



ARTSNEWS

SEPTEMBER 2020

ARTS IN THE TIME OF COVID

Concert Hall at Performing Arts Center at Purchase College (photo credit: Lou Vaccaro)





Westchester gov.com 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:

- a variety of outdoor cultural tours throughout the County (see page A8)
- an opera that takes place during the pandemic (see page A12)
- a week of free virtual jazz programming (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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The work of ArtsWestchester is made possible with support from Westchester County Government.

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(photo credit: Cathy Pinsky)

FROM THE CEO

by Janet Langsam,
ArtsWestchester CEO

A Lot of Talk About Strong Women...

Recently there's been a lot of talk about strong women. It keeps coming up—in conversation, on TV, in the news. Some of this chatter may be due to one man's search for a competent woman who is "ready to take the reins on day one." The operative word here being "competent." As we celebrate the centennial of the 19th amendment, we salute the strong women who got us the vote. However, it's well worth noting that this discussion goes well beyond politics. Ever since World War II when Rosie the Riveter, the "can do" lady, captured our hearts, women have been saying "Yes, we can." Meaning, we're up for the challenges of any job in any line of work. This brings me back, of course, to the arts and the beautiful work of art that is the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge, whose Project Director was guess who—a visionary woman—Jamey Barbas.

All this talk about strong women reminded me of the artist who, at the unveiling of the [public art on the bridge](#), whispered to me, "I am so glad there are strong women at ArtsWestchester." I took it as a compliment, meaning thanks to the women who get things done, even on a bridge. I shot back at her. "I'm so glad there are strong women artists," meaning thanks to women like Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong, an artist who dares to think big and designed a sculpture of a monumental scale. My good news for Cheryl, and other artists too, is that no one on the panel questioned the ability or even qualifications of a woman to get this job done. That's progress. Was it because there were strong women in the room? I doubt that. Does it mean that women are finally cracking another ceiling? I doubt that too, although we have come a long way, baby. Perhaps we are more and more accepting of the fact that being an artist is a hard life and, yes, it takes a strong woman to be one. What say you, artists?



Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong being interviewed in front of her Current sculpture at the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge path (photo credit: Debbie Scates)



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

feature



Arts in the Time

For those in the Westchester arts industry, the clock has not been their own. Each ticking minute means lost revenue. More than ever, during the time of COVID-19, this revenue, or loss of it, can determine the fate of an organization—its survival or demise. New York State’s “Phase 4” goalpost for the reopening of “arts and entertainment” has come and gone, but significant limitations emerged in its place, dashing the expectations of the cultural community.

When their scheduled seasons were canceled in March, arts

organizations hastened to work on alternate plans. With their fingers hovering over the imaginary “play” button, they anxiously awaited Phase 4, which they expected would allow them to open their doors, welcome audiences and begin to recoup revenue. However, these plans were diminished when unexpected restrictions prevented these organizations from moving forward. While understanding the caution that is driving the decision to keep theaters closed, they still continue to prepare for the eventual reopening. “A crystal ball would come in handy right about

me of Covid

by Mary Alice Franklin, ArtsNews Editor

(photo credit: Oscar Keys)

now," sighs Judy Exton, Director of Development at Jacob Burns Film Center (JBFC). "We keep revising our timeline, but it's been a moving target."

Best Laid Plans Come Undone

Although galleries and museums were allowed to reopen (with limited capacity), indoor performances and movies were completely restricted and outdoor events were capped at 50 people. "We expected to open in Phase 4, but at the last moment, movie theaters

were pulled from the list of businesses eligible to open," explained, Laura deBuys, Executive Director of The Picture House (TPH). She continues: "52 percent of our revenue each year is earned through ticket sales, concessions, rentals, school residencies and on-screen advertising, so the closure has erased all of those revenue streams."

The Picture House is not alone. Being closed for nearly six months has resulted in a complete halt in revenue streams at most other arts organizations as well. "Ticket sales are a huge part of our annual budget...and with no performances, there are no ticket sales," explains Kathleen Davisson, General Manager at White Plains Performing Arts Center (WPPAC). Exton echoes Davisson's frustration: "Since March 13, we've had practically no earned income coming in. Ticket sales are gone and membership renewals are down."

According to Seth Soloway, Director of Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, "We refunded every single ticket, so we lost all of that revenue. Even when canceling, we still have costs. There's already money that has gone into things like artist fees, advertising and travel. Those are funds we won't get back."

Being closed for nearly six months has resulted in a complete halt in revenue streams at most other arts organizations..."

With the strict State-mandated audience restrictions, even groups that diligently planned outdoor events were forced to cancel those events after Phase 4 began. Says Jazz Forum Arts Executive Director Mark Morganelli: "Though we ardently tried to present our nearly three-dozen annual free summer concerts in Westchester, the concerns surrounding possible transmission of coronavirus has forced us to cancel them for this year."

Similarly, the Armonk Outdoor Art Show, scheduled for October 3-4, was canceled for the first time in the show's 59-year history. Executive Director Anne Curran explains: "After weeks of alternate planning...we have had to reconsider based on recently announced New York State guidelines that limit attendance."

Successful Recovery Relies on Others

While many organizations are providing virtual programming, this solution can only do so much to keep the arts afloat. Says Exton:

feature

"[Our virtual programming] doesn't generate a great deal of income. So we're not doing it to make up for lost income from ticket sales, but to stay connected to our audience."

In order to plan new in-person programming, an organization must depend on the circumstances of others. For one, in order to reopen, the Governor's office must give the go-ahead. Even then, a domino effect of uncertainty follows.

For instance, film centers can't plan a schedule of new movie screenings because, as deBuys describes it, "the calendar of new releases has shifted significantly. Some new films are slated for holiday 2020 openings, while others have moved into 2021."

Emelin Theatre's Executive Director Elliot Fox indicates that a significant part of the theater's programming is for regional schools and families. "This means the challenges that schools face for the coming academic year also affect our programming choices."

Meanwhile, Katonah Museum of Art (KMA) almost lost the chance to display its major *Bisa Butler: Portraits* exhibition, which was slated to open just days after lockdown. The exhibition was set to travel to the Art Institute of Chicago (AIC) right after its run at KMA. "We knew that our initial closing date wouldn't have allowed anyone to see the show," said Executive Director Michael Gitlitz. "But we couldn't announce that we were extending our dates until AIC rearranged their curatorial schedule and agreed to also push back the show."



As for WPPAC, even after it reopens, it won't be able to rely on its usual groups to rent in its space. Davisson explains: "There's an over-\$100,000 hole in our budget just from [rentals]. This also affects the next season because it's not known yet if those small businesses will survive this shutdown."

Making Lemonade Out of Lemons

Despite the unexpected barriers and obstacles brought about by COVID-19, arts organizations remain hopeful, having done their due diligence during the shutdown. They've applied for grants, narrowed spending and begun fundraising campaigns. Anything to ensure survival. "We just want to reopen and present live entertainment to our community again," says Davisson, whose organization, like many others, received Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans. This small business loan is designed to help

on its centennial, also received an Economic Injury Disaster Loan that will be paid over the next 30 years. DeBuys is also thankful that several of her grantors rearranged funding timelines in order to get money to grantees more quickly.

To that point, ArtsWestchester's Director of Grants Programs, Susan Abbott, explained: "While funds from New York State Council on the Arts were stalled, most organizations were pleased to know that their Westchester County Government supported grants administered by ArtsWestchester would continue to support their organization's revised plans for 2020-21, including online programming."

The impactful support of donors, sponsors and community members has been a consistent saving grace for most organizations."

There was one silver lining expressed by all who were consulted for this article. The impactful support of donors, sponsors and community members has been a consistent saving grace for most organizations. For instance, when JBFC launched its fundraising campaign, an anonymous donor pledged to match up to \$100,000 of funds raised. The momentum from this pledge inspired a generous response from the community. Meanwhile, WPPAC created a memorial fund for founding member Henry G. Miller and reactivated its "Friends of WPPAC" committee. This allowed the center to host a fundraising event over the summer and raise needed funds. In Pelham, local supporters organized an evening of online entertainment that raised money for six of the town's nonprofits, including The Picture House. "The community support really lifted our spirits more than anything," explained deBuys.

For arts organizations, survival will rely largely on people's willingness to return. Many organizations have used their time during lockdown strategically, taking steps to ensure that future visitors will feel safe. "For museums and art, their oxygen is interaction, and the experience is just not the same when you can't do that. Now that KMA has reopened, we're just trying to make the museum a safe environment so people feel comfortable coming back."



Exteriors of (top) Jacob Burns Film Center, (bottom left) White Plains Performing Arts Center and (bottom right) The Picture House. (All photos courtesy of each organization)

businesses keep their workforce employed during the crisis. Even with PPP assistance, groups like JBFC and TPH have still had to lay off or furlough staff members.

