Jeffrey Gibson, *The Future is Present*, on view in ArtsWestchester’s *Who Writes History?* Exhibition, 4/23-7/3 (image courtesy of the artist)
Hello, and Happy Spring! Thank you for taking a few moments to read this edition of ArtsNews. As we make our way into warmer weather and begin to explore the outdoors, I want to encourage all of you to take advantage of the many events offered by our friends at ArtsWestchester. If you are looking for a family-fun activity or a Saturday afternoon outing, there are plenty of in-person arts happenings throughout our County. This season, arts groups will be providing a new, robust schedule of programming, which are detailed in this issue of ArtsNews, including:

- whimsical sculptures at Katonah Museum of Art (see pages A8-9)
- events celebrating National Poetry Month (see pages A12-15)
- a citywide arts festival in Larchmont (see pages A18-19)

The arts can help all of us re-set, reflect and refresh for the days ahead. We should all find a few moments of respite, and participate in the wonderful arts 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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ArtsNews, your guide to arts and culture in Westchester County, NY, is published by ArtsWestchester, 31 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains 914.428.4220

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Reflections on Ukraine

When I was just a kid growing up in Far Rockaway, there was a war raging in Europe. As a tot, of course, I was too young to understand the gravity of what was going on. Or was I? Something about the horror of what is happening in Ukraine took me back to a reoccurring scene in my childhood living room. I remember the setting as if it were yesterday. My parents were seated in armchairs, clustered around a large mahogany radio. They sat silently and listened intently. Their faces were grim. Sounds of gun fire were audible. The mood was serious and somber. Somehow, I knew this was not a play. It felt real.

The other day, my daughter called. “Mom,” she said. “I can’t believe we are watching a war on television.” That is when I realized that I, long ago, was watching a war on the radio.

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

From the Curator:

WHO WRITES HISTORY?

An excerpt from an essay by Randy Williams, Co-Curator of ArtsWestchester’s Who Writes History? exhibition
Who Writes History? is an exhibition that investigates four major themes in the fine arts. It helps to reshape historical objects, keep records, reinterpret monuments and make history...

As we refer to these themes, we may want to acknowledge that art is perhaps most effective when there are educational elements rooted in the work. This informative process can be overt or benign.

“Reshaping Historical Objects” allows the artist to have a dialogue within their social order. This process helps the artist to reshape physical materials into visual artifacts. Shaping, reshaping and defining physical materials helps to classify items into a new role. The viewer’s familiarity with the original materials helps in building a connection and encourages conversations with the viewer and the art objects. The artist helps to bridge the physical world and the art world by creating a relevant equivalent.

“Record Keeping” can be viewed as defining recorded experiences in a resourceful way to help balance historical omission.

“Reinterpreting Monuments” helps us to review what we learn. Monuments can mark a one-point perspective. It is the responsibility of self-selected artists to reinterpret their history if that history is fragmented or presents a false representation of the facts. These artists can offer unrevealed versions of their history.

“Making History” is what we all do; we all make history. Artists use their discipline to record their history as well as our history. It is the quality of recording those events that garners the most attention by elevating truth and omitted perspectives.

When history is reflected in a convex mirror, the truth is sometimes selective and fragmented. These distortions often represent a narrow perspective of past events, magnifying the accomplishments of some and diminishing the accomplishments

Sana Musasama, I See Me Dolls (image courtesy of the artist)
of others. We must be mindful that life is what we live, and language alone is an inadequate means of capturing accurate events. If we wish to experience a redeemable truth, we must be willing to view history in a true mirror, with multiple images that reflect a greater record of historical events. Our record of past events must have a diverse vision, as well as multiple voices. We must correct the way in which we encounter past events, and one way of addressing this historical deficit is to ask the question “Who writes history?” We must then listen for the answers.

In *A People’s History of the United States*, author Howard Zinn states that “one version of history might revolve mainly around a specific set of facts, while another version might minimize them or not include them at all.” Zinn’s view of “history
as a weapon” has motivated artists to revise their views and approaches to their historical culture. Like social scientists, artists must do their research. The artists must create their artworks with deliberate intent and a directed force. Yet more importantly, the artists must view their work not only as a weapon but as a tool to filter their accounts of their experiences. The artist understands that the essence of lived experiences can be scrutinized in many ways. The artist may interpose a haiku approach to past events or choose to use a chronicle citing of events. The artist may view past events as a chronological passage of time or simply see the past as chaotic and random. What’s important is that the artist creatively shares their evidence, realizing that when the truth is accessible, a fuller version of history is also accessible. Multiple approaches to viewing history can help to expand the caretakers of history. By adding additional voices to the chorus of history, we make listening to the stories of the past accessible, comfortable inclusive and meaningful.

A members-only reception for Who Writes History? will take place on April 23 in ArtsWestchester’s gallery in White Plains.
The World Turned Upside Down

by Taylor Michael

It may be difficult for visitors to think of a more opportune time for Katonah Museum of Art (KMA)’s Constant Carnival: The Haas Brothers in Context exhibition to be on view. The show provides an oasis from the real world. On view through July 26, this playfully psychedelic display of works by the Haas Brothers encourages viewers to consider that joy and humor are still possible when creating new, more equitable worlds.

“You can either look at their artwork and get a fart joke out of it, or look deeper and get something more,” says Emily Handlin, KMA’s Associate Curator of Exhibitions and Programs. She explains that artistic duo Nikolai and Simon Haas want to break down hierarchies within the art world and museums. Simple emotions and pleasures can also be prioritized in these elite spaces.

Placing historical and contemporary works alongside one another, the show explores the history of the “carnivalesque” from the fifteenth century to the present. KMA divides works from the Haas Brothers, as well as a number of other notable artists, into two categories: “The World Turned Upside Down” and “Bodies and Boundaries.” The former features the brothers’ signature “beasts,” playful creatures that frequent their catalog. It also includes works from famed artists who played with inversion or surrealism, such as four selections from Salvador Dali’s series Fordali (Flora Dalinae). “Bodies and Boundaries” celebrates bodily expression and autonomy, exploring the realm of the profane.

The brothers’ works merge functional design and visual art. Amanda Seat looks soft enough to sit on. This beast’s Icelandic sheepskin resembles an alpaca in the form of an ottoman. In contrast, the brass bench Kiss My Brass! (2016) possibly wouldn’t be so comfortable to take a nap on. Their organic textiles, textures and forms invite viewers into a sensual world.

Receptive viewers may find humor and a justice-oriented politic in this visual aesthetic. Uruguayan master woodcutter Antonio Frasconi’s collection, while playful and cunning, addresses social and political mores of the mid-20th century, like racism, fascism and wealth inequality. For instance, his The Dog Hunter’s reversal of a pheasant hunt sparks a conversation about labor, vaguely recalling George Orwell’s Animal Farm.

Likewise, the Haas Brothers’ art doesn’t stop at whimsy. Handlin says they “push the limits of cuteness”: “They’re skilled at manipulating these forms for optimal emotional and empathetic response.” They also use their commercial success to make tangible impacts in vulnerable communities. The beading in Fungi Richie (2016) demonstrates this commitment. In 2015, the duo began collaborating with the South African Xhosa female bead workers and women in California’s rural Central Valley. Through these partnerships, these women can become wage earners in their communities.

Recently, the brothers have also used their work to highlight existing stigmas in LGBTQ+ communities, particularly advocating for HIV/AIDS awareness. The
seven brass hex tiles in their Advocates for the Sexual Outsider installation (aka the “Sex Room”) work to retool typical reactions to nudity or sexual pleasure, such as shame or self-consciousness. The artists urge viewers to be curious and find joy in the body’s natural inclinations.

“We invite everyone to explore their personal sexual definitions without the burden of social expectation,” they state in their Leather Manifesto: Advocates for the Sexual Outsider installation. “We present sex as an extension of innocence, not a loss of it.”

On April 3, KMA will be awarding its annual Himmel Award to the Haas Brothers for their commitment to boundary-pushing art, process and ethos. The award, named for arts patron Betty Himmel, acknowledges distinguished creators who challenge society through art and design. The ceremony will include a conversation with the artists and a cocktail reception.
After a two-year hiatus from live performances, Music from Copland House is getting ready to settle in for the spring season with a residency at the Emelin Theatre. The three-concert series will showcase more than 100 years of American music and
includes the works of classic American composers in addition to today's emerging and established composers.

The residency marks Copland House’s first public appearance in Westchester since March 2020, when the pandemic shuttered venues across the country.

The group’s artistic and executive director, Michael Boriskin says that the pandemic had “a very profound impact” on the group since most of what they do depends on public engagement: “Early on, we were able to pivot quickly to virtual programming, and that enabled us to reach a national and global audience that we didn’t have before. But there isn’t any substitute for live interaction.”

The residency took three years to come to fruition. Prior to the pandemic, Copland House was looking for a temporary home. The Merestead Estate in Mount Kisco, where it had been performing for many years, closed in 2019 for extensive renovations. Around the same time, Boriskin met Elliot Fox, the outgoing Executive Director of the Emelin, at an event and they discussed the possibility of a collaboration – until the pandemic put the idea on hold.

