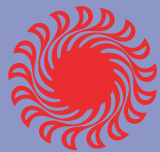


ArtsMatters



SHOWCASING THE ARTS IN THE MORRIS AREA
DEC JAN FEB

Arts Council *of the* Morris Area

2011-2012



First Night® Morris County Celebrates its 20th Anniversary!

December 31, 2011 marks the 20th Anniversary of New Jersey's biggest and brightest New Year's Eve non-alcoholic celebration of the arts – with 275 artists, 80 events in 24 venues – representing dance, drama, music, visual arts and children's events. For all 20 years, the Arts Council of the Morris Area has served as First Night's artistic programmer, researching and securing a wide range of high caliber performing artists who provide a rich, multi-faceted experience which routinely attracts nearly 10,000 people from throughout the state and beyond.

Nearly 70% of this season's program features either new artists or artists returning after several years. Jazz fans will thrill with performance by guitar "gods" – the legendary Bucky Pizzarelli, in his first appearance at First Night Morris County – as a Special Guest with the fabulous Frank Vignola and Vinny Raniolo. Relive the early glory days of the Rolling Stones with *The Glimmer Twins* who recreate the look and sound of young Mick Jagger,

Keith Richards and their iconic rock 'n roll band. Melanie Mitrano presents bittersweet love songs of the Portuguese FADO tradition while *The Mayhem Poets* tear into contemporary life with wit, poetry and passion. See world-renowned *Nai Ni Chen Dance Company's* brilliant choreography and stunning costumes or savor the touching and inspiring words and music from the World War II era performed by the *Travelling Literary Theatre*. The *Sweet Plantain Quartet* – equally at home with Alicia Keys, Smokey Robinson or Russia's classical circles – blends Beethoven and Bach with jazz and Latin music – and, speaking of strings, be sure to catch some Norwegian *Hardanger* fiddle music played by Princeton Music Professor Dan Trueman. Celebrate the *samba* with *Bossa Brasil*® or do some salsa dancing to the music of *Los Ciegos Del Barrio* ("Blind Boys of the 'Hood"...who are actually legally blind!). Catch a few "last laughs" of the year – with comedians

(continued on page 2)



From top left: The Nai Ni Chen Dance Company; The Glimmer Twins (Rolling Stones Tribute Band); The Gizmo Guys; Helene and Chelsea Friedlander (piano, soprano).



Last year's Great Conversations sold out and guests had so much fun talking with the accomplished and fascinating Host Conversationalists that no one wanted to leave the event! The lesson? Reserve your place as soon as invitations arrive in January. Mark March 29, 2012 on your calendars now so you don't miss this unique Arts Council benefit! Experience a one-of-a-kind evening while helping a wonderful organization continue its valuable work in the community! Visit www.morrisarts.org for the latest updates and information after the New Year.

Clockwise: Three of this year's Host Conversationalists: Linda Bowden, northern New Jersey Regional President, PNC Bank; Dr. James A. Kutsch, Jr., President of The Seeing Eye; Jacques Lacombe, Music Director and Conductor of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra.

Arts Council of the Morris Area announces funding year 2012 Local Arts Grants



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The Arts Council of the Morris Area is pleased to announce that 24 Morris County arts organizations received Local Arts Grants for funding year 2012. These grants help support a wide range of arts experiences, from visual arts to a drum and bugle corps, and more. Thanks to these organizations, thousands of people have the opportunity to experience the arts in a multitude of ways. Funding is made possible through the Local Arts Program of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

This year's awardees include: Art in the Atrium (Morristown), Arts! By the People (East Hanover), Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey (Madison), Blackwell Street Center for the Arts, Inc. (Denville), Chatham Community Players (Chatham), Community Children's Museum (Dover), Coro Lirico (Morristown), Creative Heartwork, Inc. (Mendham), Dance Innovations Performance Foundation

(Chatham), First Night® Morris County (Morristown), The Folk Project (Morristown), Fusion Core Drum and Bugle Corp (Succasunna), Hanover Wind Symphony (Whippany), Harmonium Choral Society (Morristown), Madison Arts and Culture Alliance, Inc. (Madison), Morris Choral Society (Morristown), Morris Music Men (Morristown), Morristown Neighborhood House (Morristown), Museum of Early Trades & Crafts (Madison), Music at Morristown United Methodist Church (Morristown), New Jersey Foundation for the Blind (Denville), New Jersey Jazz Society (Chatham), Riverdale Arts Center (Riverdale) and Women's Theater Company (Parsippany).

