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Morris Arts
14 Maple Avenue, Suite 301
Morristown, NJ 07960
(973) 285-5115
Editor: Dr. Lynn L. Siebert

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The New Jersey State Council in the Arts has awarded Morris Arts a “Chalice of Excellence” with designation as a “Major Service Organization” in recognition of the quality of its educational history of “service excellence, substantial activity and broad public service”.

This newsletter is available in large print by calling (973) 285-5115, ext. 10.

For a calendar listing of arts events in Morris County and for more information on Morris Arts’ many programs and services, visit us at www.morrisarts.org.

Like us on and follow us on .

Sources from Meet Me in Morristown, 2018.

The Creative Placemaking initiative launched by Morris Arts in collaboration with the Morristown Partnership, will be returning starting May 30, 2019. Bringing the arts to the Morristown business district on the last Thursdays in May, June, July, and August, selected musicians and artists set up shop, showcase and sell their art or perform live throughout the downtown. Various Morristown businesses operate sidewalk sales or demonstrations… an exciting grassroots experience!

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**Encore:** Allergen; Bayer; Crum & Forster; Hackensack Meridian Health; MCM Wealth Management at Morgan Stanley; NJ Advance Media providing services for NJ.com & The Star-Ledger; NJTV; PwC; RDI-NJ; Tasters Guild of New Jersey; Tastings of New Jersey Magazine.

**Applause:** Delta Dental of New Jersey; Dreher: BASF; Finn Partners; Mondeléz International; Pfizer; Quest Diagnostics; Rafter: The Arts Fund Charitable Foundation; Delta Dental of New Jersey; Wayne Creative; MetLife; Morristown Medical Center; Star: ILL; Kings Food Markets; NK Architects; Normandy Real Estate Partners; Riker Danzig; Sherman Wells Sylvester & Stamelman.

**Ovation:** Delta Dental of New Jersey; Dreher: BASF; Finn Partners; Mondeléz International; Pfizer; Quest Diagnostics; Rafter: The Arts Fund Charitable Foundation; Delta Dental of New Jersey; Wayne Creative; MetLife; Morristown Medical Center; Star: ILL; Kings Food Markets; NK Architects; Normandy Real Estate Partners; Riker Danzig; Sherman Wells Sylvester & Stamelman.

**Place:** NEW LOCATION: The Birchwood Manor
111 N. Jefferson Rd, Whippany, NJ 07981

**Time:** Date:
6:00pm – Reception | 7:15pm – Dinner
Wednesday, May 1, 2019

**Tickets:**
$250, available online, at www.morrisarts.org

**Contact:**
(973) 285-5115, x13 or www.morrisarts.org
Morris Arts’ Honors Ehlers and Coladarci Arts Scholarship Winners

On the evening of March 14, 2019, Morris Arts will introduce Dancer Leah Suskind, winner of the Elaine Ehlers Arts Scholarship ($5,000), soprano Sophia Grace Donelan, winner of the Eugenie Coladarci Arts Scholarship ($1,500), and an Honorable Mention, bassoonist Matt Wisotsky, at the opening reception for the new exhibit in the Gallery at 14 Maple.

This year’s Ehlers Scholarship winner, dancer Leah Suskind, a graduating senior at the Morris County School of Technology/Academy for Visual and Performing Arts, will pursue a Bachelors of Fine Arts as a Dance Major at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts next fall. A Finalist Winner for the National Dance Education Organization Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Award, a three-time winner at the Teen Arts Festival (County College of Morris) and winner of numerous scholarships, overall awards and judges’ awards for competition dance, Leah received scholarships from Rutgers Pre-College Dance Conservatory, Ballet Forte, and the New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble. Additionally, she has pursued training at the highly competitive Summer Intensives / Programs at Juilliard, NYU Tisch Summer High School Dance Program, Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company, ROYAL Ballet, Ballet Al Sol Dance Festival, West Side Dance Center, NextStep Dance Company and has performed at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. Recognized for her mastery of multiple dance genres and for her “creativity and technical skill,” Leah impressed the panel with her original dance, Illuminate, which she choreographed in response to an anti-Semitism hate crime against one of her brothers. It was deeply moving, technically demanding, artistically mature and exquisitely executed. One recommender summed up the panel’s assessment, stating, “As a dance professional for over 30 years, there have only been a few students whom I would highly recommend for seeking a dance career and Leah is one of them.”

