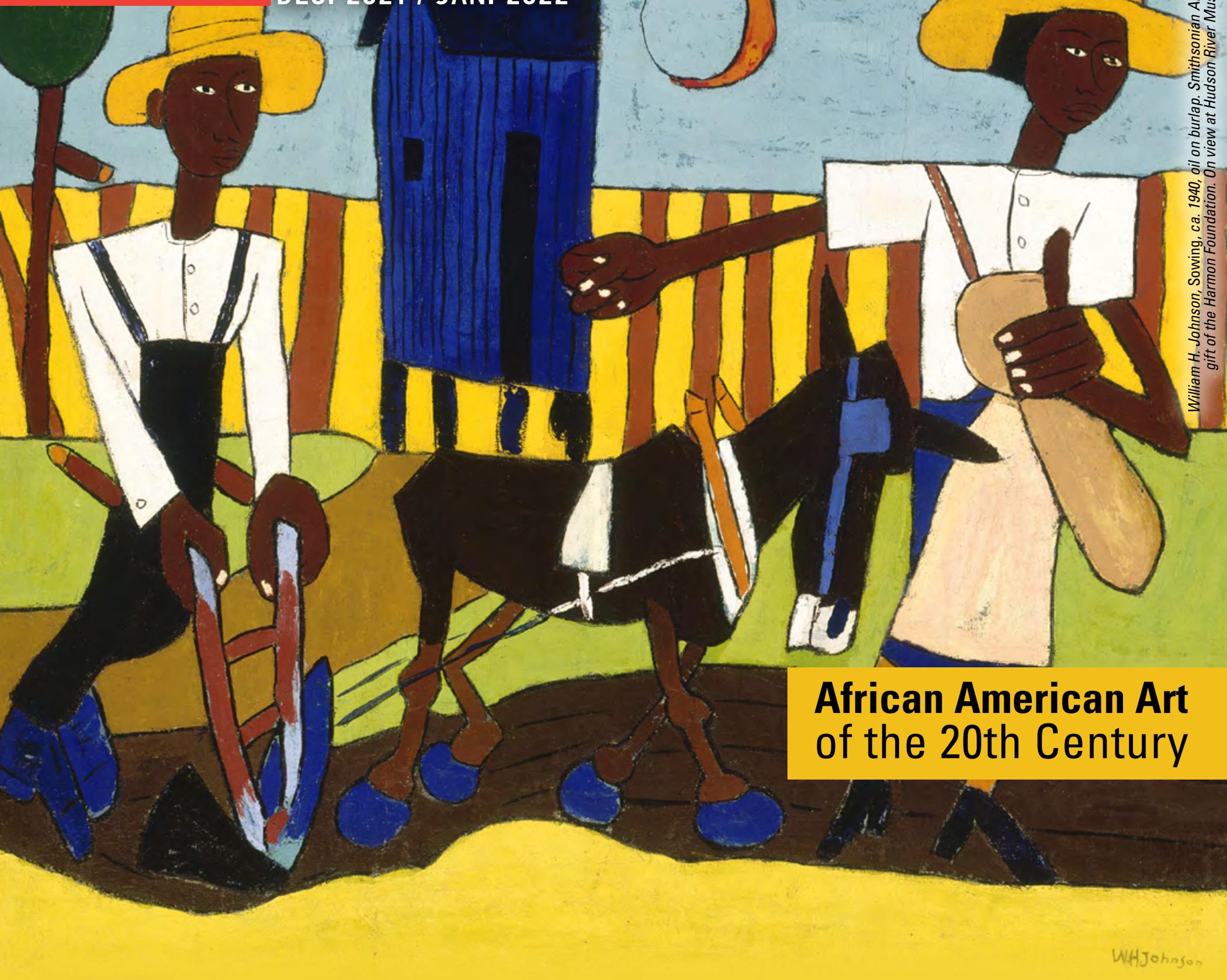


ARTSNEWS

DEC. 2021 / JAN. 2022



William H. Johnson, *Sowing*, ca. 1940, oil on burlap. Smithsonian American Art Museum, gift of the Harmon Foundation. On view at Hudson River Museum through 1/16/22.

African American Art of the 20th Century

A PUBLICATION OF ARTSWESTCHESTER SPONSORED BY:





Westchester gov.com From the County Executive

Dear Readers,

Hello, and happy holiday season to all of you. Thank you for taking a few moments to read this winter edition of *ArtsNews*. As the colder temperatures settle in and we begin our retreat indoors, I want to encourage all of you to take advantage of the many events ArtsWestchester has to offer from the comfort of your own home. And – if you are looking to get out for some family fun or an activity to explore, there are plenty of in-person arts happenings throughout the County. This season, ArtsWestchester will be providing a robust schedule of programming, including:

- new artwork at the revamped White Plains Train Station (see page A12)
- an immersive dance experience in Ossining (see page A14)
- a way to support local arts organizations this holiday season (see page A18)

A new year means it is time to re-set, reflect and refresh for the days ahead in 2022. We should all find a few moments of respite, and participate in the wonderful opportunities that are right at our fingertips. As Westchester County continues on its path forward, remember that the arts will always be here for us to enjoy.

Sincerely,
George Latimer
Westchester County Executive

.....

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

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ARTSW

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





ArtsWestchester's ArtsMobile visited the Armonk Outdoor Art Show this fall. Participants made clay pumpkins during an arts activity led by teaching artist Vicky Youngman (photo credit: Sally Franklin)

FROM THE CEO

by Janet Langsam,
ArtsWestchester CEO



(photo credit: Cathy Pinsky)

The Arts Survived, But They Still Need Your Help

In thinking about the uncertainty of the past 20 months, I can't help but breathe a sigh of relief that the arts in Westchester have survived. Yes, although we are somewhat battered financially, we are spiritually stronger than ever, undaunted in the knowledge that the value of the arts is not a myth, not a frill, not "just a nice to have," but an essential element of our life on this planet.

Several years ago, we asked our friends to "Imagine Westchester Without the Arts." That truly wasn't a risk we wanted to take, but then along came COVID-19 and twenty months without the arts in our lives. What a way to learn a lesson!

The arts are indeed essential, not just because they ***bolster our economy*** to the tune of \$172 million, and not just because they provided 5,200 good-paying jobs for our residents, and not just because they encourage tourism, which is a \$2.1 billion industry in Westchester. The arts have a higher purpose, and we didn't need a pandemic to prove that the arts educate our kids. The arts are important for our well-being, relieving stress and keeping us mentally engaged. The arts bring us joy and record and conserve our collective memory. No, we didn't need a pandemic to tell us all that...but since it did, let's make a resolution to support our artists and arts groups this holiday season and throughout the new year. They need our support like never before.



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

feature



Understanding and Appreciating African American Art in the 20th Century

by Taylor Michael

Hudson River Museum (HRM)'s current featured exhibition surveys a century of African Americans in the arts, chronicling the many craft choices, conflicts and thematic shifts over time.

[*African American Art in the 20th Century*](#)

makes its fifth and final stop at HRM through January 16, 2022. Sourced from Smithsonian American Art Museum's permanent collection, the exhibit features nearly 50 paintings and sculptures by artists including Jacob Lawrence, Romare Bearden, Lois Mailou Jones and others.

Curatorial Department Chair Laura Vookles knows it's time that

viewers reflect on the breadth of work these artists, who were often overlooked because of their race, created. She professed: "All of these artists have been here all along. You could teach

a whole class about American art history with this exhibit."

The collection spans the two-room lower-level gallery space in a loose chronological order. Moving clockwise, works cover historical touch-points like the Jim Crow

south, the Harlem Renaissance, the Civil Rights Movement and themes such as African heritage, alienation and spirituality. A second room houses post-Civil Rights era artists whose works

"All these artists have been here all along. You could teach a whole class about American art history with this exhibit."

*- Laura Vookles, Curatorial Department Chair,
Hudson River Museum*

lean towards abstract techniques like Color Field Painting, African American material culture and mixed media.

Across the decades, "legacy" stands out as a central theme. Many artists reflect, celebrate or intimate African Americans' rich history and culture. In *Third and Rhode Island*, Hilda Wilkinson Brown illustrates a modernist interpretation of an African American enclave in D.C. Paul Dunbar, Langston Hughes and Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., the first African American general officer in the U.S. Army, lived in

this neighborhood.

Some pieces gesture towards other art forms: literature, theater and music. Romare Bearden's *Jazz Series* selections pull from his experience at Harlem jazz clubs, like Minton's and Birdland, where Charlie Parker, John Coltrane and Miles Davis played. Similarly, Beauford Delaney's friendships—W.E.B. Du Bois, James Baldwin, and Duke Ellington—perhaps implicitly inspire his impressionistic cityscape *Can Fire in the Park*. Frederick Brown's *John Henry*



Renée Stout, *The Colonel's Cabinet*, 1991-1994, mixed media: carpet, chair, painting, and cabinet with found and handmade objects. Smithsonian American Art Museum, museum purchase made possible by Ralph Cross Johnson. © 1994, Renee Stout.

translates American folklore onto the canvas for a 1970s audience. The concerns of blue-collar workers during the industrial revolution reflect those of American steelworks as cities deindustrialized.

However, there's a central conflict among the artists. In their time, artists struggled to reconcile ongoing racial injustice with their craft and thematic choices. This became one tool an artist could use to address social and economic realities. Palmer Hayden's protest painting *The Janitor Who Paints* depicts artist and friend Cloyd Boykin in a cramped apartment. Both Boykin and Hayden worked as janitors since they couldn't support themselves solely through painting. The painting insists viewers see this man as an artist, not just a janitor.

Commenting on the ways many understood their purpose as Black artists, Vookles explained, "Some of them were picking art styles they thought could fight for racial justice, others were taking actions, like going down to the March on Washington, and wanted to be able to paint whatever they were interested in."

During the Civil Rights Movement, Bearden, Felrath Hines, Norman Lewis and Hale Woodruff were members of an artist collective that debated the issue of art and activism for Black artists. [Hines thought](#) Black artists shouldn't be limited to "racial art," figurative illustrations of the Black experience. He argues with *Abstract Landscape* that there is political power in abstraction.

All of these concerns and themes live in Teaching Artist-in-Residence Jamel Robinson's debut and companion museum exhibition, [Beauty from Ashes](#). This exhibition, on view until January 16, 2022, responds to the main collection with five of Robinson's works. Installed both in the lobby and in the historic Glenview home, the interdisciplinary Harlem-based artist captures both the magnificence and pain of the Black experience.

Says Vookles: "The pieces have such presence when you stand in front of them that [viewers will] really be missing out if [they] don't see them in person."



Sargent Johnson, *Mask*, ca. 1930-1935, copper on wood base. Smithsonian American Art Museum, gift of International Business Machines Corporation.

feature



A Roadmap for Recovery of *the Arts*



Over the past five years, ArtsWestchester has been contemplating the establishment of a cultural plan for Westchester. The county has changed significantly since the organization partnered with the County in creating the last plan almost thirty years ago with consultants Adams and Goldbar. A new plan is being promoted by ArtsWestchester as the creative sector recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“As Westchester slowly emerges from the pandemic after living without the arts for nearly two years, it is more important than ever that we create a roadmap to restart the cultural sector and its economic impact,” says ArtsWestchester CEO Janet Langsam.