Additionally, the Arts Council awarded two mini-grants (to Moonlight Serenade, Inc. and Morris County Organization for Hispanic Affairs) for the funding year 2011 to support arts experiences for the elderly, the disabled and senior members of the Latino community.

1) Artist Bisa Butler with her work at Art in the Atrium's *Memories of Russell* Exhibit, January-March 2011; 2) Arts! By the People's hip-hop teaching artist, Gustav Gauntlett; 3) Fusion Core Drum and Bugle Corps; 4) Women's Theater Company production of *Dirty Blonde*; 5) Morris Music Men's quartet "Four Old Parts".



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Calling all artists! On December 8, from 5:30 – 7pm, the Arts Council is hosting its next Artist Networking Event at Julie Friedman's ArtSpace, Elm Street, Morristown. It's free and open to all artists. RSVP Kadie Dempsey at kdempsey@morrisarts.org

Looking for the Perfect Gift?

Celebrate the holidays and milestones with the gift that keeps giving all year long! A donation to the Arts Council is a perfect way to honor that special someone who values the joy that the Arts bring to children and families in our community. Colorful gift cards will be sent to your honoree, with a letter acknowledging your tax deductible contribution forwarded to you. Contact Anne Aronovitch at aaronovitch@morrisarts.org or at (973) 285-5115, x11.

First Night Morris (cont'd.)

Chuck Marti and Moody McCarthy, or lift your spirits with the rousing voices of *GospelWays*. Scott Joplin's ragtime, magicians, street performers, jugglers, the Harlem Wizards Duo, blues, bluegrass, funk, folk, Irish step dancers, classical choral and chamber music, an original hip-hop musical (with beat boxer) and a host of other old and new acts will round out the offerings. Mix in 2 visual arts exhibits and 2 sets of fireworks and you have an unbeatable way to herald 2012!

One inexpensive admission (before Dec. 26: \$20/ticket; 4 pack for \$60) is the pass to *all* events at First Night.

For more information, the latest program updates, to volunteer or to purchase tickets, please visit the First Night Morris County website at www.firstnightmorris.com or call (973) 455-0708.

Some comments from last December's First Night:

This was my first FIRST NIGHT...experience and I thoroughly enjoyed it. ...
— Jayne

We thought this year's First Night was THE BEST! We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and kept extending the night further than we planned in order to see more acts. The acts we saw were perfectly suited to their facility and they were all excellent....

— Kathy



Clockwise from top left: Sweet Plantain Quartet; Jazz greats: Bucky Pizzarelli; and L-R: Vinny Raniolo and Frank Vignola.

The Great Pumpkin visits Arts Council's 2nd Annual Pumpkin Illumination



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Artseverywhere

Clockwise from top left: 1) A view of the illumination and reflecting pool; 2) Pumpkin Illumination mastermind Kadie Dempsey with Pam Fenelon; 3) Sharon Cain with her daughters; 4) The Great Pumpkin; 5) A "centipede" pumpkin arrangement.

The Great Pumpkin, grown by Mark Tobler of Grow It Green Morristown (at the Early Street Community Garden), paid a visit to the Vail Mansion on Tuesday evening, Nov. 2nd, for the Arts Council of the Morris Area's rescheduled 2nd annual Pumpkin Illumination Event. Weighing in at over 400lbs., the giant gourd, artfully carved by Jim McCready of Morristown, needed 8 strong men to move it into its place of honor in front of the memorial at the Vail Mansion. Other lit pumpkins lined the reflecting pool along with hundreds of votive candles – creating a shimmering, magical effect. It was truly a sight to behold. Adding to the fun, the Mayo Center for the Performing Arts offered cider and donuts for sale and broadcast spooky music (from *The Phantom of the Opera*, *the Twilight Zone*, etc.). The Pumpkin Illumination is part of *Arts Everywhere!*, the Arts Council's initiative that brings innovative, family friendly artistic happenings to nontraditional spaces and promotes a sense of community through the arts.

