 at 10am on Facebook
- [Tai Chi with Paul Wood](#): August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 at 1:30pm **(IN PERSON)**
- Origami Therapy Class: August 11

[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

- [Business District: A Virtual Exhibition by Frederic JG Banque](#): August 1-31
- [Online Yoga for All Ages](#) via Zoom: Thursdays at 3pm



virtual activities

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 August 3. hbms.org

Hudson River Museum (HRM) is open to the public for its [Derrick Adams: Buoyant and We Came to Party and Plan exhibitions](#) (reserved timed entry tickets required). A [Summer Amphitheater Series](#) features a variety of performances on Saturday evenings through September 19. Museum Hours: Thurs-Sun: 12–5pm.

- [Tango Night](#): August 1 at 8pm **(IN PERSON)**
- [Forever Ray: Honoring the Music of Ray Charles](#): August 8 at 8pm **(IN PERSON)**
- [Diverse Concert Artists: Music of the American City](#): August 15 at 8pm **(IN PERSON)**
- [Benjamin Levy: Magic & Mind Reading](#): August 22 at 8pm **(IN PERSON)**
- [Dynamic Rockers: Champions](#): August 29 at 8pm **(IN PERSON)**

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

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

- [HVWC Student Poetry Reading](#): August 2 and 9 at 4pm
- [Revising the Poem Workshop with Sean Singer via Zoom](#): August 8 at 12:30pm
- [Poetry Reading via Zoom with Kimiko Hahn, Mervyn Taylor, and Nick Makoha](#): August 15 at 12:30pm
- [Religion Through Creative Writing with Jessica Jacobs via Zoom](#): August 15 at 12:30pm
- [Online Workshop: Poetry as a Practice of Awareness via Zoom](#): August 16 at 12:30pm
- [Unearthing Your Memoir with Sarah Bracey White via Zoom](#): August 16 at 12:30pm

- [Online Workshop: Writing the College Application Essay](#): Tuesdays from August 18-September 29 at 6pm

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 August 16 at 11am. facebook.com/jazzforumclub

John Jay Homestead's grounds and visitor center are open to the public **(IN PERSON)**. offers interactive activities, such as children's projects, a virtual tour and downloadable worksheets on its website. johnjayhomestead.org

- [Drive In Movie- The Goonies](#): August 7 & 8 at 7:45pm at John Jay Homestead **(IN PERSON)**

Katonah Museum of Art has reopened its Museum and Learning Center to the public. Visitors can purchase tickets to see the *Bisa Butler: Portraits* exhibition, now on extended view through October 4. Admission is by advance reservation. Hours: Tues-Sat: 10-11:15am, Sun: 12-1pm.



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- [Bisa Butler: Live in Conversation](#): August 2 at 4pm

[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](#) will open its new [Watershed Moment](#) installation at its unrestored swimming pool building this August. The mansion also offers a variety of outdoor tours that will allow audiences to explore its 67-acre site **(IN PERSON)**. Tours include: [Rose Garden, Greenhouse & Pool Tour](#), [Riverfront & Bowling Alley Tour](#) and [Lyndhurst Ramble Tour](#). [Virtual tours](#) of the mansion and its Bowling Alley are also available on its website.

[Mamaroneck Artists Guild](#)'s ongoing exhibitions and past art shows are available online at mamaroneckartistguild.org

[M&M Performing Arts Company](#) and the Red Monkey Theater Group will present site-specific, outdoor performances of [Sherlock Holmes: The Adventure of the Copper Beeches](#) at Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum **(IN PERSON)**. Virtual readings of [The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes](#) will also continue 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.

- [Virtual Faculty Concert of Music by Black Composers](#): Ongoing

[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

- [Wellness Wednesday](#) sessions via Zoom: August 5 & 9 at 1pm

[New Rochelle Council on the Arts](#) and Iona College's Brother Kenneth Chapman Gallery present [Unapologetically Me: A Response by Alvin Clayton](#), a virtual exhibition featuring the works of painter Alvin Clayton



African Dance Class with Godfrey Mumulya, 8/16, Steffi Nossen School of Dance (photo courtesy of Steffi Nossen School of Dance)

who responds to the aftermath of the death of George Floyd and the international wave of support for the Black Lives Matter movement.

[Oak and Oil](#) is open to the public. The gallery is showcasing artworks from several local talents through the month of August. The works represent many genres, from oil paintings and acrylics to photography, watercolors and sculpture. Mon-Sat: 10:30am-5:30pm, Sun: 11am-3pm. (need to confirm these times) oakandoil.com **(IN PERSON)**

[Ossining Public Library](#)'s Virtual Mother Goose Time will take place every Thursday at 10am on [Facebook](#). Other resources are included on its [Stuck at Home webpage](#).

virtual activities



Photo by Sydney Thompson, *The Ground Glass, Sustained Investigations*, online exhibition on view now

Pelham Art Center's will host a series of virtual studio visits and workshops, along with an [Outdoor Community Art Day](#) on August 2 (**IN PERSON**). Summer gallery hours: Tues-Fri: 11am-4pm, Sat: 12-4pm.

- [Pelham Art Center Student Exhibition](#): On view through September 4 on the Center's website
- [The USPS Art Project](#): On view from August 1-31 at the Center's gallery (**IN PERSON**)

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](https://www.instagram.com/the_picturehouse).

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.

The Schoolhouse Theater's new Pandemic Players group will be providing virtual performances of classic and comedic one-act plays throughout the summer.

