

ARTS NEWS

APRIL 2021



Deconstructing Borders

Richard Misrach. Wall, Los Indios, Texas (El muro, Los Indios, Texas) Photo: Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas.
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From the County Executive

Dear Readers,
 Thank you for taking some time to read this April Edition of ArtsNews. As we anxiously await the arrival of spring time and warmer weather, I want to encourage all of you to take advantage of the wonderful arts opportunities from arts groups throughout the county that are highlighted by our friends at ArtsWestchester. ArtsWestchester and the arts community on the whole have continued to grow and change with these uncertain times, allowing us the chance to explore the arts from the comfort of our own homes. As of April 2, many of our entertainment venues can also reopen their doors. Please enjoy any of the following programs offered by arts groups throughout the County, including:

- the reopening of our arts venues (see pages A4-5)
- a front-row seat to a concert by Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (see page A9)
- a celebration of National Poetry Month (see pages A12-16)

We all need the chance to escape from our day to day, and we all long to put the COVID-19 pandemic behind us. There are so many wonderful programs to discover in person and online right here in our own County, and the arts will always be here to help us and heal us. Thank you.

Sincerely,
 George Latimer
 Westchester County Executive

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FROM THE CEO

by Janet Langsam,
ArtsWestchester CEO



(photo credit: Cathy Pinsky)



Elizabeth Cady Stanton (photo via Wikimedia Commons public domain)

Here's to the Ladies Still Making History

Just when I thought I knew everything about Abraham Lincoln, I found out something new while watching the fabulous CNN documentary on his life. Now, we all know that history is often tinged with various interpretations of events. No surprise there. But my “a-ha” moment was truly a revelation, and a source of great pride as well. I learned that it was the women, not Lincoln, who first proposed the 13th Amendment that abolished slavery and forced servitude. Those suffragette ladies had it right all along. They were not only for women’s rights but for human rights long before the 19th Amendment. Of course, it is true that Lincoln spent every nickel of his political capital shepherding the 13th through Congress. That’s what gives me the notion that when Lincoln spoke about our “better angels,” he might have been thinking about the ladies, young and old, black and white who, like him, believed “that a house divided against itself cannot stand.” That being said, Lincoln (and for all his imperfections) articulated for us the American dream of a government for the people and by the people. And he also gave us fair warning on another matter. He said that “America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves.”



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

feature

Welcome Back to *the Arts*

by Susan Abbott



The popular saying tells us that April showers bring May flowers. In 2021, April may bring other signs of springtime renewal, including the gradual return of in-person arts events and performances. Beginning April 2, arts and entertainment venues can reopen at 33 percent capacity, with a maximum capacity of 100 people indoors and up to 200 people outdoors. Further, if all audience members can show proof of a negative virus test, capacity can increase to up to 150 people indoors and up to 500 people outdoors. This is music to the ears of arts groups and performance venues, most of which have not welcomed an in-person audience in more than a year. Westchester venues have eagerly awaited this guidance, and many are ready with programs and performances to share safely with their audiences.

Taconic Opera will resume its spring season with a production of [La Traviata](#) in a nontraditional setting – the football field in Peekskill's Depew Park. The April 24 and 25 performances will welcome up to 100 audience members each. The company's general director, Dan Montez, says: "We feel so grateful to be bringing opera back to the public as we start to come out of this difficult year for the arts. The arts are such a vital part of our communities, and we are doing everything we can as an organization to bring our singing back safely and yet still stay true to the beauty of the art form."

Beginning April 17, Ballet des Ameriques will hold a series of performances in its Port Chester studio over the course of several weekends in April and May. This series, "[Evenings of Dance in Westchester](#)," will feature new works, as well as established ones from the the company's repertoire, choreographed by Director and Founder Carole Alexis.

Jacob Burns Film Center (JBFC) in Pleasantville was

an early adopter of [safety protocols](#) for its venue, including contactless ticketing and the installation of new filtration systems to clean air particles. The Film Center will finally put these plans to good use when it welcomes back its audience [beginning April 30](#). In celebration, JBFC is displaying "Projecting Light Through Darkness," an outdoor light installation that brightens its façade after a yearlong somber period for the Center and its community. The installation will be on view seven days a week from 7-11pm through April 27.

Despite reopening, the JBFC will continue to offer films through its [Virtual Marquee](#) online screening program. This approach to reopening is echoed by many organizations that will preserve an online component of programming in order to continue serving those who are not able, or are not yet ready, to see live entertainment.

For those looking to view their films in Southern Westchester, the [Picture House Regional Film Center](#) has also reopened its doors for screenings.

The live outdoor summer performances at Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, with jazz, folk, American roots and more, have become a tradition for music lovers of all

ages. Caramoor will continue to livestream its [spring season](#) while it refines plans for its anticipated reduced-capacity summer season. The 2021 lineup, [along with safety protocols](#), will be announced on April 13.

With new health and safety guidelines being introduced and updated regularly, April signals the beginning of what may be a months-long process of reopening Westchester's cultural community. The arts have always been an important part of the culture of Westchester. Now, as it works towards recovery, it will continue to help the community heal and move forward. Soon, it can do so in person.

The arts have always been an important part of the culture of Westchester. Now... it will continue to help the community heal and move forward."

feature

Deconstructing Borders

Capturing Sights and Sounds from La Frontera

by Jorge Arévalo Mateus

The border, or *la frontera*, between the United States and Mexico lies along a severe, natural landscape that is both beautiful and dangerous. Tracing the contours of the Rio Grande for much of its length, it is a place fraught with social, political and cultural tensions—a space where mystery and tragedy coexist, where beauty and horror lay side-by-side.

For noted photographer Richard Misrach and composer Guillermo Galindo, co-creators of [Border Cantos | Sonic Border](#), an exhibition showing at the Hudson River Museum through May 9, the ineffable qualities of the land and its soundscapes first led them to collaborate in 2012. The controversial wall, stretching 1,954 miles from Brownsville, Texas to San Diego, California, and its impact on people and communities, brought the artists together to explore themes of light, sonority and migration.

Working with natural materials, found objects, and artifacts collected from the region's vast expanse, each artist brings distinct perspectives to the project. Through images, textures and sonic elements, shared aesthetic sensibilities coalesce to articulate a unified creative "voice."

Laura Vookles, the museum's chief curator, describes this artistic synergy: "Each can be appreciated for its own merits and message, but to stand in the space, surrounded by these monumental photographs of the Border, listening to music that evokes the sounds of being in the desert near the wall, resonates on another level. We sense, as much as see and understand, what the human story of this landscape is and what the landscape is of this human story."

The interplay of natural and human elements are linked by the brutality of the wall and its impact on people and communities on both sides. In a sense, the wall connects the conceptual to creative expression, serving as a central theme and structural backbone of the exhibition.

The unique, hybrid musical instruments that Galindo builds for experimental compositions make reference to indigenous, pre-Columbian, Meso-American and world cultures. His recorded score for eight instruments loops intermittently, creating a sonic counterpoint to Misrach's large format photography. This juxtaposition invites visitors to enter and experience spaces that, although ephemeral and absent of people, are nonetheless filled with life—and death. The desert feels palpable, alive and balanced. Although most people will never go there, the works here provide



Composer Guillermo Galindo playing the stringed Effigy (Efigie) (photo courtesy of Hudson River Museum)

a glimpse of hard-edged realities and challenges that border-crossing migrants face. Audiences are subtly encouraged to think about the artificial nature of constructed barriers that are set in natural environments, and to consider the cultural divisiveness that results between “civilized” societies.

Galindo’s musical instruments are placed in the center of the gallery, surrounded by Misrach’s photographs. In a “concert” of desert timbres, tones and silences, the music conjures a shamanic ritual that echoes throughout the museum.

While the absence of people is explicit, in one photograph a human form appears obscured behind a steel curtain, outlining the shape of a young woman—essentially a shadow figure. The effect of this ghost-like silhouette suggests anonymity and the dehumanizing effects of border walls, the denial of a migrant’s dreams and the destructive impact on communities for both sides of *la frontera*.

The inherent energy in human objects, from a child’s teddy bear and discarded clothing to playing cards and CDs, from bone fragments and shell casings to Pedialyte bottles and more, all become totemic remnants of a nameless archeology, the detritus of human migration.