“On the other hand, while the pandemic has put the arts on life support, we do see a surge in creativity, a hunger for cultural activities and a need for community re-building.”

ArtsWestchester Chairman John Peckham adds: “There is no doubt that the arts will be a key player in Westchester’s next chapter. The creation of

***...The County is at the threshold
“ of what could be a new
Renaissance of cultural activity.”***

a strategic, long-term cultural plan is essential in ensuring the recovery of Westchester’s economy.”

Pre-COVID, the arts played a vital role in the County’s \$2.1 billion tourism industry, and contributed to the renowned quality of life for residents. The County’s museums, historic sites, theaters, galleries and film centers are all cultural destinations that drive people to its downtowns, restaurants and retail stores.

With both the population and the creative landscape of Westchester in a state of regrowth, the County is at the threshold of what could be a new Renaissance of cultural activity.

Says Laura deBuys, President and Executive Director of The Picture House Regional Film Center: “A cultural plan for Westchester is essential given changing demographics and an increasingly diverse and vibrant arts

“Westchester deserves a strategy for the arts and culture sector. Post-pandemic, we need to be data-driven, census-wise, and for celebrating diversity and promoting belonging.”

-Waddell Stillman, President of Historic Hudson Valley



community."

DeBuys adds: "A robust assessment and plan will help each arts nonprofit to have greater impact by developing programming that meets the needs of our community, now and in the future."

Grassroots arts venues are emerging in all corners of the County, new investments in stalled cultural assets are fueling capital spending and rehiring of workers in the creative sector. This threshold signals a time that is ripe for the creation of a new multi-year plan.

Explains Waddell Stillman, President of Historic Hudson Valley: "Westchester deserves a *strategy* for the arts and culture sector. Post-pandemic, census-wise, and for celebrating diversity and promoting belonging – for seniors, singles, families and kids. Enhancing excellence and reaching the underserved."

Stillman continues: "Artists are passionate, and a cultural

plan will help us channel our passions and creativity to audiences County-wide."

Says Langsam: "COVID-19 has leveled much of the cultural programming in the County. This presents a critical opportunity to both restart the arts and also reevaluate and reposition what the arts means to our population."

Over the coming year, ArtsWestchester will be raising funds to initiate a plan that is aimed at building arts audiences and engaging the needs of Westchester residents, visitors and the arts community. Potential outcomes of a comprehensive planning process could include: cultural asset mapping, an updated economic impact survey, a deeper understanding of how residents value the arts as a part of life in Westchester, recommendations for how to make the County more sustainable for creative workers and artists, and areas of opportunity for making the arts more inclusive and diverse.



LEFT: A photo from a summer concert at Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts (photo credit: Gabe Palacio) RIGHT: Katonah Museum of Art (photo from ArtsWestchester archives)

feature



Propelling Commuters on Their Journey

by Adam Chau

"She brings her dazzling, rhythmic forms to the rhythms of our daily commute," says MTA Arts & Design Director Sandra Bloodworth of artist Barbara Takenaga, whose new works were [recently unveiled](#) at the White Plains Metro-North Railroad Station.

Barbara Takenaga is known for swirling, abstract paintings in stunningly detailed compositions. She paints her kaleidoscopic,

geometric compositions of dots and lines completely freehand in a practice that is both meticulous and meditative.

Says Bloodworth of the new works: "[They] energiz[e] us as we travel with her infinite lines, which seem to propel us along our journey."

Takenaga's repetition of forms suggests the inherent, yet

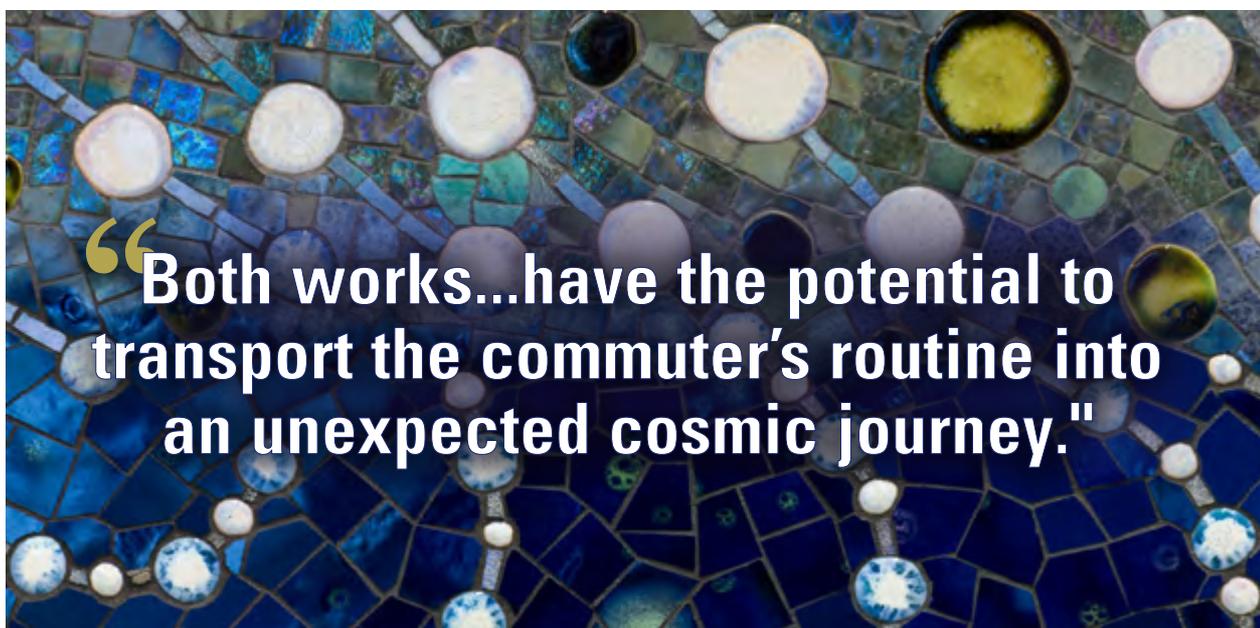
sometimes incomprehensible, logic of both the cosmic and the cellular, while spontaneous twists and puckers preserve the elements of wonder and surprise.

Forte (Quarropas) and *Blue Rails (White Plains)*, which are made, respectively, of mosaic and laminated glass, feature signature stylized abstract forms. The pieces' deep vibrant blue undulating movements reference rail travel, the history of the city and its exuberant energy. Both works, with their deep blue and vibrant hues, have the potential to transport the commuter's routine into an unexpected cosmic journey.

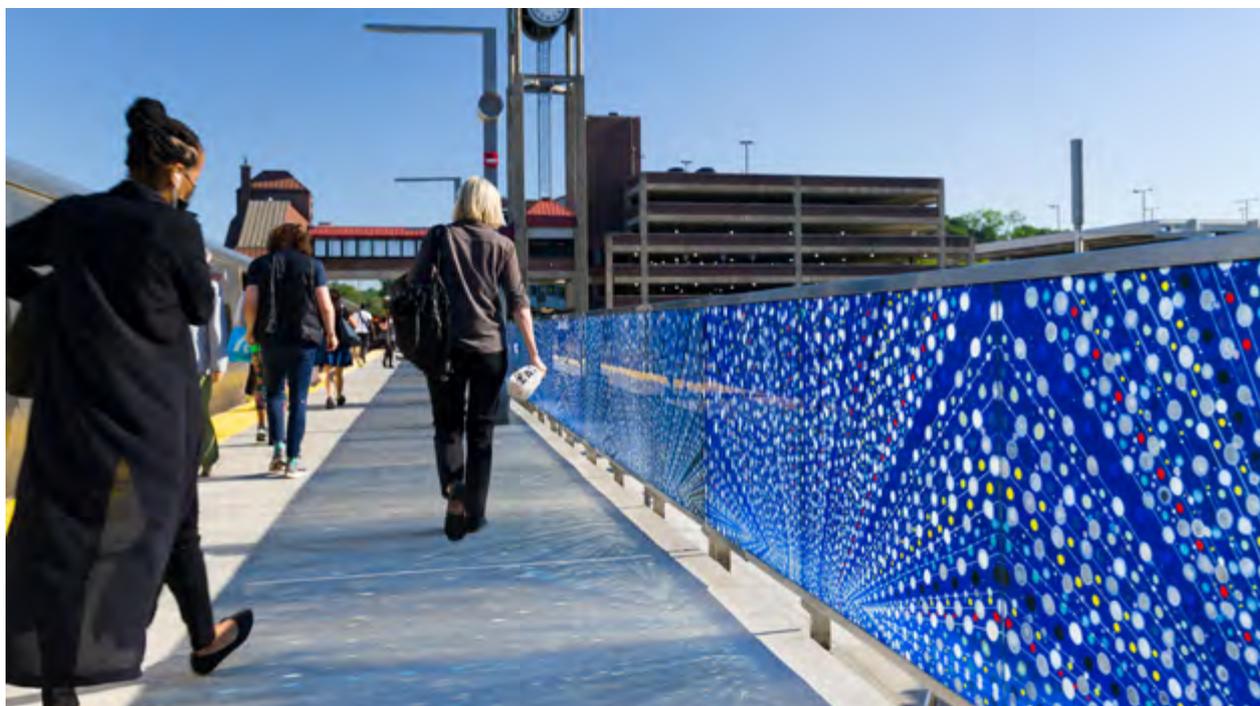
These works continue a streak of large-scale works made by the artist in recent years. In 2015, Takenaga created a piece of an unprecedented scale – a 100' wall at MASS MoCA. The mural features an image from her *Nebraska Paintings* series, a body of work that moves closer to the representational imagery only implied in earlier pieces, but which captures the wide open spaces and big sky of the artist's native state. As viewers walk the length of the wall, the chain of images functions like a series of film stills, implying movement and the rhythm of time.

Just as her MASS MoCA work reflects the movements of its passersby, the deep sea of blue, and splashes of iridescent green, pink and aqua that are present in *Forte (Quarropas)*, sparkle and come alive following the footsteps of the commuters passing by the lobby wall on which it is located.

Blue Rails (White Plains), the artwork created in laminated glass, is located on the side platform overlooking the station's parking lot and Hamilton Avenue, a main artery that connects the city's downtown. The long horizontal image is composed of a series of mirrored abstract patterns in a forward and backward movement in space.



“Both works...have the potential to transport the commuter's routine into an unexpected cosmic journey.”



LEFT: *Forte (Quarropas)* by Barbara Takenaga (photo credit: Marc A. Hermann) RIGHT: *Blue Rails (White Plains)* (2020) by Barbara Takenaga, Metro-North Railroad's White Plains Station (photo credit: Steven Bates) Both works commissioned by Metropolitan Transportation Authority Arts & Design.

feature

An *Immersive* Dance Experience

At Steffi Nossen Dance Company's [Choreography Showcase](#) this year, the dancers won't be the only ones on the move. Guests will travel, one room at a time, in small groups of 25. In each space, they will observe one of six new dance works by professional choreographers.

This format allows for an observance of COVID-19 protocols by keeping the event at limited capacity, yet offers a more intimate, immersive experience overall.

Says Community Relations Director Judith Ross: "To experience dance in an immersive setting allows the audience to have a multi-layered view of the live performance, and the artwork that serves as a wonderful backdrop."