The Emelin Theatre has staff on a "substantially reduced work schedule." For The Picture House, deBuys says: "We have had to furlough our projectionists and concessionists. The rest of the team has been working harder than ever finding ways to keep our audiences engaged online." The Picture House, which is coming up

spotlight

A Breath of Fresh Air

With many arts organizations still unable to welcome visitors due to COVID-19 safety concerns, a cultural outing nowadays means a breath of fresh air... literally. According to New York State guidelines, outdoor gatherings of less than 50 people are allowed in "Phase 4" of the state's reopening process. Guests will be able to take in the picturesque grounds of historic sites and gardens during carefully operated outdoor tours this fall.

Sunnyside

Every year, Hudson Valley natives and tourists alike flock to the Rivertowns when talk of pumpkins, fall foliage and the Headless Horseman resurface once again. Washington Irving's *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* has become a staple American novel; however, Halloween isn't the only time of the year to visit his former Sunnyside estate. Although Irving's eclectic cottage remains closed for the season, tours of Sunnyside's grounds [*will be accessible through September 7*](#). Even literary aficionados may not realize that the landscape, right on the banks of the Hudson River, was designed by Irving himself.

According to Rob Schweitzer, Vice President, Communications and Commerce at Historic Hudson Valley, which operates the Sunnyside estate: "interpreters [dressed in 19th century garb] are available to provide an introduction to [the site's] history, Guests are also invited to



Sunnyside (photo credit: Ben Hider for Historic Hudson Valley)



Untermeyer Gardens (photo credit: Jessica Norman)

wander the grounds at their own, relaxed pace.” Schweitzer says that the estate will be operating with “sharply reduced visitor capacity.” Advance reservations are required for the two-hour visits, which take place on Fridays through Sundays.

John Jay Homestead

John Jay began developing approximately 750 acres into a farm in 1787, and his descendants lived on the property into the 1950s. During a [Historic Landscape Tour](#) at John Jay Homestead, visitors will walk the property to see many features developed by the different generations of the Jay family. The 40-minute tour, offered on Wednesdays through Sundays, will include the gardens in addition to the historic barnyard. According to Bethany White, Interpretive Programs Assistant at John Jay Homestead (JJH), “the landscape is a great way to get acquainted with the history of JJH, as it reveals hundreds of years of history.” This time of year, five gardens are in bloom and foliage creates picture-perfect views. Advanced registration required.

Lyndhurst Mansion

Lyndhurst Mansion is one of Westchester’s cultural gems. Even though the mansion is not yet reopened to visitors, its grounds don’t disappoint. A Daily Grounds Pass offers general admission to the property for the day, while [several touring options](#) through September 27 allow visitors to experience the full breadth of what the grounds have to offer.

The Riverfront Landscape & Bowling Alley Tour will bring visitors along the lower western portion of the landscape, taking visitors “from the veranda...down through a series of rockeries, offering views of the Hudson River and concluding at the restored 19th-century bowling alley.” Meanwhile, the Rose Garden, Greenhouse & Swimming Pool Tour covers the upper Eastern portion of the property, including the rose and fern gardens and the ruins of the swimming pool building. Finally, the two-hour Ramble Tour offers a complete overview of Lyndhurst’s historic landscape through a two-mile adventure that “reflects on 180 years of grand estate living on the Hudson River.”

Untermeyer Gardens

On varying Sundays ending in late October, [a variety of public guided tours](#) will focus on the history and gardens of the historic Untermeyer estate. A History Tour highlights the history of the estate from its origin in 1862. According to the tour description, it “emphasizes [the estate’s] world-famous heyday in the Untermeyer years, its dramatic decline after 1940, and the remarkable restoration efforts.” Meanwhile, the Gardens Tour includes discussion of the architecture, elements of garden design and identifies numerous plants. Sunset Tours give guests a more leisurely view of the gardens, during which they can take in the sunset from the scenic locale. Last, Stephen F. Byrns, founder and President of the Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy, leads a monthly tour that discusses in-depth knowledge of the property, especially the architecture, including the Indo-Persian Walled Garden.

spotlight

Telling Stories, One Sidewalk Crack at a Time

by Mary Alice Franklin, ArtsNews Editor

When Habirshaw Park became filled with litter during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Yonkers community gathered together to clean it. Artist [Haifa Bint-Kadi](#) was among them. “I wanted to be a part of that,” she said. Shortly after, twenty-five monarch butterfly mosaics appeared on the walls of the Center for the Urban River at Beczak.

Really Bint-Kadi’s efforts to enrich the City of Yonkers began four to five years earlier, one sidewalk crack at a time. *Sidewalk Stories in Mosaic* was a guerilla project, during which the artist filled unsightly sidewalk cracks with colorful mosaic tiles. The project has grown ever since.

Back at the entrance of the Beczak Center, in addition to the monarchs, Bint-Kadi is working on mosaics of local species, some of which are threatened in the area – a bee, butterfly, eel and blue crabs.

Much in the way in which these species were chosen for the Center’s entrance, the location of a mosaic, as well as its people, always dictate its subject. As the artist works, people often stop to observe, ask questions and make suggestions. Bint-Kadi obliges. She explains: “My work is informed by the people I interact with. I usually scout for sites, and then I search for the story. I talk with people and I also go through archives in the library for anything significant that used to be in that spot. Then those things determine what goes in



Haifa Bint-Kadi (photo courtesy of the artist)

that space.” Most of what Bint-Kadi does is grounded in what she calls “visual archiving,” a way to record people’s memories and lived experiences.

At one point, a man told Bint-Kadi that his was the first Mexican immigrant family in Yonkers. She created a mosaic of Talavera

Mexican tiles outside of his neighborhood restaurant, Dos Marias.

Another time, someone asked the artist to address three large cracks by St. John's Church in Getty Square. There was a large population of homeless people in the area, so the artist asked them directly what they wanted to see in those cracks. The overwhelming response was "Christmas." According to Bint-Kadi, "it's the time of year that makes [them] feel like they belong." So, out came the mosaic Santa and holly tiles. The artist recalls this as one of her most memorable and impactful mosaic projects.

Most of what Bint-Kadi does is grounded in what she calls 'visual archiving,' a way to record people's memories and lived experiences."

But *Sidewalk Stories* isn't about accurately portraying one person or community's entire story in a sidewalk crack. "It's more about hearing their story, engaging with them and then creating a marker of that person's experience. "

It takes time and care to tell these stories. For every mosaic, Bint-Kadi must first clean out the crack, clearing from it everything that has accumulated over the years. "This part of the process is disgusting," she laughs, "but I do it." Once she is down to the area's basic soil and cement, the soil is prepped. To fill the space, she uses a particular mix of concrete that allows for flexibility. She explains: "As the old concrete around the mosaic freezes and thaws, it will apply pressure on the new concrete that I've poured. So there needs to be some give; otherwise, it would crack."

Bint-Kadi is deliberate but open about her process. When people ask about it, she teaches them her process, "hoping that they'll continue it in their neighborhood. She says: "That's what I love about folk art – it's about passing that tradition on." However, for her part, Bint-Kadi wants to do more. She is looking to broaden the project's reach beyond Yonkers, perhaps into Mount Vernon.

"Ultimately, when you see [one of my mosaics], you think 'Someone cared enough to put something in that crack and make it beautiful.' That experience of knowing that someone cared says something to the person who's experiencing it... It's important for us to do something [to show we] care about our community and show it some love."



Sidewalk mosaic by Haifa Bint-Kadi (photo courtesy of the artist)

spotlight



Swipe Right for MOZART

by Mary Alice Franklin, ArtsNews Editor

Screenshot from Taconic Opera's Don Giovanni

When attending an opera, one wouldn't expect to see references to modern social media apps like Instagram or Tinder. To common recollection, Mozart never included a man in a bunny suit in his comedic plot twists either. Yet, upon watching [Taconic Opera's interpretation of Don Giovanni](#), a viewer will encounter all of the above. As it turns out, the COVID-19 pandemic has introduced its own form of farce to the opera.

New York Opera Conservatory (NYOC), Taconic Opera's training program for young opera singers, was set to perform Mozart's dark comedy before State-mandated quarantines began. Like many arts organizations, NYOC then faced the obstacle of the production's cancellation.

According to General Director Dan Montez: "Telling a love story with no touching is next to impossible. If you can't touch, there needs to be a reason and it must be incorporated into the story." The company swiftly did an about-face and recreated the classic opera with a modern twist. Says Montez: "The only way to make it work legitimately was to make the pandemic part of the production. By re-imagining *Giovanni*...we were able to create a world that relied on Internet connections and cell phones."

Still, the question remained: how does an opera company perform without a stage – or without the performers being in the same room as one another? For one, the entire production was recorded on iPhones.

However, to truly pursue the "technology" angle, they decided to go all-in. Says Montez: "Throughout the production, we used every special effect we could employ with our phones...In this way, the opera shows us just how bizarre and surreal our world has become." The production weaves into its plot everything from Tinder profiles to Snapchat filters.

After all, the same classic tropes and themes of the story, including love, revenge and deception, remain relevant today. In disguise, Lothario Don Giovanni tries to seduce Donna Anna, who is engaged to Don Ottavio. This results in the death of Donna Anna's father. The plot twists continue throughout the production. Except in this version, Giovanni woos women with a delivery of toilet paper and Clorox bleach and the tenor aria *Il mio tesoro* is a home cooking show.