Shell Piñata (Piñata de casquillos) by Guillermo Galindo /Art Bridges
(photo courtesy of Hudson River Museum)

“In a sense, the wall connects the conceptual to creative expression, serving as a central theme and structural backbone of the exhibition.”

Misrach’s *Effigy 2* depicts three constructed figures standing before a passageway and overpass. Are they markers of a safe passage, or a warning? Whomever created and placed them, and what purpose they were intended for, is unclear and ambiguous. Misrach’s image raises more questions than it answers. Using the same materials, Galindo’s *Efigie* attaches steel strings across the raised arms and chest of Misrach’s figure to create a musical instrument that gives “voice” to the migrant sculpture.

As young men, Misrach and Galindo were both inspired by

the literature of Carlos Castaneda, whose narratives pointed to a spiritual cosmology of the desert and the many secrets contained in its mountains, rivers and wildlife. [Border Cantos | Sonic Border](#) similarly invokes this supernatural world, along with unknown lives and lived experiences of people in migration.

The intensity of this exhibition highlights what is artistically (and perhaps politically) possible when artists collaboratively create works that are simultaneously historical, representational and symbolic—artworks that cut across national, transnational, or “binational” borders and identities to express something utterly and totally human.

spotlight

2021 Himmel Award Honoree: *Darren Walker*

by Rocío De La Roca

“Art is not a privilege. Art is the soul of our civilization.” In 2017, Darren Walker delivered the annual “Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy” on Arts Advocacy Day.

He continued: “[Art is] the beating heart of our humanity; a miracle to which we all should bear witness, over and over again, in every home—from the most modest and humble to the grandest and well-fashioned.”

It is for that passion for the arts that Walker will be honored this month with Katonah Museum of Art’s (KMA) [2021 Himmel Award](#). The annual award and lecture, named for arts patron Betty Himmel, “honors creators, conceivers, radical thinkers and risk-takers that provoke new thinking in art and design.”

Walker, who has been president of the [Ford Foundation](#) since 2013, will be recognized for his leading role in supporting the arts through the lens of social justice. KMA Executive Director Michael Gitlitz explains: “Darren is not only one of the most accomplished leaders in the worlds of art and philanthropy, but also one of the great innovators in how we think about philanthropy’s role in affecting large-scale social justice.”

During the annual event, which will take place virtually this year via Zoom on April 3, Walker will discuss his experiences in the nonprofit field and his work with a foundation that focuses on addressing societal changes during current times of social and political crisis.

Walker has spent his career developing innovative ways to confront racial and financial inequity through the arts and philanthropy. Last year, the Ford Foundation became the first nonprofit in U.S. history to issue a \$1 billion social bond to raise funds for nonprofit organizations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Foundation, according to its statement, will use proceeds from its social bond to invest \$85 million in Black, Latinx, Asian and Indigenous arts organizations, many of which have historically limited resources.

Previously, Walker served as Vice President of Foundation Initiatives at the Rockefeller Foundation and as COO of the Abyssinian Development Corporation. He currently serves as a trustee of Carnegie Hall, New York City Ballet, the High Line and the Arcus Foundation.



Darren Walker (photo credit: Jake Chessum)

Virtuoso Violins Go Virtual



Virtuoso Violins performance by Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (photo source: chambermusicsociety.org)

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, [Friends of Music Concerts](#), like all performing groups, had to pause its live concert plans. In the fall, they reached an agreement with Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMS) to provide its audiences with limited-run streams of some of CMS's concerts, which feature internationally recognized chamber music performers.

From April 10 to 16, FMC will present a Chamber Music Society program called ["Virtuoso Violins."](#) The performance features three works performed by pianists Orion Weiss and Wu Han, violinists Francisco Fullana, Paul Huang, Sean Lee and Danbi Um, violist Matthew Lipman and cellist Clive Greensmith.

According to Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, here is why each of the compositions being performed are noteworthy:

Georg Philipp Telemann's *Concerto in D major for Four Violins*

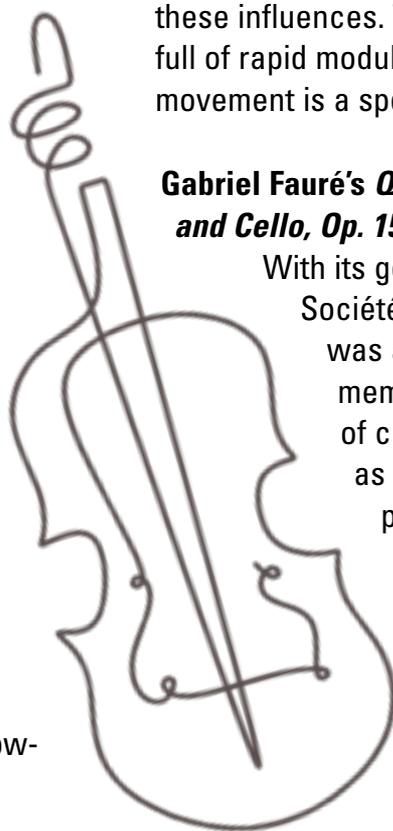
Baroque concertos usually included basso continuo, an accompaniment that provides the harmonies of the piece, but Telemann wrote about 80 pieces without continuo, including this one. The exact occasion and the reason for this particular instrumentation is unknown. The four movements, arranged slow-fast-slow-fast, capture Telemann's charm, grace and wit with warm harmonies and clever imitation.

Richard Strauss's *Sonata in E-flat major for Violin and Piano, Op. 18*

Violin Sonata was essentially Strauss's last word on abstract instrumental music [before shifting his focus to big, programmatic music]...It came at a pivotal time when Strauss was synthesizing all these influences. The two outer movements are impassioned pleas, full of rapid modulations and high flying melodies, while the middle movement is a spontaneous-sounding reflection.

Gabriel Fauré's *Quartet No. 1 in C minor for Piano, Violin, Viola, and Cello, Op. 15*

With its goal of promoting new French concert music, the Société Nationale de Musique in Paris, of which Fauré was a founder, gave a platform for him and his fellow members to focus on the previously-overlooked genre of chamber music from a French lens and promote it as part of Parisian cultural life. Fauré had a number of premieres at Société concerts, including this work, his first piano quartet...The standard line-up of movements—sonata, scherzo, slow movement, and energetic finale—is enhanced with modal twinges, colorful melodies, light textures and distinctive rhythms... With this piece...he finds his mature voice in the genre—a perfect marriage of rigorous form and French style.



spotlight

It's Time to Restart the Arts!

The arts are a vital source of economic revenue. However, in a recent study by ArtsWestchester, 87% of surveyed arts groups reported that they were not faring well during the pandemic. Meanwhile, two-thirds of local artists are unemployed. [ReStart the Arts](#) is an initiative put forth by ArtsWestchester's Affiliate Committee that calls on New York State officials to allocate one million dollars to the arts. If successful, funds would be distributed by ArtsWestchester to Westchester and Rockland County cultural organizations through a call for proposals. Residents can show support of the [#RestartTheArts](#) efforts on social media or [contacting their elected officials](#). *ArtsNews* asked local arts groups how they would use those funds to restart the arts.

We've been unable to produce anything live on stage. In order to restart the arts, we would like to present a virtual audio-visual, illustrated, bilingual children's book with music and sound effects.

– Holly Villaire, Producing Artistic Director,
Hamm & Clov Stage Company



Our earned revenue...was completely cut off at the beginning of the closure. It's time to get audiences safely back to our theater again. I'd like to restart the arts by upgrading the HVAC system in our historic theater.

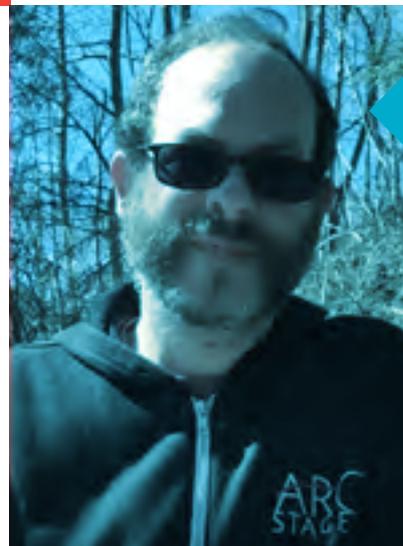
– Laura DeBuys, President and
Executive Director of the Picture House
Regional Film Center

We've had to cancel some concerts and presented many others virtually. This is a fine alternative, but not financially sustainable long-term. I want to restart the arts by creating a safe environment to return to live concerts so we can perform for our local community who need this uplifting music now more than ever.