Boriskin says that the Emelin’s size, location and loyal audience makes it a perfect location for the residency. Fox says that “while classical music has always been on [their] roster, it’s never been a predominant genre.” This would give them the opportunity to expand while spreading the word about Copland House’s work and mission. As things began to open up, the discussion resumed.

The series exclusively champions past and present American chamber music, says Boriskin. The series kicks off on April 3, with Sounds of Westchester, a salute to a generation of composers who have made Westchester home to one of the richest musical legacies in America.

Says Boriskin: “We thought it would be fun and interesting to resume our live programs at home – not only physically, but artistically as well – with a concert that features Westchester natives or transplants.”

In addition to Copland, featured composers – Joan Tower (New Rochelle), Samuel Barber (Mount Kisco), Pierre Jalbert (Bronxville), Charles Tomlinson Griffes (Tarrytown) and Percy Grainger (White Plains) – have all had a significant connection to Westchester in one way or another.

On May 1, Lives Entwined features three works that explore personal connections to inner selves, outer worlds and the relationships between them. The program includes the world premiere of a piece by Emmy Award winner John Musto, which Boriskin describes as “a celebration of life and loss”; a rarely heard coming-of-age piece by Leonard Bernstein; and a work by Gabriela Lena Frank that “harkens back to her childhood and her heritage in Peru.”

The series finale on June 19 is Magic Charm…Up My Sleeve, a Juneteenth celebration “in music and word.” The event “helps to put the spotlight on a whole segment of American music that has, for so many reasons, been marginalized,” says Boriskin. “We look forward to restoring a musical balance in the repository and getting Juneteenth on the radar musically.”

Audiences returning to the Emelin will experience a freshly renovated theater, with new seats, carpeting and enhanced lighting and sound. While Boriskin expects Copland House to return to the Merestead Estate once the renovations are over, he hopes the collaboration with the Emelin continues. “I am really excited to see where this goes.”

We thought it would be fun and interesting to resume our live programs at home – not only physically, but artistically as well – with a concert that features Westchester natives or transplants."

—Michael Boriskin, Artistic & Executive Director, Copland House
national poetry month feature

Various poems ready for installation

Or hear their cries of anguish when they
broken and bereft.

wind

Dancing—yes—dancing

I suppose, yes—dancing

while people are dying.

Not out of callow

or callous indifference.

But in celebration of the dead

Celebration expressed

is melody

awaking

has swiftly flown a

Looks that's y
A Daily Dose of Poetry in Rye

“Poetry has the power to turn something inside out or upside down and make people think about things in a new way,” says Amy Vijayanagar, founder of Rye Poetry Path.

Beginning this month, this public art project will display 82 poetry installations at four locations throughout the City of Rye – Rye Town Park, Rye Nature Center, Edith Read Wildlife Sanctuary and the Knapp House.

“The nature of this project is that people discover it on their own. It’s something that’s just there for people to come across and engage with in their own way.”

While the project is a brainchild of Vijayanagar, she says the development of it has been a purely collaborative effort among people in her community – including the local school, nature preserve, art center, library and historical society.

Iain Haley Pollock, the outgoing English Department Chair at Rye Country Day School, is the project’s Poet-in-Residence. Come July, he’ll also be Director of the Graduate Creative Writing program at Manhattanville College. Pollock explains that people often turn to poetry to mark milestones or console themselves in hard times, but “this project…makes a case for the benefits that a daily dose of poetry can have in our lives.”

As such, the Poetry Path came about after Vijayanagar was thinking about “the context of the world we’re living in – the pandemic, climate change, issues related to race – and how powerful poetry can be.” The poems address three central themes: conservation, social justice and community.

Based on the themes, Pollock curated the poem selection process, spending hours at each location, making expert suggestions, and meeting with a team from each venue to help them choose individualized poems for each available spot.

Each venue had a slightly different approach. For Edith Read and Rye Town Park, the teams considered where people stop and gather, and places of interest. Rye Nature Center wanted the poems to appear on trails that are less visited; a way of encouraging people to explore the grounds. The poem at Knapp House was chosen based on its historical context.

In fact, history played a significant role overall, as a goal of the project was to include poets and poetry with a connection to Rye. For instance, two Native American poems are featured, which Vijayanagar says Pollock and RHS’s Director of Education Alison Relyea, spent a substantial amount of time selecting: “A lot of work went into figuring out how to best represent the native communities that were here before us.”

Another historical example is the placement of Lucille Clifton’s Atlantic is a Sea of Bones. “The Historical Society found that a ship came into Rye and smuggled in a group of slaves. There’s a whole history there that should be known and discussed.” RHS collaborated to provide an educational sign that explains the poem’s context.

But it wasn’t only the venues that partnered to make the project a reality. For one, the Rye Free Reading Room is hosting and creating the website.

Rye Arts Center (RAC) “was a natural fit” for taking on the design component. This was no small task, as each installation is unique, including laser-engraved metal, etching on stone, painted wood and more. Signs were created at RAC, by local artists, as a multi-disciplinary STEAM project for students at Rye Country Day School, and outsourced specialists. RAC will be managing a call for artists for several poems that lend themselves to mural or sculpture.

Vijayanagar wants the Path to be used in any way the community sees fit: “The point was to put something in our public spaces that anybody can use going forward. Whoever wants to use it can go for it.” She hopes that “wherever a person is in their life, the poetry will offer them what they need.”

Pollock adds: “Poetry can help us, in our hurried lives, to slow down…Its observations of the human and natural world can help us better understand ourselves and bind us together with those around us.”
Poetry News

City of Yonkers Appoints First Poet Laureate

The City of Yonkers recently announced its first-ever Poet Laureate, Golda Solomon. This position aims to enhance the presence of poetry in Yonkers and engage the community with poetry through activities that inspire writing and poetry programming.

Solomon, a published poet and Yonkers resident, is also an Adjunct Associate Professor at Manhattan College and CUNY. She has spent decades perfecting and sharing her craft, as well as teaching others, from children as young as five to adults as old as 85.

Solomon says she looks forward to “working with the community by unifying the diverse voices of our City through poetry,” adding that “we are all artists, we are all writers, we are all poets.”

According to Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, “Solomon’s combined passion for the written and spoken word, and for [this] City, will prove to be a great asset in nurturing Yonkers’ flourishing arts.”

Solomon shared the following gogyohka (“five lines”) poem with ArtsNews. The poem, which she says took on new meaning during the pandemic, was written for Mike Longo, who passed away due to COVID-19. Longo, who was once “Dizzy” Gillespie’s musical director, ran a long-running East Village jazz series in which Solomon often participated.

blow dizzie blow
spit out hosannas
healing riffs
blast ‘til heaven
busts wide open

Westchester Poet Laureate BK Fischer Nominated for Prestigious Award

Westchester Poet Laureate BK Fischer was named as one of five finalists in this year’s National Book Critics Circle Poetry award. The prestigious awards, founded in 1974 at the Algonquin Hotel, honor “the finest books published in English” in six categories. These are the only national literary awards that are chosen by critics themselves. Fischer was nominated for her novella-in-verse, Ceive, which was published in September. Ceive is a poetic retelling of Noah’s Ark set in the near future. Says Fischer: “It’s been very exciting to be a part of this. Being a finalist has been an unexpected and thrilling thing for my book, and the winning book, frank: sonnets by Diane Seuss, is marvelous.”

Westchester Poet Laureate BK Fischer (photo credit: Gina DeCaprio Vercesi)

N 41° 5´ / W 73° 52´
from Ceive by B.K. Fischer

Gather your wits, girlie. You sit up on a pile of towels by the defunct sump pump—dead quiet, no hum. The basement is smeared with mud—in one corner, feces and mud—and someone is up there, in the kitchen. You hear a man’s weight on the floorboards, footsteps that fade toward the north corner then stop. For a moment there is no sound and you watch the space inside the picture frame swell up to fill it. The frame leans against the foundation—that’s the empty story, gray stones wedged in prickly cement, wet with groundwater, and you have been watching it. Then you hear the high pitch of a hinge and boots clomp down the stairs and he is there, a man, standing four feet away with his hands behind his back. Unarmed. Or his weapon concealed. He pushes a piece of candy toward you, which you eat. Who he is takes a long time to rise to the top of your mind: brown sleeves, canvas vest with pockets, shaking rain off his hat—Roy, the UPS man. Get up, he says, there’s a ship that’s getting out.

More National Poetry Month Events

Hudson Valley Writers Center:

**In-Person and Virtual Poet Readings** (April 6-27)
Hudson Valley Writers Center will host a series of poetry readings on Wednesday evenings throughout the month of April: Kaveh Akbar, Elizabeth Metzger and L Lamar Wilson (April 6 via Zoom); Ossining poet Sean Singer, Adrian Matejka and Roger Reeves (April 13 via Zoom); a celebration of a new anthology by two of the Center’s Slapering Hol Press editors, Susana H. Case and Margo Taft Stever, including readings by several poets published in the anthology (in person on April 20); and Patricia Smith, Erika Meitner and Victoria Redel (in person on April 27).

