

# ARTS NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2022

## ART CHANGES THE FACE OF WHITE PLAINS



Artist Wane One prepares his mural on Mamaroneck Avenue in White Plains in preparation of Serious Fun Arts Fest in October (photo credit: Katelynn DiBiccarri)

A PUBLICATION OF ARTSWESTCHESTER SPONSORED BY:

## Montefiore Einstein



Westchester gov.com From the County Executive

Dear Readers, Thank you for taking a few moments to read this fall edition of ArtsNews. As the temperatures cool down and the leaves begin to turn colors and fall, I want to encourage all of you to enjoy the many exhibits and events that ArtsWestchester and our local arts

groups have to offer across our beautiful County. There are plenty of in-person and virtual arts happenings for you to explore this fall. This month, ArtsWestchester provides a new calendar of arts programming in our local communities, including:

- theater venues ready to welcome back guests (see pages A4-7)
• a celebration of jazz throughout White Plains (see pages A8-13)
• an abundance of outdoor fall arts festivals (see pages A32-35)

I encourage all of you to take a few moments of respite, and participate in these wonderful arts opportunities if you can. As Westchester County continues on its path forward, remember that the arts will always be here for us to discover and enjoy.

Sincerely, George Latimer Westchester County Executive

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

George Latimer County Executive

Catherine Borgia Chairman, Westchester Board of Legislators

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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.

# Art Under the Starry Skies of Ghent, NY

It may be wishful thinking on my part, but it seems to me more artists are migrating out of the city to a more bucolic life in upstate New York. Maybe it's just a Covid thing or an affordable housing shortage, but on a recent trip upstate the signs of artists seemed ubiquitous.

Alas, I couldn't find any statistics through Americans for the Arts... so, I thought I'd wander around Catskill, New York, and maybe stop in Saugerties and Hudson. This is where folks tell me that artists are joining the ranks of dairy farmers and mountain climbers. I was thrilled to find *Art Omi*, an outdoor sculpture park and gallery situated on a former dairy farm in Ghent, New York.

I could burst into song about the 120-acre art park. What that means for the arts, as the great Ella put it – is "give me land, lots of land under starry skies above. Don't fence me in."

This oasis called Art Omi is filled with structural and conceptual

## FROM THE CEO

by Janet Langsam,  
ArtsWestchester CEO



(photo credit: Cathy Pinsky)

projects all in the midst of vacant land. Arts enthusiast Francis Greenburger, a real estate investor, entrepreneur and literary agent, founded the arts center in 1992. With the aim to find ways of connecting to artists, and getting closer to the art, Art Omi presents the works of contemporary artists and architects, offering a range of large-scale works in nature, plus a 1,500-square-foot gallery.

The question that I asked myself was: "Who had ever heard of Ghent, New York before Art Omi?" The answer is... I did!

This visit brought me back to a childhood scene during World War II, in which my mother, a full time teacher, acquired the services of a German nanny for me and my brother. Our Fräulein, as she was known, had relatives who operated a farm in Ghent, where she would take us for a week during the summer. As the story goes, Fräulein told my mother that if World War II succeeded in coming across the Atlantic and into America, she would hide me and my brother on a farm in Ghent, New York.

So imagine my delight to hear that this is now a place where artists are showing their work under starry skies.

I will never forget Ghent, New York.



Come Back to the Arts

# Theaters are Gearing Up

## *Are Audiences Ready to Come Back?*



*ArtsNews* spoke with representatives from six Westchester performance venues, and all made one thing clear: the pandemic has been an arduous journey, but they're excited to welcome guests back. They also have new robust seasons planned for the fall. Now it's up to the guests to fill the seats.

"It's like doing theatre on a powder keg and wondering if someone is going to light a match," says Adam Cohen, Artistic Director of Arc Stages. Cohen is referring to the uncertainty of planning a performance series during a pandemic, citing that uncertainty as the greatest difficulty of planning a new season. He explains: "The [uncertainty] of

whether people will come, of [what to do if] a cast member gets COVID, of whether or not we would have to close again due to continued pandemic issues.”

### It's Time to Fill the Seats

Bjorn Olsson, Executive Director of Tarrytown Music Hall (TMH), says “there is still some hesitancy” from patrons since the Hall reopened about a year ago. According to Olsson, they still aren't where they were before the pandemic in terms of attendance.

Emelin Theatre President Mark Ettenger echoes the concerns of Cohen and Olsson: “It became imperative that we remain flexible, ready to pivot.” He speaks from experience, as the Emelin's sales for its 2021 season didn't bring the success of previous pre-pandemic seasons.

Says Ettenger: “Our October [2021] reopening was full of cautious optimism, but as COVID numbers spiked...pandemic related issues such as travel restrictions, canceled tours, artist illness ...led to disappointing sales and an unprecedented number of canceled or rescheduled shows.”

### Moving Forward: Updates and Renovations

However, Ettenger also says that the venue has made major updates in the past year – “to enhance the safety and comfort of [their] patrons, artists and staff.” The venue was renovated last summer with upgrades

in sound and lighting equipment, HVAC systems, new seating with greater accessibility, and more.

They're not alone in their efforts to make guests more comfortable. White Plains Performing Arts Center (WPPAC) General Manager Kathleen Davisson says the Center permanently upgraded its HVAC with a state of the art air filtration system. TMH installed air sanitizers, “which seemed like a good addition regardless of COVID.”

The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College (PAC) is reopening with in-person events this fall for the first time since the start of the pandemic. Interim General Manager Ian Driver says their team refers to their shuttered period as a “pause with a purpose.” During that time, the organization took “significant time and effort reviewing internal practices and workflows, upgrading equipment, and making various improvements and repairs to the theaters and backstage areas.” This, he explains, was all “to ensure that [PAC] will be able to operate efficiently and safely when [its] audiences return.”

The Capitol Theatre's General Manager Bruce Wheeler says he's found that [their] patrons are comfortable venturing out and attending shows. But while, according to Wheeler, the Cap is 85-90% “back to normal,” he points to additional difficulties that indoor venues need to consider in times like these, eluding to elements of planning that the general public doesn't see:

“One protocol that comes up occasionally is how we handle our backstage and dressing room area. Some artists are doing whatever



Paul Taylor Dance Company will perform at The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, 2/25/23 (photo credit: Paul B. Goode)

## Come Back to the Arts

they can to prevent cases amongst their band and crew, as a single case could be detrimental to the tour and shut it down.”

### New Seasons Bring Diverse Offerings

Special attention to these protocols can help to keep a season running smoothly and prevent last-minute artist cancellations. Wheeler explains that they welcome the opportunity to accommodate these artists. The Cap, after all, has a full season planned, with big names like The National, Jeff Beck and Lindsey Buckingham (formerly of Fleetwood Mac).

Similarly, other performance venues are bringing both big names and other diverse offerings to Westchester across the board. For instance, PAC welcomes a variety of artistic disciplines onto its stage with performers like Paul Taylor Dance Company, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and author David Sedaris.

Along with a mainstage production of *Miss Saigon*, WPPAC has announced the Westchester premiere of *Jersey Boys* and the regional premiere of *The Prom*. The Emelin offers a diverse lineup of artists, including trombonist Delfeayo Marsalis and the legendary Glenn Miller Orchestra, and will resume its family series. Arc Stages’s season includes *The Goat, or Who is Sylvia?* by theater great Edward Albee. TMH’s season welcomes everyone from Dionne Warwick to Henry

Rollins and Ballet Hispanico to The Wailers.

All venues are operating at full capacity with varying approaches to mask and vaccination policies.

### The Arts: An Economic Driver

Says TMH’s Olsson: “The big silver lining I have noticed to this whole crisis is how everyone, from the community level to the federal government, is seeing the power of live performing arts, both as ‘food for the soul’ and as an important economic driver of local economies.”

A study conducted by Americans for the Arts in 2015, which is currently being updated with new data, indicated that the arts sector in Westchester County generates \$172.3 million in total economic activity, and also supports 5,179 full-time equivalent jobs. These funds don’t only support the arts organizations. They benefit surrounding restaurants and bars, local parking garages, overnight lodging, and more.

Wheeler adds: “Events at the Cap drive thousands of people into Port Chester. We’re grateful that this traffic not only helps us, but also helps many of the businesses in town.”

Driver emphasizes a sentiment that was equally reflected in everyone’s remarks: “Our primary focus this season is to re-engage with our audiences. We’ve missed them, and we hope they’ve missed us as well.”



“Bjorn Olsson, Executive Director of Tarrytown Music Hall, says 'there is still some hesitancy' from patrons since the Hall reopened about a year ago. According to Olsson, they still aren't where they were before the pandemic in terms of attendance.”



*Linea Recta, choreographed by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa. RiverArts and Tarrytown Music Hall (TMH) present Ballet Hispánico at TMH on 10/1 (photo credit: Paula Lobo)*

## JazzFest White Plains 2022

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

# JAZZFEST

WHITE PLAINS • SEPT. 14-18, 2022

PRESENTED BY:

**BANK OF AMERICA** 

The annual [\*JazzFest White Plains\*](#) festival is back with a stellar lineup of free and affordable in-person programs. For its eleventh year, the festival remains true to its roots, presenting jazz from an outstanding roster that features musicians of local and national significance. On September 14-18, some of today's most notable rising jazz stars will perform in downtown White Plains.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 14

**I'RO & The Afro Latin Exchange** – 12pm | FREE  
*White Plains Farmers Market, 59 Court St.*

Pedro Millan is a Puerto Rican/American saxophonist with a specialization in woodwinds. Born in Miami, Florida but raised in Trujillo Alto, Puerto Rico through age 12 before moving back to Miami. Millan has played around the world with people like John Clayton, Gordon Goodwin, Wayne Bergeron and more.

**Downtown White Plains Jazz Stroll** (Details TBA)

## THURSDAY, SEPT. 15

**François Moutin & Kavita Shah Duo** – 12pm | FREE  
*Downtown Music at Grace, 33 Church Street, White Plains\**

French bass virtuoso François Moutin and adventurous New York-born vocalist Kavita Shah will take listeners on an improvisational journey across both lyric-driven and wordless jazz standards and original music. Moutin was a member of the legendary Martial Solal Trio and co-lead Moutin Reunion Quartet. Shah is a vocalist and composer hailed by NPR for her “amazing dexterity for musical languages.”

***Grace Kelly Concert Reception with Via Garibaldi*** – 6:30pm

Performance & Reception Price: \$75pp | *White Plains Plaza, One North Broadway*

Grace Kelly is an award-winning singer, saxophonist, songwriter, and is a member of the Late Show with Stephen Colbert house band. Tickets for this outdoor performance include prime concert-viewing seats, a welcome drink, and canapés and stations from Italian restaurant Via Garibaldi. Patrons can also view the performance on the Plaza.

*This performance will take place outdoors with advanced ticket purchase required for prime viewing. Patrons can also view the performance on the Plaza, but must bring their own chair.*

# JazzFest White Plains 2022



Grace Kelly (photo by Mendi Hassine)

## FRIDAY, SEPT. 16

### Jazz at Noon:

#### **Miki Hayama x Richie Goods Ensemble –**

12pm | FREE

*White Plains Public Library Plaza, 100 Martine Ave.*

Jazz-funk bass extraordinaire Richie Goods, one of today's most accomplished bass players, is the youngest person inducted into the Pittsburgh Jazz Hall of Fame. Most recently, pianist, arranger and musical director Miki Hayama worked on Nnenna Freelon's *Time Traveler*, which was nominated for a Grammy in the category of Best Jazz Vocal Album.

***Joey Alexander Trio 7pm & 9pm*** – 7pm & 9pm  
\$35 for 7pm or 9pm set | \$65 for both 7pm & 9pm sets  
*ArtsWestchester, 31 Mamaroneck Ave.\**

Bali-born pianist Joey Alexander has accrued a lifetime of accolades. The pianist, composer and bandleader is one of the most emotive and compelling pianist-composers active on the scene today—including being the youngest artist ever nominated for a GRAMMY® Award in a jazz category, topping the Billboard Jazz Albums chart, earning profiles in *The New York Times* and *60 Minutes*.



Ragan Whiteside (photo credit: Randis Music)

## SATURDAY, SEPT. 17

### **A Workshop/Conversation with Legendary Jazz Bassist,**

**Buster Williams** – 1pm | FREE

*Music Conservatory of Westchester, 216 Central Ave.*

***The Buster Williams Quartet "Something More"*** – 7pm & 9pm

\$35 for 7pm or 9pm set | \$65 for both 7pm & 9pm sets

*ArtsWestchester, 31 Mamaroneck Ave.\**

Grammy Award-winning bassist Buster Williams is a jazz legend whose playing knows no limits. He has performed, recorded and collaborated with jazz giants such as Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, Branford and Wynton Marsalis, and many others. Williams tours frequently with his group *Something More*. The *Buster Williams Quartet "Something More"* features Buster Williams (bass), Steve Wilson (saxophone), Lenny White (drums) and Brandon McCune (piano/keyboard).

\*For the safety of all audience, musicians and staff, proof of vaccination and masks are required for entry. This performance will take place indoors in accordance with New York State and local health department guidelines.



## SUNDAY, SEPT. 18

### White Plains Jazz & Food Festival – FREE

Mamaroneck Ave., between Main St. and Martine Ave.