The artwork Ross references is that of an exhibition presented by [Bethany Arts Community](#) (BAC), where the event takes place. BAC's Executive Director Abigail Lewis says that the exhibition, on view December 3-20, displays "works from the BAC family – the artists and community members who put the 'community' in [their] name." After the Choreography Showcase, guests can gather to engage with the choreographers and dancers, and explore more of BAC's spacious grounds and [public artworks](#).

Says Ross: "The event was created out of the desire to continue our collaborations with other arts organizations and nonprofits... and also to expand our community's awareness of other forms of art in the County."

For more than forty years, this event has brought together professional choreographers and pre-professional dancers with a goal of highlighting new works for its audiences. Executive Director Shelley Grantham says that this year's Showcase on December 4 is also "focused on re-engaging the arts and bringing the arts community together for live performances."

Of the dance selections being showcased, Ross says: "We hand-selected the choreographers based on their previous work or their experience working with our company dancers.

Hannah Garner, who was recently named one of '25 to Watch' by *Dance Magazine*, was commissioned to create new work on the Steffi Nossen Dance Company (SNDC), which will premiere at the event. Meanwhile, Caterina Rago, a former member of the Martha Graham Dance Company, will present an excerpt from her *Labir Into*, which originated from a previous commission that she choreographed on the SNDC.

Ross adds: "We also were mindful to pick people who we felt presented works in which the subject matter was of value and importance in this time."

For example, Steffi Nossen's Artistic Director Jessica DiMauro reworked a dance created 20 years ago to now reflect the current world. In *Love, Kisses and Such...*, DiMauro's solo "reveals the physical experience of emotional neglect through the lens of this unique time in human history." Olivia Passarelli and Sophie Gray-Gaillard will show their work *Tide*, which explores the complexities of relationships, intimacy and commitment.

Choreographer Gierre Godley created a new work for his company, Project 44. The duet, *ON TRUST*, is an excerpt from a larger triptych of works called *Dear Black Boy*. Godley says that the work "speak[s] to the ideas of building trust with self, with your community and others that look like you, and those who don't." The *Dear Black Boy* triptych originated from a dance that Godley presented at last year's Choreography Showcase.

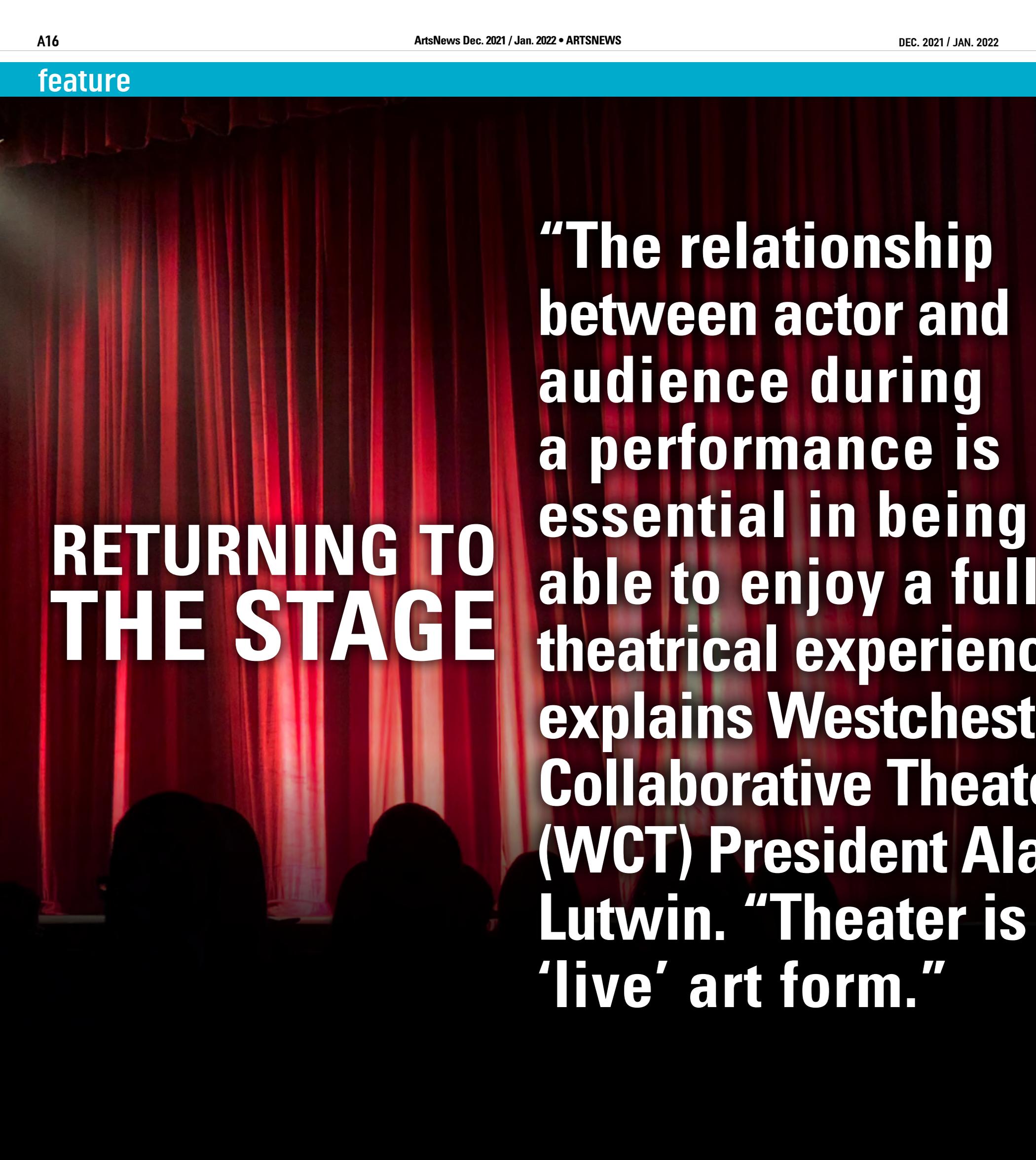
The last stop on the choreographic tour will be a swing duet accompanied by a live jazz quartet. The collaborative work, *Theory of Balance*, brought together choreographer Spencer Pond and the band "loser cruiser," who will play live during the performance.

nce



A work by Caterina Rago (photo credit: Federica Dall'Orso)

feature

A photograph of a theater stage with red curtains. In the foreground, the silhouettes of several audience members are visible, looking towards the stage. The lighting is dramatic, with the curtains illuminated from behind, creating a warm, red glow.

RETURNING TO THE STAGE

“The relationship between actor and audience during a performance is essential in being able to enjoy a full theatrical experience,” explains Westchester Collaborative Theater (WCT) President Alan Lutwin. “Theater is ‘live’ art form.”

For the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, WCT will return to live on-stage performances with [a festival of one-act plays](#) from December 3-12. The never-before-seen plays are written, directed and acted by well-established Westchester and New York City professionals.

"WCT's primary mission is to develop and nurture new plays. The selected plays were culled from works that went through our Lab/Workshop process over the past two years," Lutwin explains. The Company's member playwrights, actors and directors participate in a Lab process in which, three nights per month, new plays are read and critiqued.

Lutwin says that the plays are "one of the highest quality collections [they]’ve yet to present," and points to this assessment as proof that "there is an alternative to traveling to the City to catch quality theater."

The five featured plays offer a mix of dark humor, drama and plot twists. Most of them take place in a diner or dive bar, which inspired the festival's [Diners, Dives & Dreamers](#) title. They also "explore the essential question of what it means to be human from totally unique perspectives."

In a play by Lori Myers, *Sight Unseen*, an insecure metrosexual, who is all-consumed with appearances, becomes infatuated with a woman he meets at the bar, flaws and all.

In searching for a cure for her migraines, Kim, in Albi Gorn's *If I Loved You*, is presented with a potion to remedy her unrequited love, but is confronted with the question of whether what she "wants" is what she "needs."

In Pat O'Neill's *The Hereafter Café*, an actor hits a farmer with his car and they both die, landing them in "the Hereafter," which turns out to be a diner in an unspecified location, where they find out about being assigned another life on Earth.

Evelyn Mertens gives a window into her character's anxiety in *Ode to Flannery*. When Jo's partner doesn't come home by 4am, she fears for his life – only to

discover that he's fine and it's their love that is in trouble.

Robert McEvily's *Full Effect* finds three visitors in a mysterious installation at an art gallery as they are forced to confront their insecurities in unexpected ways.

During the pandemic, WCT presented productions on Zoom and explored the potential of outdoor theater during the summer months with its "Parking Lot Theater" productions in a nearby parking lot. Though this virtual programming helped the company to expand its audience, Lutwin emphasizes: "Our intention was always to resume live theater in our space as soon as practically possible."

“Lutwin says that the plays are 'one of the highest quality collections [they]’ve yet to present,' and points to this assessment as proof that 'there is an alternative to traveling to the City to catch quality theater.'”

On why the decision was made to finally return to the stage, Lutwin explains that WCT installed upgraded HVAC, ventilation and filtration systems. "We wanted to have this in place before we reopened the theater." Performances will be in the renovated WCT Black Box Theater in Ossining.

WCT will also observe limited seating for all shows, and requires that audience members show proof of vaccination and wear masks throughout the festival.

Eight performances will take place during two consecutive weekends, from December 3 through 12. A talkback follows the December 4 afternoon performance.

holiday highlights

6 Artsy Items to Buy Locally

Holiday shopping from local arts organizations and creative workers can mean a unique gift for loved ones while also supporting the arts. This is important now more than ever, after the creative sector was devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Arts boutiques are popping up once again, with many of them also offering virtual shopping options.



1 **Wave Vase by Delia Berman** (\$60-70)
at [Clay Art Center's Clay Holiday Market 2021](#) |
Through December 24

Artist Dalia Berman's Wave Vases are signature wheel-thrown porcelain vases that are altered into a wave form. The pieces range in size up to approximately 7 H x 6.5 W x 5 D. Berman chooses the neutral color palettes of whites, celadons and shino glazes to finish her work. These vases are available in the Center's shop, as well as online. (40 Beech Street, Port Chester)



2 **Glass Coasters Set** (\$55)
at [Mamaroneck Artists Guild's A Gift of Art Holiday Show and Boutique](#) | Through December 24

This set of four fused glass coasters are original, handmade by artist Mitchell Visoky. After a residency at Bullseye Glass Co., Visoky, a media artist said that his interest in glass "was an obsession" with encaustic painting and collage with vellum paper. He has a connection to mystery, translucency, the past and the future. (1987 Palmer Avenue, Larchmont)



3 **Beaded Namji Dolls**
(\$235 single / \$450 set)
at [Luangisa African Gallery Holiday Marketplace](#) | December 4-5

These Namji Dolls were handmade by the Namji tribe in Cameroon, Africa. Each is an original work of art carved from solid pine hardwood and adorned with multi-colored beads, cowrie shells, metal strips and fiber, making each one unlike any other. Traditionally, these dolls are held by young Namji girls to ensure their fertility. Each measures 16" and stands on a wooden base. These items are also available at the Luangisa African Art Gallery and [online](#). (374 Hawthorne Terrace, Mount Vernon)



4 Hudson River Museum Utility Bag (\$120)
 at the [Hudson River Museum Gift Shop](#) | Thursdays–Sundays, 12-5pm

This unisex sturdy utility bag by Forestbound features leather handles, canvas bag and buckle closures. Forestbound uses reclaimed materials and sturdy craftsmanship to continue the life of vintage textiles, making the bag both stylish and environmentally friendly. This bag measures 20" wide, 14" tall and 6" deep and is available in natural or khaki colors. (511 Warburton Avenue, Yonkers)

handmade works by
 e Glass, the mixed-
 extension of [his] work
 otographs... All have a
 present."