- Molly Bloom's *Night Dreams and Bedtime Story* by Sean O'Casey: August 7
- *Whose Life Is It Anyway?* with Lois Robbins: August 14

- *Sullivan & Gilbert* by Ken Ludwig: August 21
- *Night Must Fall* by Emlyn Williams: August 28

Play Group Theater's PGTonline program allows audiences to enroll for virtual classes via Zoom. Through August 14, **Camp PGT** will provide professional virtual theatre camps in every subject, from filmmaking to design and more.

- **Scene Study & Monologues Small Group Acting Class:** Through August 3, times vary **(IN PERSON)**

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 **(IN PERSON)**. Virtual music and dance classes are also available.

- **Six-Pack Music Lessons**
- **Virtual Dance Lessons with Mary Ford-Sussman**
- **Virtual "Mindfulness and Art":** Tuesdays at 8pm

Ruth Keeler Memorial Library is offering curbside service and highlights its digital collection, including e-books, audio books, music and streaming movies, TV for anyone with their library card. **(IN PERSON)** 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](#).

- **Visual Arts Week (Virtual):** Through August 28
- **Virtual Young Performers Weeks:** Through August 28
- **Virtual Morning Maker Week:** Through August 28
- **Summer Musical Theater Weeks for Ages 8-13:** August 10-28: 9am-1pm. **(IN PERSON)**

Steffi Nossen School of 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 to two-week offerings.

- **Summer Sizzle:** Select dates through August 27
- **Sunday Family Fun Zoom Classes:** Select dates through August 30

Tarrytown Music Hall has launched a series of free **one-hour workshops for kids** and a weekly **"Night-In With The Music Hall"** series, featuring live-streamed concerts on Facebook live.

- **Livestream Concert With Southern Avenue:** August 5 at 6pm
- **Livestream Concert With Judy Kass:** August 26 at 6pm

Untermyer Park and Gardens has reopened to the public. Limited capacity will allow for social distancing. The park is hosting **Storytime in the Garden** for children aged 2-5 on Sunday mornings at 11am in the lower terrace of the Walled Garden **(IN PERSON)**. Park hours: Fri-Sun: 12-6pm.

Westchester Children's Museum has created **WCM at Home**, a webpage with creative projects for families to do at home.

- **Online Class: Museum Minis:** Thursdays at 10:30am
- **Online Kindness Storytime:** Fridays at 4pm on the Museum's **YouTube channel**

Westchester Chordsmen has shared a YouTube video of its performance *Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor*, which features excerpts

Become a Teaching Artist



Are you a professionally recognized artist based in the New York-Tri-State area? Are you interested in supplementing your income while fostering your development as an artist? If yes, please visit ArtsWestchester's website to learn more about the joining ArtsWestchester's Teaching Artist Roster.

Please visit
artswestchester.org/programs/teaching-artist/
to learn more.

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virtual activities



The Goonies, Drive-In Movie, 8/7-8, John Jay Homestead and The Bedford Playhouse, (photo courtesy of Warner Bros.)

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](#) is open to the public and allows a limited number of patrons into the building to browse and borrow materials **(IN PERSON)**. The library's "[Stuck at Home](#)" web page also provides online resources for families. Library hours: Mon-Thurs: 10am-7pm and Fri-Sat: 1-5pm.

[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](#)

Reopening Dates:

August Reopenings:

Clay Art Center

Open for open studio sessions and independent study by appointment. [clayartcenter.org](#)

Hudson River Museum

Open to the public. Timed-entry tickets required. Purchase tickets online or at 914-963-4550. Museum Hours: Thurs–Sun: 12–5pm, Sat: 5–7pm. [hrm.org](#)

John Jay Homestead

Visitor center and grounds are open to the public. Advance ticket purchase required online. Hours: Wed-Sun: 10-4pm. [johnjayhomestead.org](#)

Katonah Museum of Art

Open to the public. Admission by timed-entry tickets required. Reserve online. Hours: Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm, Sun: 12-5pm. [katonahmuseum.org/visit](#)

Lyndhurst Mansion

Grounds and landscape tours are open to the public. Purchase

tickets online in advance. Hours: Fri-Sun: 9am-5pm. [lyndhurst.org](#)

Oak & Oil Gallery

Open to the public. Hours: 11am-5pm. [oakandoil.com](#)

Pelham Art Center

The gallery space is open to the public by appointment only. Hours: Tues-Fri: 11am-4pm, Sat: 12-4pm. [pelhamartcenter.org](#)

Untermeyer Gardens

Open to the public with free timed-entry reservations. Limited capacity. Hours: Fri-Sun: 12-6pm. [untermyergardens.org](#)

White Plains Library

Open to the public for browsing and borrowing materials. Capacity limited to 20 visitors. Hours: Mon-Thurs: 10am-7pm and Fri-Sat: 1-5pm. [whiteplainslibrary.org](#)

September Reopenings:

Blue Door Art Center

Reopening on September 12. Hours: Sat: 1-5pm. [bluedoorartcenter.org](#)

Hudson Valley MOCA

Reopening on September 15. Reserve a tour at 914-788-0100 or visit. Hours: Thursday-

Saturday by appointment. [hudsonvalleymoca.org](#)

Mamaroneck Artists Guild

Reopening on September 1. Hours: Tues-Sat: 12- 5pm. [mamaroneckartistsguild.org](#)



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Visit artsw.org for our **Top 5 Virtual Arts Picks** during this difficult time.

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