Bethany Arts Community:

**Poets-in-Residence Poetry Reading** (April 8)
This month, Bethany Arts Community will present an event that features all eight of its current poetry residents. Each poet is at BAC to develop and perfect their own projects. For instance, some of Emily Hockaday’s works examine chronic illness and its effect on the body and spirit, while Matthew Guenette’s manuscript discovers the political and ecological crisis exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Other poets explore the loss of friends, cultural and historical perceptions of marriage, climate collapse and more.

Peekskill Artist Association:

**Painting, Poetry and Music** (April 23)
The Peekskill Arts Alliance will host an outdoor event at the Beanrunner Café in Peekskill. During this multidisciplinary event, painters will respond on canvases to the work of poets. Likewise, musicians will respond to both poets and painters with works of their own. Three combined art forms will collide in a collaborative creative effort as audiences observe.

Blue Door Art Center:

**ArtSpeak/From Page to Performance** (April 23)
Yonkers Poet Laureate Golda Solomon is co-host of Blue Door Art Center’s in-person and virtual “ArtSpeak/From Page to Performance” program with Robert Gibbons, which hosts local writers as well as writers from as far as England. As April is both National Poetry Month and National Jazz Appreciation Month, this workshop will incorporate jazz into its discussion. During the two-and-a-half hour workshop, participants will take part in writing prompt exercises before sharing, and giving feedback before an evening event during which writers are encouraged to read their works aloud.

Greenburgh Arts and Culture Committee:

**Poetry is for Everyone!** (April 23)
This event will feature Westchester County Poet Laureate BK Fischer and Westchester County Youth Poet Laureate Danielle Kohn, who will each talk about their tenure as the first in these literary positions. In addition, a dozen established poets from the Greenburgh Poetry Caravan will share their original poetry.

Pocantico Center:

**An Earth Day Poetry Reading** (April 27)
In celebration of Earth Day and Poetry Month, Pocantico Center will feature an event with three renowned Westchester poets – Iain Haley Pollock, Silvina López Medin, and Westchester County Poet Laureate BK Fischer – in its Abeyton Lodge building. Each poet will read work that explores what it means to inhabit human and natural landscapes in a time of environmental reckoning while grounding us in a sense of place. The event, which will also be livestreamed, concludes with a Q&A and reception.

Greenburgh Arts and Culture Committee:

**Teen Poets Celebrate National Poetry Month** (April 30)
Teen poets will gather to share their original poetry and winners in the Greenburgh Library’s 2022 poetry contest will be announced. Additionally, attendees will be invited to participate in a pop-up poetry workshop.

Hudson Valley Writers Center and Masters School:

**11th Annual Westchester Poetry Festival** (April 30)
This in-person outdoor festival, taking place on the campus of The Masters School in Dobbs Ferry, will feature seven poets who will read from their most recent works: Keynote poet Afaa Michael Weaver, Westchester Poet Laureate BK Fischer, Iain Haley Pollock, Mark Wunderlich, Brian Tierney, Yerra Sugarman and John Okrent.
by Scott Meaney

“There are many people who still see quilting as something their grandmother did,” says Rona Spar, Publicity Chair of the Northern Star Quilters’ Guild (NSQG)’s World of Quilts Show. As the Guild prepares for its forty-first annual Show on April 30 and May 1, Spar and her team have high hopes of attracting a newer and more diverse crowd.

“Although we have traditional quilts from fabulous traditional quilters, we want visitors to come away [recognizing] that quilting has come into the 21st century and has become a part of modern art and fiber art.”

Spar also explains that World of Quilts XLI, which will take place at SUNY Purchase, includes all aspects of quilting: “The sizes range from rather small – some artists’ work is very tiny, you’d be amazed – to king size.” Styles include modern, improvisational, historical and more. Some quilts are machine-made and others are handmade. Some quilts are traditional bed quilts while others are modern fiber art that hangs as art on the wall.

Among the more than 250 quilts on display, two invitational exhibitions will also be part of the show. The 40 x 40 @ 40 invitational celebrates the signature styles of world-renowned Manhattan Quilters Guild members, marking the group’s 40th anniversary. Each exhibited artist has developed a large-scale work measuring 40” x 40”. The second invitational will showcase the work of Leni Levenson Wiener, a renowned figurative collage artist whose works focus on the expressive and universal nature of body language.

This year’s featured lecturer is Jane Sassaman, whose storied career in quilting began in 1980. She has since blossomed into one of today’s most renowned quilt artists and fabric designers. In fact, her Willow quilt was named as
one of the “One Hundred Best American Quilts of the Century” at the International Quilt Festival in Houston, Texas. Sassaman will lecture three times over the course of the two-day event.

NSQG wants to spread the word about the wonders of quilting beyond its usual fans: “We want young people to look at quilting as something they can do and participate in.”

These usual fans of quilting, as well as the newly quilt-curious, can attend demonstrations and lectures, purchase quilt-related items from a large selection of vendors and, of course, shop for quilts. Proceeds from the raffle quilt, sewn by NSQG members, will benefit Friends of Karen, a charity dedicated to helping critically ill children and their families.

A spirit of competition is also alive and well at the show. Each year, NSQG offers a challenge to its members. This year is no different. “The challenge is to make a quilt with a heart included in it somewhere,” says Spar. Where and how this heart will be incorporated? That’s up to each artist’s creativity and moxy.

“...quilting has come into the 21st century and has become a part of modern art and fiber art.”
For the month of April, people choosing blossoms at Larchmont’s The Flower Bar can also pick out their favorite impressionistic landscape painting by Port Chester artist Deborah Petrucci. And those trying on glasses at Kurt Sauer Opticians can check their vision with artist Zahra Jlayer’s swirling abstract paintings.

On April 2, Larchmont will become a strolling art gallery when Arts on the Avenues begins. The event, hosted by the Larchmont Chamber of Commerce, pairs Westchester artists with local businesses, who then work together to choose and display artworks in the shops.

This second annual Arts on the Avenues (the “avenues” being Palmer Avenue and Boston Post Road) includes more sponsors, more artists, and what organizers believe will be more fun thanks to an expanded range of related activities for both adults and children.

“We’re hoping to generate business in the village as we highlight the great artists of Westchester,” says Ximena Francella, chair of this year’s planning committee.

Laura Saravia, this year’s event curator and coordinator, made it her mission to work exclusively with artists based in the County. Supporting Westchester-based makers is something of a personal mission for Saravia, a graphic designer who founded Westchester Handmade, a support organization for the County’s creatives.

Saravia chose this year’s artists through an open call and...
invitational. “Part of the curation was finding artists who were complimentary to the stores,” she explains. “We’re trying to build relationships.”

Nancy White, owner of The Flower Bar and president of the Larchmont Chamber of Commerce, voiced her excitement about the 2022 events calendar. “There are activities going on throughout the month, not just on opening and closing days,” she says.

The festivities begin on the morning of April 2 at the Palmer Art framer shop, where kids will work with pop artist Michael Albert on a collage project. That afternoon, the community will take part in the coloring of a *Love Larchmont* canvas mural, and students from the School of Rock Mamaroneck will present a musical performance in Addison Park. Also on the agenda are guided walking tours, paper flower-making workshops at independent bookstore Andersons Larchmont, a hand-stamping necklace workshop with jewelry-maker Georgianna Kulianos, and an artist panel discussion at The Idea Kitchen, Larchmont’s co-working space.

From April 1 to June 30, the nonprofit Furniture Sharehouse, which provides donated furniture to those in need, will display artworks at The Idea Kitchen for a fundraising sale. On April 21, they will host a brief talk, followed by a presentation by BAM Art Advisory founder Brooke Molinaroli.

Over Larchmont Spring Break, from April 11-18, a scavenger hunt will take participants on a search for illustrations of famous artists hidden around town, after which they’ll enter the locations in a “passport.” Completed passports can be entered into a drawing for a basket of art supplies and other gifts.

Concurrent to the festival, Mamaroneck Artists Guild will present its *17th Annual Small Works Open Juried Show* through April 23. On April 26, a solo show by photographer Mark Swartz will open there.

On closing day, April 30, Andersons Larchmont will offer community craft project workshops. In addition, Johnny Skinz, owner of the Larchmont-based custom sneaker service Skinz Time, will demonstrate sneaker painting. New Jersey-based Ani Ramen House, the event’s main sponsor which opens its first Westchester location in Larchmont just one day before the start of Arts on the Avenues, will host a closing reception for the artists, sponsors, friends and families.

It all adds up to an artful month in Larchmont. “This is part of what makes Larchmont such a great place to live,” says White.
The Healing Power of a Good Delay

Two former lovers run into each other by chance during their evening commute on a Metro North train. In this case, the imagined train will be parked on stage in Armonk’s Whippoorwill Theater; the lovers will be the subjects of Hudson Stage Company (HSC)’s upcoming production. After a year in the making, Off Peak is finally making its world debut with a premiere on April 22.