6 Paper Flower Bouquets (\$12.00 each)
 at the [Lyndhurst Mansion Gift Shop](#) | Open seven days
 a week (closed on December 25 & January 1)

These standing pop-up paper flower bouquets come in various designs, including roses, red amaryllis, tulips and more. They are each made of 100% recyclable paper by the environmentally conscious company FreshCut Paper, which donates 1% of its proceeds to environmental causes. The gift shop is usually only accessible after admission is paid; however, if a visitor wishes to only visit the shop, they can mention "Helen Gould" to the front gate staff. (635 S. Broadway, Tarrytown)

5 Woodturning Works (\$100-300)
 at [Pelham Art Center's Holiday Art
 Boutique](#) | Through December 23

Eric Weber is a Westchester-based woodworker who, in his 50s, returned to his love of the arts. He says: "As soon as I turned my first piece of wood I was hooked!" Weber's primary goal is to balance form and functionality. Many of the works include unusual grain patterns, burls, spalting and defects in the wood that make these one-of-a-kind pieces. (155 Fifth Avenue, Pelham)



holiday arts picks

Holiday Arts Picks

The holidays are upon us and virtual and in-person* celebrations are aplenty throughout Westchester County. The *ArtsNews* team rounded up their top Holiday Arts Picks from a long list of festive offerings. For more arts events, flip to the calendar section on page A36 and sign up for ArtsWestchester's weekly [Top 5 Arts Picks](#) newsletter.

*Readers are responsible for checking with each venue for their specific COVID-19 safety protocols.

Get the Popcorn Ready

December 4

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation & Ugly Sweater Sing-Along

Bedford Playhouse is preparing for the "hap-hap-happiest Christmas" season with the Griswold family. When the Griswolds have their families over for the holidays, chaos and hilarity ensue in [National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation](#). The classic Christmas comedy starring Chevy Chase will be followed by cocktails, an ugly sweater contest and a holiday sing-along in the Playhouse Café.

December 17-TBD (*Jacob Burns Film Center*)

December 21 (*Bedford Playhouse*)

It's a Wonderful Life

This 1946 film has become a holiday tradition in many households across the country, but now viewers can see this heartwarming story of love, gratitude and redemption come to life on the big screen. As George Bailey, played by James Stewart, contemplates ending his life on Christmas Eve, he is visited by an angel who shows him the positive impact he has had on those around him. The beloved movie will be screened at [Bedford Playhouse](#) (December 21) and [Jacob Burns Film Center](#) (beginning December 17).



Still from *It's a Wonderful Life* (photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures)



New York Polyphony in Caramoor Center for Music in the Arts Music Room. They will perform there again 12/11. (photo courtesy of Caramoor)

Soaring Vocals

December 11

New York Polyphony

Classical yuletide sounds will fill the Music Room at Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts during a series of performances by the [New York Polyphony](#). The all-male a cappella vocal quartet will perform *Sing Thee Nowell*, a program of sacred Christmas music that spans seven centuries. Holiday decorations at Caramoor's Rosen House will also be on display before each of the two performances.

December 3 & 5

Messiah: Part I

New Choral Society will ring in the holiday season with its annual performance of [G.F. Händel's Messiah, Part I](#) at the Hitchcock Presbyterian Church in Scarsdale. This classical program will depict the prophecy of the Messiah and his virgin birth and conclude with the beloved *Hallelujah Chorus*. This year, the Chorus also will offer a virtual viewing of the performance beginning December 8.

December 19

Concert for Peace

Songcatchers will bring festive holiday songs to audiences at its 26th annual [Concert for Peace](#). The group's Concert Choir and Ensemble, a 50-member intergenerational chorus consisting of children and adults, will perform secular and interfaith carols, songs of peace and multicultural songs of the holidays.

December 3, 4, 10, 11

Tree and Menorah Lightings

With The Westchester Chordsmen Chorus

A series of holiday concerts, presented by [The Westchester Chordsmen Chorus](#), will kick off several tree and menorah lighting ceremonies in Scarsdale (December 3), Rye (December 4), Hastings-on-Hudson (December 10) and Mamaroneck (December 11) this December. The uplifting concerts will feature traditional seasonal songs performed by more than 30 members of the chorus.

holiday arts picks, cont'd



Michael Muldoon and Melissa O'Brien in M&M Performing Arts Company's presentation of *Mr. Dickens Tells A Christmas Carol* (photo credit: Jenny Wilkins)

A Christmas Carol

Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* is one of the most iconic holiday stories of all time. This season, several groups in Westchester will present their own versions of the classic novella, from staged readings to musicals – all unique from one another.

December 12

God Bless Us, Everyone

The Asbury-Crestwood United Methodist Church will celebrate its 250th anniversary with *God Bless Us, Everyone*, presented by Music at Asbury. The show is a staged reading of Dickens's classic holiday story *A Christmas Carol*, complemented with songs by Alan Menken and Lynn Ahrens, Alan Silvestri and Glen Ballard and a selection of familiar Christmas carols for the audience to sing along. The production also includes a special appearance by the Westchester Children's Chorus.

December 10-23

Mr. Dickens Tells A Christmas Carol

In 1867, Charles Dickens gave a performance of his beloved *A Christmas Carol* novella. His telling of the story brought to life his characters of Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim as he reportedly gave each character a different voice. Storyteller Michael Muldoon will recreate this famous performance in [a series of events presented by M&M Performing Arts Company](#) in the historic period setting of Lyndhurst Mansion.

December 26-31

A Christmas Carol: A Story Of Hope

The musical *A Christmas Carol: A Story Of Hope* is a new adaptation of the Dickens classic, set in 1843. Though published almost two centuries ago, some of the story's struggles can still be recognized in today's society; but above all, it offers a key message of hope. The production, produced by Yorktown Stage and Princess Art Productions, features an original score by Martin Harich and Matej Smutny and set by British set designer Dave Benson.

December 3-30

A Christmas Carol: The Musical

This musical version of the classic tale of Ebenezer Scrooge is brought to life with music from Broadway composer Alan Menken and book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens and Mike Ockrent. The musical, originally presented at the theater at Madison Square Garden where it had a decade-long run, will now be produced for Westchester audiences as a [mainstage production at White Plains Performing Arts Center](#).

Family Outings

Through January 9, 2022

The Great Holiday Train Show

New Castle Historical Society's [*The Great Holiday Train Show*](#) features numerous vintage model train sets that will run throughout the cheerfully decorated rooms of the Horace Greeley House Museum. This display will travel through backdrops with festive themes, including a Bavarian countryside scene, the 1920s "golden age" of train travel and more. Also included are a pop-up holiday shop with train-themed items, candy and more.

December 3-19

A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live on Stage

Charles M. Schulz's animated television special *A Charlie Brown Christmas* will come to life in a new touring production with [*performances at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center*](#) before its New York City run. This family-friendly production, featuring music by Vince Guaraldi, will follow Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Lucy, Linus and other beloved *Peanuts* comic characters as they learn about the true meaning of Christmas.

Beginning December 13

Winter Holiday Grab & Go Kits

Though not an "outing," families can still celebrate from home with White Plains Public Library's [*holiday craft kits*](#) for Shabe Yalda, Christmas, Kwanzaa and Three Kings Day. Each kit is filled with activity sheets and a craft for children aged preschool-2nd grade. The kits will be available in the lobby on a first-come, first-serve basis while supplies last.

December 17-28

The Nutcracker

[*Ballet des Amériques*](#) will present its annual production of *The Nutcracker*, this year at the historic Wainwright House in Rye. Inspired by the original choreography of Marius Petipa and Rudolf Nureyev, choreographer Carole Alexis has created an adaptation that will immerse audiences in this classic ballet story, which takes place in the 19th-century mansion of the Stahlbaum family. Students from the Conservatory will perform to Tchaikovsky's signature score.



Scene from a performance of *A Charlie Brown Christmas Live on Stage* (photo credit: Richard Termine)

holiday arts picks, cont'd



Kwanzaa Celebrations

December 16

[Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration](#)

The City of Mount Vernon will host a Pre-Kwanzaa celebration with further details to be announced.

December 19

The "It Takes a Village" [Pre-Kwanzaa 2021 Program](#) at the Nepperhan Community Center includes dinner, vendor shopping and dancing. The family-friendly event is presented by Sister to Sister International and other community partners.

December 26

The Town of Tuckahoe presents a celebration of family and culture at its [Kwanzaa Celebration 2021](#), taking place at the Tuckahoe Community Center.



From Paraguay to Westchester: The Festival of the Virgen of Caacupé

Every year on December 8, Paraguayans in Westchester and around the world gather for the annual Festival of the Virgen of Caacupé, referring to the Paraguayan city of Caacupé. Unbeknownst to many, Paraguayan Americans, though the smallest Latino group in the United States, have a large cultural presence in Westchester County. White Plains, Harrison, Greenburgh and Mamaroneck are all home to some of the largest Paraguayan communities in the United States.

The annual festival of the Virgen is the most important religious holiday for Catholics in Paraguay and the Paraguayan diaspora. The Virgin of Caacupé or Virgen of the Miracles of Caacupé is a variant of the Marian invocation of the Immaculate Conception. In Westchester, the celebration takes place in the Village of Mamaroneck, at St. Vito Most Holy Trinity Parish. Each year, the festival draws hundreds of Paraguayan American families from around the region for a special processional and mass, followed by a community celebration that features traditional foods, live performances of Paraguayan harp and social dances like the Paraguayan polka.

In the months leading up to the annual festival, a statue of the

Virgen visits the homes of local families, where she resides for days on end, bringing her miracles and blessings to each household. In a [short film](#) produced and directed by Paraguayan filmmaker Gustavo René Sanabria, the Virgen of Caacupé arrives at the home of Bedford resident Elida Aranda Sanabria. There, the Virgen is welcomed by members of the Comisión Virgen de Caacupé, the chief organizing body of the annual Festival of the Virgen of Caacupé in Mamaroneck. The Comisión, along with Elida and her family, recite the rosary and sing songs of praise in Spanish and the indigenous Guaraní language. A small feast of traditional Paraguayan foods, beverages and snacks, including chipa, a baked cheese and corn roll, is enjoyed by all at the conclusion of the ritual.

This tradition in the United States dates back to 1933. The first statue of the Virgen of Caacupé to arrive in the country was brought to Westchester County that year by former Paraguayan President Juan Carlos Wasmosy and a group of his delegates. Since then, Paraguayan communities across the United States have commissioned statues of the Virgen from Paraguay for their own annual celebrations.