#### 12:30-1:15pm | Westchester Center for Jazz & Contemporary Music

The Westchester Center for Jazz & Contemporary Music provides opportunities for musicians of diverse backgrounds, abilities and ages to develop their skills in jazz and other related musical forms. This performance features a selection of the Center's top student musicians and faculty.

#### 1:45-2:35pm | Albert Rivera Quintet

Bronx born and raised saxophonist Albert Rivera, described by NPR's Owen McNally as "a modern jazz messenger," has been a consistent force on a national and international level. *DownBeat* Magazine called him and his band "part of the next wave in this jazz ritual." Rivera is a recipient of a Chamber Music America and ASCAP Young Jazz Composers awards.

#### 3:05–3:55pm | Carlos Jimenez Mambo Sextet

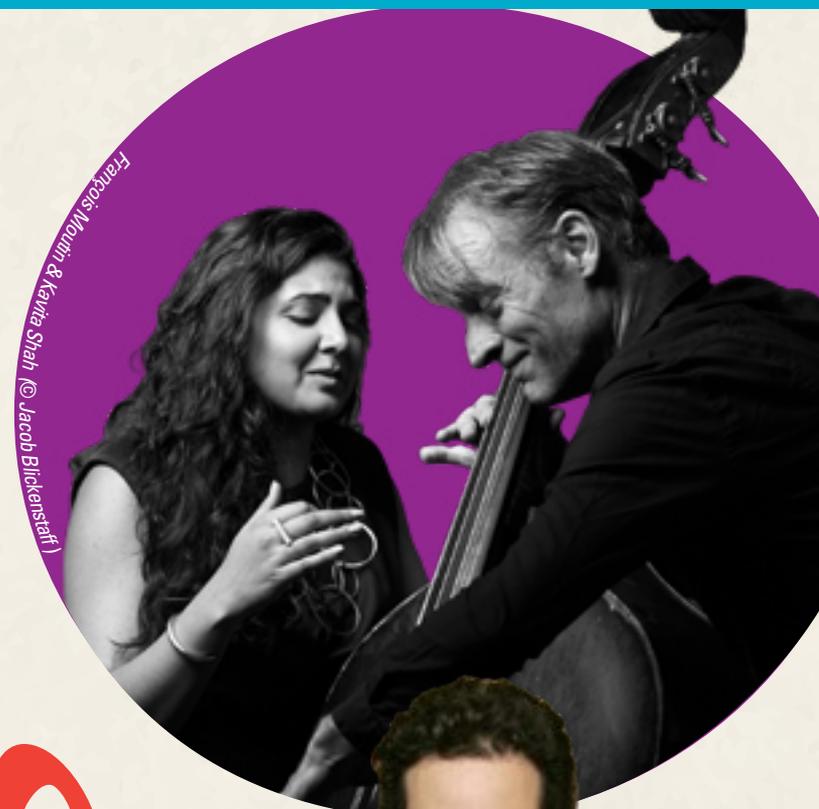
The Carlos Jimenez Mambo Orchestra is a Westchester-based salsa band that gets audience members out of their seats and dancing. Yonkers native Carlos Jimenez is a flutist, vocalist, composer and band leader of jazz, Latin jazz and salsa. Jimenez has performed all over New York State and across the country, and toured internationally with many jazz greats.

#### 4:25–5:15pm | G. Thomas Allen Quartet

Award-winning vocalist, composer and music educator G. Thomas Allen was the first male winner of the Sarah Vaughn International Competition. His diverse musical background has contributed to his unique approach to jazz – finding innovative ways for cross-genre experimentation, including the aesthetics of R&B, pop, gospel stylizing, and operatic inflections.

#### 5:45–6:45pm | Ragan Whiteside and Friends

Flutist, vocalist and songwriter Ragan Whiteside is currently taking the Contemporary Jazz world by storm. Originally from Mt. Vernon, Whiteside began playing flute at age eight. With her unique style and soulful vibe, this triple-threat is bringing the flute back into mainstream focus.



#WPjazzfest

For tickets & concert details, visit:  
[artsw.org/jazzfest](http://artsw.org/jazzfest)

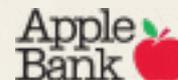


JazzFest White Plains is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.



This engagement of Buster Williams & Something More is made possible through the ArtsCONNECT program of Mid Atlantic Arts with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

SPONSORED BY:



JazzFest White Plains 2022

# JOEY ALEXANDER: From Bali and Beyond

*by Michelle Falkenstein*



*Joey Alexander performs at part of JazzFest White Plains on 9/16 (photo courtesy of the artist)*

Born in Denpasar, Bali to a family of modest means, Joey Alexander became intrigued by his parents' classic jazz albums at age six. But the young boy was more than a passive listener, playing along on his miniature electric keyboard aided by his preternaturally gifted ear.

His parents soon realized they were dealing with a special talent and moved the family to Jakarta to bring their son closer to a local jazz scene. At age eight, Alexander showed off his musical abilities for jazz pianist Herbie Hancock when Hancock visited that city as a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador. By the following year, Alexander topped 42 other musicians from 17 countries to take the Grand Prix at an all-ages jazz competition in Odessa, Ukraine. At age 10, trumpeter Wynton Marsalis invited Alexander to perform at Jazz at Lincoln Center after watching him perform in a YouTube video.

"I believe it's a calling," says Alexander, now 19, who released his sixth album, *Origin*, on Mack Avenue Records in May. "It's God's gift, and this is the life that I'm living now."

Jazz fans will have their chance to see him perform in person [on Sept. 16](#), when the Joey Alexander Trio performs two sets in ArtsWestchester's intimate performance space as part of the [11th annual JazzFest White Plains](#). The five-day festival, a partnership between ArtsWestchester, the City of White Plains and the White Plains Business Improvement District, features up-and-coming and established talent, both local and national, at venues around the City.

Alexander, whose style can be described as thoughtful, modern and melodic with a smooth flow, takes an innovative approach to his craft. "We have to be true to ourselves and not play something just for the sake of playing what people would like to hear or what would be easily accepted," he says. His inspiration extends beyond jazz to include rock, gospel, hip-hop and classical music. "I embrace it all," he says.

Following Alexander's much-lauded appearance at Jazz at Lincoln Center, a wave of opportunities presented themselves. "Doors started to open for me," he says. A subsequent concert with Juilliard School students to help fund his continued stay in New York led to a successful application for an O-1B visa, given to non-U.S. artists with "extraordinary ability." This allowed Alexander and his parents to officially move to New York.

"When I came [to New York], I was excited to be in the city of creativity with the hope of having my music be heard," he says. He lived in the city until last year when his family moved to Baltimore.

A year after his first album, *My Favorite Things*, was released

"We have to be true to ourselves and not play something just for the sake of playing what people would like to hear or what would be easily accepted," he says. His inspiration extends beyond jazz to include rock, gospel, hip-hop and classical music. "I embrace it all," he says.

by Motéma Music, the recording received two Grammy Award nominations, one for Best Jazz Instrumental Album and another for Best Improvised Jazz Solo for his cover of John Coltrane's *Giant Steps*. This was followed by another Grammy nomination the next year, for Best Improvised Jazz Solo for *Countdown*, another Coltrane tune on Alexander's 2016 album of the same name. In addition to performing jazz standards, he writes his own music, and looks forward to performing some original tunes at his upcoming [JazzFest concert](#).

He hopes to make his mark on the jazz scene by composing fresh new songs that become part of a new jazz repertoire for future generations. "It doesn't have to be huge and groundbreaking, but something that would have a positive impact on the music," he says.

Alexander believes the time has come for the next generation of jazz artists to move the art form forward. "That's what the previous generations did," he says. "Now it's our turn."

# Serious Fun Arts Fest



**1 North Lexington Avenue**  
 Greystar | *Vibercity* by Yuke Li



**250 Mamaroneck Avenue**  
 Southern Land | *Fish City* by Erwin Ong



# ART CHANGES THE FACE OF WHITE PLAINS



This fall, developers and artists team up with ArtsWestchester to bring art to the streets of downtown White Plains. Mural by mural, they are changing the face of the City, bringing color and excitement to walls that may otherwise have gone unnoticed. It all comes together during [Serious Fun Arts Fest](#), a 5-day festival on October 12-16, organized by ArtsWestchester and sponsored by Montefiore Einstein, when art takes over White Plains with live music, pop-up dance performances, an art fair, gallery events, an outdoor sculpture exhibition, a concert celebration with on-the-rise Brooklyn band Sammy Rae & the Friends, and more. **On the pages A14-19, take a look at some of the upcoming artworks:**

# Serious Fun Arts Fest

## 100 Main Street

Galleria White Plains | *Painted Lady in the Ironweeds* by Chris Soria



Artist Chris Soria works on his mural at Galleria White Plains in preparation for Serious Fun Arts Fest (photo credit: Katelynn DiBiccari)



**31 Mamaroneck Avenue**

ArtsWestchester | *Brighter Colors, Better Life & Then Some* by Wane One

*Artist Wane One works on his Mamaroneck Avenue mural in preparation for Serious Fun Arts Fest (photo credit: Katelynn DiBiccari)*

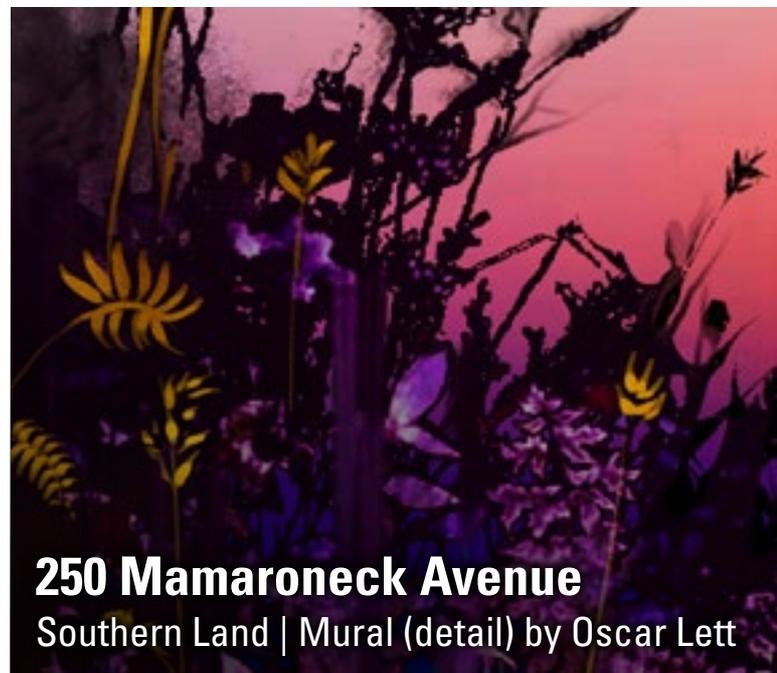
# Serious Fun Arts Fest



**3 Renaissance Square**  
The Opus Westchester | *Hi 5 Taxi Cab* by Tom Fruin



**51 South Broadway**  
RMS | *Pandora* (detail) by Christopher Rios



**250 Mamaroneck Avenue**  
Southern Land | Mural (detail) by Oscar Lett



**1 North Lexington Avenue**  
Greystar | *Vibercity* (detail) by Yuke Li



(all renderings on pages A14-15 and A18-19 courtesy of the artists)

## Serious Fun Arts Fest

Performing With  
Opening Acts:

- **ANDROMEDA**
- **The Brighton Beat**

*ArtsNews Editor Mary Alice Franklin recently caught up with Sammy Rae, leader of Sammy Rae & the Friends. The on-the-rise band that NPR called "Musicians to Watch in 2022" will headline the five-day **Serious Fun Arts Fest** in White Plains this fall (Oct. 12-16) with a closing **concert celebration on October 16**. For more about the festival and concert, see pages A14-19 and 23, visit [artsw.org/seriousfunartsfest](https://artsw.org/seriousfunartsfest) and follow [#SeriousFunArtsFest](https://www.instagram.com/SeriousFunArtsFest) on Instagram.*

*[This interview has been edited for clarity and length.]*

# Sitting Down with

# SAMMY RAE

**Mary Alice Franklin (MAF): We're excited to host you in October. The concert will be right out on the street, and it's the big closing event for our five-day arts festival.**

**Sammy Rae (SR):** I love it. I love it.

**MAF: There seems to be a really strong sense of community among your fans. That's something that really stands out: this kind of positive, fresh vibe. Can you speak to that a little bit? Is that something you try to foster?**

**SR:** Yeah, a hundred percent...When [fans] buy tickets, listen to our music and get merch[andise], that's the community that pushes us forward. And I knew that I wanted to keep them at the forefront because...if they don't show up, we don't get to do the thing that we love. So we're always so grateful for their being there, inviting their friends, [and] sticking around. Our community of fans is super important to us. They're really the basis of everything we do... That comes through in songwriting...but especially in the live show environment...

We try to keep it [our concerts] positive and be really honest... [Our shows are] the place where you come, be yourselves, dance how you like, wear what you want, make friends... It's like 'Let's throw a party every night. You're more than welcome. We can't wait to have you. If it's not for you, then that's okay. At least we were honest.' We try to do the best we can to...just say thank you in as many ways as we can.

**MAF: And there's such a great amalgamation of different sounds and influences in your music... How would you describe your own sound?**

**SR:** That's a tricky one... It's a story/song driven, jazz-influenced rock and roll... with a touch of punk. Or a touch of disco.