"We just wanted to find a way to offer our program to young singers so they could build their resumés," Montez explains. NYOC is designed to strengthen a singer's skills and knowledge for getting jobs, auditioning and being evaluated.

If the production wasn't enough of a feat, Montez says that the company staged, filmed and edited three two-hour movies (one for each of three separate casts) in just five weeks. Adding subtitles, he says, was a feat of its own. "So, although there may be production errors, they are a major part of the charm of the work."



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.

Lenox Hill

(Available on Netflix)

This eight-part documentary focuses on Northwell Lenox Hill Hospital's doctors and team members in brain surgery, emergency medicine and obstetrics. It puts the humanity in medicine. The doctors' attachment and love for patients, which is reciprocated so many times over, the lives saved, and those lost. Compassion is shown to all who enter their hospital. The docs themselves experience the circle of life and death – and the joy and sorrow – that their patients do. This series shows what we hope medical care always is: compassionate, empathic, rewarding, and equal-opportunity regardless of income or status. Through watching this season, I just grew to love them all and would highly recommend it.



Promotional still from Lenox Hill



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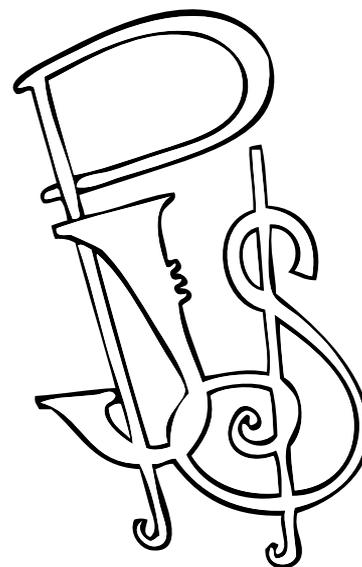
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spotlight



The Nuts and Bolts of Virtual Performances

by Rocío De La Roca

Screenshot from Hoff-Barthelson Music School's virtual programming (image courtesy of Hoff-Barthelson Music School)

Music classes and performances may look different this fall, but when Hoff-Barthelson Music School (HBMS) announced its new [Virtual Performance Program](#) (VPP) class, it was clear that students of all ages are still eager to learn. The program was developed to teach students in grades 5-12 about the ins and outs of creating a virtual ensemble performance. However, the school swiftly expanded VPP to include an adult class after a broader range of students showed interest.

According to Christopher Kenniff, Dean of Programs at HBMS, the school's adult students are eager to learn and engage with digital tools, even if they may find technology challenging. He believes the reason is that adult musicians are seeking to adapt to "a digital world that's changing so fast." The program will allow students to gain the vital skills that musicians need in order to work in virtual environments and during this time of COVID-19. According to Kenniff, this type of program is "relevant to where we are now in terms of education and what kids and adults want to learn."

The Virtual Performance Program will be comprised of two separate

weekly Zoom classes: the Virtual Performance Technology Class and the Lab Ensemble. During the 15-week Technology Class, students will work with HBMS instructor and composer Derek Cooper to learn the entire process of engineering a virtual performance using professional digital programs. This includes topics such as recording, compiling and editing music tracks, as well as video syncing, publishing recordings on diverse platforms, and more.

During the 12-week Lab Ensemble coaching sessions, groups of four to six students will learn how to play a piece of classical or jazz music that has been selected for their age and skill level. Each student will then produce their own virtual performance of the same ensemble piece. By all using the same source materials but yielding different results, they will encounter the impact of creative decisions that are made by professional audio and video engineers. The final recordings will be premiered on the HBMS's social media platforms.

Kenniff says that HBMS hopes that the VPP will enable both adults and children to create and share online performances, and continue to perform and interact with their fellow learners safely from their homes.



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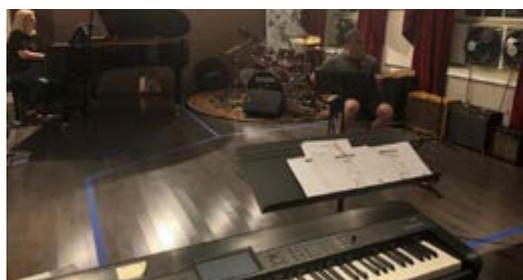
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*“There are only two kinds of music; Good music and the other kind.”
- Duke Ellington*



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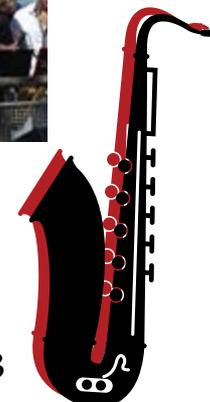


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spotlight



Madam C.J. Walker circa 1907 (photo courtesy of A'lelia Bundles/Lyndhurst Mansion)

Voices in the Landscape

by Michelle Falkenstein

Lyndhurst Executive Director Howard Zar envisioned [Voices in the Landscape](#) as a weekend-long celebration of the people who found inspiration and respite from the scenery of the Hudson River. *Voices* was tentatively scheduled for the weekend before Juneteenth on June 19—a holiday that commemorates the emancipation of slaves in the U.S.

Then COVID-19 hit, upending any plans for a live event. “At some point, we realized it was not going to be possible,” Zar says.

But rather than abandoning the idea wholesale, Zar and his team thought about how they might keep it alive. And so, like many arts organizations dealing with the fallout from coronavirus, they decided to take the project online.

“Gould had women of color in her sewing school. She didn’t differentiate on that basis. But Walker and Gould would have had different friend groups.”

“It was great working with ArtsWestchester and its CEO Janet Langsam to redirect our grant funding from an in-person event to an online exhibition once the pandemic hit,” says Zar. “They were extremely quick and flexible working with us to come up with ideas and ways to pivot when faced with our new reality.”

The weekend celebration was meant to focus on two prominent local women who were active in the early part of the 20th century. The first, Madam C.J. Walker, was a daughter and sibling of slaves—

the first child in the family born after the Emancipation Proclamation. Madam Walker developed hair care products for Black women and became the first self-made female millionaire in America. Her home, Villa Lewaro, on Millionaire's Row in Irvington, was used as a meeting place for a fleet of Black women who, like proto-Avon ladies, marketed and sold Madam Walker's products door-to-door.

The second woman was Helen Gould, daughter of railroad magnate and financial speculator Jay Gould, who inherited Lyndhurst after her father's death. Gould added several buildings to the property, creating space for a sewing school for young women designed to provide them with otherwise unattainable economic opportunities.

Once the online idea was born, the team at Lyndhurst began reaching out to the people who had agreed to take part in the live weekend event, including A'Leila Bundles, Madam Walker's great-great-granddaughter and author of *On Her Own Ground: The Life and Times of Madam C.*

J. Walker, Carolyn Brown, an actress who interprets Madam

Walker's life; Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins, the first woman and African-American majority speaker of the New York State Senate; and Elizabeth Shepard Burr, Helen Gould's great-granddaughter. All agreed to create videos for the program—Bundles, in fact, created 10 short videos on a variety of topics, including Madam Walker's legacy, why she moved to Irvington, and her philanthropic efforts.

And now, *Voices in the Landscape* lives online—in perpetuity. "There's no reason to take it down," says Zar, who gives thanks for

an opportune upgrade of Lyndhurst's website this past spring that expanded its functionality.

In addition to the aforementioned videos, visitors to the Lyndhurst website can also view an online exhibition gallery; listen to the music of Aaron Copland, a Westchester resident who was inspired from nature; hear from horticulturist Wayne Cahilly about his work with

Lyndhurst to restore its historic landscape; and watch an outdoor dance performance by Trainor Dance Company.

Zar hopes to add the Native American experience to the virtual exhibition. "We want to include the voices of people who were here before European contact," he says.

Even though the exhibits themselves are closed, visitors to Lyndhurst can still walk the grounds and look through the windows—Zar says that on the northern side of the Bowling Pavilion, one can see large photos of both Madam Walker and Helen Gould and their houses.

In 1918, Walker and Gould were neighbors. Zar doesn't know if they ever interacted, although he believes they knew of each other. "Madam Walker lived in the house for one-and-a-half years

at most, and during part of that time she was ill," he explains. "Gould had women of color in her sewing school. She didn't differentiate on that basis. But Walker and Gould would have had different friend groups."

People may think of Westchester as a "white place," Zar says, but it has always been much more diverse than they think. "The voices were always there," he says, "even though you might not have heard them."



The Lyndhurst Sewing School pupils practice their sewing in the orchards behind the Bowling Alley, where the school held classes, circa 1905 (photo courtesy of Lyndhurst Mansion)

jazzfest

ARTSWESTCHESTER, THE CITY OF WHITE PLAINS & THE WHITE PLAINS BID

JAZZFEST

VIRTUAL EVENTS • SEPT. 8-11, 2020

presented by **BANK OF AMERICA****Enjoy Four Days of Free Virtual Jazz Happenings!**

Guests can jazz up their calendars with this year's JazzFest White Plains. For its ninth year, this festival will remain true to its roots, presenting jazz from an outstanding roster of Westchester and NYC musicians. From September 8-11, the festival will present established jazz greats who have shaped the genre, as well as rising stars who are carrying jazz in new directions.