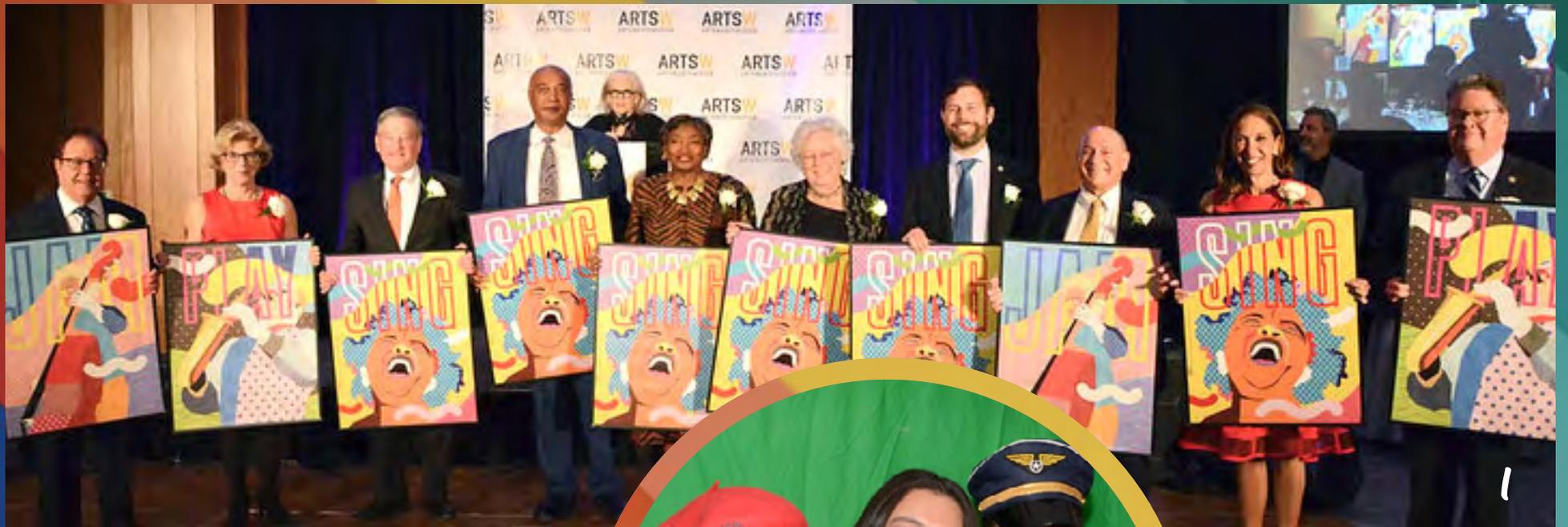
gala 2021

We held our breath and did an in-person gala... and it was a *wow!*

On November 20, 2021, the arts community joined together at The Opus Westchester to salute members of the Westchester and Rockland Delegations of the New York State Legislature, who helped to secure an additional \$1 million allocation for the arts in the state budget. With these funds, ArtsWestchester launched its new [Restart the Arts grant initiative](#), which will assist creative professionals in getting back to work. For more, visit artsw.org/photogallery.



All photos by Leslye Smith. 1. Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti, Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblyman Steve Otis, Assemblyman James G. Pretlow, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Lisa Hofflich 2. Farooq Kathwari, Farida Kathwari, Geri Moran and Rodney Hutton 3. Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Lisa Hofflich 7. Jorge Otero-Pailos, ArtsWestchester CEO Janet Langsam and Gala Dinner Chair Yaniv Blumenfeld 8. Fernando Gaip, Sandra Lombardi, Eddie Halilovic and Ma



1. Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assemblywoman Sandra R. Galef, Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick, Assemblyman Chris Burdick, Assemblywoman Amy Paulin and Senator Pete Harckham were joined by Assemblyman J. Gary Pretlow 4. Chair of the Board of Legislators Benjamin Boykin and Bernie Thombs 5. Taryn Duffy, Tatiana Diaz and Alex Chavarria 6. Legislator MaryJane Shimsky and Assemblyman Martin Luna 9. Senator Shelley Mayer, Legislator Catherine Borgia and Assemblyman Steve Otis 10. Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti, Janet Longo-Abinanti and Assemblyman Chris Burdick

gala 2021



All photos by Leslye Smith. 1. Westchester Dance Artists 2. Wuzu Wuzu African Ensemble 3. ArtsWestchester board members Crista Luangisa (left) and



2



3



6



8



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10

Tucker and Barry Shenkman 4. Mount Vernon Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard and guests 5. Amy Paulin & Ira Schuman 6. Liz Bracken, Senator Shelley Mayer and Jane Solnick 7. Rose I Kimberly Pennington (right) with guest 8. Legislators Colin Smith and Catherine Borgia with Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick 9. Karin & Burt Meyers 10. County Executive George Latimer

news briefs

NEWS BRIEFS

Former Jacob Burns Film Center Resident Sells Documentary to Amazon Studios

A feature documentary by Jacob Burns Film Center (JBFC)'s Artist-in-Residence Melissa Lesh was recently acquired by Amazon Studios for \$20 million in auction. The bid was a near-record for a documentary acquisition. Lesh utilized her time at JBFC, and resources provided by the [Creative Culture](#) residency, to edit the film. The film, co-directed by Trevor Frost, is about a young British soldier who returns from Afghanistan suffering from depression and PTSD. He finds a reason to live when he teams with a woman he recently met to become the caregivers to an injured baby ocelot wildcat. The film is currently in post-production, with no release date set.



Melissa Lesh (right) with her associate producer/assistant editor Malory Bracken (left) (photo courtesy of Jacob Burns Film Center)



Music Conservatory of Westchester Breaks Ground on Transformative Project

Construction management firm Sentinel Builders LLC [recently broke ground](#) on a transformative project to expand the Music Conservatory of Westchester (MCW) in White Plains. The project will introduce new 21st-century technology to the Conservatory's music education programs. The expansion will focus on 3,500 square feet of unfinished space on the lower level of the Conservatory building, which will be converted into five exciting new teaching spaces, including a digital piano lab, recording studio, percussion studio and music therapy studio. According to Director Jean Newton, the project's completion will make MCW "the first music conservatory in Westchester County to provide pre-college training in Sound Engineering and Studio Composition." Construction will begin in the spring of 2022.

Ryan Jennings, President Sentinel Builders; Jean Newton, Executive Director Music Conservatory of Westchester (MCW); Eileen Egan, Executive Director Phelps Hospital; and Robert Heath, Board Trustee Music Conservatory of Westchester breaking ground at Music Conservatory of Westchester (photo courtesy of MCW)



ArtsMobile visits the Port Chester Playground program

The ArtsMobile Presented 50 Outdoor Arts Activities at Westchester Sites in 2021

In July 2021, ArtsWestchester's [ArtsMobile](#) was back on the road for the first time since 2019. As the pandemic brought all in-person activities to a halt, the warm weather was the perfect time to re-emerge providing art-making to communities within Westchester County. Despite going virtual for more than a year, the 2021 season brought the ArtsMobile to over two-dozen locations, such as community organizations, events, festivals and human service agencies, overall offering 50 outdoor art activities and performances to more than 1,250 participants. Sites included White Plains Housing Authority, Port Chester Day Camp, El Centro Hispano, White Plains Youth Bureau, New Rochelle Housing Authority and St Christopher's, Inc.

With support from White Plains Hospital and Con Edison, the ArtsMobile provides fun and creative activities for all ages and abilities that reduce stress, calm the mind and encourage self-expression. More than ever, art was used for well-being and healing local communities that have faced adversity during the pandemic.

The ArtsMobile will return with a full schedule of locations and activities throughout the County in March 2022.

Schoolhouse Theater Presents World Premiere by Renowned Director Martha Clarke

Schoolhouse Theater will offer its first in-person production since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic: a dramatic [world premiere production](#) by MacArthur "Genius" Award-winning director Martha Clarke. *CANTICLE (God's Fool)*, a dramatic piece about Saint Francis of Assisi, will be presented at the Hammond Museum and Japanese Stroll Garden before traveling to Off-Broadway's La Mama Theatre and the Spoleto Festival in Italy until it returns to the Hammond for a summer reprise. *CANTICLE (God's Fool)* will take place from December 30-January 2.

Arts for People With Special Needs

ArtsWestchester's commitment to providing inclusive and accessible arts programs takes many forms, most recently through its Arts for People With Special Needs grant. This funding opportunity, made available in Fall 2021, is supported by Westchester County and the Board of Legislators. Applications were open to eligible social service agencies and local cultural organizations like the Music Conservatory of Westchester and the Institute of Applied Human Dynamics that offer programs designed for individuals with special needs, such as ADD/ADHD, autism, cerebral palsy, deafness, people who are wheelchair dependent, or those experiencing extreme poverty or homelessness. From Fall 2021 through Spring 2022, the funding supports art-engaging workshops that promote personal expression and creativity while also addressing social and developmental objectives like communication, concentration and emotional and physical wellbeing. Overall, more than 400 special needs individuals of all ages will benefit from interactive arts programs.

grants news

ArtsWestchester Receives Landmark NEA Grant for Voices for Change Program

In 2021, ArtsWestchester launched its [Voices for Change Artist Grant program](#), which provides funding to support artists in the creation of new works that elevate community voices and promote social awareness, equity and inclusivity. The pilot year saw more than 40 highly-competitive applications from a pool of creatives living and working in the Mid-Hudson Valley Region.

ArtsWestchester recently announced that Voices for Change will continue into 2022 and 2023 with the support of a significant \$150,000 [grant from the National Endowment for the Arts](#) (NEA) through its American Rescue Plan. With these funds, the Voices for Change grant program will be expanded to offer more awards at different funding levels with the goals of increasing community impact and putting more artists back to work as the arts industry continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Says the NEA's acting chair, Ann Eilers: "The NEA's significant investment in local arts agencies, including ArtsWestchester, is a key element in helping the arts and culture sector to recover and reopen, while ensuring that the American Rescue Plan funding is distributed equitably. These grants recognize the vital role of local arts agencies and will allow them to help rebuild local economies and contribute to the well-being of our communities."

Pablo Mayor, who was awarded one of the [two Voices For Change awards this year](#) for his musical and dance work *El Sapo*, says: "We are so grateful for the opportunity to realize a project that will allow us to inspire audiences young and old to think on the critical and pertinent subjects of climate change and immigration."

When updated guidelines become available, individual artists from the New York's Hudson Valley Region will be able to apply for creation grants for public murals, performances, workshops and other creative expressions that engage community members, enhance shared spaces and revitalize neighborhoods.



Participants in grantee ArchForKids's Revisiting Sleepy Hollow's Vacant Spaces program (photo courtesy of ArchForKids)

Applications Open: Arts Alive 2022

ArtsWestchester's Arts Alive grants are designed to expand arts opportunities throughout Westchester and Rockland Counties. Funds are available to support projects taking place in 2022. For instance, artists seeking funds to create a new work, emerging arts groups, schools, community agencies and more can all apply for support of arts and culture projects.

There are three Arts Alive categories: **Community Project Grants** support community-based arts and cultural projects developed by cultural groups and organizations, individual artists and collectives. **Individual Artist Grants** support a professional artist in the creation and presentation of new work that engages the community. **Arts Education Grants** support lifelong learning in the arts by funding activities that take place in an educational setting such as a classroom, after-school program or community site. [Application Deadline: January 13, 2022.](#)

Applicants can submit by January 6 to receive staff feedback. A virtual information session will take place on December 1 at 2pm for applicants to learn more about the funding opportunity.