– Erica Kelly, Executive Director, New Choral
Society of Central Westchester

Restarting the arts would enable us to transform an outdoor lot into a storytelling garden for our young people to learn and grow together again in a post-pandemic creative, cultural and educational context.

– Brooklyn Demme, Interim Executive Director, Youth
Theatre Interactions



We're planning to reopen our theater space in October. That's going to mean upgrading the ventilation of our HVAC system, adding sanitizing protocols and finding the upfront money for the productions after the year we've had.

– Adam Cohen, Artistic Director,
Arc Stages

The pandemic forced us to cut short our programs and events and adapt to the new reality. We provide a major source of income for teaching artists, who in turn suffered a major impact when our programming ceased. I want to restart the arts by kicking our outreach initiatives back into high gear.

– Adam Levi, Executive Director, Rye Arts Center

We are seeing “For Lease” signs all over our beautiful county of Rockland. With ReStart the Arts, we would use the funds for marketing so that people will come to the beautiful town of Nyack and the county of Rockland, and they will spend money with our small businesses.

– Craig Smith, Phoenix Theater Ensemble (Nyack)

We’ve had to furlough and dismiss a large portion of our team, leaving us with a handful of very dedicated employees trying to do the jobs of many more...I can help restart the arts by providing our community with live and virtual programming that is challenging, hopeful, inspiring and thought-provoking.

– Michael Hoagland, Executive Director, Bedford Playhouse



When isolation forced our writing program for kids onto the virtual platform, it drew kids from far outside of Greenburgh. I want to restart the arts with in-person workshops, and virtual ones for creative young writers whose parents, for various reasons, can’t get them to in-person workshops.

– Sarah Bracey White, Executive Director, Greenburgh Arts Committee



It’s been a very tough year. If we had support from ReStart the Arts, we would love to provide a series of public community concerts in lots of different locations. These would be performed by our faculty members and our students.

– Jean Newton, Executive Director, Music Conservatory of Westchester

This pandemic has presented us with so many challenges. We need to restart the arts. That way, filmgoers, students, teachers, filmmakers, people of all ages and backgrounds can have access to our vibrant programs regardless of their ability to pay.

– Daniela Velez, Manager of Institutional Giving, Jacob Burns Film Center

We will restart the arts by bringing back our concert season in one form or another again. With additional funding, our musicians, who have not been able to earn an income, will be able to form beautiful music again for our Westchester community.

– David Restivo, Co-Executive Director, Chappaqua Orchestra

When I was a boy, I was very taken by the subject of magic. It’s astonishing when something disappears before your very eyes. Of course, in order for the magic trick to work, it has to reappear. Right now, all of our theaters, arts organizations, museums and dance companies have disappeared. In order to make them reappear, you are charged with giving a million dollars to revive the arts. I beg you to do this.

– Bram Lewis, Artistic Director, Schoolhouse Theater

National Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month and Westchester has fully embraced the art of the poem. Westchester County recently named its inaugural [Poet Laureate, BK Fischer](#), and several organizations in the County are offering robust poetry-related programming. Flip through these pages for some highlights.

Giving Poetry a Platform

“The global pandemic has made us all aware of the importance of the arts in each of our lives,” says Jennifer Franklin, Director of Programming at [Hudson Valley Writers Center](#) (HVWC).

On April 10, HVWC, along with [Masters School](#), is hosting the [10th Annual Westchester Poetry Festival](#). However, things will look a bit different this year. The festival is trading in its podium for its webcam, presenting a robust lineup of poets virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Six authors will read from their most recent collections.

Readings from students will also be featured at the event. Masters School Librarian Judy Murphy explains: “During this time of isolation, expression is especially vital for our students. Poetry and spoken words are tools to give voice.”

The Festival’s keynote speaker is Reginald Dwayne Betts, whose most recent collection, *Felon*, is an unapologetically honest look at life in and after prison. His poems simultaneously encapsulate the injustices experienced during his time of incarceration while also working to dismantle that same system through the J.D., and soon-to-be-Ph.D., from Yale Law School that he obtained since his release.

Says Franklin: “The Masters School and the Hudson Valley Writers Center are dedicated to diversity, outreach and access in the literary arts. We are excited to welcome a diverse group of voices that have been commanding national attention in the poetry world and beyond.”

Betts will be joined by five other acclaimed poets, who will each read from their most recent collections:

Leila Chatti, a Tunisian-American dual citizen, celebrated her debut full-length collection *“Deluge”* (Copper Canyon Press) this past year.

Aaron Coleman, a Fulbright Scholar from Metro-Detroit, saw his debut collection, *“Threat Come Close,”* published by Four Way Books in 2018.

Tyree Daye from Youngsville, North Carolina is the author of two poetry collections, including *“Cardinal”* from Copper Canyon Press, published in 2020.

Sean Singer of Ossining is the author of several collections, including 2015’s *Honey & Smoke* (Eyewear Publishing).

Margo Taft Stever, a Sleepy Hollow poet, is founder of the Hudson Valley Writers Center and founding and current co-editor of Slapering Hol Press. Her poetry collections include *Cracked Piano* (CavanKerry Press, 2019).

Blood History

A poem by Reginald Dwayne Betts

The things that abandon you get remembered different. As precise as the English language can be, with words like *penultimate* and *perseverate*, there is not a combination of sounds that describe only that leaving. Once, drinking & smoking with buddies, a friend asked if I'd longed for a father. Had he said wanted, I would have dismissed him in the way that youngins dismiss it all: a shrug, sarcasm, a jab to the stomach, laughter. But he said longing. & in a different place, I might have wept. Said, once, my father lived with us & then he didn't & it fucked me up so much I never thought about his leaving until I held my own son in my arms & only now speak on it. A man who drank Boone's Farm & Mad Dog like water once told me & some friends that there is no word for father where he comes from, not like we know it. *There, the word father is the same as the word for listen.* The blunts we passed around let us forget our tongues. Not that much though. But what if the old head knew something? & if you have no father, you can't hear straight. Years later, another friend wondered why I named my son after my father. *You know, that's a thing turn your life to a prayer that no dead man gonna answer.*

From *Felon*. Copyright © 2019 by Reginald Dwayne Betts.



National Poetry Month

Poetry Does Not Live in a Vacuum

by Megan Thomson Connor

By April, the frost has melted, there are buds on the trees and Bethany Arts Community (BAC) is abuzz with poetry. The organization offers a full array of [poetry-related programming](#) this month. BAC's Executive Director Abigail Lewis says: "We see poetry as a medium that helps to sustain us during these trying times. It can provide solace and a means of processing our emotions and experiences. It is a tool that helps us to understand each other in ways that are easily accessible to young and old alike."

However, the poetry presented at the BAC this spring does not live in a vacuum. The programs all explore the literary art form alongside other art forms, such as illustration and photography. The in-person exhibit ["Rochelle Udell to Pablo Neruda with Gratitude,"](#) on view through April 28, is a prime example of this duality. Rochelle Udell is an Ossining-based artist and speaker whose exhibit will focus on all twenty-four of poet Pablo Neruda's "Las Odas/The Odes" as well as the objects those poems highlight.

A Chilean poet and diplomat, Neruda's odes to socks, a bar of soap, a bed, a cat (the list goes on) may read less strangely to some during these times in which gratitude for the little things has become a national mantra. Throughout the pandemic, many have gained an appreciation for the simple objects that have provided comfort in these uncertain times – or have even kept them company through various Zoom meetings, in their work-from-home desks and chairs. On April 6, Udelle will lead an artist



The Ghost Chair by Rochelle Udell (image courtesy of the artist)

talk via Zoom titled "[Where Do You Sit in Life?](#)" which is inspired by Neruda's "Ode to a Chair."

Simultaneously on view is "[Lado a Lado: Side by Side](#)," an exhibit of literature and art created through a partnership between BAC and Ossining Children's Center.