During the play, its characters’ different views of the same past come into light. As a result, Off Peak explores themes of forgetting, forgiving and finding out about the healing power of a good delay.

It’s no secret that the theater industry has taken a toll during the pandemic. “We’ve been through so much these past couple of years,” says HSC Co-Founder Denise Bessette. So for its next mainstage play, Bessette and co-founder Olivia Sklar wanted to present a new production that was more than just a timely play. Bessette explains that they reviewed a lot of politically and socially relevant plays, but they “didn’t want to hammer the audience over the head.”

“We wanted to offer something that had light and hope and substance.”

They knew just what to do. Bessette and Sklar reached out to playwright Brenda Withers to create a new play with this concept of light and hope.

Withers knew that this play would have two characters, and she had two actors in mind while writing: husband-wife duo Kurt Rhoads and Nance Williamson. The couple has starred together as lovers, siblings and rivals over the years. Off Peak will be their 68th play together.

“Brenda Withers has written such great conversational dialogue,” Rhoads said. “In just a few readings, it feels very much like we’re just talking to each other.”

While the duo has been rehearsing at home, performing a play with someone you know quite well has its perks and challenges. Williamson says there is generally a familiarity and trust that happens when you’re working with people that you’ve worked with before.

“That’s not to say that they can’t surprise you and do new things,” started Williamson. “But there’s a certain familiar chemistry that happens when you’re working with people that you know. I say that, because Kurt and I work together so much that marriage and working together are sort of graded. You know, it’s like a braid.”

As the cast and crew get ready for the premiere with Director Jess Chayes, Bessette says that it will be the last one for Hudson Stage Company before it closes for good.

“I feel very, very, very sad. But I also accept that it’s time,” she explains. “I’d rather close on this note, where nobody is forcing us to shut down financially.”

Though Off Peak will only be running for a short time at HSC – from April 22 through May 7 – Bessette hopes there will be interest in this production beyond the world of HSC and that it continues to see success.
Harriet Tubman: The Journey to Freedom

A sculpture in commemoration of Harriet Tubman will be installed for a three month residence in White Plains this month. The work emphasizes the resilience of Tubman, an escaped enslaved woman who helped to lead enslaved people to safety along the Underground Railroad. *Harriet Tubman – The Journey to Freedom*, a nine-foot-high, 2,400 lb. bronze sculpture by artist Wesley Wofford, was previously on display in Peekskill last year. It will now be on view at Renaissance Plaza in White Plains through June 30.

The City of White Plains and the White Plains BID will present a calendar of related programs. Below is a sampling of those events.

**StoryWalks**
Read about the life of Harriet Tubman in the children’s book *Before She Was Harriet: The Story of Harriet Tubman* by Lesa Cline-Ransome as you take a walk around the host location.
- White Plains Library Plaza (April 1- June 30)
- Bryant-Mamaroneck Park (April 9 - June 30)
- Downtown White Plains Business District (May 1- May 31)

**Outdoor Movie: HARRIET** (May 21)
Court Street between Main Street and Martine Avenue

**Concert: a Tribute to Harriet Tubman** (June 22)
An evening of R&B, Gospel and Jazz at Renaissance Plaza, featuring Sounds of A&R aka SOAR

Visit the [BID’s website](#) for a full schedule of events.
“We are trying to create an event. That goes beyond just creating a piece of music,” says John Krupa about *Choices: A Rock Opera*, a production that he wrote and directed. The rock opera will see its world premiere at the Whippoorwill Hall Theater in North Castle Public Library on April 1-3.

“We’re doing our best so that every person who sees the production will take something away from it that they’ll remember, whether it’s lights, costumes or music. There’s something for everybody in this…I think performers have a responsibility to put on the best show they can, and give it their all at every performance.”

**“It’s taken on a life of its own. The project is as much other peoples’ now as it is mine.”**

- John Krupa

This is a topic Krupa knows well. About four years ago, his friend playfully suggested that he write a book about his life as a successful rock star in the ’80s. After all, he had played with the likes of Meat Loaf, Paula Cole and even members of the Rolling Stones.

Krupa remembers saying: “I’m not an author. I don’t know how to do that. But as it turns out, I do know how to write music.”

He put his music degree to good use to write a semi-autobiographical story about a musician who is forced to choose between a rock and roll life on the road and a life of domesticity with the woman he loves.

Co-Producer and Business Manager George Drapeau adds:

“There are opportunities out there, and you make a choice in life.” *Choices* acknowledges the consequences of these decisions. “These are the big issues of existence that we want people to take from this.”

What started as a personal “cathartic experience” for Krupa turned into something much larger: “It’s taken on a life of its own. The project is as much other peoples’ now as it is mine.”

Collaborators include business partners, Emmy and Grammy Award winners and other accomplished talents. Lead actor MiG Ayesa starred as Stacee Jaxx on Broadway’s *Rock of Ages*.

The term “rock opera” isn’t an accident either. Krupa explains that the show has the structure of an opera. “We have an aria and recitativo; we have some dialog and then a song...So it’s a traditional opera in that way, but it has 100-percent rock and roll instrumentation.”

The music, which starts out as “straight-ahead hair band rock and roll, with loud guitars and wailing synthesizers” takes a turn in the second act when the mood becomes much more somber. The music ebbs and flows to match the story. The story, in turn, matches the music.

Says Drapeau: There’s messaging there, but at the core of it is a really good time. You go to the theater and you’re entertained. It’s a rock concert, so you’re gonna be movin’ and groovin’ and stompin’.”

Aside from a single enjoyable performance, Krupa and his team hope that people will see the show as an experience. He says that the goal is not only to bring this rock opera to Broadway, but also beyond: “We want the secondary schools of Butte, Montana to be putting this on as their spring musical.”
MiA\$ as "Singer" in Choices: A Rock Opera (photo credit: Abigail Krupa)
spotlight

Photographer Lori Adams Wins Arts Award

The Larry Salley Photography Award is given each year during ArtsWestchester’s Arts Award celebration, taking place this year on April 6 at the Brae Burn Country Club in Purchase. The award was established in 2018 by ArtsWestchester, African American Men of Westchester and the family of Westchester community member Lawrence Salley as a celebration of Salley’s life and artistic achievements.

Lori Adams

2022 Larry Salley Photography Award

Lori Adams began by photographing plants as they grew in their natural glory. Moving to the controlled lighting of her studio, and inspired by the style of Netherlandish paintings of the 1600s, she began using combinations of plants and objects to develop her still-life photography. In all of her work, Adams represents the wonder of nature and the incredible qualities of flowers and seedpods. Through her botanical imagery, Adams is able to reflect the arrangements of the past and use plants, just as they were designed by nature, to tell a photographic story that expresses an obvious appreciation of botanical subjects. Lori Adams has exhibited her work in numerous solo exhibitions in Cold Spring, Poughkeepsie and Beacon.

For Arts Award info and tickets, click here.

Lori Adams, Cluster of Crowns (Hens & Chicks)/image courtesy of the artist
Lori Adams, Melonecholy/Melancholy (image courtesy of the artist)
ARTS WESTCHESTER

ARTS AWARD CELEBRATION

Wednesday, April 6, 2022
Brae Burn Country Club, Purchase, NY

HONORING

Livia & Marc Straus
Founders of Hudson Valley MOCA
ARTS PATRON AWARD

EMILY & EUGENE GRANT
ARTS PATRON AWARD

Lyndhurst
A National Historic Trust Property
ARTS ORGANIZATION AWARD

Joanie Madden
Founder of Cherish the Ladies
ARTIST AWARD

Steffi Nossen Dance Foundation
SOPHIA ABELES ARTS EDUCATION AWARD

Lori Adams
LARRY SALLEY PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD

Juneteenth Commitees
COMMUNITY AWARD

Reserve your tickets, sponsorship package, or journal ad today at: artsw.org/artsaward
or by calling: 914-428-4220 ext. 326

All proceeds will benefit the ArtsWestchester Artist Relief Fund.
“Libraries are really all about discovery and connection,” says Patricia Brigham, Director of Development at Westchester Library System.

Beyond the expected books and computer terminals, visitors at many of Westchester’s thirty-eight public libraries can find a vast array of cultural programming.

“For many Westchester residents, these cultural programs are a gateway to a life-long appreciation of the arts and learning,” adds Brigham.

Some of the most democratic of all our institutions, libraries charge no admission, are essentially barrier-free, age-neutral and welcoming to everyone in the community. They are generally known to all and considered a safe space.

Yonkers Public Library Director Jesse Montero offered: “The library is the most accessible place for all people to practice and experience the arts, whether through books, exhibitions, virtual programs or in-person events.”

With the outbreak of COVID-19, libraries had to quickly adjust to a new reality. Despite initially closing off their public spaces, library staffs created new pathways for community members to utilize their services, including arts programming. With more people experiencing the isolation of a restricted life, virtual activities took on even greater importance.