**MAF: What are some of your personal influences?**

**SR:** I really love classic rock, and I'm always trying to bring "rock star energy" to the project. I listen to a lot of big bands from the '70s. I'm a big Queen and Freddy Mercury fan. But I also really love Rolling Stones, E Street Band, Fleetwood Mac, The Doobie Brothers... I really fell in love with the big ladies of American jazz: Ella Fitzgerald, Etta James, Rosemary Clooney, Sarah Vaughan... These are voices that I really love and have taught me a lot about how to use my instrument to tell stories and bring songs to life. So jazz makes its way in[to our music]...

**MAF: How would you describe a Sammy Rae & the Friends performance?**

**SR:** We take ourselves very seriously, but we don't take ourselves too seriously, if you know what I mean. We play and goof around and have fun, and hopefully inspire everybody out there to have fun and goof around and dance how they like, as well.  
We try really

hard to make it feel like a safe and hugely inclusive environment, where folks from all different walks of life can come have a good time and find something that's for them. My hope is that in the live space, there's a little something for everybody.

**MAF: And what has it been like returning to the stage after COVID? Has the pandemic changed your approach or perspective? How has it been getting back to the stage?**

**SR:** Yeah, it's been wild. I think it's unprecedented territory for everybody – for bands and performers, but also venues and venue workers. And also audience members.

It's been a bit of a struggle because, with anything, when you kind of fall out of practice... to learn how to get back into it is a whole learning process.

We've considered ourselves very lucky that we got to play a great deal of festivals [over the] summer. Festivals are cool environments to be in front of audiences, where a small percentage of the audience knows who you are, and the rest of the audience doesn't. So there's this cool permission to try to get new people to jump on your wavelength, but also see how somebody who's never heard you before takes it in and interprets you. So, it's been a great learning experience...

**MAF: Given that, from your perspective how can people support artists in this critical time?...**

**SR:** That's a really thoughtful question that I hadn't been asked... I know for us, the merch aspect of things has been really life-giving because it's a way for us to make something that isn't just our music... When we weren't able to be together in person, there was this real upswing in people being engaged on social [media], and people buying merch to continue to support and keep in the loop with us. I would say to do what you can to make your artists feel appreciated in the digital space...[and] you can support artists by being patient with them... We want to make you a record, and the record will come, but... it's a lot to process, you know? And the landscape is always changing...

**MAF: Tell me about the single *For The Time Being* [released in July].**

**SR:** It's a very cool, repetitive, sort of meditative mantra song. It's a bit of a departure arrangement-wise for us because it's heavily acoustic guitar-focused. Very stripped down... It's our first song to feature the flute and the bass clarinet in lead roles, so it's somehow found a way to strip something down and still keep it groovy, and still keep it hopeful and upbeat.

It's a song about the present moment, and let's be where we are right now...because I've got this love, I've got this thing, I've got what I've been looking for, but it could change. You know, how do we hold that and still move forward with hope and with positivity?

Several years ago, [our guitarist] Will Leet and I were getting ready to see a band at Brooklyn Steel. And it was this big moment of "Ah! Maybe

## Serious Fun Arts Festival



one day our band could play there. Wouldn't that be something?" We were just sitting around... He was playing guitar and I was singing, and *For The Time Being* started to come out...

Flash forward three and a half years, and now suddenly our band was about to play Brooklyn Steel, and it's sold out. It's the biggest night of our lives. And the words just rang true again... and I think there's a classicness to it, where it'll ring true again to the future.

**MAF: Absolutely, I feel like especially in these times, [the song] really is a relatable sentiment.**

**SR:** Yeah. Well, thank you! ...We [ended up] play[ing] it for the first time live at Brooklyn Steel. And that was a really vulnerable moment...

**MAF: What about your upcoming documentary?**

**SR:** So, we had a friend who was following us around during our Follow Me Like The Moon tour... [There's] behind-the-scenes, guerilla style [footage]: what it's like living on a tour bus, what it's like in the green room, what it's like to be traveling and dealing with, you know, the uncertainties of COVID.... [So it'll be] a roughly-30-minute docu-piece about our first national tour.

It starts with us rehearsing the day before we got on the bus...

and then we all went home and went to bed, and the camera was on us at 8am the next day, on the tour bus where we would live for over a month... It continues to follow us as we...play the largest venues we've ever played... Then we had about three weeks off, and then the culmination was this huge [sold out] show in New York at Terminal 5.

**MAF: What's next for Sammy Rae & The Friends?**

**SR:** We'll be releasing another single [*If It All Goes South*] at the end of August... And then when we get to winter, we will be touring the UK for the first time. So a new single, new music video, a little bit of a documentary, and then a whole bunch of traveling around to meet people in places we haven't been to yet.

**MAF: That's great. We're excited to be a part of your fall tour, and welcome you back to New York after lots of other shows around the country.**

**SR:** Absolutely!... We love New York, and it's always fun to go home. Even the east coast in general, but it's always really, really nice to come home to New York.

*(photos courtesy of the artist)*

# SERIOUS FUN

ARTS FEST

## OCT. 12-16

### THE ARTS TAKE OVER WHITE PLAINS, NY

#### 5 DAYS OF SERIOUS FUN!

15 new public artworks • gallery openings • pop-up dance performances • Serious Fun Art Fair • family art-making • live painting demos • live music • giveaways • DJs

#### SAT, OCT. 15 | 11-6PM Music Performances\* | Free

Matt Turk & Friends (11:30am)

Will Evans (12:30pm)

Porter Carroll, Jr. (1:30pm)

REMY + DJ (2:35pm)

Wess Meets West (3:40pm)

Slambovian Circus of Dreams (4:45pm)

#### SUN, OCT. 16 | 2-6:30PM Headliner Concert | \$25 Ticket

Sammy Rae & The Friends (5pm)

ANDROMEDA (2pm)

The Brighton Beat (3:30pm)

\*Outdoor Concerts on Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, NY



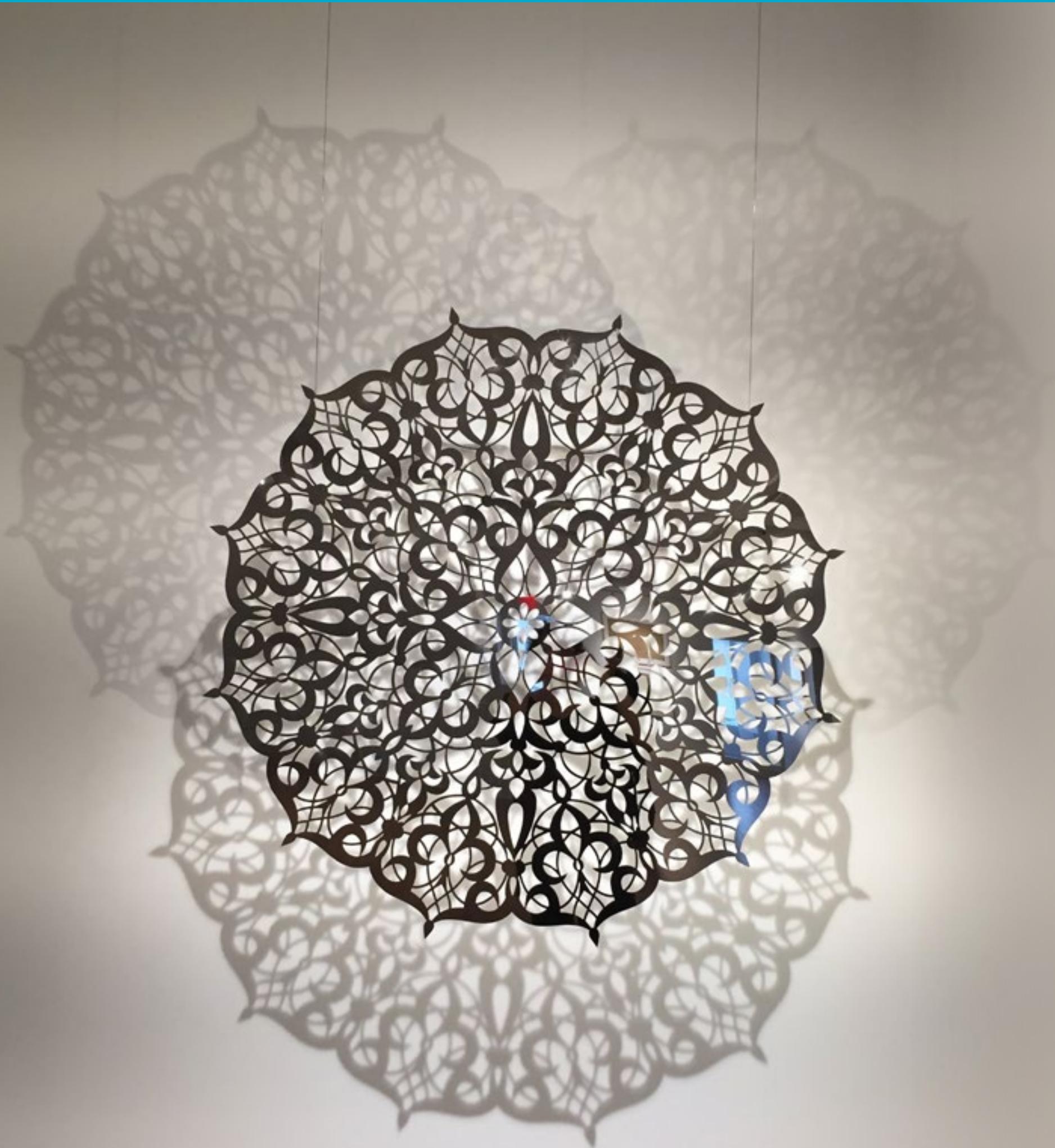
TICKETS AND FULL SCHEDULE:  
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# Tradition Interrupted

by Alyssa Monte

Traditions are instilled at an early age. Some revolve around holidays, objects, places or religions; some connect to specific people. They can be generational, cultural or global in their origin, and can have large societal impact. [Katonah Museum of Art \(KMA\)](#)'s current exhibition, [Tradition Interrupted](#), features 12 artists from all over the world who reclaim ancient customs for the contemporary world by using a wide range of mediums such as mosaics, metalwork, ceramics and more.

While their art is visually different, the artists all create work that centers around large topics – culture, globalization and religion – as well as the traditions attached to those themes. The traveling exhibition, which was organized by Bedford Gallery in Walnut Creek, CA, features works that have recognizable elements, such as skateboards, Coca-Cola cans, and ramen noodle containers. However, these everyday objects are re-imagined in visually enticing ways that shift the perspective of these commonalities.

According to KMA's associate curator of exhibitions and programs, Emily Handlin: "The displayed works are really approachable, bright and interesting to look at. It's a really great balance and mix of the familiar and the challenging."

When artists re-purpose objects that are familiar to the larger population, people can't help but see these things in a completely different light. Upon seeing a ramen noodle container at the grocery store, most people don't necessarily think about take-out culture, the environmental consequences of quick-fix meals, or globalization. However, when seeing it within a stand-alone work of art, one may begin to think more deeply about the meaning of this product in a different context.

In her "Disposable" series, artist Ana Gómez intends to show the displacement of 'local' by 'global,' demonstrating issues like consumerism. Similarly, Shirin Hosseinvand merges an unmistakable global brand, a Coca-Cola can, with ancient Iranian mosaic mirror work

in order to emphasize the concept of mass production.

By reclaiming hybrid pieces of discarded heirlooms, Jaydan Moore reconsiders the ways in which people define themselves and others through objects. He highlights the ecological impact of the human desire to collect, commodify and own. By linking objects to memory, he focuses on tradition in a way that is specifically linked to tangible things rather than abstract concepts.

Faig Ahmed is also creating work about identity with his reinterpretation of Middle Eastern rugs. These handmade woolen rugs appear to be melting, symbolic of identity loss and change. Says Ahmed: "What mainly interests me are the old traditions and cultures, standard canons and stereotypes, which I end up breaking."

**“Both exhibitions explore issues of globalization and colonialism, expanding and defying established art-historical principles. They use history to inform people of the issues these artists feel connected to.”**

In concert with *Tradition Interrupted*, KMA presents [Remy Jungerman: Higher Ground](#). Jungerman is a Suriname-born Dutch artist working between New York and Amsterdam. By using geometric abstraction, he draws connections between this classic style and the patterns/symbols in Surinamese Maroon culture.