Teaching artist and art historian Dr. Jill Keifer will lead an online talk, "[Collaborations: Words & Images](#)," on April 9 via Zoom, which examines "significant collaborations between wordsmiths and painters—from medieval times to the present day." For those who wish to dig deeper, Keifer will also teach a four-week virtual course on the topic. "[When Arts Collide](#)" focuses on four examples of how new experiences are born when art and literature collide. These examples include Sandro Botticelli: The Drawings for Dante's *Divine Comedy*, Henri Matisse: *Florilège Des Amours De Ronsard*, Salvador Dali's *Alice in Wonderland Suite*, and Matt Kish's *One Drawing for Every Page of Moby-Dick*. All of these projects could be read as odes in themselves. Self-taught artist Matt Kish's willingness to dedicate 18 months to creating 522 illustrations based on a line from each page of Melville's classic novel shows that the inspiration between the two mediums goes both ways.

During an April 18 webinar, "[An Interpretation of the Real: Poetry & Photography](#)," Westchester poet Iain Halley Pollock and

photographer David Flores will confer with Rachel Eliza Griffiths and Marcus Jackson, both practicing poets and photographers, as they consider the intersection of poetry and photography and how one can inform the other.

After the discussion and a reading by Griffiths and Jackson, an [additional workshop](#) with Griffiths, Jackson and Pollock will use photographic images to help generate poems and/or poetic images. After writing for an hour, those participants will have the opportunity to share their work with the group.

Towards the end of the month, seven poets will flock to BAC's scenic 25-acre campus for its [first-ever poetry residency](#). Erika Meitner, Gemma Cooper-Novack, Jake Goldwasser, Nicole Callihan, Jason Schneiderman, Pichchenda Bao and Rachael Philipps Shapiro. Some of these poets have already begun planning events for the public. On April 28, Pichchenda Bao intends to lead an in-person workshop that "will explore the impulse to create and the ways in which we may recognize and not recognize poetry and art as such."

Lewis says: "As a community organization, we are eager for members of the

community to envision and create programs that take shape within our campus. National Poetry Month is a great example of how this can work."



Artwork from Ossining Children's Center (image courtesy of Bethany Arts Community)

spotlight

National Poetry Month

A Poet For All People

Iconic poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti passed away recently at 101 years of age. Though his career is largely associated with San Francisco, the poet was born in Yonkers, spent time in a Chappaqua orphanage, and then lived with a foster family in Bronxville during his youth.

Ferlinghetti is lauded for his own poetic works, most notably his first collection of poems, *A Coney Island of the Mind*. However, he is perhaps most often credited with helping to usher in the Beat movement of the 1950s. This is mainly because he was a co-founder of the famous City Lights Bookstore in California, in addition to its publishing arm, which printed works by Allen Ginsberg (*Howl*), William S. Burroughs (*Naked Lunch*), Jack Kerouac (*On the Road*), and many other notable writers.

Ferlinghetti championed poetry and the arts, which he believed should be accessible to all, not only those who are wealthy or highly educated.



Lawrence Ferlinghetti (photo via Wikimedia Commons)

ARTSWESTCHESTER | VIRTUAL EVENT

ARTS AWARD CELEBRATION

Wed., April 7, | 6pm

★ HONORING ★



Hon. Benjamin Boykin II
PRESIDENT'S AWARD



Vinnie Bagwell
ARTIST AWARD



The Westchester Chordsmen
ARTS ORGANIZATION AWARD



**The Village of Sleepy
Hollow Wishing Wall**
COMMUNITY AWARD



**Jazz Forum Arts:
Jitterbugs Program**
SOPHIA ABELES ARTS
EDUCATION AWARD



Dr. Judith Schwartz
EMILY & EUGENE GRANT
ARTS PATRON AWARD



Elijah Goodwin
LARRY SALLEY
PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD

Watch the virtual event on our website at artsw.org/artsaward

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Contact Ann Fabrizio at afabrizio@artswestchester.org or visit artsw.org/artsaward

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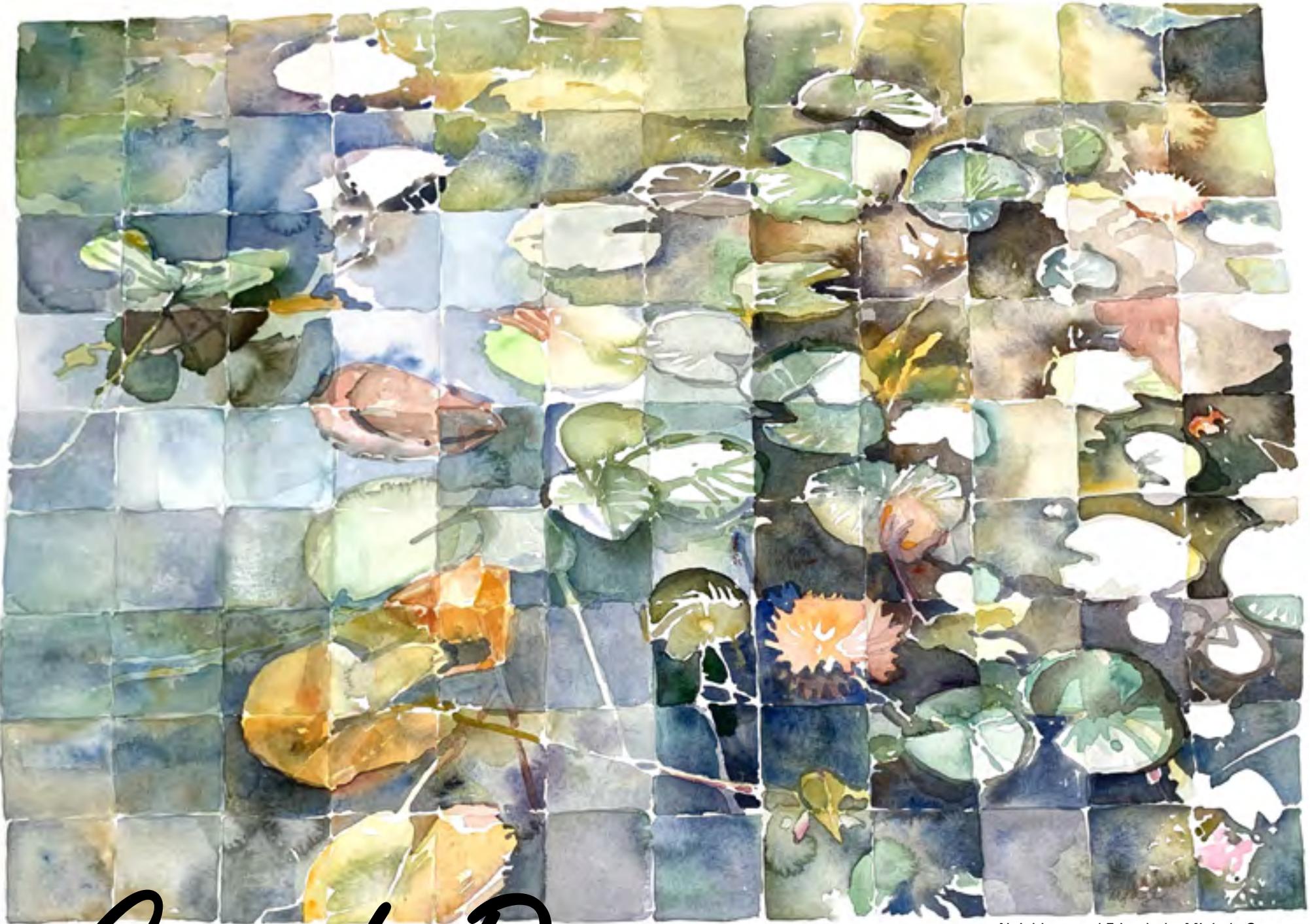
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Neighbors and Friends by Michele Gage

Covid Diary

One year since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, ArtsWestchester will reopen its gallery doors with *Together apART: Creating During COVID*, an intimate look at how the pandemic has changed the lives of its communities. Specifically, it will examine the many ways in which people in Westchester have turned to creative outlets for comfort, expression and company. ArtsWestchester put out a call for artworks created during the pandemic. In return, it received more than 500 submissions in all media, from painting and choreography to film and sculpture.

These poems, in addition to the artwork that accompany them on these pages, will all be exhibited in *Together apART*, which will open to the public on May 7 with a parallel virtual presentation.

Waiting

I knit a blanket for my unborn grandson,
like exiled Circe with her loom though I have
no potent herbs, no nymphs or naiads
to keep me company. I have rabbits by the handful,
weed-choked flowers, my body's constant hum
of skin waiting to be touched.