Due to COVID-19, and for the safety and security of the community, ArtsWestchester, City of White Plains and White Plains BID will present this season's festival virtually as a series of evening programs to be held on Zoom and live-streamed on ArtsWestchester's Facebook Live. Programs will include thought-provoking discussions, energetic performances and educational demonstrations.

**JAZZFEST 2020 SCHEDULE****TUES., SEPT. 8**

(Via Zoom and Facebook Live)

An ARTSBASH Virtual Mixology Party | 4:30-5:30pm

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

FEATURING: Cocktails by Yägermeister and jazz by The Rico Jones Ensemble.[Click here to register.](#)**Presenting Jazz in the Time of COVID-19 | 6-7pm***Presented by ArtsWestchester, City of White Plains and the White Plains BID.*

Join us for a discussion between some of Westchester's top jazz presenters/producers. This conversation will focus on the history of these institutions/venues and the creative ways in which they are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FEATURING: Mark Morganelli, Jazz Forum | John Brathwaite, PJS Jazz | Elizabeth Sander, Westchester Center for Jazz & Contemporary Music | Wayne Bass, White Plains Commissioner of Recreation & Parks.[Click here to register.](#)**Westchester Jazz: Then and Now | 8-9:30pm***Presented by the White Plains Public Library and ArtsWestchester.*

Show your Westchester pride by tuning in to this program that features jazz artists who have deep roots and ties to Westchester County. The program will include short performances by each of the artists and a moderated discussion about the history and development of jazz in Westchester. Moderated by Tom van Buren, White Plains JazzFest Artistic Director (2010-2017).

FEATURING: Art Bennett, sax | Kathryn Farmer, piano and voice | Kenny Lee, trumpet | Rocky Middleton, bass[Click here to register.](#)

WED., SEPT. 9

(Via Zoom and Facebook Live unless otherwise noted)

Isabella Mendes & Flavio Lira Duo | 12-12:45pm

Presented by Downtown Music at Grace.

Isabella Mendes is a singer-songwriter, pianist, composer and educator whose work is rooted in Brazilian jazz and bossa nova. Flavio Lira explores the musical traditions of Brazil, Cuba and Colombia. Together, the two will present a special all-originals set, during this midday performance.

[Click here to register.](#)

Jazz Education in Westchester | 6-7:30pm

Presented by the White Plains Public Library and ArtsWestchester.

Enjoy an intimate conversation between Westchester's top jazz instructors as they delve into topics such as their personal histories in education, the development of local institutions of jazz learning, and a discussion of COVID-19 and its impact on teaching jazz inside and outside the classroom. The program will include short performances by each of the artists. Moderated by Tom van Buren, White Plains JazzFest Artistic Director (2010-2017)

FEATURING: Tim Veeder, White Plains High School | Ray Blue, Cross-Cultural Connection | Hiroshi Yamazaki, Music Conservatory of Westchester

[Click here to register.](#)

Jazz, From One Generation to the Next | 8-9:30pm

Presented by ArtsWestchester, City of White Plains and the White Plains BID.

Broadcast on Facebook Live Only.

A discussion between master jazz artists and their mentees will delve into the topics of intergenerational exchange and transmission in jazz education. The moderated program will also include short live performances by each master-mentee pair. Moderated by Pete Malinverni, Purchase College.

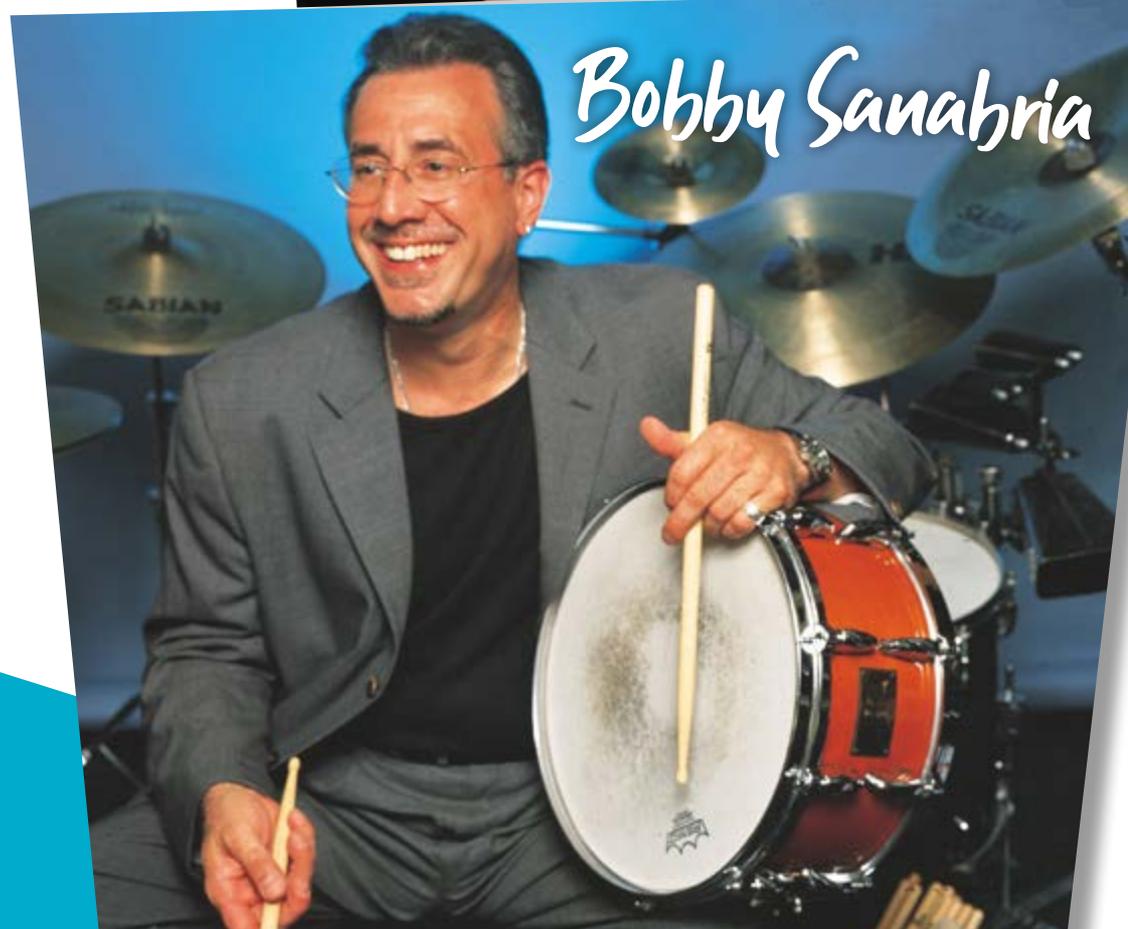
FEATURING: Alexis Cole and Lucy Wijnands | Bobby Sanabria and Gabrielle Garo | Ulysses Owens Jr. and Aaron Jennings.

[Click here to register.](#)



Alexis
Cole

(photo credit: Andrew Bogard)



Bobby Sanabria

jazzfest



Amir ElSaffar

THUR., SEPT. 10

(Via Zoom and Facebook Live)

Jazz at the Intersections | 8-9:30pm*Presented by ArtsWestchester, City of White Plains and the White Plains BID.*

These featured artists are pushing the boundaries of jazz by engaging musical traditions alongside and outside the genre. Live demonstrations and performances by each of these artists, as well as a moderated discussion, will introduce audiences to the world of jazz fusion.

FEATURING: Amir ElSaffar | Jomion & the Uklos | Pablo Mayor

[Click here to register.](#)

FRI., SEPT. 11

(Via Zoom and Facebook Live)

Jazz's Rising Stars | 8pm*Presented by ArtsWestchester, City of White Plains and White Plains BID.*

Discover some of the top young jazz musicians playing in the United States. This virtual gathering will include short live performances by each of the four featured artists, as well as a moderated discussion about what it's like to be a young rising star in jazz today. Moderated by Keanna Faircloth, WBGO.

FEATURING: Connie Han | Matthew Whitaker |

Veronica Swift | Alicia Olatuja

[Click here to register.](#)



Matthew Whitaker

For program details & registration:

artsw.org/jazzfest

#WPJazzFest





Live Outdoor Events Just Added in White Plains!

Please note that these are seated-only performances, with a \$10 per person dining minimum. No standing room allowed. Space is limited and reservations are required. Call each restaurant in advance to secure your reservations. Face masks are required when not seated.

SAT., SEPT. 12

Sarah Jane Cion Trio | 12–1:30pm
Hudson Grille, 165 Mamaroneck Ave., 914-997-2000

Sarah Jane Cion is a Naxos Recording Artist, Winner of the 1999 Great American Jazz Piano Competition and author of *Modern Jazz Piano and The Pianist's Jammin' Handbook*. She has been featured in *Downbeat* and *Jazz Times*, and has been heard on ABC'S *All My Children*.