This program is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant program, of the New York State Council on the Arts with support of the Office of the Governor and the NYS Legislature and administered by ArtsWestchester.

Apply Now: ReStart the Arts Grant Initiative

ArtsWestchester recently announced a new ReStart the Arts grant initiative, made possible with support of the Westchester and Rockland delegations of the New York State Legislature. The \$1 million initiative aims to help arts and cultural organizations bring back the artists and creative workers who fuel the cultural economy by providing employment for local creative workers.

Eligible organizations can apply for funding for a discrete project

that requires the engagement of an artist or creative professional. The ReStart the Arts grant provides direct programmatic support for organizations as they apply for funds that will help them to engage these creative professionals with work on a specific program or initiative. In providing this support, the initiative fills a gap left by other COVID-related funding opportunities. Awards range from \$2,500-\$25,000. [Application Deadline: December 16.](#)

State Legislators Provide Recovery Grants for the Arts

ArtsWestchester recently announced the recipients of its [Arts Alive Recovery NY Regrant program](#), a new, one-time opportunity that assists Westchester and Rockland County artists and arts groups with re-engaging their audiences through live performances and in-person arts programming. Made possible through the New York State Council on the Arts with support of the Office of the Governor, the program supports 33 grants, totaling \$43,850 in funding.

A key priority of the program is to support in-person arts programming, particularly from new organizations and artists that have not previously been a recipient of ArtsWestchester funding.

ArtsWestchester CEO Janet Langsam says: "For more than a year, artists were unable to perform in public in front of live audiences. These grants will help artists and arts groups recover from pandemic closures by promoting live, in-person events."

Over half of the applications were from brand new, first-time applicants. Of the 33 recipients, ArtsWestchester was able to support 20 applicants for the first time.

Among these first-time grant recipients, 15 municipalities throughout Rockland and Westchester Counties are represented. The funded programs cover an array of disciplines that include music, dance, theater, visual arts, film and more. Each of these programs will have a live public engagement component, thereby reinvigorating

in-person arts and culture experiences. Among the first-time grant recipients are:

Friends of Chappaqua Performing Arts Center: This group will present two musical productions based on children's books to be performed at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center.

Sloatsburg Plein Air Art Event: This is an artist-driven outdoor event, during which artists, inspired by their surroundings, create works in real time. The annual event celebrates the history and culture of Sloatsburg.

Individual Artist Tara Meddaugh: The artist will produce *The Whimsical Forest*, an outdoor theatre experience at the Harrison Public Library that explores beloved fairytale characters from new perspectives.

Now, these first-time grant recipients will join the growing list of eligible participants for the [Art\\$WChallenge](#) matching grant program, which enables ArtsWestchester to match every new dollar donated to any of the 147 participating arts groups through December 15.



Dancers Sharleen Chidiac, Owen Prum and Jade Manns in a performance of Toy Garden Reprise, presented by KinoSaito (photo courtesy of KinoSaito)

JOIN THE ART\$WCHALLENGE

Every new dollar donated to any of 147 participating arts groups through Dec. 15 is eligible to be matched.*

**up to a certain amount set forth in grant guidelines.*

artsw.org/artswchallenge

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(Photo: Wakanda Celebration)

Donate to any of the following eligible organizations:

Actors Conservatory Theatre • Afrikan Healing Circle • Antonia Arts • Arc Stages • ArchForKids • Arts and Culture Committee • Arts10566 • Asbury-Crestwood United Methodist Church • Axial Theatre • Ballet des Amériques School & Company • Bedford Playhouse • Bethany Arts Community • Black Marble Duo • Blue Door Art Center • Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts • CareerVisions • Clay Art Center • CLC Foundation • Clocktower Players • Concordia Conservatory • Copland House • Cross Cultural Connection • Daisy Jopling Music Mentorship Foundation • Downtown Music at Grace • Enslaved Africans' Rain Garden • Fine Arts Orchestral Society of Yonkers • Friends of Chappaqua Performing Arts Center • Friends of Music Concerts • Folklore Urbano NYC • GoJo Clan Productions • Gooseberry-Studio / Night Multimedia Art • Greenburgh Public Library • Groundwork Hudson Valley • Hamm & Clov Stage Company • Hammond Museum & Japanese Stroll Garden • Harrigan Educational & Cultural Center • Harrison Public Library Foundation • Historic Hudson Valley • Hoff-Barthelson Music School • Hudson Ballet Theatre • Hudson Chorale • Hudson Stage Company • Hudson Valley MOCA • Hudson Valley Writers' Center • India Center of Westchester • Irvington Shakespeare Company • Jacob Burns Film Center • Jazz Forum Arts • Just The Place • Katonah Classic Stage • Katonah Museum of Art • KinoSaito • Lagond Music School • Limelight Theatre Company • LMC Media • Lyndhurst • M & M Performing Company • Mamaroneck Artists Guild • Mamaroneck Historical Society • Money Makin' Mob • Mount Kisco Arts Council • Mount Vernon Friends of Recreation • Mount Vernon Public Library • Music Conservatory of Westchester • Mustafa Music Foundation • Neuberger Museum of Art • New Choral Society of Central Westchester • New Era Creative Space • New Rochelle Council on the Arts • New Rochelle Opera • New Westchester Symphony Orchestra • Niji No Kai • Northern Star Quilters' Guild • Nowodworski Foundation • O'Bey Foundation • OCA - Westchester/Hudson Valley Chapter • Ossining Arts Council • Ossining Documentary & Discussion Series • Ossining Public Library • Paramount Hudson Valley Arts • Peekskill Arts Alliance • Pelham Art Center • PJS Jazz Society • Pleasantville Music Theatre • Performing Arts Center at Purchase College • A Palo Seco Flamenco Company • Rehabilitation Through The Arts • Revelators • River's Edge Theatre Company • RiverArts • Rivertown Dance Academy • Rivertowns Village Green • Ruth Keeler Memorial Library • Saint Paul's United Methodist Church • Sidra Bell Dance New York • Sing Sing Prison Museum • Westchester Dance Artists • Songcatchers • SOOP Theatre Company • Sound Shore Chorale of New Rochelle • St. Thomas Orchestra • Steffi Nossen Dance Foundation • STEM Alliance of Larchmont-Mamaroneck • Taconic Opera • Tarrytown Music Hall • Orchestra 914 • Teatown Lake Reservation • The Coleman School of Dance • The Emelin Theatre for the Performing Arts • Accent Dance NYC • The Friends of the North Castle Public Library • The Neighborhood House • The Picture House Regional Film Center • The Play Group Theater • The Rye Arts Center • The Scarsdale Arts Council • The Schoolhouse Theater & Arts Center • The Symphony of Westchester • The Westchester Chordsmen • The Westchester Italian Cultural Center • The Y Dance Academy • Thomas H. Slater Center • Tribes Hill • Town of Pelham Public Library • Tutti Bravi Productions • Untermyer Gardens Conservancy • Untermyer Performing Arts Council • Urban Studio Unbound • Wakanda Celebration • Warner Library • Wartburg • Westchester Children's Chorus • Westchester Children's Museum • Westchester Chorale • Westchester Collaborative Theater • Westchester Philharmonic • Westchester Public Private Partnership for Aging Services • White Plains Downtown District Management Association • White Plains Performing Arts Center • White Plains Public Library Foundation • YoFi Fest • Yonkers African American Heritage Committee • Yonkers Arts • Yonkers Downtown Waterfront BID • Yonkers Public Library • Young at Arts • Youth Theatre Interactions



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.



Still from *The French Dispatch* (photo from Searchlight Pictures)

The French Dispatch

With this film viewing, I got back into my "while my husband is watching Sunday football, I am going to watch a film he would not like" habits of pre-Covid ritual. Shhh, since he is on a low salt diet, the first thing I did was get popcorn. I sat in a totally dark theatre with comfy great seats and no distractions: no phone, iPad or office in front of me. No bills or laundry to attend to. After all, movies are meant to be an escape.

The French Dispatch has a stellar cast: Bill Murray, Adrian Brody, Francés McDormand, Tilda Swinton, just to name a few. It had gorgeous cinematography and a creative use of graphics. It included several stories, which were not tied together (though I wish they were). However, even taken separately, they still provided dry, laugh-out-loud humor and an ode to great writers who worked for a publication and publisher who didn't shortchange their talent and perspective. It was funny, well-acted and a delight to the eye.

Oh, did I tell you I've always loved previews? Well, there are some really good movies coming out soon.

So plan to watch some in our local theaters, and especially those that support indie films like [Jacob Burns Film Center](#), [Bedford Playhouse](#) and [The Picture House](#).

2022

ARTS AWARD CELEBRATION

Wednesday, April 6, 2022 | Brae Burn Country Club

To nominate an artist or organization go to:
artsw.org/artsaawardnom

Deadline for nominations:
December 31, 2021

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upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities

Dec 2021 / Jan 2022 Arts Offerings

Melissa Errico will perform as part of Emelin Theater's A Broadway Celebration, 12/17 (photo courtesy of Emelin Theater)

12/1 WEDNESDAY

Music: Downtown Music at Grace presents *New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players with Bob Sherman*. The performance will feature selections from the full repertoire of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operas. 12-1pm. dtmusic.org

12/2 THURSDAY

Theater: M&M Performing Arts Company, Inc. & Red Monkey Theatre Group presents *Sherlock Holmes: A Scandal in Bohemia*. This is a new adaptation by Amy Frey from the classic

story by Arthur Conan Doyle. Performances will continue through 12/5. Times vary at Lyndhurst Mansion. lyndhurst.org

Film: Jacob Burns Film Center presents *Dope is Death: Screening and Q&A*. This film tells the story of how community activists developed the first acupuncture detox clinic in the United States during the early 1970s. 7-9:45pm. burnsfilmcenter.org

Music: Orchestra 914 presents *0914 Holiday*. Orchestra 914 presents an array of holiday favorites that will perfectly set the tone for this magical time of year. 7-8pm at Paramount Hudson Valley. orchestra914.org

12/3 FRIDAY

Exhibition: Oak&Oil Gallery presents *RHYTHM AND PATTERN: Opening Reception*. Meet the artist and enjoy light refreshments. 5pm. oakandoil.com

Spoken Word: Emelin Theatre presents *Liberty Comedy*. The program will include performances by comics Ophira Eisenberg, Liz Miele, Nore Davis and Shaun Eli. 8-10:15pm. emelin.org

Music: New Choral Society presents *New Choral Society: Messiah (Part 1)*. The chorus will present the Christmas portion of Handel's *Messiah: Part I*.

8-9:30pm at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church. newchoralsociety.org

Music: Westchester Chordsmen Chorus presents *Tree & Menorah lighting*. The group will sing seasonal-favorite songs in concert to launch the tree and menorah lightings in Scarsdale. 5-6pm at Boniface Circle. chordsmen.org

Theater: Chappaqua Performing Arts Center presents *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live on Stage*. This family-friendly production is based on Charles M. Schulz's animated television special. Through 12/19. Times vary. Chappaquapac.org

for more arts events, visit artsw.org

ArtsWestchester's Board Members Are Celebrating Life



ArtsWestchester board member Hannah Shmerler celebrating her 95th birthday hosted by Deborah Simon at Brae Burn Country Club last month.