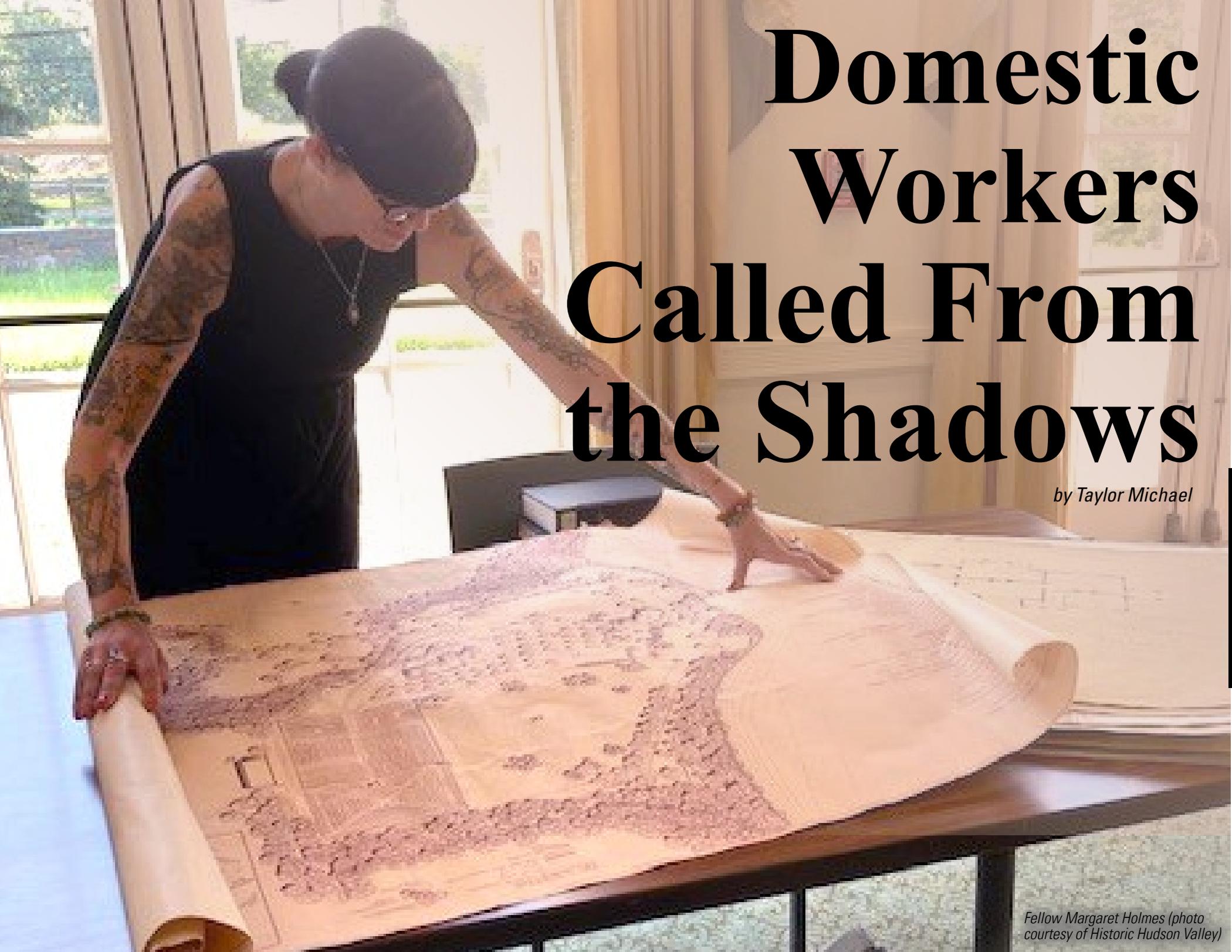
Both exhibitions explore issues of globalization and colonialism, expanding and defying established art-historical principles. They use history to inform people of the issues that these artists feel connected to.

Says Handlin: "A lot of the represented cultures are ones that people don't normally have much exposure to, and this is a great introduction to the contemporary art from these places."

The exhibition features pieces that are relatable, informative and absorbing. The featured artists carefully considered the paradox between the ordinary and unconventional. As a result, the viewer feels nostalgic, yet curious in this space.

Both exhibitions remain on view through September 25.

## spotlight



# Domestic Workers Called From the Shadows

by Taylor Michael

*Fellow Margaret Holmes (photo courtesy of Historic Hudson Valley)*

This year's cohort of Summer Research Fellows from the [Women's History Institute](#) at [Historic Hudson Valley](#) (HHV) was the first in the program's history to pay closer attention to the experiences of female servants who worked at estates like Washington Irving's Sunnyside or Van Cortlandt Manor. Now, because of fellows Margaret Holmes and Lawrence Mullen, HHV tours include more information about domestic workers.

"This is a group that has been sidelined," said HHV Research Librarian Catalina Hannan. "They've always been there. They're just

waiting in the shadows, and we're calling them out now."

During their time at HHV, Holmes and Mullen conducted research using HHV's library and archive. The annual fellowship gives college and graduate students access to HHV's extensive collection in order to increase the organization's knowledge of the women who have lived in historic homes along the Hudson River Valley.

Fellows work under Hannan's guidance from the application phase all the way through the research and presentation phases. Within six weeks, these emerging academics, specializing in 18th and 19th-

century mid-Atlantic women's history, produce a blog post, a mid-term report and a final project or paper that is presented to the Selection Committee of the Women's History Institute and the HHV staff. Past fellows have gone on to use the basis of their summer research to publish academic papers and books.

### Irving's Domestic Workers

Holmes, the recipient of the Margaretta (Happy) Rockefeller Fellowship, studies Irish domestic workers in 19th-century New York. Focusing on Washington Irving's Sunnyside estate, the museum educator and public history student focused on the *Legend of Sleepy Hollow* author's domestic workers, Robert and Mariah McLinden. Her work, which lives at the intersections of race, class and gender, examines these servants' material culture in contrast to the lives of their employers in an attempt to unpack and dismantle harmful stereotypes such as the "Irish Bridget," a derogatory term that referred

### Preserving Van Cortlandt Manor

Looking closer at the tour narrative for Van Cortlandt Manor, Mullen found that the period from 1850 to 1953, when John D. Rockefeller bought the house, is reduced to two paragraphs. Catherine Elizabeth Beck Van Cortlandt, Pierre Van Cortlandt III's wife, is credited with preserving documents and maintaining the home.

Says Mullen: "Because my field is the 19th century, and that was glossed over, immediately I began thinking: 'Who are these people? How are they living in this house?'"

Since then, Mullen has examined changes at Van Cortlandt Manor throughout the 19th century. Focusing on Catherine, Pierre III, and their nine children, Mullen considers how additions to the house influenced the domestic lives of its residents, including the female servants.

Mullen discovered the story of a window etching gifted by Nathaniel Hawthorne's wife for a birthday. This window is the subject of a blog

**“This is a group that has been sidelined. They’ve always been there. They’re just waiting in the shadows, and we’re calling them out now.”**

*- Historic Hudson Valley Research Librarian Catalina Hannan*

to Irish immigrant servant girls.

Through her research, Holmes is able to humanize the experiences of these Irish women who were willing to do work that was considered demeaning for women in 19th century American society. Holmes says that she finds Sunnyside a unique environment for domestic servers. Unlike most 19th century homes of this stature, the kitchen and service areas were adjacent to entertaining rooms. This means the largely Catholic workers interacted more with their Anglo-Saxon Protestant employers. Irving eventually had a cottage built on the estate for the McLindens, who were highly-regarded servants on which he and his family relied.

Speaking on how her research engages public history, Holmes notes that she uses her research to help make domestic works more enmeshed in the stories of men like Washington Irving.

According to Holmes, women and domestic workers made Irving's career possible and they should feature in every part of an estate tour: "More people can relate to the working-class folks than the families who own the homes."

post by Mullen. For their final project, Mullen's digital exhibition will examine the addition of east and west wings to the home, along with other changes in decorative styles during Catherine and Pierre III's time at Van Cortlandt Manor. The second final project will focus on Catherine and her social work, including the USSC women's relief fund, prison work at Sing Sing Correctional Facility, and the Colonial Dames of America.

The public can engage Holmes' and Mullen's research through the blog posts on HHV's website, as well as exhibitions, public programs, and updates to the Sunnyside and Van Cortlandt tours. Their work brings more everyday voices into a field that has traditionally valued the stories of men.

Elizabeth Bradley, Vice President of Programs and Engagement at HHV, celebrates the summer fellows for expanding public understanding of the women who impacted the region in the past and present: "There are so many women whose stories have not been told since they're not famous. It takes researchers such as the[se] two fellows to help us understand the lives of women who lived here in past centuries."

# spotlight

Town of Pelham Library



Sloatsburg Plein Air Art



Wakanda Celebration

*(all photos courtesy of the featured organizations)*

# Artists & Arts Groups!

## Get Your Community-Based Art Projects Funded

For artists and arts organizations who ever dreamed up a community-based art project, ArtsWestchester provides the potential for these programs to become a reality. With that, the 2023 cycle of the organization's [Arts Alive grant opportunity](#) is officially open for applications. In fact, arts access and engagement are priorities for this funding. The focus of Arts Alive is to support local, grassroots programs that serve a broad constituency and provide access to an arts experience or art form that the community may not otherwise have.

Funding is available in awards up to \$5,000 for artists, organizations and collectives based in Rockland or Westchester Counties. Grants are awarded in the three categories:

- **Community Projects:** This can include public performances, workshops or exhibitions that are open to the public.
- **Education Projects:** These projects can include in-school artist residencies or targeted programming for community sites, such as senior centers.

- **Individual Artists:** Artists, including early-career or emerging professionals, may seek funding to create new work and further develop their portfolio while incorporating community engagement.

Arts Alive is supported with funding from the New York State Council on the Arts through its Statewide Community Regrant program. Additionally, increased support from Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and the New York State Legislature allowed for added funding being allocated for this year's program – bringing the total to \$550k for both Westchester and Rockland Counties – so new applicants are encouraged in all categories.

While an [online Arts Alive information session](#) will take place on September 14, professional development and application assistance programs will be announced later in the year. For more information, or to schedule an appointment with Grants Department staff during available office hours, please click [here](#).

The application deadline for both counties is October 18.



## spotlight

# Matching Grant Can Do

Many arts and culture groups in Westchester still need support to recover from the pandemic and its challenges despite their continued determination and hard work. During this crucial time, the community can provide much-needed relief to Westchester arts and culture groups through the [Art\\$WChallenge](#) grant program. The annual program currently offers grant money to benefit arts and cultural groups throughout the County. This year, 157 organizations, including an additional eight first time groups, are eligible to receive between \$1,500 to \$8,500 in matching funds based on their ability to raise private funds through December 15.

Every new donation made to an eligible Westchester arts group will qualify to be matched by ArtsWestchester with the support of Westchester County Executive George Latimer and the Westchester County Board of Legislators. With this support, ArtsWestchester had more than \$400,000 available to award last year.

Thanks to the [Art\\$WChallenge](#), past grantees have not only been able to maintain, but to also increase cultural offerings to the community. For instance, funding from 2021 supported New Rochelle Opera's new production of *Tosca* last June, and Bethany Arts Community was able to increase its stipend for artists who participate in its extensive residencies. Funds were also the impetus for organizations like ArchForKids to implement their own fundraising campaigns.