This year’s Coladarci Scholarship winner is soprano Sophia Grace Donelan, a graduating senior at Villa Walsh Academy. She hopes to pursue a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at a conservatory and, eventually, to become a professional opera singer. Sophia qualified for the 2018 summer Boston University’s Tanglewood Institute Young Artists Vocal Program where she studied voice, music theory, music history, diction, movement/bodywork and art song recital, sang the role of Frasquita in the “Card Trio” from Carmen, soloed in the West Side Story Medley, sang for the Master Class with Mezzo Kelly O’Connor and performed with the BSO Chorus under John Williams. A National Semi-Finalist in the High School Division/Classical Singer Music Vocal Competition, she was also a National Finalist in the New York Lyric Opera Vocal Competition (High School Division). Called “truly exceptional” and described as having a “beautiful instrument, musical intelligence and emotional fortitude,” Sophia is far more advanced and well trained than most singers her age. Impressed by her refined and skilled performance of challenging repertoire in three languages, panelists noted her beautiful tone quality, accurate intonation, clear diction, breath control, well-shaped phrasing, wide dynamic range as well as her understanding of and ability to expressively convey the meaning of the texts she sang.

Bassoonist, award-winning composer and multi-instrumentalist Matt Wisotsky, a graduating senior at West Morris Mendham High School, received Honorable Mention. The judges were unanimous in their choices. Congratulations to all.

From Top: 2019 winners: Dancer Leah Suskind, Ehlers Arts Scholarship winner; Soprano, Sophia Grace Donelan, Coladarci Arts Scholarship winner; Bassoonist Matt Wisotsky, Honorable Mention.

Arts in Education Showcase | May 7, 2019

On May 7, 2019 at the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre (36 Madison Ave. at Lancaster Rd. in Madison – on the Drew University campus), Morris Arts will present its annual Arts In Education Showcase featuring performing/teaching artists from throughout the United States. Cultural arts leaders, teachers, administrators and PTA members have the chance to preview multiple programs but also to meet the artists during the intermissions. As the date approaches, please visit www.morrisarts.org for a complete list of performances for the showcase day and contact Barbara Reuther at breuther@morrisarts.org for additional information.

The Showcase is being sponsored by: The New Jersey Automobile Club Foundation for Safety & Education

On Thursday, March 14, from 6-8pm, Morris Arts will host a free opening reception for the Gallery at 14 Maple’s twenty first exhibit entitled seeing the unseen. The Exhibition Committee of Morris Arts and guest curator Greg Leshe selected works created by ten outstanding artists (painting, mixed media, photography, sculpture, collage, and digital art) for display at the Gallery, a distinctive space located on the 3rd floor of the LEED certified “green” building at 14 Maple Ave., Morristown.

The exhibit features works by a highly diverse and distinguished group of artists, many of whom have also had careers as curators, documentary photo journalists, and artists deeply concerned with plight of the less fortunate. The ten artists featured in this show include Jeffrey Campbell (Wanaque), Patricia Cazorta (New York), Angeles Cossio (Jersey City), Hanna von Goeler (Montclair), Grace Eau-Pillaar (Keypor), Tian Hui (South Orange), Ed Kashi (Montclair), Nancy Saleme (New York), Nyugen Smith (Jersey City), and Wendel White (Galloway). Each artist brings a unique perspective to the theme of seeing the unseen, depicting people and aspects of our world that often remain invisible in our society.

Guest Curator Greg Leshe adds the following insight about the exhibit: Within the show’s compass I regard the artwork as the beacon, the lighthouse, the signaler-object of the unseen, transmitting a critical light, projecting warning lights while asserting and proclaiming what’s out there that we can’t or choose not to see. These forces and realities pose a danger to an individual, a community, an environment, an ethnic group, a nation – and, if ignored or left unintended, will impair some key attribute or element of the human condition.

Through these artists’ eyes, we visualize the beauty and poignancy of migrant farm workers, people who survived extended detention, political imprisonment, or torture as well as the working poor, tangible emblems of racism and, ultimately, our shared humanity. It is at once an exhibit of great beauty and profound awareness – making the viewer mindful of the truly important and fundamental matters in our world.

Additionally, at the opening reception, the winners of the Ehlers and Coladarci Arts Scholarships (dancer Leah Suskind and soprano Sophia Grace Donelan, respectively) and an Honorable Mention (bassoonist Matt Wisotsky) will be introduced and recognized for their achievements.

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On March 14, 2019, Morris Arts’ Gallery at 14 Maple opens seeing the unseen. The exhibit is open to the public Monday-Friday from 10am to 4pm and by appointment, and will remain on display until August 21, 2019. Visit www.morrisarts.org or call (973) 285-5115 for additional information, including the exhibit catalogue which contains details and sale prices for all works. The Gallery at 14 Maple is a barrier-free facility. Individuals needing special accommodation should contact Tom Werder at (973) 285-0115 x 11 or twerder@morrisarts.org.
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