Brian Carter Quartet | 2–3:30pm
Brazen Fox, 175 Mamaroneck Ave., 914-358-5911

Jazz drummer Brian Carter has affiliation with many musicians, including Bob Baldwin, Gil Parris, Bernie Williams, Eddie Henderson, Wali Ali, Nico Morelli and the late Didier Lockwood. Also he serves as the Director of the New Rochelle Jazz Festival and Westchester Rocks Music.

SUN., SEPT. 13

Samara McLendon | 2–3:30pm
Via Garibaldi, 1 No. Broadway, 914-468-1888

Winner of the 8th Annual Sarah Vaughn International Jazz Vocal Competition, rising star McLendon has a voice that has been compared to the rich texture of velvet. She has performed in many great jazz rooms in NYC, such as Mezzrow, Smalls Jazz Club, the Django, the Blue Note and Dizzy's Club Coca Cola, with seasoned professionals such as Pasquale Grasso, Jon Faddis and NEA Jazz Master Barry Harris.



Sarah Jane Cion



Samara McLendon

Presenting Sponsor:



Sponsors:



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.

upcoming virtual and in-person activities

September Arts Offerings



RINI: Indian Electronica and Art Rock, Hudson River Amphitheater, 9/12 (in person) (photo courtesy of Hudson River Museum)

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

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 provides weekly social media activities, such as Art of the Week assignments every Monday on Instagram, virtual [ArtsMobile activities for kids](#), [Teen Tuesday and Thursday programs](#) and more.

- [Lawrence Salley Photography Award and Virtual Exhibition: On view now](#)
- [2020 Golf Outing](#): September 22 at 10:30am at The Wykagyl Country Club **(IN PERSON)**

ArtsWestchester, The White Plains BID and **The City of White Plains** present the [9th annual JazzFest program](#) with a week of free virtual programs and performances from September 8-11. An ArtsBash Virtual Mixology Party on September 8 will kick off the celebration with cocktails and live jazz music.

Bedford Playhouse's Virtual Playhouse brings 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.

Bethany Arts Community offers virtual exhibitions, as well as two online classes: [Picasso Online: The Man, The Myth, The Legend](#) (September 15-October 13) and [American Modernism Online](#) (September 26-October 31).

Blue Door Art Center will reopen on September 12 with its [Global Expressions](#) exhibition that will celebrate cultural heritage through art (**IN PERSON**). The center will also host a series of [free art workshops](#) for kids and writing workshops for adults on Saturdays via Zoom. Hours: Sat: 1-5pm.

Broadway Training Center offers 2-week camp sessions that will either be via Zoom or a blended mix of Zoom and in-person if safety guidelines permit.

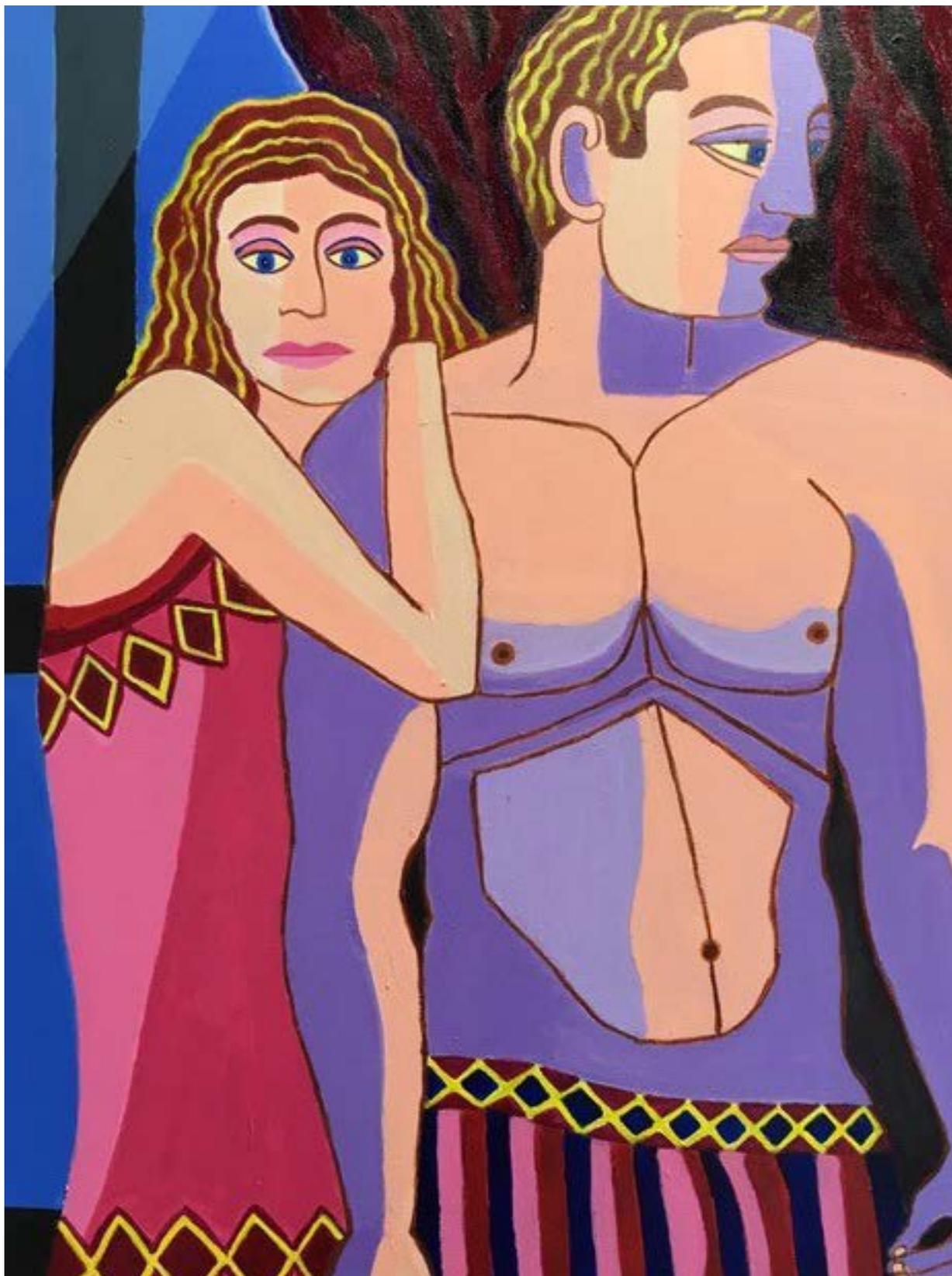
Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts offers a variety of music and family programs. Audiences can enjoy new live-streamed concerts and past performances by world-renowned artists on youtube.com/c/caramoor.

Center for the Digital Arts, Peekskill will host Fall classes online and via remote learning. The Center offers digital arts education in web development, desktop publishing, 2D/3D animation, digital video and digital filmmaking. [Click here](#) for the full list of classes.

- Design your brand: September 15-October 27 (skip Oct. 6) at 6-9:30pm
- User Experience Design Portfolio II: September 12-December 19, 10am-4pm