Hydrangeas flattened by weighty rain
will rise in the sun. Grief can only last
so long before I am buoyed by a child
saying she's excited for marshmallows
and fireworks. We will float together
on today until her father comes back.

Sitting low in a kayak, my friend and I dip
paddles in choppy water, the pleasure of muscles
waking up while the day goes to rest.
We talk of how to love our daughters
from a distance, how to be safe on the river,
navigating fishermen, freighters, families.

A squirrel chews through my screen
to reach its peach reward while the dog jumps
out another screen, the leap itself his goal.
I try to sniff the future, to find ripe fruit.

- Robin Dellabough

Touch

- for TG

Houses with spalling walls gaze
upon us, creaky doors askew, decades
of memory in rippled windows.
Sugar maples too old for taps
and spiles strew our path with roots
like tangled hanks of rope.
Ivy reads the braille of a stone wall.
A lone iris – bud still furled – tries
not to wither before it flowers.
We enter the cemetery, monuments
to remember two centuries of mothers,
fathers, soldiers, children, and here –
among scattered mounds too fresh
for headstones – you lie alone. Even now,
we cannot touch you to say goodbye.

- James K. Zimmerman

Photographs

I've never been much on photographs
When I was young
and even now in my vintage years
I am hard to see
But in the days, I envision my image
head thrown back
mouth wide open
heart covered in joy
I came up in a day where
children were taught
be seen, not heard
I have lived long enough
to like the way I look and
the multiplicity of my words
I lift my head and celebrate
the beauty of mi boca grande
the sound of laughter in my throat
and the sienna of my skin

- Jacqui Reason

spotlight

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.

This month, Marsha is focusing her lens on this year's Academy Award-nominated films in advance of the awards show on April 25.

To read more of Marsha's reviews of this year's Academy Award-nominees, [click here](#).



Nomadland

Frances McDormand once again gives an incredible performance... this time as a woman who takes to the road as a nomad following the closure of the company plant and the loss of her husband. The movie really shows the life of its characters. You feel their loneliness. You share their relationships. You feel their pain. McDormand makes this all happen. But be warned: this is an extremely depressing, slow film. Watch at the potential expense of your mental health. Thumbs up for acting and being a well-done movie.

The Trial of Chicago 7

What a chilling movie: a reenactment of a trial that defined a time in American history – a 1969 trial during which a group of antiwar protest organizers were tried on the conspiracy to incite a riot. It was a reminder of the divided times in our country. It jogged memories of the history many of us lived through. An excellent film delivered by director Aaron Sorkin with outstanding performances throughout. Two thumbs up.

Mank

The story of the making of a great American movie, *Citizen Kane*. Great acting by Gary Oldman. The movie really gave a sense of 1930s Hollywood – the writers, stars, owners are all interestingly presented in black and white... However, I had a difficult time connecting with this one. My husband adds that this was an interesting character study showing the power of the Hollywood moguls, the control of actors and writers, and how speaking your mind then could cost you your career. It was more of a “thumbs up” for him than me.

Minari

Looks like we just might have another South Korean film as an Academy Award winner! This one could not be more American – the film truly signifies the American dream. A Korean family settling out west, sight unseen, with two young children. They work in a chicken hatchery checking for the sex of the chickens to support the family, but all to pursue the father's dream of growing Korean vegetables to support the Korean community. That's the story. But what we are really shown are the hardships, frustration, marital conflicts, the children's struggle – the *realities* of their lives. The roughness of farming, physically, emotionally and practically at the mercy of the land and the weather. Then there is Grandma – spunky, cursing, loving and fun – who enters the family life without everyone's arms fully open. She is a delight. This film so beautifully showcases this Asian American family's contributions and pursuit of the American dream.



John Sullivan: ArtsWestchester's *Architect-in-Residence*

by Cameron Bock

In downtown White Plains, located at the corner of Martine and Mamaroneck Avenues, ArtsWestchester is nestled between vibrant shops, malls and apartment buildings. However, inside its walls, the colors of White Plains come to life. Thirty creative tenants call ArtsWestchester "home" for their artistic ventures, establishing themselves as experts in their craft, whether fabric art, design, photography or sculpting.

Sullivan Architecture is one of these tenants, having occupied space in the building for nearly two decades. In fact, the firm headlined the restoration of the **historic landmark building** when it was purchased by ArtsWestchester in 1998. Over the years, the firm has helped ArtsWestchester to develop plans for its building, including the remodeling of its first and second floor galleries and ninth floor conference space.

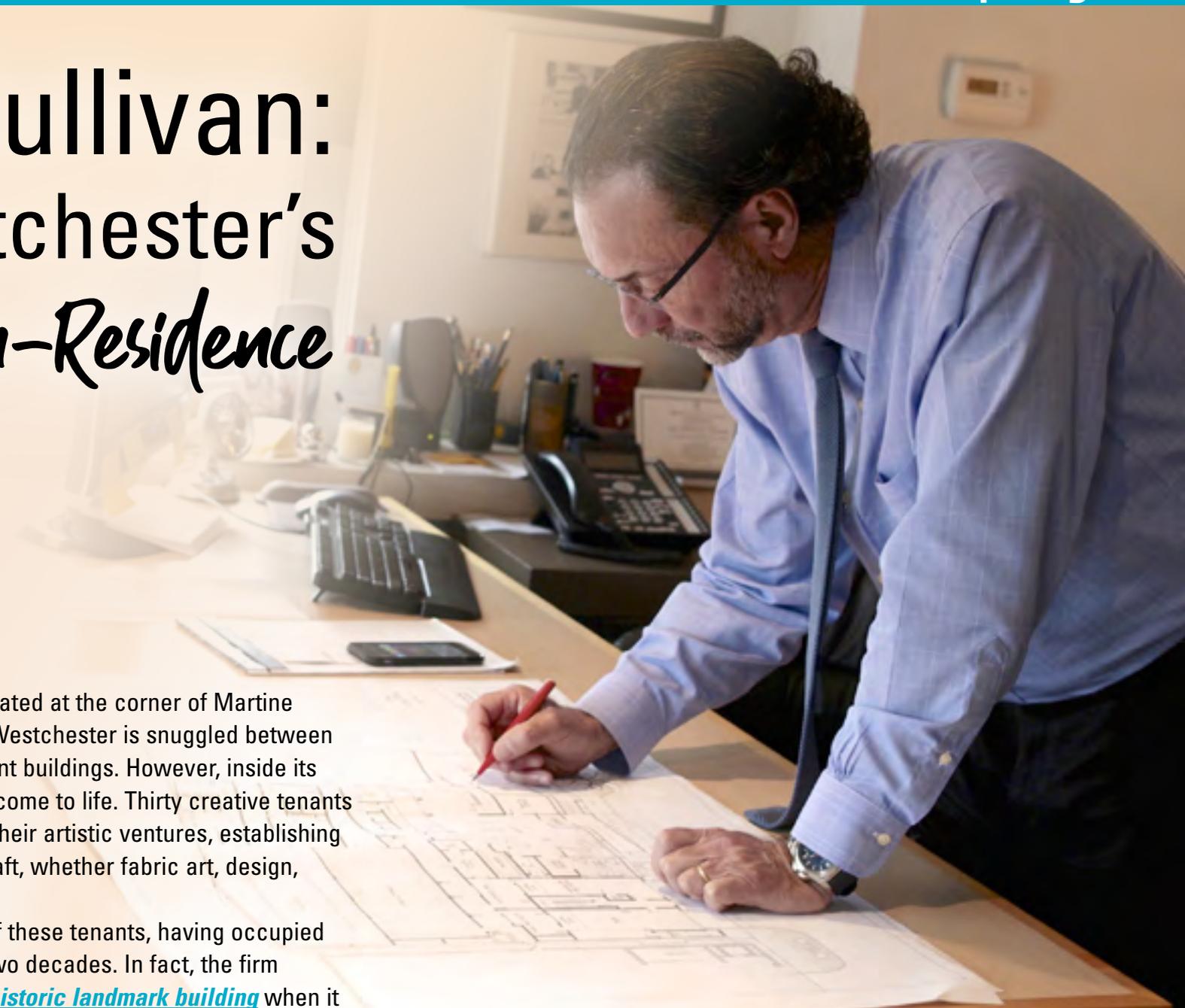
John Sullivan, Principal and Founder of Sullivan Architecture, is an esteemed professional in his industry. His firm has used its artistic vision and business expertise to beautify its local community, including current projects like the new YMCA early learning center and the North White Plains Community Center. With his team's involvement in these projects, Sullivan has observed growing trends and has hope for the future: "Westchester continues to be a desirable community for both living and business, even during the pandemic." This insight has allowed him and his team to remain at the forefront of future development in the County.