***Here is a list of organizations participating in this year's Art\$WChallenge:***

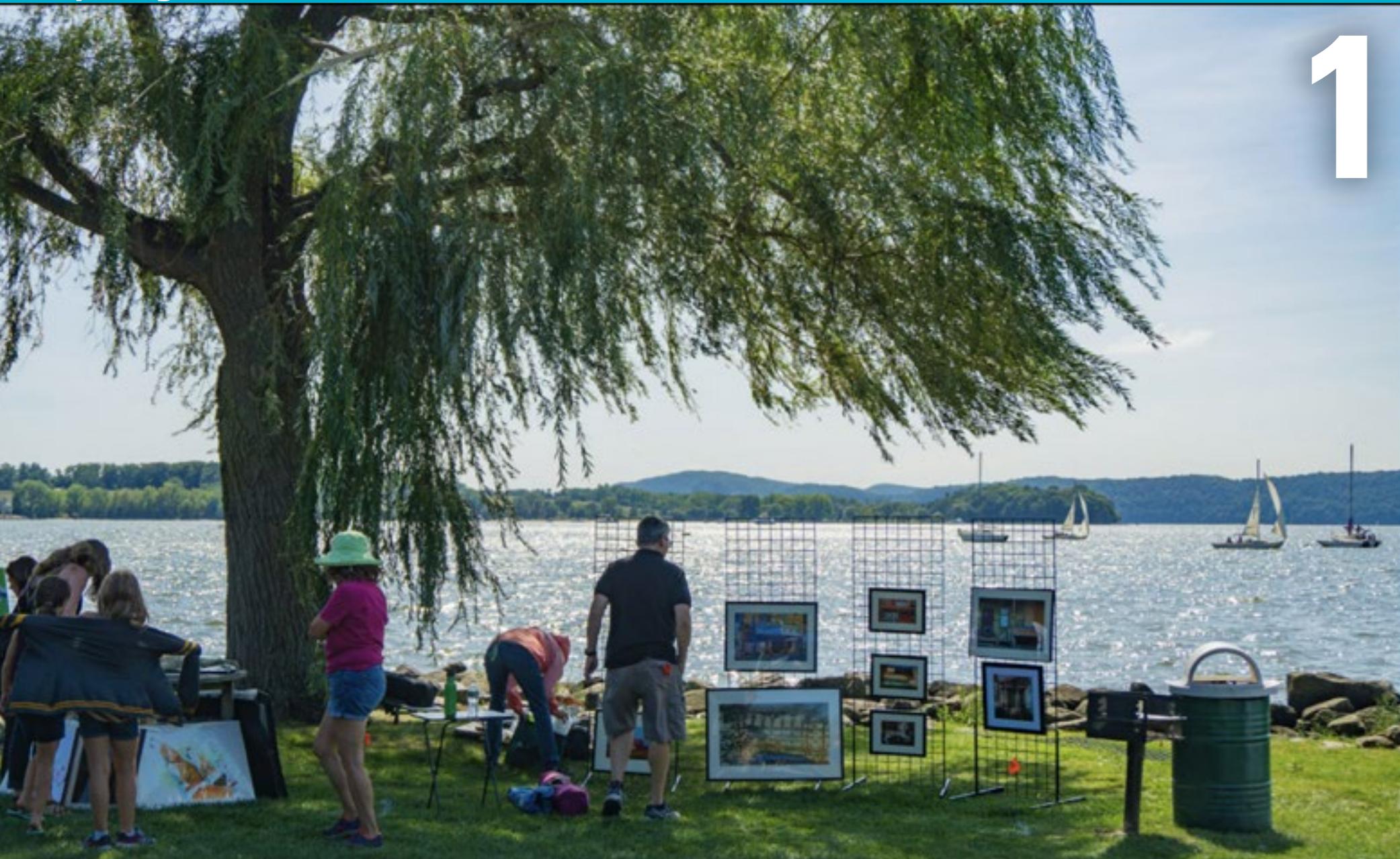
*(photo courtesy of Taconic Opera)*

# Double Donations for Westchester Arts Groups

- Actors Conservatory Theatre (Yonkers)  
 Afrikan Healing Circle Inc. (Mount Vernon)  
 Antonia Arts, Inc. (Peekskill)  
 Arc Stages (Pleasantville)  
 ArchForKids (Dobbs Ferry)  
 ArtFire (Yonkers)  
 Arts and Culture Committee (Greenburgh)  
 Arts10566 (Peekskill)  
 Asbury-Crestwood United Methodist Church (Yonkers)  
 The Association of Community-Based Artists of Westchester (Mount Vernon)  
 Axial Theatre (Pleasantville)  
 Ballet des Amériques School & Company (Port Chester)  
 Bedford Playhouse (Bedford)  
 Bethany Arts Community (Ossining)  
 Blue Door Art Center (Yonkers)  
 Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts (Katonah)  
 CareerVisions (Yonkers)  
 Clay Art Center (Port Chester)  
 CLC Foundation (Mount Kisco)  
 Clocktower Players (Irvington)  
 The Coleman School of Dance (New Rochelle)  
 Commemorate (Irvington)  
 Concordia Conservatory (Bronxville)  
 Copland House (Cortlandt Manor)  
 Cross Cultural Connection (Peekskill)  
 Daisy Jopling Music Mentorship Foundation (Peekskill)  
 Downtown Music at Grace, Inc. (White Plains)  
 The Emelin Theatre for the Performing Arts (Mamaroneck)  
 Enslaved Africans' Rain Garden (Yonkers)  
 The Erwin C. and Isabelle Ziegelman Foundation (Accent Dance NYC) (Pelham)  
 Fine Arts Orchestral Society of Yonkers (Yonkers)  
 Foundation for the Public Schools of the Tarrytowns (Tarrytown)  
 Friends of Chappaqua Performing Art Center (Chappaqua)  
 Friends of Music Concerts, Inc. (Sleepy Hollow)  
 The Friends of the North Castle Public Library, Inc. (North Castle)  
 GoJo Clan Productions (Hastings-on-Hudson)  
 Gooseberry-Studio (Yonkers)  
 Greenburgh Public Library (Elmsford)  
 Groundwork Hudson Valley (Yonkers)  
 Hamm & Clov Stage Company (Yonkers)  
 Hammond Museum (North Salem)  
 Harrigan Educational & Cultural Center (Mount Vernon)  
 Historic Hudson Valley (Pocantico Hills)  
 Hoff-Barthelson Music School (Scarsdale)  
 Hudson Ballet Theatre, Inc. (Cortlandt Manor)  
 Hudson Chorale, Inc. (Ossining)  
 Hudson Valley MOCA (Peekskill)  
 Hudson Valley Writers' Center (Sleepy Hollow)  
 India Center of Westchester (Elmsford)  
 InVision U. Inc. (New Rochelle)  
 Irvington Shakespeare Company (Irvington)  
 Jacob Burns Film Center (Pleasantville)
- Jazz Forum Arts (Tarrytown)  
 JCC of Mid-Westchester (Scarsdale/New Rochelle)  
 Just the Place, Inc. (Peekskill)  
 Katonah Classic Stage (Katonah)  
 Katonah Museum of Art (Katonah)  
 Katonah Village Library (Katonah)  
 Katonah-Bedford Hills-Bedford Village Arts League (Katonah)  
 KinoSaito (Verplanck)  
 Lagond Music School (Elmsford)  
 Limelight Theatre Company (Chappaqua)  
 LMC Media (Mamaroneck)  
 Lyndhurst (Tarrytown)  
 M&M Performing Arts Company, Inc. (Yorktown Heights)  
 Mamaroneck Artists Guild (Larchmont)  
 Mamaroneck Historical Society (Mamaroneck)  
 Money Makin' Mob (f/a MtVPL) (Mount Vernon)  
 Mount Kisco Arts Council (Mount Kisco)  
 Mount Vernon Friends of Parks and Recreation (Mount Vernon)  
 Mount Vernon Public Library (Mount Vernon)  
 Music Conservatory of Westchester (White Plains)  
 Mustafa Music Foundation (Mount Vernon)  
 The Neighborhood House (Tarrytown)  
 Neuberger Museum of Art (Purchase)  
 New Choral Society of Central Westchester (Scarsdale)  
 New Era Creative Space, Inc. (Peekskill)  
 New Rochelle Council on the Arts (New Rochelle)  
 New Rochelle Opera, Inc. (New Rochelle)  
 New Westchester Symphony Orchestra (White Plains)  
 Niji No Kai (White Plains)  
 Northern Star Quilters' Guild, Inc. (Somers)  
 Nowodworski Foundation (Yonkers)  
 O'Bey Foundation, Inc. (Mount Vernon)  
 OCA – Westchester: Hudson Valley Chapter (White Plains)  
 Orchestra 914 (formerly Chappaqua Orchestra) (Chappaqua)  
 Ossining Arts Council (Ossining)  
 Ossining Documentary & Discussion Series (Ossining)  
 Ossining Public Library (Ossining)  
 Paramount Hudson Valley Arts (Peekskill)  
 P-CoC Inc.: Parenting Children of Color (Hastings on Hudson)  
 Peekskill Arts Alliance, Inc. (Peekskill)  
 Pelham Art Center (Pelham)  
 The Picture House Regional Film Center (Pelham)  
 PJS Jazz Society (Mount Vernon)  
 The Play Group Theater (White Plains)  
 Pleasantville Music Theatre, Inc. (Pleasantville)  
 Purchase College PAC (Purchase)  
 Rebecca Thomas (Tarrytown)  
 Recognizing Enslaved Africans of Larchmont Mamaroneck (REALM) (Larchmont)  
 Rehabilitation Through The Arts (Purchase)  
 Revelators Inc. (Mount Vernon)  
 RISEUP--Research Initiatives for the Strategic Empowerment of Urban Populace (Yonkers)
- River's Edge Theatre Company (Ardsley)  
 Rivertown Dance Academy (Tarrytown)  
 Rivertowns Art Council (Hastings on Hudson)  
 Rivertowns Village Green (Tarrytown)  
 Ruth Keeler Memorial Library (North Salem)  
 The Rye Arts Center (Rye)  
 Rye Poetry Path (Rye)  
 Saint Paul's UMC (Hartsdale)  
 The Scarsdale Arts Council, Inc. (Scarsdale)  
 The Schoolhouse Theater & Arts Center (Croton Falls)  
 Sidra Bell Dance New York (White Plains)  
 Sing Sing Prison Museum (Ossining)  
 Sleepy Hollow PAC (Ossining)  
 Songcatchers (New Rochelle)  
 SOOP Theatre Company (Pelham)  
 Sound Shore Chorale of New Rochelle, Inc. (New Rochelle)  
 St. Thomas Orchestra (Mamaroneck)  
 Steffi Nossen Dance Foundation (White Plains)  
 STEM Alliance of Larchmont-Mamaroneck (Larchmont)  
 The Symphony of Westchester (New Rochelle)  
 Taconic Opera, Inc. (Yorktown Heights)  
 Tarrytown Music Hall (Tarrytown)  
 Teatown Lake Reservation, Inc. (Ossining)  
 Thomas H. Slater Center, Inc. (White Plains)  
 Town of Pelham Public Library (Pelham)  
 Tribes Hill (Peekskill)  
 Tutti Bravi Productions (New Rochelle)  
 Untermyer Gardens Conservancy (Yonkers)  
 Untermyer Performing Arts Council, Inc. (Yonkers)  
 Urban Studio Unbound (Yonkers)  
 Wakanda Celebration (Mount Vernon)  
 Warner Library (Tarrytown)  
 Wartburg (Mount Vernon)  
 Westchester Children's Chorus, Inc. (Larchmont)  
 Westchester Children's Museum (Rye)  
 Westchester Chorale Inc. (Larchmont)  
 The Westchester Chordsmen (Rye)  
 Westchester Collaborative Theater (Ossining)  
 Westchester Italian Cultural Center (Tuckahoe)  
 Westchester Philharmonic (White Plains)  
 Westchester Public Private Partnership for Aging Services (Mount Vernon)  
 Westchester Youth Alliance (Chappaqua)  
 White Plains Downtown District Management Association (White Plains)  
 White Plains Performing Arts Center (White Plains)  
 White Plains Public Library Foundation (White Plains)  
 The Y Dance Academy at The Family YMCA at Tarrytown (Tarrytown)  
 YoFi Fest, Inc. (Yonkers)  
 Yonkers African American Heritage Committee (Yonkers)  
 Yonkers Arts (Yonkers)  
 Yonkers Downtown Waterfront BID (Yonkers)  
 Yonkers Public Library (Riverfront) (Yonkers)  
 Young at Arts (Bronxville)  
 Youth Theatre Interactions (Yonkers)

## spotlight

1



# 6 ARTS FESTIVALS TO CHECK OUT THIS FALL

by Mary Alice Franklin, ArtsNews Editor

Each fall, outdoor arts festivals call to arts lovers like a beacon in the night. For many, these festivals are like a ritual to welcome in the changing leaves, flannel shirts and hot cocoa binging. Now, after several years of distancing, people are slowly but surely returning to the arts. September and October are ripe with cultural offerings to be enjoyed safely outdoors. Here are some to mark on your calendars:

*(photo courtesy of Croton Council on the Arts)*

**SEPTEMBER 3****Arts & Crafts Hudson River Festival***presented by Croton Council on the Arts*

After a three-year break, the arts return to Senasqua Park in Croton-on-Hudson. Local artists, crafters and vendors will present their wares and creations with a backdrop of live music and panoramic views of the Hudson. According to Croton Council on the Arts President Jim Christensen, the daylong event aims to fulfill the Council's mission of bringing the arts community back together again.



*Gotham Kings performed as part of JazzFest White Plains in 2019 (photo credit: Tim Grajek)*

**SEPTEMBER 14-18****JazzFest White Plains***presented by ArtsWestchester, White Plains BID, the City of White Plains*

Now in its 11th year, JazzFest White Plains will once again bring the brightest stars of the jazz scene to downtown White Plains. This year's five-day festival boasts jazz legend Buster Williams, fast-emerging pianist Joey Alexander, funky saxophonist Grace Kelly and more. The festival includes free daytime performances, intimate nighttime concerts and culminates in the White Plains Jazz & Food Festival on its final day. The outdoor festivities on September 18 include a full day of free performances on Mamaroneck Avenue headlined by the soulful vibes of flutist and vocalist Ragan Whiteside.

## spotlight



3

*(photo courtesy of artrider)***SEPTEMBER 16-18****Crafts at Lyndhurst***presented by Artrider*

Visitors to Crafts at Lyndhurst will peruse the artworks of hundreds of artists who specialize in a variety of mediums, including ceramics, printmaking, drawing, photography, jewelry and more. In addition to gourmet food options and a beer and wine truck, the day is rounded out by craft demonstrations and family activities such as face painting and an interactive puppet theater. Guests can also explore the lush 67-acre grounds of Lyndhurst Mansion and its scenic views of the Hudson. For an additional fee, they can extend the day's offerings with a tour of the Mansion.

**OCTOBER 1 & 2****Armonk Outdoor Art Show***presented by Armonk Outdoor Art Show*

Celebrating its 60th year, this Armonk mainstay has become a staple in its community. Not only does the show include 140 juried artists, but it is also run and organized almost exclusively by volunteers, and its proceeds benefit the local North Castle Public Library. In celebration of this connection with the library, a new-this-year exhibition will feature works that utilize a book as the artist's "canvas." Along the lawn of Community Park, works will range in price, size and style, with 12 mediums represented, including paintings, sculpture, photography, wearable art, fine crafts and more. Arts activities for the family, as well as food vendors, will be offered throughout the day.



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*Photo by Caroline Christie Photography (courtesy of Armonk Outdoor Art Show)*



Artist Chris Soria works on his mural for the Serious Fun Arts Fest (photo credit: Mary Alice Franklin)

## OCTOBER 12-16

### Serious Fun Arts Fest

*presented by ArtsWestchester*

This five-day festival will take over the streets of White Plains with public art, live music, pop-up dance performances, an art fair, gallery events and more. The week will also see the unveiling of artist Amanda Browder's *Metropolis Sunrise* community art project, which will result in a fabric installation being draped along the façade of ArtsWestchester's nine-story building. A Saturday Block party will include a lineup of free performances throughout the day, while a Sunday concert celebration will be headlined by on-the-rise Brooklyn band Sammy Rae & the Friends.