When he's not helping the arts and parks, ArtsWestchester board member Martin Rogowsky is a baseball champ.

and Mike Ockrent. Through 12/30 at 2 & 7pm. wppac.com

12/4 SATURDAY

Film: Bedford Playhouse presents *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation & Ugly Sweater Sing-Along*. The classic Christmas comedy starring Chevy Chase will be followed by cocktails, an ugly sweater contest and holiday sing-along in the Playhouse Café. 7:30pm. bedfordplayhouse.org

Music: Emelin Theatre presents *A Rockapella Holiday*. The group will provide a musical holiday performance with unique takes on classic favorites and new original songs. 8-10:15pm. emelin.org

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Current Controversies in Journalism with Michael Balter via Zoom*. Students will discuss current issues in a roundtable format in which everyone will be encouraged to participate. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

Theater: M&M Performing Arts Company presents *All the Wrong Places*. The production will feature five one-act plays that explore the issues that arise while finding love. 2-3:45pm at Harrison Public Library. mmpaci.com

Family & Kids: New Castle Historical Society presents *The Great Holiday Train Show*. This family-friendly event will feature numerous vintage train sets that run throughout the festively decorated rooms of the Horace Greeley House for the holidays. Saturdays and Sundays through 1/9 at 11am, 12:30, 2pm. & Horace Greeley House. newcastlehs.org

Dance: Steffi Nossen Dance Foundation presents *Fall Showcase: An Immersive Dance Experience*. The performance will feature six new dances that explore the historic Bethany Arts Community. 2-8pm at Bethany Arts Community. steffinossen.org

Music: Westchester Chordsmen Chorus presents *Tree and Menorah Lighting*. The Chorus will sing seasonal-favorite songs in concert to launch the tree and menorah lightings in Rye Town. 4pm. chordsmen.org

12/5 SUNDAY

Class: Clay Art Center presents *Holiday Decorating on Clay with Paper Transfers*. Participants will use holiday-themed paper transfers to add patterns and designs to clay surfaces. 1-4pm. clayartcenter.org

12/6 MONDAY

Film: Jacob Burns Film Center presents *Fargo: Screening and Q&A*. This screening will be followed by a Q&A and book event with author Todd Melby. 7-10pm. burnsfilmcenter.org

12/7 TUESDAY

Film: Jacob Burns Film Center presents *NT Live: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. Captured live from the National Theatre in London, this critically acclaimed production has received seven Olivier and five Tony Awards. 2 & 6pm. burnsfilmcenter.org

12/8 WEDNESDAY

Spoken Word: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *An Evening with Sandra Lim, Natasha Rao, and Devon Walker-Figueroa (via Zoom)*. This is the final poetry reading of the 2021 series. 7-8:30pm. writerscenter.org

Reception: Pelham Art Center presents *Shop & Sip at the Boutique*. Guests will enjoy a cocktail and live music during evening shopping hours at the Center's Holiday Art Boutique. 5-8pm. pelhamartcenter.org

12/10 FRIDAY

Music: Emelin Theatre presents *The Gibson Brothers*. Bluegrass artists Leigh and Eric Gibson will perform. 8pm. emelin.org

Theater: M&M Performing Arts Company, Inc. presents *Mr. Dickens Tells A Christmas Carol*. Taken from the original script, actor Michael Muldoon will play Charles Dickens and tell the well-loved tale in the parlor of the Lyndhurst Mansion. Performances will be held through 12/23. Times vary lyndhurst.org

Music: Westchester Children's Chorus presents *Winter Concert*. The Chorus' ensembles of students in 1st - 12th grade will kick off the holiday season. 7-8:30pm at Larchmont Avenue Church. wcchorus.org

Music: Westchester Chordsmen Chorus presents *Tree & Menorah lighting*. The Chorus will sing seasonal-favorite songs in concert to launch the tree and menorah lightings in Hasting-on-Hudson. 6-7pm at Warburton Avenue and Spring Street, Hasting-on-Hudson. chordsmen.org

12/11 SATURDAY

Music: Emelin Theatre presents *We Banjo 3*. This Irish Quartet blends the shared and varied traditions of Americana,

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Theater: Westchester Collaborative Theater presents *Diner, Dives & Dreamers*. This festival of never seen before one-act plays will mark the Theater's long-awaited return to live on-stage performances. Weekends through December 12. Times vary. wctheater.org

Theater: White Plains Performing Arts Center presents *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. This musical version of the classic tale of Ebenezer Scrooge is brought to life with music from Broadway composer Alan Menken and book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities



Jay Unger and Molly Mason, Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse, 12/11 (photo courtesy of the artists)

Bluegrass and Celtic music with a pop-sensibility. 8-10:30pm. emelin.org

Music: Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents *Festival Orchestra Winter Concert*. The concert will feature works by Mozart and Mendelssohn. 7:30-9pm at Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation. hbms.org

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Ekphrasis: Writing Inspired by Art with Suzanne Parker via Zoom*. Participants will read and discuss model poems, explore the different strategies of the ekphrastic poem and compose their own poems. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

Theater: The Play Group Theatre presents *In Wonderland*. This musical, which is based on the novels *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*, will celebrate the imagination of childhood, the art of storytelling and the confusing joy that is growing up. Also 12/12,

12/19 at 2pm & 12/1 8-9:30pm. playgroup.org/shows

Class: The Rye Arts Center presents *Make an Adorable Raccoon with Polymer Clay*. Participants will use polymer clay to make simple shapes to form a cute sculpture. 2 & 3pm. ryeartscenter.org

Music: Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse presents *Jay Unger and Molly Mason*. These musicians draw their repertoire and inspiration from a wide range of American musical styles, from 19th-century classics to country music favorites. 7:30-10pm at Memorial United Methodist Church. walkaboutchorus.org

Music: Westchester Chordsmen Chorus presents *Tree and Menorah Lighting*. The Chorus will sing seasonal-favorite songs in concert to launch the tree and menorah lightings in The Village of Mamaroneck. 7-8pm at Harbor Island Park. chordsmen.org

12/12 SUNDAY

Spoken Word: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Publication Celebration for four HVWC Poetry Students*. Sophia Bannister and Jennifer Franklin will celebrate the publications of four long-time students of the Center. 4:30-6pm. writerscenter.org

Music: Music at Asbury presents *God Bless Us, Everyone*. The show is a staged reading of Dickens' classic holiday story, *A Christmas Carol*, complemented with a selection of familiar Christmas carols. 4-5:15pm at Asbury Crestwood United Methodist Church. musicatasbury.com



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Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents *Tommy Emmanuel with special guest Andy Mckee*. The Australian guitarist is known for his complex fingerstyle technique and lively performances. 7pm. tarrytownmusicall.org

Music: Westchester Chamber Music Society presents *the Walsh-Drucker-Cooper Trio*. The program will include works by Mozart, Schumann and Brahms. 4-5:30pm at Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester. westchesterchambermusicsociety.com

12/14 TUESDAY

Film: Jacob Burns Film Center presents *Senior Afternoon Cinema: The Lady Eve*. A trio of classy card sharps targets the socially awkward heir to brewery millions for his money, until one of them falls in love with him. 2:30-4pm. burnsfilmcenter.org

12/17 FRIDAY

Music: Emelin Theatre presents *A Broadway Celebration*. Tony-award nominee Melissa Errico will celebrate the holidays with music by Irving Berlin, Cole Porter and more. 8-10pm. emelin.org

Spoken Word: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Open Mic (via Zoom)*. This is an opportunity to share talents in a comfortable space. 7:30-9pm. writerscenter.org

Film: Jacob Burns Film Center presents *a screening of It's a Wonderful Life*. This 1946 American Christmas family drama film follows George Bailey who contemplates ending his life on Christmas Eve, but is visited by an angel who shows him the positive impact he's had on those around him. Times vary. burnsfilmcenter.org

12/19 SUNDAY

Music: Scarlett Antonia presents *Home for the Holidays*. The performance will be a celebration similar to the First Act of *The Nutcracker*. 4-6pm at The Artist Spot.

Family & Kids: Sister to Sister International presents *"It Takes a Village" Pre-Kwanzaa 2021 Program*. The family-friendly event will include dinner, vendor shopping and dancing. 5:30pm at Nepperhan Community Center. s2si.org

Music: Songcatchers Inc. presents *26th Annual Concert for Peace*. The concert will feature secular and interfaith carols, songs of peace and multicultural songs of the holidays. 3-4:30pm at Church of the Holy

Family. songcatchers.org

Music: The Sanctuary Series presents *A Newman Holiday*. Acclaimed keyboardists Anthony Newman and Mary Jane Newman will present two of the great Preludes and Fugues of J.S. Bach. 4-5:30pm at South Salem Presbyterian Church. thesanctuaryseries.org

12/21 TUESDAY

Film: Bedford Playhouse presents *a screening of It's a Wonderful Life*. This 1946 American Christmas family drama film follows George Bailey who contemplates ending his life on Christmas Eve, but is visited by an angel who shows him the positive impact he's had on those around him. 7pm. bedfordplayhouse.org

12/24 FRIDAY

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Jewish Writers Poetry Workshop with Sean Singer via Zoom*. This two-day workshop is for writers who wish to engage with themes of Jewishness. Also 12/25. 10am-6pm. writerscenter.org

12/26 SUNDAY

Theater: M&M Performing Arts Company presents *Mr. Dickens Tells A Christmas Carol*. The program will recreate the famous performance tour by Charles Dickens in 1867 with his classic tale that brings the travails of Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim alive. Performances will held through 12/30. 2-3:15pm at Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum. bartowpellmansionmuseum.org

Family & Kids: The Town of Tuckahoe presents its *Kwanzaa Celebration 2021*. The event will celebrate family and culture. 3-6pm at the Tuckahoe Community Center. tuckahoe.com

Theater: Yorktown Stage and Princess Art Productions present *A Christmas Carol: A Story Of Hope*. The musical is a new adaptation of the Dickens classic, set in 1843. Through 12/31. Times vary. yorktownstage.org

12/30 THURSDAY

Theater: The Schoolhouse Theater presents *Martha Clarke's CANTICLE (God's Fool)*. This is a dramatic piece, by the world-renowned Martha Clarke, about the mystic Saint Francis of Assisi. Through 1/2/2022. Times vary at Hammond Museum & Japanese Stroll Garden. theschoolhousetheater.org



Baroque
TREASURES

Vivaldi *Gloria RV 588*
and Bach *Magnificat*

8:00 PM Saturday, December 11
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4:00 PM Sunday, December 12