Behind the blueprints and floorplans, Sullivan's artistic vision is put to work on every project that comes across the firm's drafting tables. "Our staff thrives [when it comes to] addressing the needs of each

client individually through creative design solutions." It is the solid foundation of a team such as this that has thrust Sullivan Architecture into 2021, with future projects like the Pound Ridge Fire Department.

Despite the work-from-home policies implemented last year, Sullivan's team has been gradually visiting the office, acknowledging the importance of team collaboration. The central location of their office in ArtsWestchester's 31 Mamaroneck Avenue building, allows the team to gather in their newly designed offices, order from nearby restaurants that were all but abandoned during the pandemic, and support its community in finding a way to return to normal. Sullivan Architecture moved into the ArtsWestchester building two decades ago and "plan[s] to stay there for another four decades, at least."

John Sullivan (photo via ArtsWestchester archives)



spotlight

Funding Opportunities

from ArtsWestchester

Open Grant Opportunity: Voices For Change

ArtsWestchester recently announced the launch of a major new competitive artist grant program, [Voices for Change](#), in which three artists or arts collectives will each be awarded grants of \$10,000 to propose and actualize new works. Mid-Hudson Valley artists working in all disciplines are invited to submit proposals for work that encourages deep thinking about complex issues such as social justice, civic equity and the public good. Proposals should also include a collaboration with a service or cultural community-based organization.

[Deadline: April 14.](#)

Funding Opportunities for Yonkers and Mount Vernon Artists and Arts Groups

ArtsWestchester is now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 Mount Vernon & Yonkers Arts Initiative grant opportunities. These initiatives are designed to help local artists and nonprofit arts and culture organizations in Yonkers and Mount Vernon to create new work, build capacity and contribute to their city's community-building and economic development efforts.

[Deadline: April 6.](#)



Applications Now Open for Arts Alive Grants

The [Arts Alive grant](#) category is one of ArtsWestchester's most effective. County's geographically, economically and ethnically diverse population throughout Westchester and Rockland have access to the arts, particu

There are three distinct Arts Alive funding opportunities:

ARTS ALIVE PROJECT GRANT: These grants support community-based arts and cultural projects developed by cultural groups and organizations, individual artists and collectives.

ARTS ALIVE ARTIST GRANT: These grants support the creation and presentation of new work by professional artists. An essential element of this funding is the inclusion of a community engagement component.

ARTS ALIVE ARTS EDUCATION GRANT: These grants support lifelong learning in the arts. Funded activities may take place in classrooms, after-school programs or community sites such as agencies that serve people with disabilities, or daycare and senior centers.

The 2021 cycle of Arts Alive support arts and culture projects happening between July 1 and December 31, 2021. [The deadline for application is April 21.](#)



(photo by 2019 Art Alive grantee Sandra Wong Geroux, artwork courtesy of the artist)

ve means of supporting arts activity for Westchester and Rockland n. This funding opportunity helps to ensure that residents larly in areas where access is limited.



2020 Arts Alive grantee Rebecca Thomas's A Palo Seco (photo courtesy of the artist)

Demonstrating Random Acts of Sweetness for Local Artists



Ethan Sutton

“Acts of kindness show us that positive things can be done during negative times,” says high schooler Ethan Sutton. “People can still do impactful acts for others.”

It is with that call to compassion that Sutton turned his focus toward helping artists in Westchester. “I am a filmmaker and my family has always supported the arts,” he explains.

Sutton says that when he heard about ArtsWestchester’s [Artist Relief Fund](#), which awards grants of \$500 to artists who have been negatively affected by the pandemic, and read the statistics

about the devastating impact of the pandemic on the arts community, he wanted to help. He formed a website and [GoFundMe account](#), “Ethan’s Random Acts of Sweetness,” and named ArtsWestchester’s Relief Fund as the beneficiary of any monies raised.

Pointing to the fact that 63% of American artists are now unemployed, Sutton’s GoFundMe page explains that “Westchester County is home to many struggling artists who are unable to pay for rent, food, medical visits and the supplies they need to continue making the art that shapes the American culture we know and enjoy today.”

In addition to raising funds for artists, Sutton is encouraging and rewarding other acts of kindness. “I took on baking as a hobby during the pandemic, inspired by my family’s passed-down recipes.” Sutton explains that anyone who submits evidence of an act of kindness during the pandemic will be entered into a lottery for the chance to win some of his homemade baked goods.

The submitted kind acts will also be posted to the dedicated [Facebook](#) account he created for the project. “I want people to enjoy my baked goods as much as my family does, so this will be another way of demonstrating a random act of kindness.”

His favorite thing to bake? “Chocolate maple babka.”

spotlight

More Landmark Public Art Planned for White Plains at One Lyon Place



One Lyon Place in White Plains

Future residents of One Lyon Place in White Plains will find themselves in a distinctive home surrounded by the arts. The property's developer, the Beitel Group and nearby neighbor ArtsWestchester have partnered on a comprehensive vision that integrates public art by regional artists into every facet of the One Lyon Place lifestyle, from landmark works on the exterior to a rotating exhibition program. Currently under construction, the property will feature 212 rental units across two buildings that are located just steps away from the retail, dining, and creative heart of White Plains.

Teaching Artist Opportunity

ArtsWestchester seeks professional artists based in the New York Tri-State for its Teaching Artists roster. When grants are available, Westchester-based schools and community sites partner with teaching artists to develop a creative and educational experience for their specific population. As a result, participating artists are able to strengthen their networks, use their art form as a teaching tool and continue their artistic endeavors.

Opportunities to teach in-person and virtually are possible at various County-based sites. [Deadline: April 30.](#)

New Arts Leadership in Westchester

Caramoor Appoints President and CEO Edward J. Lewis III

[Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts](#) recently announced the

appointment of Edward J. Lewis III as its President and CEO. Lewis, who has almost two decades of experience in performing arts leadership, is currently Vice Chancellor for Advancement the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. He is also an accomplished violist who has been a member of the Dallas Opera and Dallas Chamber Orchestras. Lewis says of Caramoor:

"Together, we will focus on enhancing its distinctive setting and world-class performances to ensure that Caramoor is a place that reflects a broad and inclusive sense of community and that delights both artists and audiences." Lewis was previously Senior Director of Development at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland, College Park.



Edward J. Lewis III (photo credit: Wayne Reich)



Tracy Fitzpatrick

Interim Leadership at The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College

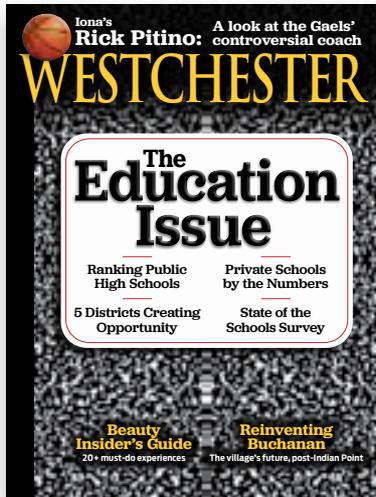
Tracy Fitzpatrick, Director of the Neuberger Museum of Art, has temporarily assumed the role of Interim Managing Director of [The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College](#). With 17 years of experience at the College, Fitzpatrick will help to oversee The PAC until new leadership is appointed. In addition to

presenting a broad range of virtual events and content for its community throughout the pandemic, The PAC has also operated as a safe learning space for the school's performing arts students, and as a resource for its educators. It is also serving as the main COVID testing site on campus. The PAC will continue in these roles until socially distanced performing arts classes are no longer needed at the Campus.

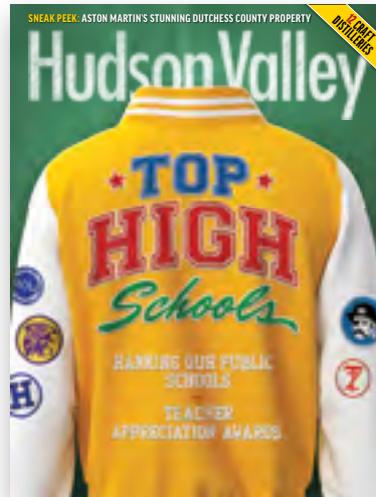
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- **When Arts Collide – Online Course:** April 14-May at 10am
- **Poetry Reading & Talk: An Interpretation of the Real:** April 18 at 1pm

For more events at Bethany Art Community, [click here](#).

Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts offers a variety of music and family programs.

- Livestream Concerts include **Schwab Vocal Rising Stars** (April 1 at 7pm), **Son Little** (April 9 at 8pm), **Thalea String Quartet** (April 11 at 3pm), **Emi Ferguson and Ruckus** (April 25 at 3pm)
- Virtual Event - **Caramoor Conversations: The Bartók String Quartets (Part Two)**: April 18 at 3pm

Center for the Digital Arts at Westchester Community College will host classes online and via remote learning. The Center offers digital arts education, including animation, Adobe Suite, Business for Freelancing, and more.

Clay Art Center is open for on-site visits and open studio sessions by appointment (**IN PERSON**). The Center also offers virtual classes, artist lectures and demonstrations, as well as a virtual and in-person exhibition, **Balanced Beauty**, featuring porcelain works by Martha Grover (**IN PERSON**).

- **Virtual Artist Demo with Hayne Bayless:** April 8 at 7pm
- **Virtual Artist Talk with Paul Andrew Wandless:** April 22 at 7pm

Color Camera Club of Westchester will be presenting photographic programs via Zoom. Audiences can also visit the photography club's website to view an exhibit of images from its members.

colorcameraclub.com

- Glenn Bartley: Bird Photography Simplified: April 5 at 7:30pm
- Ron Landis: Judging Photography: April 26 at 7:30pm

Concordia Conservatory will present the final concert of its Hoch Chamber Music Series 2020-21 season on April 17 at 7pm. The virtual concert will feature the music of jazz composer John Patitucci and selections by Franz Schubert.

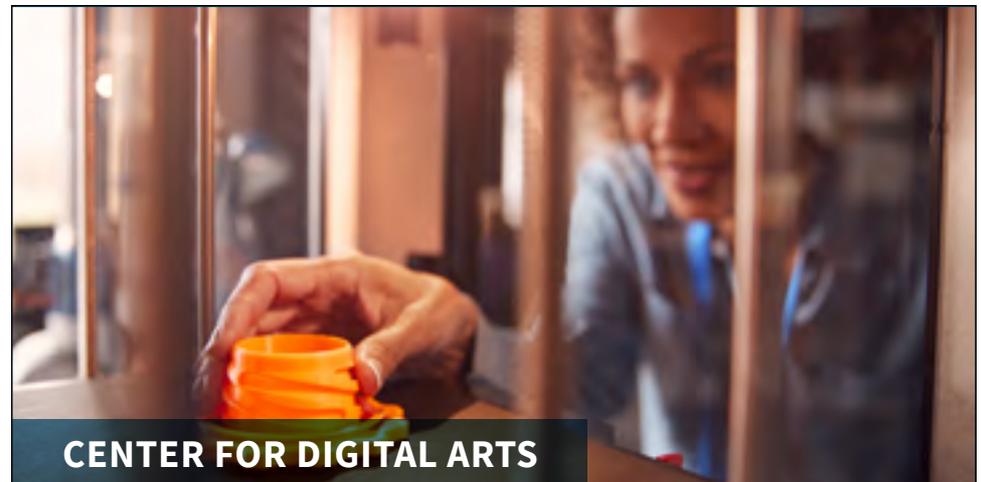
Copland House launched **Cultivated Spaces**, a new virtual series that premieres new works commissioned for its Cultivate emerging composers institute. Copland's virtual performance and conversation series, **UNDERScoreD**, continues to offer premieres, revivals and classics by American composers.

- **Cultivated Spaces:** *Slow Cancellation* by Sunbin Kim (April 13), *Between the Lines* by Scott Lee (April 20), *new cosmologies* by inti figgis-vizueta (April 20) at 5pm
- **UNDERScoreD: Quintet for Piano and Strings (1908)** by Amy Beach

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upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities



"Evenings of Dance in Westchester" performance series presented by Ballet des Amériques, 4/17-5/16 (photo courtesy of Ballet des Amériques)

Downtown Music at Grace is broadcasting its noon concerts of chamber music and a variety of genres on its [YouTube page](#).

- Virtual Concerts, all at 12:15pm, include: Work O' the Weavers (April 7), The Manhattan Chamber Players (April 14), pianist Yiyang Niu (April 21), Cocomama Trio with Anton Denner (April 28)

Emelin Theatre is presenting a diverse roster of virtual events, including its seasonal Film Club.

Friends of Music Concerts will offer a recording of Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Virtuoso Violins on April 10-16. The musicians will perform works by Telemann, Strauss and Fauré.

Greenburgh Arts and Culture Committee will host its Kids Short Story Connection series of Zoom writing workshops. Young writers aged 10-17 will work in a virtual, roundtable setting to develop their creativity, improve old stories and write new ones. For more information, contact Sarah Bracey White, (914) 682-1574 or via email at bracey0114@aol.com.

The Ground Glass presents *The Written Word*, an online exhibition featuring photographs that expresses and interprets the written media in daily lives. The group's online photography exhibition, *Abstractions*, is also still on view. thegroundglass.org

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.

Harrison Public Library will present **Cerealism**, a virtual art exhibition that features the cubist mosaic cereal box collages of Michael Albert. The library also hosts 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.

Hoff-Barthelson Music School offers a **virtual Master Class Series**, which consists of class coaching by guest artists, world-class musicians and educators.

- Jazz Master Class: Ralph Bowen: April 8 at 7pm
- Compose Yourself! Project with Andrea Clearfield & Saad Haddad: April 10 at 1:15pm
- Master Classes: Pianist Spencer Myer (April 24 at 2pm), Violinist Calvin Wiersma (April 29 at 7pm)

for more arts events, visit artsw.org

Hudson River Museum presents *Border Cantos | Sonic Border*, a collaboration between photographer Richard Misrach and sculptor and composer Guillermo Galindo that addresses the humanitarian situation at the wall between the U.S. and Mexico (**IN PERSON**). Also on view: *Librado Romero (IN PERSON) and Landscape Art & Virtual Travel: Highlights from the Collections of the HRM and Art Bridges (IN PERSON)*. Museum Hours: Thurs-Sun: 12–5pm.

Hudson Stage Company will host a free virtual staged reading of an original one-act play by Kavin Panmeechao on April 17 at 8pm. The play is an existential comedy about a fictional superhero organization.

Hudson Valley Museum of Contemporary Art is reopened by appointment, with an expanded exhibition of *How We Live*. Virtual tours, 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
- *Writing the Walls*, original poetry in response to the art works in *How We Live*, in collaboration with Studio Theater in Exile: Ongoing

Hudson Valley Writers Center will present free readings throughout the month. A series of classes and readings, all online, are open for registration. For a complete list, visit writerscenter.org.

- *Virtual Poetry Reading*: April 7 at 7pm
- *10th Annual Westchester Poetry Festival* April 10 at 3pm (Zoom)
- *Nonfiction Writing Workshop via Zoom*: April 18 at 12:30pm
- *Virtual Prose Reading*: April 28 at 7pm

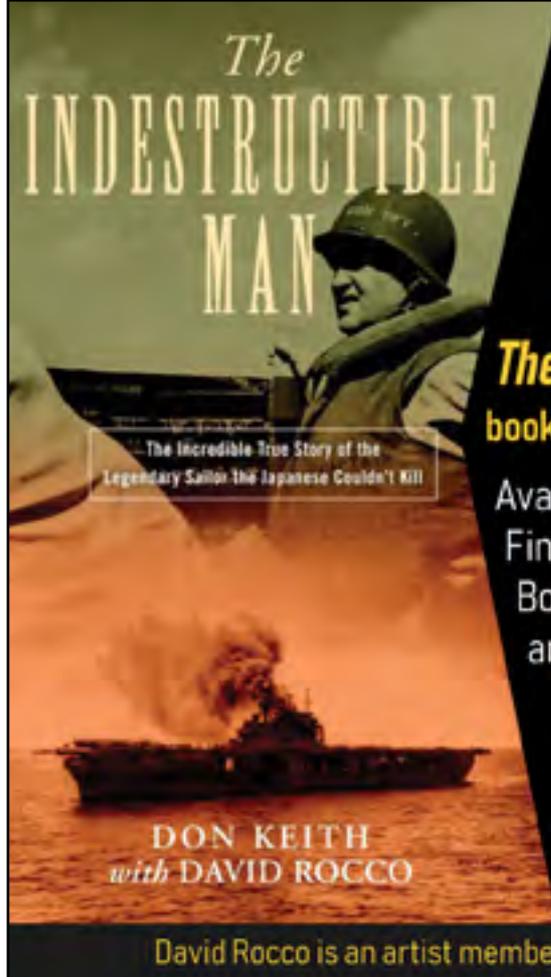
For more programs from Hudson Valley Writers Center, [click here](#).