Lisa Itzkowitz, Marketing and Communication Coordinator at New Rochelle Public Library explains: “It’s our goal to engage with as much of the community as possible. To that end, we believe that there will continue to be a place for hybrid and virtual programs. This provides access for community members who may not be able to get to the library.”

White Plains Public Library Director Brian Kenney praised his staff for the speed at which they pivoted their programs and services to accommodate the virtual world. Kenney sees the crucial importance of active involvement in the arts: “Our commitment to art programming goes beyond painting and sculpture. Every summer, we feature a foreign film series in our auditorium, we have arts and craft programs for teens and adults, writing workshops, digital photography workshops for seniors, and so much more. Increasingly, White Plains residents are looking to the library as a place to not only see art, but to participate in its creation as well.”

Many libraries discovered that, even aside from COVID-19-related restrictions, there has been a general appetite for virtual programming. As such, many libraries are already exploring the possibility of continuing their hybrid programs. Kenney feels it’s important to continue serving those who may not be able to physically get to the library but have embraced their offerings virtually.

At the Ossining Public Library, Director Karen LaRocca-Fels sums up her library’s approach to the arts: “Arts and artists are integral to the fabric of our society. As a library, we feel that providing arts and cultural programming for all ages is a key part of our mission and our service to our community.”
Though the COVID-19 pandemic has thrown the cultural sector a curveball, the arts will come alive again throughout both Westchester and Rockland Counties in the coming year. ArtsWestchester’s Arts Alive grant program will help to fund projects by 50 arts groups and artists, making the arts accessible to every resident and countless visitors. This year’s application pool included 20 first-time applicants.

From public murals with a social message to dance classes that are tailored for special needs participants, the Arts Alive program champions local, grassroots arts groups and supports artists in the creation of new work. This aligns with ArtsWestchester’s restated commitment to equity and access, as the intention of the funding is to support programs that provide access to the arts. However, the plethora of proposals also speaks to the perseverance of the arts, and the creative communities that Rockland and Westchester have reinforced during the pandemic. Included among the grantees is:

Greenburgh Public Library’s World Music Concert Series will showcase various genres of music by Westchester musicians, thereby providing the audience with an opportunity to explore the diverse cultures of the world through music.

Hudson Valley Mural Arts is a Rockland-based project that partners
local artists with venues for mural projects. The project, which is
dedicated to educating youth artists through muralism “seeks to
create an experiential and enriching program for future generations
of artists.”

Chiku Awali African Dance, Arts & Culture in Rockland offers
African dancing and drumming classes in-person and on Zoom.

Young at Arts’s education program at Amani Charter School
provides comprehensive music education to “encourage young
people to expand their horizons and build character, leadership and
commitment through music, drama and movement.”

Here is a full list of this year’s Arts Alive grantees:

Adina Andrus (Port Chester)  Miguel Braceli / VAEA New
Alice Mizrachi (West Nyack)  Rochelle (New Rochelle)
Andrew Algire (Valley Cottage)  New Westchester Symphony
Antonia Arts, Inc. (Peebskill)  Orchestra, Inc. (White Plains)
ArchForKids (Harrison)  Northern Star Quilters’ Guild, LLC
Arts and Culture Committee, Town (Somers)
of Greenburgh (Greenburgh)
Asbury Crestwood United Methodist (Yonkers)
Church (Tuckahoe)
BridgeMusik, Inc., (Tappan)  Nowodworski Foundation
Brooklyn Demme (Nyack)  (Port Chester)
Chiku Awali African Dance, Arts & (Yonkers)
Culture, Inc. (Suffern)
Commemorate (Irvington)  Pamela Sklar (Port Chester / Rye)
David Simons (Chesnut Ridge)  P-CoC Inc | Parenting Children of
Emotions Physical Theatre (Suffern)  Color (Hasting on Hudson)
Friends of Chappaqua Performing (Peekskill)
Art Center (Chappaqua)
Gooseberry Studio (Rye / Yonkers)
Greenburgh Public Library, (Greenburgh)
(Greenburgh)
Haifa Bint-Kadi (Yonkers)  REALM: Recognizing Enslaved Africans
Igor Sharapanyuk (New City)  of Larchmont Mamaroneck
InVision U, Inc (New Rochelle)  (Mamaroneck)
Irvington Shakespeare Company  RISEUP: Research Initiatives for the
(Irvington)  Strategic Empowerment of Urban
JCC of Mid-Westchester (Scarsdale/ Populace (Mount Vernon)
New Rochelle)  River’s Edge Theatre Company, Inc.
Jeff Watkins (Pelham)  (Hasting on Hudson)
Just the Place, Inc. (Peekskill)  Rockland Arts Festival (Bardonia)
Katonah Village Library (Katonah)  Rockland County Pride Center (Nyack)
Katonah-Bedford Hills-Bedford  Savannah Green (Palisades)
Village Arts League (Katonah)  Shunzo Ohno (Briarcliff Manor)
Kris Campbell (Tappan)  Westchester Public/Private
Kyle Dries (Mamaroneck)  Partnership for Aging Services
Limelight Theatre Company (Chappaqua)  (Yonkers)
Mia Brownell (Port Chester)  Westchester Youth Alliance
(Mamaroneck)
(Mamaroneck)
(Yonkers)
(Briarcliff Manor)
Private
Young at Arts (and school partner:  Yonkers Public Library/Riverfront Art
Amani Public Charter School)  Gallery (Yonkers)
(Bronxville / Mount Vernon)

Previous program by grantee Nowodworski Foundation (photo courtesy of Nowodworski Foundation)
With the sun peeking out from behind the clouds and the frigid air growing milder by the day, signs of spring signal the return of ArtsWestchester’s ArtsMobile. Since its inception in 2019, ArtsMobile has been a traveling beacon for creation throughout Westchester. Now it will return to local farmers’ markets, fairs and events throughout the spring, summer and fall. Equipped with supplies for a variety of different arts activities, the ArtsMobile van can roll up to virtually any location and open up shop, providing participants young and old with a free arts activity.

ArtsWestchester’s Director of Arts in Education, Jessica Cioffoletti, says that the ArtsMobile has become one of [the organization’s] key programs: “This is especially true as we emerge from the pandemic. The community has been able to safely gather using creative expression to feel good, socialize and reduce stress under the guidance of a professional artist.”

The program connects trained artists with eager creatives in communities throughout Westchester to help fabricate what may have been an intangible idea, thought or feeling into a tangible final product or experience. Past workshops have included painting, printmaking, clay work, bucket drumming and dancing.

Any person of any age and artistic skill level can immediately participate. Cioffoletti notes that she has seen families, youth, seniors and teens all take part. Once finished, they are left with a creative experience that they may not have had otherwise. The workshops eliminate the need for purchasing supplies or signing up for an art class; everything required is already there at the disposal of an imaginative mind.

Cioffoletti says that while some participants are initially hesitant to try something new, the team of teaching artists and staff puts these worries to rest as they help to carefully guide each individual through their own creative journey.

“There is no ‘messing up’ at an ArtsMobile workshop; only a discovery of what’s possible. Just like the late Bob Ross used to say: ‘We don’t make mistakes, we have happy accidents.’”

The ArtsMobile, which is sponsored by White Plains Hospital, can be spotted throughout Westchester at upcoming events, including the Down To Earth Farmers’ Markets in Ossining (April 16) and Katonah Art Walk (April 23).
Legislator Colin Smith Highlights Recent Visit to KinoSaito Art Center

“Art is the language of our collective consciousness. The expression of how we see the world and our connection to it. Art is beautiful, frightening, sublime and inspiring. It helps us interpret the complexities of nature and the human soul. Art is the antithesis of rationality and logical expression. Simply put: Art is.

I had a lovely time yesterday visiting the re-opening of the @kinosaito Art Center in Verplanck. The new exhibits are crisp and engaging. I would encourage all who have an interest in the arts to go visit. You can find more information on their website: kinosaito.org.”

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.