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## OCTOBER 20-23

### ArtsFest

*presented by New Rochelle Council on the Arts*

ArtsFest has become a stalwart festival of the New Rochelle and Pelham area over the years. The 2022 festival will kick off with the world premiere of new music from Copland House resident composer Steven Snowden, and the festivities take off from there. The weekend includes the ArtsFest Music Festival at New Ro Parc, as well as the ArtsFest Dance Festival, open artist studios, free guided trolley tours of recently installed murals throughout the City, and family art-making workshops at the [ArtsMobile](#). An Artisan Market on the grounds of the historic Thomas Paine Cottage will give visitors an opportunity to purchase works from local artisans while enjoying live music and food trucks.



ArtsFest Artisan Market (photo credit: Susan Nagib)

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### More Fall Festivals:

- **September 17:** [Yonkers RiverFest](#)
- **October 15:** [Chappaqua Children's Book Festival](#)
- **October 22-23:** [Westchester Craft Crawl](#)

# Spirituality in Focus

by Rachel Saruski



Chynna Dee Andrada will guide a Sage Cacao Sound Bath ceremony, 10/9  
(photo courtesy of Pelham Art Center)

When Rebecca Mills was listening to the song *Ultralight Beam* by Kanye West, the lyrics “this is a godstream,” she says, flowed through her mind on repeat. The curator had wanted to create an exhibition about spirituality and transcendentalism. After listening to the song nonstop, [Pelham Art Center](#) (PAC)’s new exhibition came together in her head, and then in the gallery space.

[Ultralight Beam](#), on view from September 15 through October 30, “explores transcendent themes of higher consciousness, enlightenment and the Universe as a whole,” Mills explains. She also says the show’s messaging is important at any time, but especially now, as it sets a standard for peace: “Being in the U.S., we have a lot of privileges... so we can be like, ‘Okay we’re all on this planet together. If we can accumulate peace here, then maybe we can set an example for people elsewhere.’”

The 10 exhibiting artists each explore aspects of human belief – spirituality, religion and the power of the universe. Some works are heavily immersed in transcendentalist theory; others can serve as more of a beginner’s course for those who are less familiar with the show’s

themes. The artists all “take metaphysical and transcendental topics and put them into their works in a way where you can relate to it no matter what.”

When Mills first spoke with abstract expressionist painter Claire Buckley, the artist revealed that she isn’t much of a spiritual or religious person. But Mills told her that Wassily Kandinsky didn’t explicitly say that his work was about God; he was thinking about “the transcendental nature of emotions.” Similarly, Mark Rothko’s works “give this very spiritual, emotional experience because of how you react to its color.” It was then that Buckley understood the connection between her work and the core of this exhibition.

Mills likens Buckley’s work to the colors on a wall when you shine light on crystal. “You don’t have to know anything about art; you can just appreciate it, and the emotion itself is enough.”

The curator describes the work of Gabriel Mills as if one were looking down at terrain from the International Space Station: it may look like a mountain range or a stream of water, but from so far away it also looks abstract. Other *Ultralight Beam* artists address religious

mysticism, deconstructing gender, and the cosmos. Themes are expressed in sculptures, shadow work, surrealist landscapes, abstraction and more.

Says PAC Communications Manager Michelle Costanza: “I think metaphysical and spiritual themes can be a turn-off for [some] people... This can be a shift in how they experience this sort of thing... It’s intended to be a light, cultivating experience.” The show’s goal isn’t for people to just see what’s in the gallery; it begs to saturate visitors with the theme of transcendence.

Gallery events aim to “connect people with the show in a different way.” In addition to a Santeria Batá drum circle on September 18, a Cacao Ceremony and Sound Bath by Sage Cacao will be offered on October 9. Costanza explains that the ceremony, which includes drinking traditional Cacao tea, laying down, and being consumed by the sound frequencies that fill the room, is a personal experience that “takes over your whole body, your whole mind.”

The most cherished aspect of *Ultralight Beam* for Mills and Costanza is that every visitor can connect with a piece, even if they aren’t familiar with the themes it presents. Mills explains: “I don’t expect this exhibit to change the world... [I want visitors] to have a meaningful takeaway, and hopefully put themselves in this place where they want to think more about universal peace.”



Chris Watts, *INSIGHT* (photo courtesy of Pelham Art Center)

## spotlight



Volunteers help to create artist Amanda Browder's *Metropolis Sunrise Installation* (photo credit: Mary Alice Franklin)

## Participate in Community Art for #SeriousFunArtsFest!

Two Serious Fun Arts Fest artists are asking for the community's help by offering an opportunity to participate in art-making activities that will be incorporated into their large public art installations. The community-driven projects include:

- **Amanda Browder's [Metropolis Sunrise fabric installation](#)**, which will be draped over the façade of ArtsWestchester's building in White Plains. Participants are asked to help pin and sew the fabric strips that make up the structure of the installation. [Upcoming public sewing days](#) include: September 1 at Peekskill Field Library and September 7-8 at Heart Art Creations in Larchmont.
- **Sarah Divi's [colorful wayfinding project](#)** to lead people along the path of the festival's self-guided art tour, beginning at the White Plains train station. Divi says that the project is for anyone who has "wanted to participate in a yarn bomb but can't crochet." Interested participants should use bright lightweight weatherproof materials to make flowers for rainbow garlands that will flood White Plains during the festival. Flowers should be mailed to Divi by September 10. For info, visit Divi's [Instagram post](#).

## ArtsWestchester Appoints New Board Members

At its 2022 annual meeting, [ArtsWestchester](#) announced the nomination of three new board members: Cristle Collins Judd, Edward J. Lewis III, and Randolph 'Randy' Williams, each of whom will serve a three-year term from 2022-2025.

As the President of Sarah Lawrence College, Cristle Collins Judd, joins ArtsWestchester not only with her executive and management skills, but her deep love of music. She has a Ph.D in Music, a Master's in Musicology and is an accomplished oboe player. Since coming to Sarah Lawrence in 2017, Judd has steered the school through its largest capital campaign. She expanded its physical stamp with the creation of the Barbara Walters Campus Center by securing a \$20 million donation for its construction. Judd has also developed strategic partnerships with local colleges, increased community outreach, increased donor and alumni engagement, and launched a Genomics Institute.

Edward J. Lewis III, President and CEO at Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, honed his executive skills over 21 years in performing arts management and fundraising as Vice Chancellor for Advancement at University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Lewis has served in pivotal development roles throughout his career and has a successful track record in fundraising. With substantial financial management and



Cristle Collins Judd, Edward J. Lewis III and Randolph Williams

budget experience, he has led campaigns totaling \$1 billion. In addition to his fundraising acumen are skills in communications, marketing and branding. Lewis is also an accomplished violist who performed professionally in major cities across the country for 30 years.

Randy Williams, an educator and prolific artist, is currently Professor of Studio Art and Art Education at Manhattanville College in Purchase. Williams shares his professional expertise as a lecturer, instructor, board member and panelist for prestigious arts organizations such as Whitney Museum of Art, Neuberger Museum of Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York Foundation for the Arts and New York State Council on the Arts. In his career as an artist, Williams has held multiple national and international solo exhibitions.

## Westchester Poet Laureate B.K. Fischer Receives Grant From Academy of American Poets

by Rocío De La Roca

B. K. Fischer, Westchester's inaugural Poet Laureate, joins 21 others who will each receive a \$50,000 grant from the Academy of American Poets (AAP) for "positive contributions to their communities." A combined total of \$1.1 million will support each of the awardees' proposed public poetry programs through the APP's [\*Poets Laureate Fellowship program\*](#). In addition, a total of \$72,200 will be awarded to eight local nonprofit organizations that have agreed to assist the upcoming projects. For Fischer, that supporting organization is ArtsWestchester.

Fischer's awarded project is an outdoor writing series called "Floodwaters Workshops." The programs, which are designed for high school students – particularly youth in underserved communities and those who identify as LGBTQ+ – will take place at different sites of flooding and flood risk in Westchester County. Locations will include local city parks, littered beaches, seawalls and damaged docks, and eroded trails.

In a statement, the Academy explained the significance of recognizing its Fellows: "Poets laureate at state and local levels promote the art of poetry and the position is an important way to recognize the place and possibilities that poets and poetry have in civic life, including in helping communities to address issues of importance."

Fischer's aim is to implement poetry as a facilitator for local conversation about climate, conservation and social injustice. She explains: "Young people today are facing the climate future with particular anxiety and justifiable anger about the world that's being left to them. These workshops aim to amplify youth voices and let their perspectives be heard."

To finalize the program, a short documentary will be produced. The film will depict the program's progression and the students' experiences. The film, according to Fischer, will be a way to bring the poems and ideas to an even wider audience.

Those who are interested in writing creatively about climate can reach out to Poet Laureate B.K. Fischer about how to participate in an eco-writing workshop this fall: [floodwatersworkshops@gmail.com](mailto:floodwatersworkshops@gmail.com). Students of all ages and adults are welcome.



B.K. Fischer



## spotlight



### MARSHA ON THE MOVE Monthly Web Feature

When Business Council of Westchester President Marsha Gordon, is not advocating for businesses in the County, she can be found at the cinema or theater. Read Marsha's reviews on ArtsWestchester's As a Matter of Art blog: [artsw.org/artsblog](https://artsw.org/artsblog).



Still from *Where the Crawdads Sing* (Paramount Pictures Corporation)

### *Where the Crawdads Sing*

I think I'm joined by the "book club crowd" when I say that this movie is a very good representation of the book. More importantly, it stood on its own as a period piece, showing rural Southern culture in the 1960s. The movie is a reflection of how a community judged a girl who didn't fit into their cultural norms. It is also a look at a human spirit that could have been broken, but had strength and perseverance. While the pace of the movie was slow, it matched the feeling and raw beauty of the marsh's natural habitat, which almost became another character in the film. It indeed became the girl's life's passion. Lastly, the movie is about justice... or is it? There are many other stories about different cultures, identities and circumstances that make the viewer see how life's journey can turn the trajectory of a person's experiences. This movie, like the book, captured my heart.

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## news briefs

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Purchase College Music Faculty Member Advances in *America's Got Talent*

Purchase College lecturer and Soul Voice's choir director, Knoelle Higginson, led a gospel group she directs, Sing Harlem Choir, to the competition rounds of NBC's *America's Got Talent*. The group is comprised from advanced members of another group that Higginson co-founded, Gospel for Teens, which aims to preserve the history and genre of gospel music. Sing Harlem Choir has appeared on The Grammy Awards and *Saturday Night Live*, and has performed with Usher, Ariana Grande and more. Though the teen gospel group was eliminated in the "Deliberations" round, they were [featured in one of the audition episodes](#), where all three judges gave positive feedback.



*Still of Knoelle Higginson and Sing Harlem Choir on America's Got Talent*

### The 2022 Voices for Change Artist Grant

[Voices for Change](#) is a grant, partly supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and administered by ArtsWestchester, which provides artists with an opportunity to develop and present new work that inspires and informs, and may be a catalyst for action. Project proposals should include a collaborative component with a cultural, service or community-based organization. Multiple grants will be awarded through a competitive selection process. [Guidelines and application](#) are available online.

**Deadline: October 14**



*(photo courtesy of Rye Arts Center)*

### Open House at The Rye Arts Center

The Rye Arts Center will offer its community an opportunity to get better acquainted with its offerings. On September 10, an [Open House](#) will allow arts lovers to explore the Center's STEAM program, see its 3D printers and laser cutter at work, and participate in family-friendly hands-on activities like painting, drawing, ceramics and more. Guests can also stop by the music studio to try various instruments with guidance from instructors. Teachers from the Center's coding and creative building programs will be on site to answer questions. Live music, a food truck and artisan items for sale will round out the day's activities.



Arlene Wendt

### In Memoriam: Arlene Wendt

Arlene Wendt, a Yonkers native and founder of [Actors' Conservatory Theatre](#) (ACT), passed away recently. Wendt's love of the arts began when she was just a toddler. She honed her performance skills over her many years participating in community theater, ultimately creating ACT. The company launched with \$1,000 in 1975 and blossomed into a full-fledged company with stage productions, workshops and programs that support creatives. Throughout her theatrical career, Wendt directed over 100 main-stage productions and conducted over 30 acting and scene study workshops. She also created ACT's improv troupe and fundraising company, as well as "ACT Presents..." a program that offers the opportunity for new material to be "workshopped" with the actors, writer, and audience. Throughout her illustrious career, she contributed to student scholarships, the development and success of new works, and community access to the arts.

### Exhibition from Recipients of Mental Health Services

ArtsWestchester, in partnership with Westchester County Government Office of Mental Health and Rockland Psychiatric Center, presents its annual *Visions* exhibition. The show, which features a "[Resilient and Renewed!](#)" theme this year, showcases original artwork created by dozens of artists who are recipients of mental health services in Westchester County. For more than 35 years, these organizations have banded together to provide arts programs at mental health sites. These multi-session workshops, led by ArtsWestchester teaching artists, result in artwork that invites the public to better understand that those who are diagnosed with mental illnesses are no different than anyone else, and are incredibly capable and creative. The exhibition opens on September 8 and remains on view through September 11 in ArtsWestchester's gallery (Wed-Fri and Sun, 12-5pm; Sat, 12-6pm), and [online through the end of 2022](#).



Artwork on display in ArtsWestchester's Visions exhibition

### Accepting Applications: ArtsWestchester's Young Adult Leadership Council

ArtsWestchester is accepting applications for its Young Adult Leadership Council, a career and college readiness program for youth aged 16-22. Members of the Council provide a voice to the organization's youth education programs by helping to plan, evaluate, attend, promote and develop ArtsWestchester's teen programming. Participating youth meet twice monthly from October through May. A stipend will be provided to cover transportation costs. [Applications are accepted on a rolling basis through September 30.](#)

# Music in the Air



# usic in the Air

*Music in the Air* is a directory of free and affordable (under \$20) outdoor cultural events taking place in Westchester. Find an event in your area!