Irvington Theater will stream a *one-woman show* by J. Elaine Marcos, who reveals her rule-breaking approach to auditioning while retracing her unique journey of crossing casting barriers to find success on stage and screen. The show will be available online from April 28-30.

Jacob Burns Film Center will reopen on April 30. In celebration, JBFC will display "Projecting Light Through Darkness," an outdoor light installation through April 27 (**IN PERSON**). The center also continues to screen new releases and repertory films in its [Virtual Screening Room](#).

Jazz Forum Arts continues its *Jazz Forum @ Home* virtual concert series on Facebook Live every Saturday at 7pm, and *Jitterbugs @ Home*, which provides online jazz classes for kids aged 2-5.

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



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David Rocco is an artist member of ArtsWestchester.

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upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities

Katonah Museum of Art is displaying *Still/Live*, an exhibition that explores how contemporary artists working in photography, video, and new media are reimagining the genre of still life (**IN PERSON**). Admission is by advance reservation. Hours: Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm, and Sun: 12-5pm.

- **Himmel Award and Conversation:** April 3 at 5:30pm via Zoom

Lyndhurst Mansion offers winter grounds passes to the property between the hours of 10am and 3pm as the property closes at 4pm (**IN PERSON**). [Purchase passes here](#). Its online *Voices of the Landscape* exhibition is also available on its website.

Mamaroneck Artists Guild (MAG) will present its annual *Open Juried Small Works Show*, which will include original work in any media. *Urban Nature*, a collaborative exhibition of works that contrast urban, suburban and natural environments is also on view through May 2.

- **MAG Workshop Series: Art Critique Sessions:** April 6 & 20 at 11am, April 7 & 21 at 5.30pm



Detail of *Trix (The Pilgrim)* by Michael Albert, on view in Harrison Public Library's virtual Cerealism exhibition, through 4/30 (image courtesy of Harrison Public Library)

Applications Open: Young Adult Leadership Council

ArtsWestchester is seeking qualified youth to join its Young Adult Leadership Council. The Council, which will take place from October 2021 through May 2022, will meet twice monthly to plan, evaluate, attend and promote ArtsWestchester's teen programming, including its Teen Tuesdays & Thursdays program. Participating young adults, aged 17-22 will also learn career and college readiness skills. The Council will be comprised of 15 youth, each of whom will serve multiple years for a maximum of 3 years.

Deadline: August 13.

Music Conservatory of Westchester will offer in-person tours and virtual meetings by appointment this April. Families will have the opportunity to tour with the Conservatory's expert staff and get to know the renowned community music school.

Neuberger Museum of Art is open to the public and presents new exhibitions featuring works from the museum's collections: *African Art and Culture, Then and Now: Modern and Contemporary Selections and Color and Motion, Ideas and Dreams: Modern and Contemporary Caribbean and South American Art*. Pre-recorded 20-minute guided meditations are available on its website, as well as weekly art-related projects and activities for kids.

- Wellness Wednesday: Guided Meditation: **April 14 & 28** at 1pm

New Choral Society will stream a performance of *Fauré's Requiem in D minor, Op. 48* with organ, strings and harp accompaniment. The program premieres April 30 at 8pm and will be available through May.

Oak & Oil Gallery will display *Spring Greeting*, a new series of contemporary florals and light drenched landscapes by painter Cynthia Mullins (**IN PERSON**). The show will be on view from April 2 to May 3.

Pelham Art Center presents *With Every Fiber*, an exhibition of fiber works that communicate emotions and meanings beyond the literal context of the material through April 3 (**IN PERSON**). The Center also offers a series of virtual studio visits and workshops.

- Virtual Studio Visit - Jessica Lagunas: April 8 at 5pm

The Picture House Regional Film Center offers film screenings via its virtual cinema and continues its Education at Home program, which presents short films with discussion questions and activities for students of any grade level.

- Virtual Film Club With Marshall Fine: April 7-May 12 at 7:30pm
- Film-Inspired Activities for Spring Break: Now through April 2

for more arts events, visit artsw.org

The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College's online offerings include a range of live, recorded and curated events, education and entertainment.

The Play Group Theatre's programs have been adapted for in-person social distance, and online participation for Spring 2021. Registration is now open for programs in Community Connection, Young Actor Co, Little Theatre, PGT Kids, Teen Co, On Camera, Musical Theatre Boot Camp, Design/Tech and Virtual Stage.

RiverArts' Composition Lab is a weekly virtual creative experience in which musicians ages 11 and older will explore elements of music composition and each write their own piece. The program will be held through April 13 at 6:30-7:45pm.

The Rye Arts Center will present *Nature's Art II: Geodes from the Collection of Robert R. Wiener*, on view through April 30 (**IN PERSON**). A collection of rare gems, minerals and geodes, as well as complementary works from artists will be featured. The Center also offers in-person and virtual classes in drawing, painting, ceramics and more.

- **Loosen Up and Paint Workshop:** April 22 at 6:15pm (**IN PERSON**)

The Sanctuary Series presents "Dialogues and Dialectic" a concert by violinist Ariel Horowitz which will be streamed via the organization's Facebook page. The April 18 program will follow the evolution of the violin and piano throughout the history of Western Classical Music with works by Dvorak, Mozart, Schumann, Bach and Franck.

The Schoolhouse Theater's Pandemic Players will continue to present free Zoom readings of an assortment of plays. Readings, all at 3pm, include: *Morning's at Seven* (April 3), Edgerton Prize Drama-Grant and Twain: (April 10), *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune* (April 17), *Equus* (April 24).

Steffi Nossen School of Dance is offering virtual dance classes this winter. Classes include modern, ballet, jazz tap, hip-hop and more.

- **The Dance Film Series:** Through April 20

Taconic Opera will resume its spring season with a production of Verdi's *La Traviata* on April 24-25 on the football field in Peekskill's Depew Park (**IN PERSON**). Up to 100 audience members will be permitted.

Tarrytown Music Hall "Night In With the Music Hall" series continues with weekly livestream concerts via its Facebook and YouTube pages.



Andrew Alli and Jontavious Willis, by Frank Matheis

The 2021 Lawrence Salley

Photography Award

Online Exhibition

ON VIEW: April 9, 2021

An exhibition celebrating the winner and finalists for the 2021 Larry Salley Photography Award.

2021 Larry Salley Photography Award Exhibition is presented in partnership by ArtsWestchester, the African American Men of Westchester (AAMW), and the Salley family.

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Is it safe to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I have an underlying medical condition?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination is especially important for people with underlying health problems like heart disease, lung disease, diabetes and obesity. People with these conditions are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19. Please consult with your health care provider if you have specific questions about the COVID vaccine and your health.

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Sherita Andler, MD, Commissioner
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upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities

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The Village Squares Quilters will host a Zoom lecture with Karen Brow Meier of Java House Quilts on April 13 at 12pm. For information or to request the Zoom link, please email: vsq@villagesquaresquilters.com.

Westchester Children's Museum continues its *virtual learning programs and resources*, with STEAM activities for the whole family, an early literacy interactive program 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 webpage* also provides online resources for families. Library hours: Mon-Thurs: 10am-7pm and Fri-Sat: 1-5pm.

Interested in Writing for *ArtsNews*? We want to hear from you!

To be considered, tell us about your interest/experience in the arts, and include a writing resume and three writing clips. When we have an article to assign, we may get in touch with you!

Contact artswnews@artswestchester.org.
No phone calls, please.

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ARTSWESTCHESTER RALPH MARTINELLI MEMORIAL

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MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2021

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