Múnich – The Edge of War (Netflix)

It is always amazing with history, that even though we clearly know “the end of the story,” we can still be pulled into a moment in time when the world could have changed…and still believe it may be so. This historical thriller (yes, it kept me at the edge of my seat) shows the precursor to WWII, when Neville Chamberlain (then Prime Minister of the United Kingdom) met with Hitler, Mussolini and Daladier to sign the Munich Agreement, an agreement for Germany to take over Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland. His thinking was that this would avert a war. That is history. And, alas, we know what happened next. But the thriller in this movie is the desperate attempts of two men to get the truth out. A relationship that is intense, honest and emotional coming together to try to save the world. This period piece will engage, educate and encourage you to learn more about this moment in history. This was an engrossing film with great acting and an excellent story.
NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATORS RESTART THE ARTS

New York State legislators helped to secure a $1 million allocation in the State’s budget to be regranted to arts groups in Rockland and Westchester counties for COVID-19 recovery. The new Restart the Arts grant program, administered by ArtsWestchester, helps to fund projects that require the engagement of an artist or creative professional. When State legislators recently gathered with ArtsWestchester and Restart grantees to celebrate the program, many shared the potential and projected benefits of the program:

“Usually when you want to restart the economy, you start with the arts. Now the artists can continue to create and pour their heart into what they do.”
– Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

“Arts are the cultural glue that holds us all together. This is what makes Westchester and Rockland Counties such a wonderful place to live.”
– Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick

“This translates into real dollars that keeps artists paid and projects going.”
– Senator Shelley Mayer

“The arts are an incredible economic engine.”
– Assemblyman Chris Burdick

“I’m getting excited as an individual to be attending and supporting so many of these arts programs. The arts are alive and it’s great!”
– Assemblywoman Sandy Galef

“The spring is here, our economy is coming back, and the arts are going to be a big part of that. It’s the soul of Westchester County. It gives us an understanding of what humanity is all about.”
– Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti
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<tr>
<th>Quote</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>“There’s nothing like live art to help you come back to life.”</td>
<td>Assemblywoman Amy Paulin</td>
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<td>“These funds will help us to bring unique programs to the local community through our ‘Learn the Past, Discover the Future’ arts series.”</td>
<td>Rachel Whitlow, Haverstraw Brick Museum</td>
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<td>“We can now continue to pay artists to provide free public programs that bring people together.”</td>
<td>Charlotte Mouquin, Pelham Art Center</td>
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<td>“These funds make it possible for us to resume live theatrical productions for the first time in more than two years. Our new season features four world premieres brought to life by a diverse group of playwrights, performers, directors and designers.”</td>
<td>Andrew Horn, Penguin Rep Theatre</td>
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<td>“YoFiFest plans to use this funding to pivot on a new post-pandemic course to better serve our community by employing artists to train young people who are entering the creative workforce.”</td>
<td>Patty Schumann, YoFiFest</td>
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<td>“These funds will help us to pay performers and invigorate downtown New Rochelle.”</td>
<td>Theresa Leghorn, New Rochelle Council on the Arts</td>
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<td>“The grant will enable us to rehire artistic carvers from our annual Great Jack O’Lantern Blaze event for a short film that highlights the artistry that happens behind the scenes.”</td>
<td>Waddell Stillman, Historic Hudson Valley</td>
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<td>“This grant allows us to film in-prison arts presentations to show the talents and humanity of incarcerated people to the Westchester community.”</td>
<td>Ricki Gold, Rehabilitation Through the</td>
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“The funds enabled us to support professional actors and artists and bring the highest quality theater experience to our community.”
– Theresa Lant, Arc Stages

“We will launch our Overtures Family Concert Series, which will feature African dance, a flute & marimba duo, an Irish band and more, all free to the public!”
– Marigene Kettler, Rockland Conservatory of Music

“We are thrilled to receive this funding, which will help us to pay camp teachers so that our scholarship donations can go even further.”
– Wendy Weinstein, Clay Art Center

“This funding has enabled us to present the leading lights of the Jazz firmament for the enjoyment of the entire Westchester community (and beyond), especially during these challenging times.”
– Mark Morganelli, Jazz Forum Arts

“Funds for this grant will be used to support filmmakers and other artists, most of them within our region.”
– Matthew Seig, Rivertown Film Society

With this funding, we have been able to continue our support of emerging filmmakers and young media makers.”
– Mary Jo Ziesel, Jacob Burns Film Center

“This grant will help to fund our Fellowship program, which supports emerging artists with monetary and organizational help as they build their careers and community practice.”
– Abigail Lewis, Bethany Arts Community

“Thanks to this transformational grant, we’ll be able to hire videographers, graphic designers, writers and film editors to get audiences back to our Pelham and Bronxville theater locations.”
– Laura deBuys, Picture House Regional Film Center

“Caramoor is so grateful for the Restart the Arts grant to support our free Soundscapes event on June 5.”
– Ed Lewis, Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts

“This not only supports us as a venue, but also supports the artists who perform here, and the local businesses that cater to our patrons.”
– Bjorn Olsson, Tarrytown Music Hall
GOLF OUTING
TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022
Whippoorwill Club, Armonk

Get ready for the ArtsWestchester Ralph Martinelli Memorial Golf Outing at a NEW VENUE THIS YEAR!
Foursomes & sponsorships available by visiting: artsw.org/golf2022
For information: afabrizio@artswestchester.org
CROSS COUNTY CENTER IS BUZZING THIS SPRING!

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EARTH DAY CELEBRATION
SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 1PM – 4PM
JOIN US FOR FAMILY ACTIVITIES.
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CrossCountyCenter.com
upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities

April 2022

Arts Offerings

4/1 FRIDAY

Theater: Arc Stages presents The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time. This production is based on the 2003 mystery novel by Mark Haddon. Through 4/9. 8-10pm. arcstages.org

Reception: Bethany Arts Community presents Opening Reception: An Object of Curiosity. This is an opening reception is the works of the Artists’ Association members at Katonah Museum Art, which explore the definition of an object of curiosity. 5-7pm. bethanyarts.org


Music: Emelin Theatre presents Bill Frisell Trio. All three of these musicians have a deep sense of structure along with their exploratory approach to making music. 8-10pm. emelin.org

Music: Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents HB Artist Series: Faculty in Performance. The Music School’s faculty will perform works by Claude Arrieu, Randal Woolf and Carl Maria von Weber. 7:30-. hbms.org

Music: North Castle Public Library presents Choices: A Rock Opera. The new musical follows the arc of a spandex-wearing frontman of a successful 1980s “hair band” when he is confronted with deciding what path his life should take. Also 4/2. 8-10pm at Whippoorwill Hall. northcastlelibrary.org

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents Tab Benoit with Special Guest Whiskey Bayou Revue. Benoit is a Grammy nominated singer, songwriter
upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities

and guitarist who has built a remarkable 30+ year career on the foundation of his soulful Delta swamp blues. 8-11pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

**Comedy:** Westchester Collaborative Theater presents *Blind Tiger Improv.* The troupe will provide a night of wild comedy. 8-10pm. wctheater.org

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**4/2 SATURDAY**

**Music:** Emelin Theatre presents *Ladies of Laughter.* The event showcases female comedians doing stand-up today. 8-10:30pm. emelin.org

**Class:** Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents *Master Class with Allen Lieb.* Lieb to give suzuki violin master class, which features world-class musicians and educators. 2-4:30pm. hbms.org

**Class:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *A Poetry Revision Workshop via Zoom.* Participants will leave with new insights on how to claim their unique voice through the revision process. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Family & Kids:** The Larchmont Chamber of Commerce presents *Arts on the Avenues.* The event will kick-off a month-long exhibition by Westchester Artists at various local businesses with arts activities and music performances. 2-5 pm in Addison Park. larchmontchamber10538.org/artsontheavenues

**Music:** The Tarrytown Music Hall presents *Marc Broussard.* Broussard supports his new studio album and book, which was created to educate and inspire younger audiences. 8-11pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

**Music:** Westchester Children’s Chorus presents *Community Sing.* This program will invite the community to join together in song and learn from one of the country’s leading choral conductors. 1-4pm at Larchmont Avenue Church. wcchorus.org

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**4/3 SUNDAY**

**Music:** Emelin Theatre presents *Sounds of Westchester.* The concert features a trio of Pulitzer Prize winners Aaron Copland, Joan Tower, and Samuel Barber, Old and New World masters. West 4-6:15pm. emelin.org

**Class:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *A Poetry Craft Class (via Zoom).* Students will use the practice of making poems to dig into the relationship between the sentence and the line. 12:30-2:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Reception:** Katonah Museum of Art presents *Himmel Award and Conversation.* The event will honor boundary-defying artists the Haas Brothers—Simon and Nikolai Haas—who will discuss their imaginative works. 5-7:30pm at Bedford Playhouse. katonahmuseum.org

**Music:** Tarrytown Music Hall presents *The Wailin’ Jennys.* The group has earned their place as one of today’s most beloved international folk groups. 7-10pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

**Theater:** The Play Group Theatre presents *The Dinosaur Musical.* This comedic and heartwarming prehistorical musical adventure will include participation from the Theatre’s students. Through 4/6. 2-4pm. playgroup.org

**Music:** Westchester Chamber Music Society presents *American Brass Quintet.* The quintet has been internationally recognized as the most distinguished of all the brass quintets. 4-5:30pm at Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester. westchesterchambermusicsociety.com

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**4/4 MONDAY**

**Class:** Color Camera Club of Westchester presents *Boudoir Photography.* Visitors will learn the intricacies of the boudoir photography business. 7-9pm. colorcameraclub.org

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**4/5 TUESDAY**

**Music:** Tarrytown Music Hall presents *Jason Isbell with S. G. Goodman.* Isbell has established himself as one of the most respected and celebrated songwriters of his generation. 8-11pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

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**4/6 WEDNESDAY**

**Reception:** ArtsWestchester presents *the 2022 Arts Award Celebration.* The event will recognize individuals and organizations for their extraordinary impact on arts and culture in Westchester. 12pm at Brae Burn Country Club. artsw.org