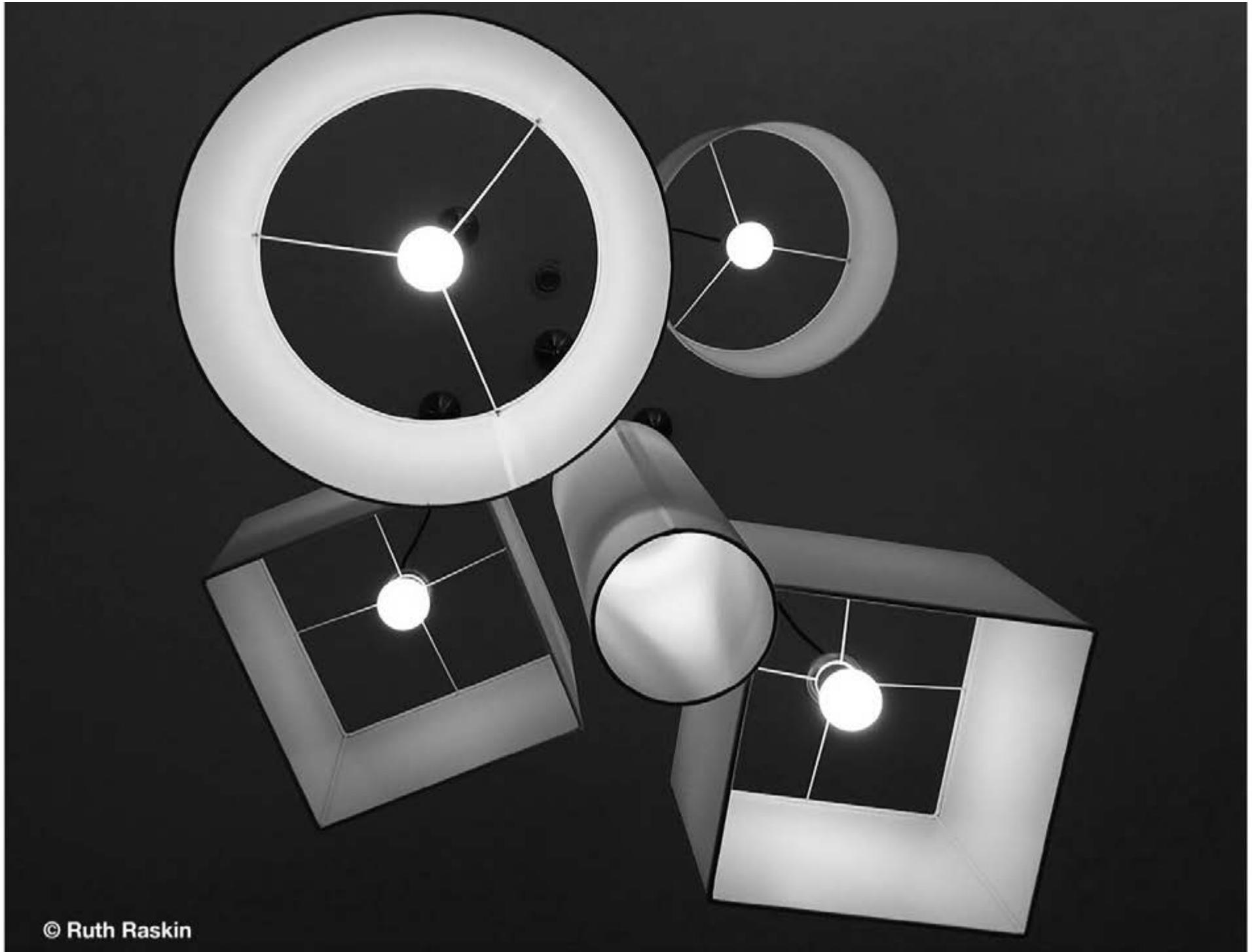
Clay Art Center is reopening for [in-person weekly hand-building and wheel classes](#) for adults and youth beginning on September 8. The Center also offers virtual classes, artist lectures and demonstrations, as well as a portion of its [Connections](#) exhibition online.

- Virtual Artist Talks: [Kyle and Kelly Phelps](#) (September 21), [Wesley Brown](#) (September 17), [Kukuli Velarde](#) (September 3)



Artwork by Dorothy Cancellieri, on view in a virtual exhibition from Harrison Public Library through 9/30 (artwork courtesy of Harrison Public Library)

upcoming virtual and in-person activities



© Ruth Raskin

Photograph by Ruth Raskin, *The Ground Glass Road Show* at Rye Arts Center, on view through 9/14 (in person) (photo source: ryeartscenter.org)

THE RYE ARTS CENTER
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fall classes
and
PRIVATE LESSONS IN:
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RYEARTSCENTER.ORG 914-967-0700

[Color Camera Club of Westchester](https://www.colorcameraclub.com) will be presenting photographic programs via Zoom. The group will host a gathering of photographers to enhance their skills on September 14, as well as an online exhibition featuring highlights of its International Photographic Competition. [colorcameraclub.com](https://www.colorcameraclub.com)

[Copland House](https://www.coplandhouse.org/coping) is posting videos of past performances with a new "Coping ...with Copland House," series. [coplandhouse.org/coping](https://www.coplandhouse.org/coping)

[The Croton Council on the Arts](https://www.crotoncouncilonthearts.org) will present a Croton Arts Online Arts & Crafts Festival on September 25 through 27. During the free virtual

event, audiences will talk to artists and crafters about their hand-crafted works and enjoy live music and demonstrations.

live.crotonarts.org

[Downtown Music at Grace](#) will launch its 33rd season of free, weekly concerts at noon with a livestream concert, featuring the Isabella Mendes and Flavio Lira Duo, on September 9 as part of [ArtsWestchester's JazzFest program](#).

[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 available on [Facebook](#).

[The Ground Glass](#) will host an **[Outdoor Photography Road Show](#)** at the Rye Arts Center through September 14, with an outdoor reception on September 3 at 5pm (**IN PERSON**). thegroundglass.org

- **[Sustained Investigations: A Virtual Photography Exhibit](#)**: Ongoing
- **[The Decisive Moment Revisited](#)**: A Virtual Photography Exhibit: Ongoing

[Hammond Museum](#) presents an **[Artist Members Virtual Gallery](#)**, featuring the works of the museum's members through June 5, 2021.

For a complete list of programs and workshops, visit hammondmuseum.org.

- September Virtual Exhibition Artist Reception: September 5 at 10am
- **[Sushi for the Family on Zoom with Yoshimi Arai](#)**: September 9 at 4pm
- **[T'ai Chi class on ZOOM with Paul Wood](#)**: September 16 at 10am

[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, a virtual art exhibit by Dorothy Cancellieri, yoga classes for adults and more. For a complete list of programs, virtual classes and workshops, visit harrisonpl.org/events/harrison

[Historic Hudson Valley](#) offers digital content on their 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](#) offers in-person and online classes for students of all ages. The school will also launch its **[Virtual Performance Program](#)** for students in grades 5-12 and adults, beginning this September through January. During this one-semester program,

Thanks to you...

our Artist Relief Fund

has raised more than **\$16,243** 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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upcoming virtual and in-person activities

participants will develop ensemble skills while learning the process of creating a virtual ensemble performance that includes learning and recording their parts, synching, editing and publishing final recordings on social media. hbms.org

Hudson River Museum's Summer Amphitheater Series continues with live performances on Saturday evenings through September 19 in the Museum's outdoor theater. The museum also offers free admission on Saturdays at 5-7pm through September 19. Museum Hours: Thurs-Sun: 12-5pm.

- [RINI: Indian Electronica and Art Rock](#): September 12 at 8pm **(IN PERSON)**
- [Kaira & Friends](#): September 19 at 8pm **(IN PERSON)**

Hudson Valley Museum of Contemporary Art will reopen on September 15 by appointment, with an expanded exhibition of [How We Live](#). Virtual tours of the exhibitions and an in-depth [Sculpture Trail walk](#) are available on the Museum's website. Hours: Thursday-Saturday by appointment.

- [Climbing the Walls - A Virtual Theater, Poetry and Image Project in collaboration with Studio Theater in Exile](#): On view now
- [Making Masks](#): An ongoing art opportunity for artists

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

- [Online Poetry Reading](#): September 11 at 7pm
- [Challenging Coloniality in Travel Writing via Zoom](#): September 13 at 12:30pm
- [Taking Risks in Narrative Poetry with Erin Hoover via Zoom](#): September 12 at 12:30pm
- [Online Poetry Reading](#): September 25 at 7pm
- [Chance Operations Workshop](#): September 26 at 12:30pm

Irvington Theater will premiere *Irving the Theater Nut*, a short film that follows a theater-loving squirrel who wishes to be a part of the magic happening inside of the Irvington Theater. The film, screening on September 26 at 7pm, will feature the work of young actors from the Broadway Training Center and Clocktower Players.

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

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Rye Arts Center's Half Day for Half Pints program (photo source: ryeartscenter.org)

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 on September 13 at 11am. [facebook.com/jazzforumclub](https://www.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](https://www.johnjayhomestead.org)

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. **(IN PERSON)**. Admission is by advance reservation. Hours: Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm, and Sun: 12-5pm.

Lyndhurst will open its new **Watershed Moment** installation at its unrestored swimming pool building on Labor Day weekend. The mansion also offers a variety of outdoor tours that will allow audiences to explore its 67-acre site **(IN PERSON)**. Tours include: the **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.

Madelyn Jordan Fine Art will present a 5th solo exhibition of new paintings by Chinese-Canadian artist Yangyang Pan **(IN PERSON)**. Gallery hours: Thur-Sat: 12-5pm or by private appointment.

Mamaroneck Artists Guild will open to the public with **MAG Goes Plein Air**, an online group show of works that are created or inspired by outdoor settings and images. The exhibition will be displayed online from September 13-30. The MAG Annual Award Show will also be on view from September 20-October 17 **(IN PERSON)**. Gallery hours: Tues-Sat: 12-5pm.

M&M Performing Arts Company and the Red Monkey Theater Group will present site-specific 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.

upcoming virtual and in-person activities



[Mount Vernon Friends of Recreation](#) continues its 2020 Summer Breeze concert series every Thursday evening at the City Hall Plaza in Mount Vernon. **(IN PERSON)**

[Music Conservatory of Westchester](#) will be offering in person or virtual music lessons, group classes and ensembles in a range of instruments and genres. For more info, visit musicconservatory.org.

[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

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

[Oak and Oil Gallery](#) is open to the public and showcasing artworks from several local talents. The gallery's *Duets* exhibition, on view through September 14, features new works by painter and printmaker Jane Cooper. Hours: Mon-Sat: 10:30am-5:30pm, Sun: 11am-3pm. **(IN PERSON)**

[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](#)'s upcoming [Domestic Brutes](#) exhibition, which will examine diverse approaches of what feminism means in American society today, will be on view September 12-November 7 **(IN PERSON)**. The Center will also offer [in-person](#) and [virtual opening receptions](#), as well a series of virtual studio visits and workshops.