## Armonk

Summer Concerts in Wampus Brook Park Gazebo, co-sponsored by Parks and Rec and the Armonk Chamber of Commerce. Concert Date: Sunday September 18. 6-8pm.

## Bedford

The Town of Bedford presents Bedford's Trifesta, a community event with food trucks, live music, a kids fun area and more. Date: September 24. Location: Bedford Hills Memorial Park. Contact: [bedfordny.gov](http://bedfordny.gov)

## Cortlandt

The Town of Cortlandt presents Cortlandt Family Fun Day, including live music, food trucks, fireworks and free rides. Date: September 10. Location: Town of Cortlandt Youth and Recreation. Contact: [townofcortlandt.com](http://townofcortlandt.com)

## Hastings-on-Hudson

Destination Hastings presents a series of jazz performances. Dates: Sundays through September 4. Location: Veterans of Foreign Wars Plaza, 558 Warburton Ave. Contact: [destinationhastings.org](http://destinationhastings.org)

## Katonah

The Katonah Chamber of Commerce presents the Katonah Art Walk, during which local stores and galleries open their doors for visitors with receptions, live music and more. Date: September 24. Location: Various galleries throughout downtown Katonah. Contact: [katonahchamber.org](http://katonahchamber.org)

## Mamaroneck

The Town of Mamaroneck presents a family-friendly movie night. Date: September 9 and Location: Memorial Park. Contact: [townofmamaroneckny.org](http://townofmamaroneckny.org)

## Mount Kisco

Mount Kisco Arts Council presents live folk, rock, world and indie music for the whole family. Dates: Every other Wednesday through September. Location: Village/Town Hall Fountain Park. Contact: [mountkiscocony.gov](http://mountkiscocony.gov)

## Mount Vernon

The Luangisa African Gallery presents Wakanda 5, a celebration of African art and culture with outdoor activities, African cuisine, live music and shopping. Date: September 3. Location: Luangisa African Gallery, Contact: [wakandacelebration.org](http://wakandacelebration.org)

## Peekskill

The City of Peekskill presents a movie night to close out its Riverfront Summer 2022 series. Date: *Sing 2* on September 9. Location: Riverfront Green Park. Contact: 914- 734-7275, [cityofpeekskill.com](http://cityofpeekskill.com)

## Pelham

The Town of Pelham presents its 2022 Summer Concert Series, featuring pop, rock, doo-wop, and more. Date(s): Monday evenings through September 12. Location: Gazebo Park. Contact: [pelhamrecreation.com](http://pelhamrecreation.com)

## Sleepy Hollow

The Village of Sleepy Hollow presents the Sleepy Hollow Cultural Festival, a family friendly cultural event for all to enjoy. Date: September 17. Location: Kingsland Point Park. Contact: [sleepyhollowny.gov](http://sleepyhollowny.gov)

## Tarrytown

The Pocantico Center of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund present the 2022 Summer Pocantico Season, a series of performances, exhibits and arts walks. Date: September 7. Location: The Pocantico Center of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Contact: 914-524-6500, [pocanticoprograms@rbf.org](mailto:pocanticoprograms@rbf.org)

Village of Tarrytown presents a summer concert featuring the Billy Frenz Group. Date: September 1. Location: Pierson Park. Contact: [tarrytowngov.com](http://tarrytowngov.com)

## White Plains

ArtsWestchester, City of White Plains and White Plains BID present JazzFest White Plains, a four-day celebration of free and affordable jazz throughout downtown White Plains, culminating in an outdoor food and jazz festival. Date(s): September 9-12. Contact: 914-428-4220. [artsw.org/jazzfest](http://artsw.org/jazzfest)

spotlight

# September 2022 Arts Offerings



Pop-Up Gallery by Alan Cohen, on view in Harrison Public Library's The Cameragenic Experience exhibition, on view 9/2-10/1 (photo courtesy of Harrison Public Library)

# upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities

## 9/1 THURSDAY

**Workshop:** ArtsWestchester presents *Public Sewing Days with Amanda Browder*. Community participants will help pin and sew fabric that will form Browder's installation, which will be draped over ArtsWestchester's building in White Plains. 3:15-7:15pm at Peekskill Field Library. Also 9/7-8 at 11am-4pm at Heart Art Creations, Larchmont. artsw.org

## 9/3 SATURDAY

**Festivals:** Croton Council on the Arts presents *2022 Arts & Crafts Hudson River Festival*. This outdoor festival will include ceramics, jewelry, sculpture, paintings and more. 12-4pm at Senasqua Park. Festival.CrotonArts.org

**Family & Kids:** Hudson River Museum presents *One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure*. On a trip from Sesame Street to the moon, Big Bird and Elmo with friend Hu Hu Zhu discover that planets are different from one another. Through 9/25. 12:30-1pm. hrm.org

**Family & Kids:** Hudson River Museum presents *The Sky Tonight: Planetarium Show*. This is a tour of the night sky as seen from the area, with topics on visible planets, bright stars, the Milky Way and more. Through 9/25. 2-3pm. hrm.org

**Family & Kids:** Hudson River Museum presents *We Are Astronomers: Planetarium Show*. The program explores how astronomers share knowledge and answer questions about the universe. Through 9/25. 3:30-4pm. hrm.org

**Festivals:** Luangisa African Gallery presents *Wakanda 5: Celebrate the Culture, Pride, Music, Arts & Community of Africa*. The celebration will feature activities centered around Africa, such as a wearable art fashion show, African cuisine, live music, kid's activities and a sale of handmade goods and handcrafts. 11am-8pm. luangisa.com

## 9/7 WEDNESDAY

**Dance:** The Pocantico Center presents *Paul Taylor Dance Company Outdoor Performance*. The company will perform a selection of their renowned repertory work. 6-8pm. rbf.org/pocantico

## 9/9 FRIDAY

**Music:** New Rochelle Public Library presents *Friday Night Concert Series:*

*Billy Steely and Where's Dave Band.*

This group has cultivated its signature style by creating relatable country and Americana music through years of sound evolution as a working band. 7-8:15pm at the Library's Ossie Davis Theater. nrpl.org

## 9/10 SATURDAY

**Dance:** Ballet des Amériques presents *Ballet Conservatory Auditions*. Boys and girls of all ages from beginners to advanced students can audition for the ballet program. 9am-3pm. balletdesameriques.com

**Music:** Bedford Playhouse presents *Orchestra 914*. The string quartet performs works on violin, viola and cello. 7-8:30pm. bedfordplayhouse.org

**Open Studios:** Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents *Early Childhood Program Open House*. Guests will learn about this music education program for youngest members aged 9 months to 5 years. Also 9/12. 10-11:30am. hbms.org

**Workshop:** Hudson River Museum presents *The Artist Is at Hand: Demo with Mason Webb*. Webb will perform his piece in the galleries, discuss his practice and allow visitors to interact directly with the instrument. 1:30-3:30pm. hrm.org

**Workshop:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *A Neurodiverse Poetry Workshop with Lily Akerman (via Zoom)*. Writers will explore poetry and how to build a neurodiverse poetry community. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Lectures:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *The Image and the Verse: How Paintings Are Translated into Poems via Zoom*. In this 2 hour craft talk, we will discuss "ekphrasis" as well as examples of famous poems which include ekphrastic techniques. 12:30-2:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Open Studios:** Steffi Nossen School of Dance presents *Back to School, Back to Dance: Open House*. Visitors will explore fall classes and sign up for a free trial class. 10am-2pm. steffinossen.org

**Open Studios:** The Rye Arts Center presents *Open House*. The program will explore the Center's S.T.E.A.M. program, music studios and other offerings with live music and hands-on activities. 11am-2pm. ryeartscenter.org

**Music:** Westchester Collaborative Theater presents *Gerry Malkin Quartet*. Join the Gerry Malkin quartet

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# upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities

as they swing at WCT's music in the Box show. It will be an evening of cool jazz. 7:30-10pm. wctheater.org

## 9/11 SUNDAY

**Workshop:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Making a Poem Memorable: Generative Workshop with Dorianne Laux (via Zoom)*. This program will examine a variety of poems written by contemporary poets and seek to understand what makes them memorable. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Music:** Tarrytown Music Hall presents *Dionne Warwick*. Warwick is a six-time Grammy Award-winning vocalist who is known for her soulful blend of pop, gospel and R&B music that transcends race, culture and musical boundaries. 7pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

## 9/13 TUESDAY

**Music:** Westchester Oratorio Society presents *Open Rehearsals for all-Vivaldi Fall Concert*. The program includes Vivaldi's instrumental concertos Dixit Dominus, Magnificat and Gloria. 7-8:30pm at Katonah Village Library. Through 9/27. westchesteroratorio.org

## 9/14 WEDNESDAY

**Festivals:** ArtsWestchester presents *JazzFest 2022: Jazz at the Farmer's Market*. This live jazz performance from I'RO & the Afro Latin Exchange will kick off the 5-day festival. 12-1:30pm at White Plains Farmers Market. artsw.org

**Spoken Word:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Poetry Reading (in person & via Zoom)*. This event will launch the center's Fall 2022 reading series with poets, David Baker, Chen Chen and Kathy Fagan. 7-8:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Theater:** Tarrytown Music Hall presents *musician and spoken word artist Henry Rollins*. Rollins will recount the events of his life in the brief pre-COVID period since his last tour. 8pm. tarrytownmusichall.org

## 9/15 THURSDAY

**Festivals:** ArtsWestchester presents *JazzFest 2022: François Moutin & Kavita Shah Duo*. Moutin, a French virtuosic bassist and New York-born vocalist Kavita Shah will perform lyric-driven and wordless jazz standards and original music. 12-1pm at Downtown Music at Grace. artsw.org

**Festivals:** ArtsWestchester presents

*JazzFest 2022: Grace Kelly Concert Reception with Via Garibaldi*. The award-winning singer, saxophonist and songwriter will perform a live jazz concert. The program will include drinks and canapés. 6:30-8:30pm at White Plains Plaza. artsw.org

**Reception:** Pelham Art Center presents *Ultralight Beam*. This opening reception celebrates the exhibiting artists who depict spirituality, visionary methods, religion and metaphysical concepts. -6pm. pelhamartcenter.org

## 9/16 FRIDAY

**Festivals:** ArtsWestchester presents *JazzFest 2022: Jazz at Noon*. Jazz-funk bass extraordinaire Richie Goods and Grammy-nominated jazz pianist Miki Hayama join forces to present this outdoor concert. 12-1pm at White Plains Public Library. artsw.org

**Festivals:** ArtsWestchester presents *JazzFest 2022: Joey Alexander Trio*. Three-time Grammy Award-nominated pianist Joey Alexander will perform. 7-11pm. artsw.org

**Music:** Bedford Playhouse presents *Broadway in Bedford*. The performance will include modern day works, alongside classic Broadway masterpieces. 7-8:15pm. bedfordplayhouse.org

**Family & Kids:** Katonah Museum of Art presents *Artful Families*. Children ages 2-5 and their families will enjoy Museum games, story time and art-making activities related to current exhibitions. 10:30am- at . katonahmuseum.org

**Tours:** Katonah Museum of Art presents *Stroller Tours*. This is a baby-friendly, interactive tour of the Museum's exhibitions for parents and caregivers with babies 0-18 months. 9am-11:30am at . katonahmuseum.org

**Memorable: Generative Workshop with Dorianne Laux (via Zoom)**. This program will examine a variety of poems written by contemporary poets and seek to understand what makes them memorable. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

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**Reception:** Pelham Art Center presents *Ultralight Beam*. This opening reception celebrates the exhibiting artists who depict spirituality, visionary methods, religion and metaphysical concepts. -6pm. pelhamartcenter.org

**Festivals:** Artrider presents *Fall at Lyndhurst*. The shopping event will include a display of original fashions, accessories, fine art and more, as well as tastings from local distilleries, craft demos and family activities. Also 9/17-18. 10am-5pm at Lyndhurst. lyndhurst.org

## 9/17 SATURDAY

**Festivals:** ArtsWestchester presents *JazzFest 2022: A Workshop & Conversation with Legendary Jazz Bassist Buster Williams*. The Grammy Award-winning bassist has performed, recorded and collaborated with jazz giants such as Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, and many others. 1-2:30pm at Music Conservatory of Westchester. artsw.org

**Festivals:** ArtsWestchester presents *JazzFest 2022: The Buster Williams Quartet*. Grammy Award-winning bassist Buster Williams has performed, recorded and collaborated with jazz giants such

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Melissa Aldana performs at Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts on 9/30 (photo credit: Eduardo Pavez Goye)

as Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock and many others. 7-11pm. [artsw.org](https://artsw.org)

**Music:** Friends of Music Concerts, Inc. presents *Emerson String Quartet Concert*. The program will include works by Felix Mendelssohn, Johannes Brahms, George Walker and Antonín Dvořák. 8-10pm at Kusel Auditorium at Sleepy Hollow High School. [friendsofmusicconcerts.org](https://friendsofmusicconcerts.org)

**Workshop:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Poetry and Pop Culture with Jordan Franklin (via Zoom)*. Students will explore media fascinations and use them as the catalyst for new poetic works. 12:30-4:30pm. [writerscenter.org](https://writerscenter.org)