**Music:** Downtown Music at Grace presents *Cellist David Heiss and Pianist Warren Jones.* This classical recital, performed by renowned artists. 12-1pm. dtmusic.org

**Spoken Word:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Poetry Reading via Zoom.* Kaveh Akbar returns to the center to read from his second collection with poets L. Lamar Wilson and Elizabeth Metzger. 7-8:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Lecture:** Northern Star Quilters Guild presents *Heidi Parkes.* This lecture is a guided hand yoga practice and a discussion of hand care principles.
Participants will think about their own work in relation to the markers of lineation, prose poetry, the essay and the list. 12:30-4:30pm at Hudson Valley Writers Center. writerscenter.org

**Class:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents Law for Writers: Book Contracts via Zoom. Participants will learn how to protect their rights and interests next time they’re faced with a contract. 12-1pm. writerscenter.org

**Class:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents Open Write (in person & via Zoom). This is an evening of generative writing, story swapping and community building. 7:30-9:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Music:** Jazz Forum Arts presents Jitterbugs Jazz for Kids. This program for kids aged 2-7 years explores the culture, history and sounds of jazz music. 10am-11am. jazzforumarts.org

**Music:** Tarrytown Music Hall presents A Bronx Tale. Chazz Palminteri will perform his one-man stage version of the hit movie and recent Broadway musical. 8-11pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

**Music:** Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse presents Women’s Voices - Benefit Concert. Proceeds from this concert will support the work of an area not-for-profit involved in the Nationwide problem of missing and murdered indigenous women. 7:30-10pm at Memorial United Methodist Church. walkaboutchorus.org

**Music:** Westchester Collaborative Theater presents Jazz Masters Series: Ray Blue. The saxophonist and his band will perform live. 7-10pm. wctheater.org

**Class:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents Rising Action, the Engine of Story via Zoom. Fiction and non-fiction writers, poets and script makers, and anyone who wants to work on story structure are welcome. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Class:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents A Generative Workshop with Jennifer Militello (via Zoom). Participants will read poems that employ image, metaphor and music to prioritize the instinct over the intellect. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Class:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents Memoir Intensive. This four-hour class will offer a supportive environment where participants will be talking about memoir writing, writing in class and sharing for constructive feedback. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Music:** Downtown Music at Grace presents Baritone Ivor Klayman and Pianist Svetlana Gorokhovich. This is an all-English program that features the great folk song arrangements of Benjamin Britten. 12-1pm. dtmusic.org

**Spoken Word:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents Poetry Reading (via Zoom). A group of poets will read from their latest collections and engage with the audience for a Q&A. 7-8:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Music:** Tarrytown Music Hall presents Bela Fleck : My Bluegrass Heart. Fleck returns with his first bluegrass tour in 24 years. 8-11pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

**Reception:** The Katonah Museum Artists’ Association presents Artist Talk: An Object of Curiosity. Exhibiting artists will speak about their work, their methods, and their response to the exhibition theme. 6:30-7:30pm. bethanyarts.org

**Music:** Tarrytown Music Hall presents One Night of Queen. Gary Mullen and his band The Works will recreate the look, sound, pomp and showmanship of arguably the greatest rock band of all time. 8-11pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

**Film:** Jacob Burns Film Center presents JBFK Kids: NYICFF Kid Flicks One. This short film program from New York International Children’s Film Festival will showcase creative films from all over the world. 11:30am-12:30pm. burnsfilmcenter.org

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The event will celebrate The 2022 Roy R. Neuberger Prize Award recipient, 5-7:30pm. neuberger.org

4/22 FRIDAY

Dance: Bethany Arts Community presents Open Rehearsal: Apparatus of Repair. Jo Kreiter of Flyaway Productions and artists will perform and rehearse a new piece. 3-4pm. bethanyarts.org

Tours: Clay Art Center presents Virtual Gallery Tour of The Garden Exhibition & Artist Talk. Artist Anat Shifman will host a tour of her exhibition, which is open at the Center through May 9. 12-1pm. clayartcenter.org

Music: Emelin Theatre presents Hollis Brown. Hollis Brown is an American rock band, formed by songwriters Mike Montali and Jonathan Bonilla. 8-10:15pm. emelin.org

Theater: Hudson Stage Company presents Off Peak. This is a new play about forgiving, forgetting and the healing power of a good delay. Through 5/7. Times vary at Whippoorwill Hall at North Castle Public Library. hudsonstage.com

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents The Zombies. The iconic British psychedelic pop legends will celebrate their long-awaited induction into The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, with a new album in the works and their 2022 Life Is A Merry-Go-Round Tour. 8-11pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

Theater: White Plains Performing Arts Center presents Side Show. This production is based on a true story of famed entertainers and twins, Violet and Daisy Hilton, who became famous during the 1930’s. Through 5/8. 8-10:30pm. wppac.com

4/23 SATURDAY

Reception: ArtsWestchester presents Opening Reception: Who Writes History?. The show how images and language shape our collective history. 3-6pm. artsw.org

Class: Bethany Arts Community presents Photography is For the Birds Workshop. Participants will learn about the best techniques for photographing birds. 10am-12pm. bethanyarts.org

Class: Blue Door Art Center presents ArtSpeak/From Page to Performance. The in-person and virtual workshop and reading will host local poets and writers who will participate in writing exercises and share their works. 1:30-5pm at Studio 423 C Sharp, Yonkers. bluedoorartcenter.org

Music: Friends of Music Concerts, Inc. presents Jerusalem Quartet chamber music concert. The ensemble will perform works by Mendelssohn, von Webern and Tchaikovsky. 8-10:30pm at Auditorium of Ossining High School. friendsofmusicconcerts.org

Spoken Word: Greenburgh Arts and Culture Committee presents Poetry is for Everyone. A dozen established adult poets from the Greenburgh Poetry Caravan will share their original poetry. 1-3pm at Greenburgh Town Hall. greenburghartsandculture.org

Music: Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents Youth Orchestras Virtual Open House. Audiences will learn about the School’s four-tiered youth orchestra pyramid. 4-5pm. hbms.org

Reception: Oak & Oil Gallery presents Opening Reception: Bellezza da Spazazzatura. Artist Natalya Khorover’s ode to the beauty of flowers is formed and stitched from single-use plastic. 5-8pm. oakandoil.com

Music: Peekskill Artist Association presents Painting, Poetry and Music. The outdoor, multidisciplinary event will combined three art forms in a collaborative creative effort. 1:30-4pm at Bearrunner Cafe in Peekskill. peekskillartsalliance.org

Film: Studio Theater in Exile presents Mary Lou Williams: The Lady Who Swings the Band. This documentary film is about Mary Lou Williams, the renowned yet unsung jazz genius who fought to create in a world that couldn’t see past her race and her gender. Also 4/24. studiotheaterinexile.com

Family & Kids: Tarrytown Music Hall presents Illusionist Rick Thomas. Thomas continues to entertain millions of people across the world with intricate magic tricks. 2-5pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

4/24 SUNDAY

Music: Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents Chamber Music Concert. The Annual Elaine Stamas Chamber Music Residency will feature chamber music concert and master classes with musicians from the New York Philharmonic. 7:30-9pm. hbms.org

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents A Craft Talk and Writing Experience via Zoom. Participants in this craft talk will learn about dream archetypes and how they do or don’t match up with characters in their own work. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

Class: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents The Joy of Editing with Daniel Lawless & Frances Richey (via Zoom). This workshop focuses on the art of editing, and offers techniques that help writers on their poems. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

Music: New Choral Society presents Music of Rutter, Copland and Lauridsen. This season finale will feature a cycle of folk songs by John Rutter, paired with favorite choral songs by Lauridsen and Copland. 3-4:30pm at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church. newchoralsociety.org

Music: The Rye Poetry Path presents Ebb and Flow. The program will celebrate National Poetry Month through poetry and music by local young musicians and students. 4-5pm at Rye High School Performing Arts Center. rye-poetry-path.ryelibrary.org

4/25 MONDAY

Lectures: Color Camera Club of Westchester presents Why Black...
Songcatchers Seeks New Home in New Rochelle

Songcatchers, a nonprofit dedicated to providing affordable access to high quality music education and enrichment to children, is seeking a new facility in the downtown or southwest section of New Rochelle, where it can hold lessons and programming throughout the week. The desired facility will ideally have features that include handicapped accessibility, restrooms, nearby parking, a secure entrance and bright lighting. Onsite or nearby auditorium/performance space would also be a plus. The nonprofit organization is eager to collaborate with members of its community to explore any possible facilities and/or partnerships. Contact karenann@songcatchers.org for more info.

and White Presentation. In about 75 minutes, Cole Thompson will make the case that black and white is the perfect medium for any subject. 7:30-9:30pm. colorcameraclub.org

4/27 WEDNESDAY

Music: Downtown Music at Grace presents The Westchester Philharmonic Brass Quintet. The group will perform its signature blend of classics, jazz and pops led by Phil trumpeter Wayne du Maine. 12-1pm. dtmusic.org