- Virtual Studio Visits: [Melissa Stern](#) (September 3), [Nancy Elsamanoudi](#) (September 10), [Fay Ku](#) (September 24)

[The 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 readings and performances of classic and comedic one-act plays.



Lights Across the Bay by Jane Cooper, Oak and Oil Gallery, Duets, on view through September 14

- *Vieux Carré* by Tennessee Williams, a reading: September 4 at 1pm
- *We Got This: Stories from, of and about Single Moms*: September 10 at 1pm
- *The Ibsen Classic: An Enemy of the People*, a reading: September 18 at 1pm
- *The Color of Light* by Jesse Kornbluth, a reading: September 25 at 7:30pm

Play Group Theater's [PGTonline program](#) allows audiences to enroll for virtual classes.

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 the entire arc of RTA 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 & Art Workshop for Adults](#): September 1 at 8pm
- [Stitch and Complain with Amanda Hsiao](#): September 17 at 7pm
- [Quilling for Adults with Vicky Youngman](#): September 24 at 7pm

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 On September 21, the Center will also launch Half Day for Half Pints, a creative and educational program for preschool students with classes held at the center **(IN PERSON)**. [The Ground Glass Outdoor Road Show](#) will also be on view at the Center through September 14, with an outdoor reception on September 3 at 5pm **(IN PERSON)**. For a complete list of in-person and virtual classes, [click here](#).

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.

Taconic Opera and the New York Opera Conservatory offers its pre-recorded production of [Mozart's Don Giovanni via YouTube](#). The Conservatory reimaged the dark tragedy as a comedy taking place during a pandemic. The entire production was staged, filmed and edited using digital technology and cell phones.

Untermeyer Park and Gardens is open to the public. 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)**.

The Untermeyer Performing Arts Council is also presenting its annual WorldFest series, featuring a diverse range of free entertainment at the Untermeyer park. Park hours: Fri-Sun: 12-6pm.

- Cocomama: September 5 **(IN PERSON)**
- Guss Hayes: September 12 **(IN PERSON)**
- CT Ballet: September 19 **(IN PERSON)**

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](#).

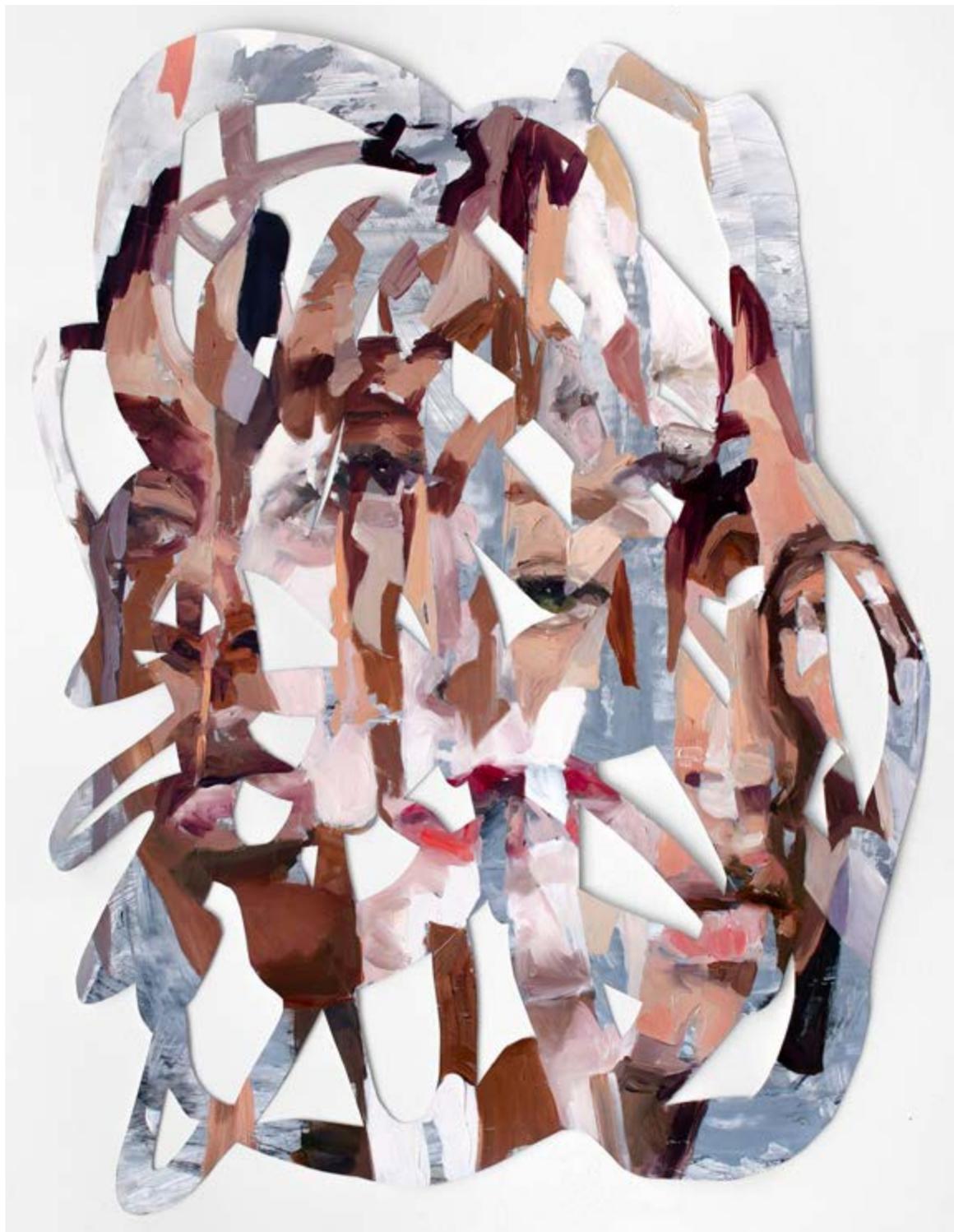
Westchester Chordsmen has shared a YouTube video of its performance, *Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor*, which features excerpts of a poem by Emma Lazarus with music by the Chordsmen's Music Director Keith Harris. [Click here](#) to listen.

upcoming virtual and in-person activities

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

[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.

- [Lunchtime Meditation @ the Library](#): Wednesdays from September 2-30 at 12pm
- [Virtual Storybook Dancing with Steffi Nossen School of Dance: September 10 & 24](#) at 10am
- [Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body Discussion](#): September 23 at 2pm
- [A Discussion on Attica Locke's Heaven, My Home](#): September 16 at 2:30-3:30 pm
- Slow Reading Book Discussion: [September 14 & 21](#) at 2pm



Obscenely Loved by Lacey McKinney, Domestic Brutes, on view at Pelham Art Center 9/12-11/7
(photo courtesy of Pelham Art Center)

[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:

[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](#)

Open to the public.

Hours: Tues-Sat: 12- 5pm.

[mamaroneckartistsguild.org](#)

[The Rye Arts Center](#)

The Center will be open for in-person music lessons beginning on September 14, Half Day for Half Pints Preschool Program on September 21 and in-person classes on October 5.

Gallery visits are available by appointment only.

[ryeartscenter.org](#)

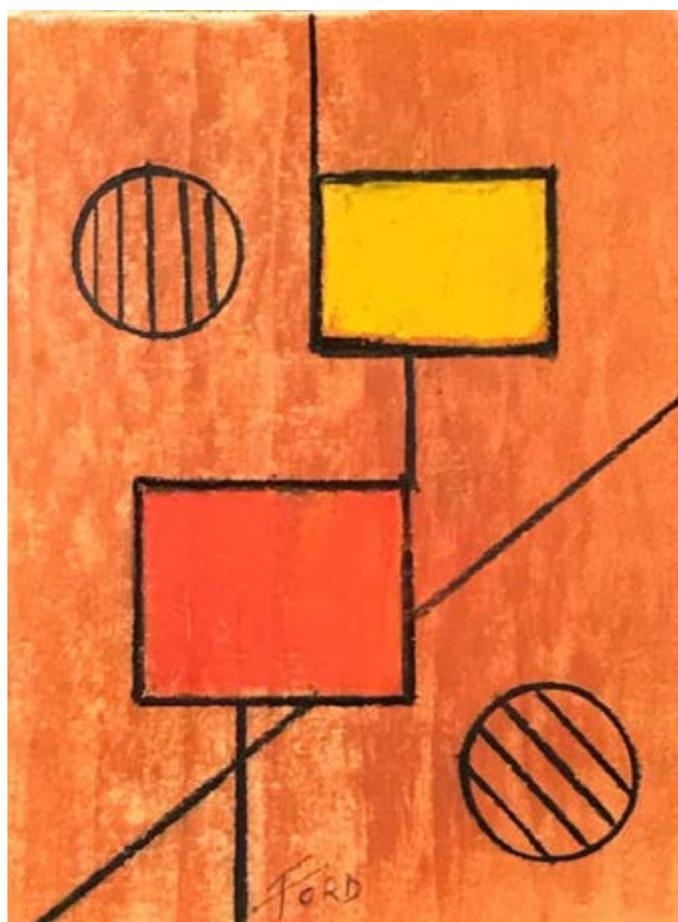
Youth-Led Mural in White Plains Focuses on Social Justice

A recent project encouraged community building among youth aged 10-18, who were given the opportunity to paint a mural with the guidance of [teaching artist](#) Miguel Cossio. The mural, currently being painted on the construction barriers at Winbrook Housing/ Brookfield Common, is meant to be a representation of different people of various cultures that promotes equity, peace and social justice.