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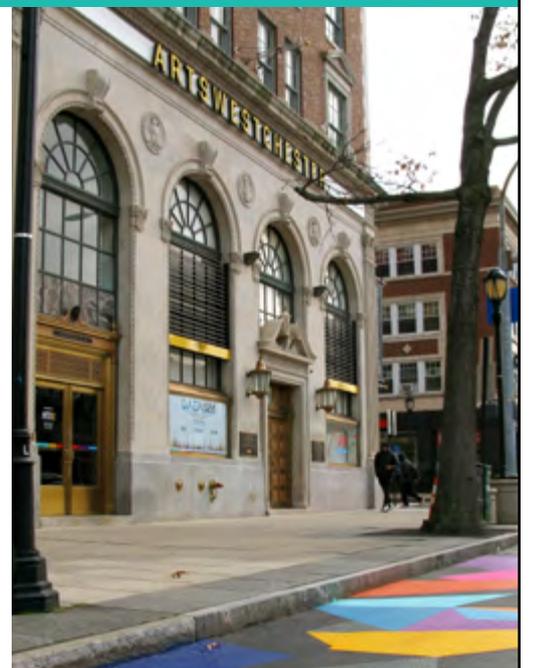
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1/7 FRIDAY

Reception: Bethany Arts Community presents *Opening Reception: This Far and No Further*. This exhibition of powerful photographs by William Abranowicz records his journey through the American South. 6:30-8:30pm. bethanyarts.org

1/12 WEDNESDAY

Reception: Bethany Arts Community presents *Artist Talk with William Abranowitz*. This is a talk with photographer William Abranowitz, moderated by Ossining Village Historian Joyce Sharrock Cole. 7-8pm. bethanyarts.org

1/15 SATURDAY

Theater: The Play Group Theatre presents *The Spongebob Musical*. The family-friendly performance will include music by Cyndi Lauper, Tom Kitt, and more. Performances held through 1/23. Times vary. playgroup.org

1/16 SUNDAY

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Making Poems with Indran Amirthanayagam*. This is a one-day generative writing workshop taught on Zoom. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

1/19 WEDNESDAY

Spoken Word: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *A Reading & Discussion with Sandra M. Gilbert & Susan Gubar*. The award-winning collaborators map the literary history of feminism's second wave. 7-8:30pm. writerscenter.org

1/20 THURSDAY

Music: Emelin Theatre presents *On A Winter's Night*. This performance will feature veteran singer-songwriters that remain among the brightest stars of the past thirty-year singer-songwriter movement. emelin.org

1/21 FRIDAY

Music: Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents *Faculty in Performance*. The School's faculty will perform works by Bach, Reger, Gliere and Glazunov. 7-9:30pm. hbms.org

1/22 SATURDAY

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *How to Write Funny with Patricia Marx via Zoom*. This is a one-

day intensive craft class on humor writing. 12:30-2:30pm. writerscenter.org

Dance: Bethany Arts Community presents *Got My Wings*. This dance triptych will explore the metaphor of light, freedom and hope with an original score by Dan Blake and choreography by Todd Hall and James Jandrok. 4-6pm. bethanyarts.org

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Flash Memoir with CMarie Fuhrman via Zoom*. This workshop is for creative nonfiction and memoir writers. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

Music: New Choral Society presents *An Evening of Chamber Music*. The chamber orchestra in a concert of their own. 8-9:30pm at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church. newchoralsociety.org

1/23 SUNDAY

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Playwriting Intensive (via Zoom)*. This class will be led by Barbara Blatner, a playwright, poet and composer. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Poetry Master Class with Richie Hofmann via Zoom*. This is a one-day generative writing workshop taught on Zoom and capped at 15 students. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

1/24 MONDAY

Classes: Steffi Nossen School of Dance presents *Free Week of Dance Open House*. Audiences can try the School's dance classes, including Modern, Ballet, Adaptive classes for kids and adults and more. Through 1/29/2022. 9:45-8:15pm. steffinossen.org

1/29 SATURDAY

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Writing for Children and Young Adults via Zoom*. Author Nora Raleigh Baskin will share everything she wished she had known when she first started sending out her work for acceptance. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

1/30 SUNDAY

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Building Richer Poems with Lauren Camp via Zoom*. This two-hour craft class will help students integrate and overlap approaches that will help the poem evolve. 12:30-2:30pm. writerscenter.org



Tommy Emmanuel will perform at Tarrytown Music Hall, 12/12 (photo courtesy of the artist)

for more arts events, visit artsw.org

EXHIBITIONS AND CLASSES

ArtsWestchester | artsw.org

- **Exhibition: *Visions*.** This exhibition will feature artwork by artists who are recipients of mental health services in Westchester County. Through 12/31. Tues-Fri, 12-5pm; Sat, 12-6pm.
- **Workshops: *Teen Tuesdays*.** Youth aged 12-16 will create holiday cards and festive hanging ornaments while learning a number of techniques such as paper folding and design. 12/7 & 12/16 at 4:30-6pm at White Plains City Center.

Bethany Arts Community | bethanyarts.org

- **Exhibition: *This Far and No Further*.** This is a show of photographs by William Abranowicz that record his journey through the American South. 1/7-1/29/2022, 10am-5pm.

Blue Door Art Center | bluedoorartcenter.org

- **Workshops: *Children's Saturday Art Workshops*.** This is a zoom series of workshops taught by a Blue Door Art Center teaching artist. Saturdays from 10-11am.

Clay Art Center

- **Exhibition: *Clay Holiday Market*.** The show will feature hundreds of pieces of functional pottery and ceramic sculpture by national and regional artists. Through 12/24, 10am-5pm.
- **Workshops: *Kids Clay Ornament Making Class*.** Ceramic artists will guide students aged 6+ through themed handbuilding projects. 12/4, 12/11 at 10am & 2pm.
- **Workshops: *Maker Night - Adult Clay Class (Ages 17+)*.** one-time classes to learn to use the potter's wheel. Fridays, 7-9pm.

Center for the Digital Arts, Peekskill | sunywcc.edu/peekskill

- **Exhibition: *Pop Up Members' Show*.** Peekskill Arts Alliance will present artworks by its show. Through 12/15, Mon-Thurs: 10am-5pm, Fri: 10am-4pm.

Harrison Public Library

- **Exhibition: *Always an Adventure*.** Lynne came to the creative life well into her adult years. She had no interest, background or training in the arts while growing up. A mid-life revelation pushed her toward watercolor painting, and opened up a magical world. 12/1-12/31, 9:30am-5:30pm.

Hudson River Museum | hrm.org

- **Exhibition: *African American Art in the 20th Century*.** These works range in style from modern abstraction to stained color to the postmodern assemblage of found objects, and their subjects are diverse. Through 1/16/2022, 12-5pm.
- **Exhibition: *Hudson River Museum Gift Shop*.** The display will offer one-of-a kind gifts, jewelry, toys, a great selection of books and more. Thurs-Sun: 12-5pm.
- **Exhibition: *Jamel Robinson: Beauty from Ashes*.** Robinson conceived the exhibition in response to the masterpieces from the Smithsonian American Art Museum also on view at the Museum. Through 1/16/2022, 12-5pm.

Hudson Valley Museum of Contemporary Art | hudsonvalleymoca.org

- **Exhibition: *How We Live II: Selections from the Marc and Livia Straus Family Collection*.** The show features original sculptures along with added paintings, tapestry and other two-dimension works. Through 1/31/22, visiting hours by appointment.

Hudson Valley Writers Center | writerscenter.org

- **Workshops: *Jewish Writers Poetry Workshop with Sean Singer via Zoom*.** This two-day workshop is for writers who wish to engage with themes of Jewishness. 12/24-12/25 at 10am-6pm.

Katonah Museum of Art | katonahmuseum.org

- **Exhibition: *Arrivals*.** This exhibition focuses on how artists over time have explored some of the myths and narratives around what it means to be American. Through 1/23/2022, 10am-5pm.

Luangisa African Gallery | luangisa.com

- **Exhibition: *Holiday Marketplace*.** The sale will feature handmade products from Africa, from home decor to fashion and jewelry. 12/4 at 10am-7pm, 12/5 at 12pm-6pm.

Lyndhurst | lyndhurst.org

- **Exhibition: *Lyndhurst Mansion Gift Shop*.** The shop will offer an array of items unique to Lyndhurst including seasonal items and local merchandise. Open daily from 9:30am-4:30pm.

Madelyn Jordon | madelynjordondfineart.org

- **Exhibition: *Totems*.** This is a solo exhibition of new paintings and sculptures of bunnies, butterflies and tropical birds by Hunt Slonem. Through 12/11, 10am-5:30pm.

Mamaroneck Artists Guild | mamaroneckartistsguild.org

- ***A Gift of Art: Holiday Art Exhibit & Boutique*.** The annual show will feature all media, from fine arts, jewelry, ceramics and crafts. 12/24/2021, 12pm-5pm at .

Neuberger Museum of Art | neuberger.org

- **Exhibition: *African Art and Culture: Selections from the Collection*.** Objects from the Museum's permanent collection will represent the artistic production of over thirty societies and cultures in Africa. Through 12/24, Wed-Sun: 12-5pm.
- **Exhibition: *Lesley Dill: Rush*.** The site-responsive installation consists of a large collage of interconnected animal and human figures selected from world spiritual



Visions 2021: Unmasked

On view: Oct. 14 - Dec. 31, 2021

A virtual exhibition featuring original artworks by more than 50 artists who are recipients of mental health services of Westchester County.

To view the artwork, please visit artsw.org/visions2021

Exhibit is made possible with support from:



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traditions. Through 12/24, Wed-Sun: 12-5pm.

- **Exhibition: *The Rise of a Social Consciousness in the Arts of Mexico Since the Revolution.*** This exhibition highlights modern Mexican artists in the awakening of a social consciousness in Mexico beginning in 1910. Through 12/24, Wed-Sun: 12-5pm.
- **Exhibition: *Then and Now: Modern and Contemporary Selections from the Permanent Collection.*** This exhibition includes a rotation of works by some of the museum's most beloved artists. Through 12/24, Wed-Sun: 12-5pm.

Nowodworski Foundation | sitenf.org

- **Workshops: *Dancing Yonkers.*** Joseph's Dance Studio will teach the steps needed to be a ballroom dancer. Through 6/11/2022, 1-2pm at Lower Level Gym.

Oak & Oil Gallery | oakandoil.com

- ***Rhythm and Pattern: The Art of Erin Nazzaro.*** Nazzaro creates paintings that are influenced by her visits to Latin America and the indigenous people that reside there. 12/3-12/31, 11am-5:30pm.

Pelham Art Center | pelhamartcenter.org

- **Exhibition: *Art Boutique.*** The annual art boutique will include affordable art and handmade artisan items that make unique gifts this holiday season. Through 12/23, 10am-4pm.
- **Workshops: *Create Your Book of Memories.*** Participants will collage their own personal stories while sharpening their crafting skills. 12/1, 12/8, 12/15 at 10am.

Studio Theater in Exile at Hudson Valley MOCA | studiotheaterinexile.com

- **Exhibition: *Truth Telling in honor of Native American Month.*** The exhibit features the works of eight contemporary Indigenous artists who present a counter-hegemonic view of Native people. Through 12/31, hours vary.

The Rye Arts Center | ryeartscenter.org

- **Exhibition: *Member Exhibit.*** The show will include works by hundreds of the Center's members who range from beginners to professionals. 12/1-1/1/2022, Mon-Fri: 9am-7pm, Sat: 9am-3pm.



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Tranquility by Erin Nazzaro, *Oak & Oil's Rhythm and Pattern*, on view 12/3-31
(photo courtesy of Oak & Oil)

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