Spoken Word: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents An In-Person Reading (also via Zoom). Poets Patricia Smith, Erika Meitner and Victoria Redel read from their latest collections. 7-8:30pm. writerscenter.org

Spoken Word: Pocantico Center presents An Earth Day Poetry Reading. Three renowned Westchester poets will read work that explores what it means to inhabit human and natural landscapes in a time of environmental reckoning. 6:30pm. rfb.org/pocantico

Class: The Rye Arts Center presents BYOB Paint The Masters. Adults will create their own masterpiece inspired by Georgia O’Keeffe. 6:30-9pm. ryeartscenter.org

4/28 THURSDAY

Reception: Neuberger Museum of Art presents Artist Talk: Kay WalkingStick. The self-described Cherokee painter will discuss her work and focus on the American Landscape and its metaphorical significances. 6-7pm. neuberger.org

4/29 FRIDAY

Music: Emelin Theatre presents Stanley Jordan Plays Jimi. This concert will re-imagine Jimi Hendrix’s music and his persona. 8-10pm. emelin.org

Music: Tarrytown Music Hall presents Kevin James. James began his career as a stand-up on the Long Island comedy scene. 7:30-11pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

4/30 SATURDAY

Music: Bethany Arts Community presents International Jazz Day. A trio of renowned jazz artists will perform music by legendary composer and visionary artist Hermeto Pascoal. 7-9pm. bethanyarts.org

Music: Caramoor Center for Music and Arts presents Jazzmeia Horn. The jazz vocalist will showcase her songs of daring musicality, emotional power and social relevance. 8pm. caramoor.org

Music: Friends of Music Concerts, Inc. presents Pacifica Quartet chamber music concert. In a return engagement on our series the Pacifica Quartet, together with guest artist pianist Orion Weiss, will perform Florence B. Price’s String Quartet No. 1 in G Major; Prokofiev’s String Quartet No. 2 in F Major, Op. 92; and Dvorak’s Quintet for Piano 8-10:30pm at Kusel Auditorium at Sleepy Hollow High School. friendsofmusicconcerts.org

Spoken word: Greenburgh Library & the Arts and Culture Committee presents Teen Poets Celebrate National Poetry Month. Teen poets gather to share their original poetry and celebrate National Poetry Month. 1-3pm at Greenburgh Public Library. greenburghartsandculture.org

Class: Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents Master Class with Pianist Ingrid Jacobson Clarfield. Jacobson Clarfield will host a piano master class, which is open to the public. 2-4:30pm. hbms.org

Festival: Hudson Valley Writers Center presents 11th Annual Westchester Poetry Festival. The festival will host seven exceptional poets as they read from their most recent work. 1-4pm at The Masters School, Esthewood Mansion Lawn. writerscenter.org

Theater: Westchester Collaborative Theater presents One-Arty Plays Festival: Attitude Adjustments. This is a festival of never-seen-before one-act plays. 8-10pm. wctheater.org

Jerusalem Quartet, Friends of Music Concerts, 4/23 (photo credit: Felix Broede)
upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities

EXHIBITIONS & WORKSHOPS

Arc Stages | arcstages.org

- **Exhibition: From the Wings: Broadway Behind the Scenes.** This is an exhibition of photographs that celebrate the reopening of Broadway by noted local photographer Chad David Kraus. Through 4/30. Times vary.

- **Workshop: Outdoor Sculpture for Kids.** Students will work together to create temporary site-specific sculptures and engage in the playful nature of outdoor work. Mondays, April 4, 11, 18, 25. Times vary. 3:30-5pm.

- **Workshop: Magic, Myth and Monsters: The Middle Ages.** This course will explore the art of the medieval world and identify the threads that connect it to subsequent traditions. Tuesdays, 4/12-5/17 at 10-11am.

- **Workshop: Introductory Printed Sculpture.** Students in this workshop will learn how to conceive, design, and finish a sculpture using a 3D filament printer and a resin printer on loan. 4/1-4/3. Times vary.

ArtsWestchester | artsw.org

- **Exhibition: Who Writes History?.** The exhibition explores how images and language shape the collective memory and mainstream narratives. 4/23-7/3. Wed-Fri & Sun: 12-5pm, Sat: 12-6pm.

- **Workshop: Teen Tuesdays & Thursdays.** Youth aged 12-16 years will participate in arts activities, including portrait drawing, collaging stories and storyboarding. 4/12, 4/19, 4/28 at 4:30-6pm.

- **Workshop: ArtsMobile.** The program offers free, hands-on arts experiences at events, festivals, and organizations led by professional teaching artists in the visual and performing arts. 4/16 at Down To Earth Farmer’s Markets in Ossining & 4/23 at Katonah Art Walk at varying times.

Bethany Arts Community | bethanyarts.org

- **Workshop: Who Writes History?.** The exhibition explores how images and language shape the collective memory and mainstream narratives. 4/23-7/3. Wed-Fri & Sun: 12-5pm, Sat: 12-6pm.

- **Workshop: Magic, Myth and Monsters: The Middle Ages.** This course will explore the art of the medieval world and identify the threads that connect it to subsequent traditions. Tuesdays, 4/12-5/17 at 10-11am.

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Blue Door Art Center | bluedoorartcenter.org

- **Workshop: Children’s Saturday Art.** This workshop for children aged 5-12 is taught by the Center’s teaching artists. Sat: 10am-12pm.

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

- **Exhibition: Create.** The exhibition explores the creative process and the ephemeral quality of the digital medium. Through 4/27, 10am-4pm.

Chroma Fine Art Gallery | chromafineartgallery.com

- **Exhibition: Photography Exhibition.** This four-week exhibition is wide-ranging, featuring more than 40 vintage black and white prints from the 1960s to the 1980s. 4/3, 11am-5pm.

The City of White Plains and the White Plains BID

- **Exhibition: Harriet Tubman – The Journey to Freedom.** This 9-foot high sculpture by artist Wesley Wofford commemorates Harriet Tubman will be installed for a three-month residence in White Plains. 4/1-6/30 art Renaissance Plaza in White Plains.

Clay Art Center | clayartcenter.org


- **Exhibition: Object/Image: In the Space between Thoughts and Things.** SUNY New Palz Ceramics Program students and faculty reflect on the generative potential between internal and external space. Through 5/9.

Harrison Public Library | harrisonpl.org

- **Exhibition: Informed by Nature.** Suzanne Montresor has been a watercolor artist for the past 35 years. 4/3-5/6, 9:30am-5:30pm.

Hudson River Museum | hrm.org

- **Exhibition: Frida Kahlo in Context.** The show explores her relationship with Diego Rivera through legendary photographs of Kahlo as well as artwork related to her personal life and Mexico. Through 5/22, 12-5pm.

- **Exhibition: The World of Frida.** The show features works of art that include Frida Kahlo as subject, as well as pieces inspired by her life, Mexican culture, art and more. Through 5/22, 12-5pm.

Hudson River Potters | hudsonriverpotters.net

- **Exhibition: Annual Hudson River Potters Spring Show.** The show will feature the stoneware and porcelain functional and sculptural pieces of 16 local potters. 4/9-4/10, 10am-5pm.
for more arts events, visit artsw.org

Hudson Valley Writers Center | writerscenter.org

- **Workshop: Poetry as Thought via Zoom.** This craft and reading class will be about using poetry to improve and clarify thinking. 4/21-5/19, 6:30-8:30pm.

- **Workshop: Write, Write, Write!: A Fiction Workshop for Teens (via Zoom).** In this five-week workshop, teens will use all sorts of prompts to create new stories. 4/3-5/15, 1-3pm.

Katonah Museum of Art | katonahmuseum.org

- **Exhibition: Constant Carnival: The Haas Brothers in Context.** This show explores the work of contemporary artists Simon and Nikolai Haas within the art historical tradition of the carnivalesque. Through 6/26, 12-5pm.

- **Exhibition: An Object of Curiosity.** Members of the Katonah Museum Artists’ Association have responded to this theme in this juried exhibition. 4/1-4/30, Mon-Fri 10am-4pm.

KinoSaito | kinosaito.org

- **Exhibition: Regeneration.** The show assembles a body of recent work by the multidisciplinary artist Christina McPhee that draws upon her decades-long exploration of remote landscapes, memory and more. Through 4/24, 10am-5pm.

- **Exhibition: Material Presence: Jilaine Jones + Fran O’Neill.** Jones, a sculptor, and O’Neill, a painter, both make the physical properties of their materials carriers of emotion and drama. Through 4/24, Fri–Sun: 10am–5pm.


Larchmont Chamber of Commerce | larchmontchamber10538.org/artsontheavenues

- **Exhibition: Arts on the Avenues.** The month-long exhibition will feature the works of Westchester Artists displayed at local businesses. 4/2-4/30. Times and locations vary.
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Artist Daniel Carello works on his mural in downtown White Plains, a public art partnership between ArtsWestchester and LMC, a Lennar Company.

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