The project was made possible by ArtsWestchester, with funds from New York State Council on the Arts Regional Economic Development Council Initiative, in partnership with the White Plains Housing Authority.



Local youth working on White Plains mural



Artwork by mental health recipient on view in Visions 2020

Virtual Exhibition Features Artwork by Mental Health Community

More and more studies have shown that artistic engagement has significant positive effects on mental and physical health. It reduces stress and depression while promoting healing, coping and overall wellness.* Beginning September 21, artwork by more than 30 artists who are recipients of mental health services in Westchester will be on view in a virtual exhibition titled *Visions 2020: Plug in Your Paintbrush*.

For more than 35 years, ArtsWestchester's partnership with Westchester County's Department of Community Mental Health has provided art services and residencies to people with chronic mental illness, allowing them the opportunity to participate in hands-on art workshops and enjoy live performances. These art workshops – whether painting, creative writing, ceramics or jewelry making – foster overall wellness and promote a sense of pride, accomplishment and positive self-worth. They also serve as a bridge to the larger community by showcasing the broad talents of this population. The exhibition will be on view at artsw.org/visions2020.

Visions 2020 is made possible by Westchester County's Department of Community Mental Health, Rockland Psychiatric Center and ArtsWestchester.

*Study published by the National Institutes of Health by Heather L. Stuckey, DEd and Jeremy Nobel, MD, MPH, titled "The Connection Between Art, Healing and Public Health: A review of Current Literature."

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](#).

Applications Open: Youth Leadership Council

ArtsWestchester, with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is seeking qualified youth aged 16-21 to join its [Young Adult Leadership Council](#) (Oct. 2020 to May 2021). This group will meet regularly to plan, evaluate, attend, promote and develop ArtsWestchester's teen programs. A \$500 stipend will also be provided. For more information, email Jessica Cioffoletti at jcioffoletti@artswestchester.org.

Deadline: September 15.

A Call for Works Related to Voting

ArtsWestchester seeks submissions for its upcoming virtual exhibition, *Give Us the Vote: 20/20*, which is inspired by the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment. Artworks will explore its history, the process, the current state of voting rights, and the act of voting. Artists may submit works in any media/discipline, including the literary arts, music and performance, and visual arts, to be included in an online format. Submissions should be submitted [via an online portal](#).

Deadline: September 25.

Call for Entries: Virtual Exhibition at Hammond Museum

Hammond Museum is [accepting submissions](#) from its artist members for an October virtual exhibition curated by Bibiana Huang Matheis. Each month, a new exhibition is displayed and will remain on view for one year. Submissions should use the monthly painting below as its muse or inspiration. Visual media, as well as short literary forms, music and dance, will all be considered. Email submissions to HammondMuseumArtists@gmail.com.

Deadline: September 15.



Submissions for the Hammond Museum's October exhibition should use this painting as their inspiration.

Croton Council on the Arts' Prescription for the Pandemic

The Croton Council on the Arts' (CCoA) annual Fall Festival on September 25-27 will go virtual this year with an interactive live event that they refer to as the "Prescription for the Pandemic." Since its usual gathering at Senasqua Park is not possible due to safety concerns related to COVID-19, the festival will bring artists, live entertainment and chat functions to their visitors.

CCoA board member Jim Christensen explains that the event is **"completely different" from an online video conference** like Zoom: "The Festival is an online website that has 'booths' where artists can showcase and sell their work and 'performance pages' from which musicians will live-stream. Other pages will show who is visiting the festival. So attendees can text or talk with other visitors or with the booth owners, just like at a real festival."

Applications are open through September 10 for artists, crafters, musicians, entertainers and people who want to demo their craft.

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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afabrizio@artswestchester.org or call 914.428.4220

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New Arts Leadership

ArtsWestchester Appoints New Board Members

ArtsWestchester recently announced the appointment of four new board members – Dawn French, Mark Ettenger, Troy De Vries and Bernard Thombs – each of whom will serve a three-year term.

As Senior Vice President of Marketing and Community Outreach for White Plains Hospital (WPH), **Dawn French**, guides the hospital on its strategic goals. She is a seasoned healthcare executive who maintains strong relationships with community and government leaders and oversees a team that provides philanthropic support for the hospital. According to French: “As a hospital professional, I believe that creative expression enhances healing and promotes overall wellness. My new role on ArtsWestchester’s board will enable me to bring the benefits of arts to our neighbors across Westchester.” One of French’s most innovative community partnerships is the ArtsMobile, launched with ArtsWestchester in 2018.

Mark Ettenger of Mamaroneck is President of The Emelin Theatre, Chair of the Village of Mamaroneck Ethics Board, President of the Edgewater Point Property Owners Association, Inc. and President of the Vail Mountain Lodge and Spa. A former attorney, Ettenger had a 20-year career at Goldman Sachs & Co., where he was a Managing Director. With his vast experience in business, finance and the arts, Ettenger has actively contributed to ArtsWestchester through his previous role as an Affiliate Representative, and will continue to do so during his new term.



(top left): Dawn French; (top right): Bernard Thombs;
(bottom left): Mark Ettenger; (bottom right): Troy De Vries

Bernard (Bernie) Thombs is President of Bernard Raymond Incorporated, a security, surveillance and information management company, which specializes in all aspects of public safety for federal, state and municipal government agencies. During his more than 30 years of technical experience, Thombs has worked extensively with federal and state housing authorities and has lectured both nationally and locally on the ever-changing issues of public safety in the workplace and urban communities. He currently serves as a Westchester County Planning Board member, where he highlights the need for security and public safety policy. In addition to the Planning Board, Thombs serves his community as a member of the Hudson Valley Housing Authority, the African American Men of Westchester, the White Plains Juneteenth Heritage Committee and Westchester County Black Scholars Program.

Troy De Vries, General Manager, Electric Operations, Bronx/Westchester for Consolidated Edison Co. of New York, has also joined ArtsWestchester’s board. De Vries will continue the strong relationship that ArtsWestchester and Con Edison have honed for more than 20 years. At Con Edison, De Vries is responsible for the electric distribution system through aerial infrastructure using bucket trucks. During more than 25 years at Con Edison, De Vries’ responsibilities have included risk management strategies, command and control systems, equipment analysis and asset management strategies, and quality assurance programs. During Hurricane Maria, he led a response team of 500 in Puerto Rico.

in Westchester



Nina Curley (photo credit: Julie Ades)

Caramoor Announces Appointment of Interim CEO Nina Curley

Caramoor has recently announced the appointment of Nina Curley as Interim CEO, effective in September. Curley is not new to the Caramoor's team – she joined the organization as VP and Chief Development Officer in 2012.

According to Chairman James Attwood: “[Curley] has been a key architect of [Caramoor's] recent success.” Since her start at the organization, Curley has overseen the organization's individual giving, major gifts, special events and Capital Campaign fundraising initiatives. She has also worked with Caramoor's CEO and Board of Trustees on board growth and governance, and has helped to guide the organization's overall strategic direction.



Yvonne McFall

Youth Theatre Interactions Announces Artistic Director Yvonne McFall

Youth Theatre Interactions (YTI) has announced a former alumna of the organization, Yvonne (Ev) McFall, as its Artistic Director. McFall progressed at YTI from being a student to a teacher. Since then, she has toured with mainstream artists, created and hosted events for United

Cerebral Palsy of New York City, and served as a counselor for New York's Administration for Children's Services. As Artistic Director, McFall will conceive of, develop and implement the organization's artistic vision. In addition, she helps to create and expand YTI's performing arts curriculum, supervises summer camp activities and explores new fundraising opportunities.



Abigail Lewis

Abigail Lewis Named Managing Director at Bethany Arts Community

Bethany Arts Community recently named Abigail Lewis as its Managing Director. Lewis, a seasoned strategy and operations executive, led innovative programs at IBM, including IBM's Global Technology Outlook. She is Co-Founder of Ossining Innovates!, a local project that focuses on inclusive entrepreneurship, and is a founding board member of the Sing Sing Prison Museum. According to Lewis, she looks forward to “the opportunity to help develop BAC and nurture its culture of open access by creating an environment in which everyone, especially children, are invited to create and experience art without fear.



Giulio Paolini's 'Amore e Psiche,' 1981, Magazzino Italian Art
(Picture taken at a past ArtsWestchester Friends event)

Gotta love the arts!

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

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