**Film:** Jacob Burns Film Center presents *An American Tail*. The 1986 animated musical film tells the story of Fievel

Mousekewitz and his family as they emigrate from Russia to the United States for freedom. However, he gets lost and must find a way to reunite with them. 11am-12:30pm. [burnsfilmcenter.org](https://burnsfilmcenter.org)

**Workshop:** Mamaroneck Artists Guild presents *Cyanotype Workshop with Instructor Julia Swyers*. Students aged 8+ will learn to make cyanotype art prints, or to create greeting cards using plants from their own garden. 11am-2pm at Bethany Arts Community. [mamaroneckartistsguild.org](https://mamaroneckartistsguild.org)

**Festivals:** Yonkers Downtown BID presents *Yonkers Riverfest*. This all-day festival features live music performances, arts and crafts, children's activities, international cuisine and more. 12-7pm at 1 Larkin Plaza, Yonkers. [yonkersdowntown.com](https://yonkersdowntown.com)

## 9/18 SUNDAY

**Festivals:** ArtsWestchester presents *JazzFest 2022: White Plains Jazz & Food Festival*. An all-day lineup of outdoor jazz performances. 12:30-7pm. [artsw.org](https://artsw.org)

**Theater:** Hudson River Museum presents *The Rejuvenary River Circus*. This performance by Arm of the Sea Theater fuses live music and visual storytelling in a contemporary work of mask and puppet theater about the life cycle of a river. 2-3pm. [hrm.org](https://hrm.org)

**Workshop:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Eco-Poetry Craft Class with David Baker, in person at HVWC & via Zoom*. This two-hour course will feature close reading and group discussion of eco-poetry. 12:30-2:30pm. [writerscenter.org](https://writerscenter.org)

**Workshop:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *So You Want to Write for Kids with Tina Tocco (via Zoom)*. Participants will work with in-class prompts to practice writing middle grade and young adult fiction. 12:30-3:30pm. [writerscenter.org](https://writerscenter.org)

**Reception:** Katonah Museum of Art presents *Tales Of Tradition Interrupted*. Renowned author and social activist Esmeralda Santiago will share her own experiences on the theme of "tradition interrupted." 4-5pm. [katonahmuseum.org](https://katonahmuseum.org)

**Reception:** Music Conservatory of Westchester presents *Unveiling of New State-Of-The-Art Recording Studio*. This exclusive preview of Westchester's newest recording studio will include live studio sessions and demo classes. 1-4pm. [musicconservatory.org](https://musicconservatory.org)

**Music:** Pelham Art Center presents *Santeria Batá Drum Circle with Marcus Kreiger*. Kreiger and fellow percussionists will lead a performance and demonstration of the Santeria drumming tradition. 12-1:30pm. [pelhamartcenter.org](https://pelhamartcenter.org)

**Music:** Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra presents *7th Annual Beethoven Festival*. The program celebrates the music of Beethoven and other influential German composers. 3-5pm at Saunders Trades and Technical High School. [yonkersphilharmonic.com](https://yonkersphilharmonic.com)

## 9/21 WEDNESDAY

**Lectures:** Bethany Arts Community presents *Webinar: Social Activism and Restorative Justice*. This conversation will examine the importance of restorative justice and the creative process as they contribute to alternatives to the prison system. 7-8:30pm. [bethanyarts.org](https://bethanyarts.org)

## 9/23 FRIDAY

**Theater:** Bethany Arts Community presents *The Story Box*. This production explores the importance of civil rights through the lens of Japanese-American identity, using traditional Japanese storytelling elements. 6:30-8:30pm. Also 9/24 at Ossining Waterfront Park. [bethanyarts.org](https://bethanyarts.org)

**Music:** Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse presents *Chorus and friends Free Concert*. The Coffeehouse Chorus and other special guests will perform. 7:30-10pm at Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation. [walkaboutchorus.org](https://walkaboutchorus.org)

## upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities



Friends of Music Concerts presents Emerson String Quartet on 9/17 (photo courtesy of Friends of Music Concerts)

### 9/24 SATURDAY

**Music:** Emelin Theatre presents *Gangstagrass*. The band plays great American traditions of bluegrass, hip-hop and beyond, to create a whole new musical genre. 8-10pm. emelin.org

**Workshop:** Hudson River Museum presents *Wellness Workshop: Reflections of the Human Heart*. Elementary-age children and their caregivers will join art therapist Kit Demirdelen for a program that will explore the healing qualities of art and nature. 1-3pm. hrm.org

**Workshop:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *The Heart of American Poetry: a Craft Talk via Zoom*. This craft class on American Poetry will be based on Edward Hirsch's new book, *The Heart of American Poetry*. 12:30-2:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Music:** New Rochelle Public Library presents *Diálogos Duo: Contemporary Brazilian Music Concert*. This program will feature original music tributes to Brazilian masters and genres such as samba, choro and bossa nova. 3-4pm at the Library's Ossie Davis Theater. nrpl.org

### 9/25 SUNDAY

**Workshop:** Hudson Valley Writers Center presents *Establishing Perspective with Melanie Hatter (via Zoom)*. Participants will explore different points of view from a selection of short stories and novels and consider how to decide what view works best for their work. 12:30-4:30pm. writerscenter.org

**Reception:** Katonah Museum of Art presents *Last Look*. This event will celebrate the last day of the museum's

exhibitions *Tradition Interrupted* and *Remy Jungerman: Higher Ground*. 12-5pm. katonahmuseum.org

### 9/28 WEDNESDAY

**Tours:** Hudson River Museum presents *Virtual Studio Visit with Federico Uribe*. This bilingual program will dive into Uribe's unique art practice, which is currently on display at the Museum. 7-8pm. hrm.org

**Film:** Jacob Burns Film Center presents *Love with the Proper Stranger*. This classic romantic comedy-drama was nominated for five Academy Awards. 1-2:30pm. burnsfilmcenter.org

### 9/29 THURSDAY

**Workshop:** Bethany Arts Community presents *Drink and Draw*. In this non-instructional event, artists of all experience levels and from all background

will come together for a fun night of life drawing. 7-9:30pm. bethanyarts.org

### 9/30 FRIDAY

**Theater:** Arc Stages presents *The Great Leap*. Manford Lum, a college basketball player, must juggle international politics and his own personal history when he arrives to a game in China which is in the throes of the post-Cultural Revolution era. Through 10/15. 8-10pm. arcstages.org

**Music:** Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts presents *Melissa Aldana Quartet*. Grammy-nominated saxophonist and composer Melissa Aldana has already established an international reputation for her visionary work as a bandleader. 8-9:30pm. caramoor.org

for more arts events, visit [artsw.org](https://artsw.org)

## EXHIBITIONS & CLASSES

### ArtsWestchester

- **Exhibition: *Visions: Resilient and Renewed!*** The show includes original artwork by artists and recipients of mental health services in Westchester. 9/8-11. Wed-Fri & Sun: 12-5pm, Sat: 12-6pm.

### Bethany Arts Community

- **Class: *Outdoor Sculpture for Kids.*** Young students aged 6-9 collaborate on contemporary site-specific sculptures and engage in the nature of outdoor work. Mondays, 9/12-10/10 at 4-5:30pm.
- **Class: *Oil Painting 101 with Peter Leeds.*** Participants will learn about shadowing, toning and color relationships to create an inspiring painting. Tuesdays, 9/13-11/8 at 6:30-8pm.
- **Exhibition: *Beauty in the Round: A Scrutiny of Sculpture.*** This six-week online course will explore some of the greatest sculptors and sculptures in existence. Tuesdays, 9/20-10/25 at 10-11am.
- **Exhibition: *Truth or Illusion? NYSATA Region 7 Annual Art Show.*** Art educators work to guide their students through the process of exploration and discovery. 9/6-30, Mon-Fri: 10am-4pm, Wed: 10am-7:30pm.

### Center for the Digital Arts, Peekskill Extension

- **Class: *Digital Photography.*** The remote class will provide photographers with a foundation in practice and theory. Mon & Wed, 9/12-10/3 at 6:30-9:30pm.
- **Class: *Painting En Plein Air in 24 Hrs for Adults.*** Students will learn the plein air traditions of the Impressionists and the Hudson River School painters. Saturdays, 9/24-11/12 at 10am-1pm.

### Clay Art Center

- **Exhibition: *The Family Portrait.*** This show will explore the meaning and definition of the family unit in contemporary culture and society. 9/1-10/15 at 10am-5pm.

### Harrison Public Library

- **Exhibition: *The Cameragenic Experience by Alan Cohen.*** Cohen's interest in digital photography grew as the hardware and software evolved into an integrated system. 9/6-10/1 at 9:30am-5:30pm.

### Hudson River Museum

- **Class: *Kaleidoscopic Vision.*** Participants aged 5+ and families will create their own handmade kaleidoscope using recycled paper rolls, flexible mirror sheets, straws and markers. 9/3-25 at 1-4pm.

- **Exhibition: *Plastic Reef.*** The artist weaves together everyday plastic objects to recreate a marine coral reef and its interdependent life forms. Through 2/12/2023, 12-5pm.
- **Exhibition: *Order / Reorder: Experiments with Collections.*** The show looks at American art that considers expressions of American identity from new perspectives. Through 9/3/2023, 12-5pm.

### Hudson Valley Museum of Contemporary Art

- **Exhibition: *Address Earth Art Expo 2022.*** A collection of 22 artists celebrate planet earth and use their art to address critical global issues that affect the world. 9/1-10/30, 11am-1pm.
- **Exhibition: *New in the Galleries.*** Jeffrey Gibson's art synthesizes the cultural and artistic traditions of his Cherokee and Choctaw heritage with Modernism and themes from contemporary and queer culture. 9/29, 11am-5pm.



Three Bars by Jeffrey Gibson, on view in the permanent collection at HV MOCA (image courtesy HV MOCA)

## upcoming virtual and in-person arts activities



*Hoff-Barthelson Music School's Early Childhood Program Open House, 9/12 (photo credit: Derek Cooper)*

for more arts events, visit [artsw.org](http://artsw.org)

**Hudson Valley Writers Center**

- **Class: Monday Night Poetry Workshop (Via Zoom).** Joan Kwon Glass will constructively at the new work of each participant. 9/12- 10/31, 6:30-8:30pm. [writerscenter.org](http://writerscenter.org)
- **Class: The Art of Dramatic Writing for Stage, Screen, and Television with Bill Bigelow (via Zoom).** This is a course designed for writers looking to create screenplays, stage plays, and teleplays for television shows. 9/16-10/21, 1:30-3:30pm.

**Katonah Museum of Art**

- **Exhibition: Tradition Interrupted.** Artists merge age-old media and technique with innovation to create new work. Through 9/25, Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm, Thurs: 1-8pm, Sun: 12-5pm.
- **Exhibition: Higher Ground.** Works by Remy Jungerman connect pattern and symbol in Surinamese Maroon culture with European modernism. Through 9/25, Tues-Sat: 10am-5pm, Thurs: 1-8pm, Sun: 12-5pm.

**Mamaroneck Artists Guild**

- **Exhibition: Annual Awards Show.** 9/13-10/8, 12-5pm.

**Neuberger Museum of Art**

- **Exhibition: Milton Avery: Watercolors.** Avery's watercolors from the museum's collection illustrate the artist's vibrant, emotive color palettes and experimental balance between realism and abstraction. Through 9/11, 12-5pm.
- **Exhibition: Slow Jamz.** This immersive multimedia experience of floor-to-ceiling projections and soundtracks by painter, printmaker and video artist Tomashi Jackson. 9/30, 12-5pm.

**New Rochelle Public Library**

- **Class: Kids Acting Workshop.** The Sandbox Theatre will offer instruction on the basics of performing, from voice projection to developing a character. 9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8. 9:30-11am.

**New Rochelle Public Library**

- **Exhibition: Magic in the World - From Fairy Tales to Nature.** Artists explore the Idea of magic through different media. 9/7-10/7.

**Nowodworski Foundation**

- **Exhibition: Ballad of Cyclic Change.** This is an interactive acoustic sculpture series inspired by biogeochemical cycles and how they mirror cycles in human daily life. 3/20/2023, 9am-7pm.

**Pelham Art Center**

- **Exhibition: Ultralight Beam.** A group of artists use and depict spirituality, visionary methods, religion or concepts concerning the metaphysical or other worldly realms. 9/15-10/30.

**Studio Theater in Exile**

- **Exhibition: LatinX Heritage Month: Treasures of the Earth.** This show highlights the art of 3 contemporary Mexican sculptors: Gloria Corrasco, Isadora Cuellar and Maribel Portela. 9/1-10/31.

**The Queen City Art Gallery at Montefiore New Rochelle**

- **Exhibition: The Road Not Taken.** Photographs by local artist Marisa Boan are based on the poem by Robert Frost. 9/10/2022.

**The Rye Arts Center**

- **Exhibition: Mini Solo Show: Suzanne Montresor.** Classical music influences Montresor's lyrical, organic, flowing paintings. At the Center's Gallery B. 9/6-10/15.

**Town of Greenburgh's Arts and Culture Committee**

- **Class: Kids Short Story Connection.** This is a series of 6 two-hour workshops for children aged between 9 and 15 who love to write. 9/10-12/3, 10am-12pm at Greenburgh Town Hall.



**Fall 2022**  
Classes, workshops, & lessons are now open for registration!

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