The event was generously sponsored by



Arts in Education addresses Artist Residencies and Funding in Fall Gatherings

With the goal of helping schools to promote and maintain high quality arts in education programs, the Arts Council held two events during the Fall season:

On September 26th, **The Artist Residency Roundtable** provided schools with the opportunity to meet some of the Arts Council's teaching artists and to learn about the residency programs available to schools in our area. Lasting 2-6 weeks, residencies in the visual arts, dance, music, drama, poetry, circus arts and yoga link to core curriculum content standards and allow students to participate in a much deeper artistic experience. The Roundtable provided information on planning/preparation, costs, scheduling, student involvement, residency selection, and procedures involved in booking.

At the **Arts in Education Fundraising Beehive** on October 17th, the Arts Council facilitated a lively discussion among cultural arts representatives from area schools who compared notes on the relative merits of different fundraising techniques to support arts in education programs. It was a valuable opportunity for schools to share their experiences, insights and to discuss challenges faced when funding arts in education during tight economic times.



L-R: The Artist Residency Roundtable; the Fundraising Beehive

Thank you to Gary's Wine and Marketplace and the Morristown CraftMarket

Celebrating 20 years of giving to the community, Gary's Wine & Marketplace presented its 20th Annual Grand Tasting event on the evening of Thursday, October 20th at the Park Avenue Club in Florham Park. Featuring Gary's trademark assortment of stellar wines, this annual celebration raised proceeds which will then be donated to deserving local organizations. The Arts Council of the Morris Area is grateful to be one of this year's charitable beneficiaries.

For the second year, the Arts Council had a booth at the Morristown CraftMarket, one of the nation's longest running and most successful juried craft shows. Run by the Kiwanis Club of Randolph, NJ, this year's Morristown CraftMarket marked its 35th anniversary year with fabulous original creations in jewelry, leather, ceramics, metal, glass, wood, and wearable fiber by over 150 artists from more than 25 states and Canada. Craftmarket visitors enjoyed learning about the Arts Council, watching artists at work and entering the drawing for two wonderful gift baskets (from Whole Foods and from Trustee Anh Molloy). The CraftMarket took place at the National Guard Armory, Western Avenue, Morristown, NJ from Friday, October 21 – Sunday, October 23, 2011.



Arts Council booth at Morristown CraftMarket

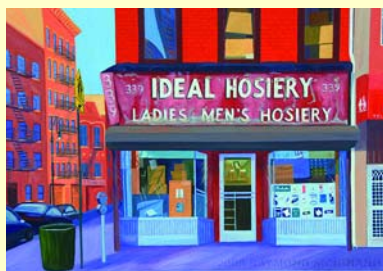
Thanks...

to our very generous recent funders whose support makes our work possible: The Lauren Elizabeth Failla Foundation, The James J. Gallagher Family Legacy, Investors Bank, and Pfizer, Inc.

Thanks to members of the community who helped us create this beautiful mosaic logo at the October 2, 2011 Fall Festival in Morristown. Visit our offices at 14 Maple Ave, Morristown to see it in person!



Atrium Gallery: Winter 2012 Exhibit to open February 2nd



Enjoy the February 2nd free opening reception – from 6-8:30pm – for the Winter 2012 Exhibit at the Atrium Gallery. The exhibit will feature the vibrantly colored cityscapes by Raymond Sicignano, paintings (from *Seeing Art Anew*) and photographs by Adel Gorgy (from *Colors and Shadow*), large scale works by Jennifer Levine and works by several other outstanding artists. Visit www.morrisarts.org for updates on the exhibit and the artists.

The Atrium Gallery, managed by the Arts Council of the Morris Area, is located on Floors 2-5 of the Morris County Administration & Records Building, 10 Court Street, Morristown. Free catalogues (with price lists) are available on each floor. Free parking is provided during the reception in the garage under the building (accessible from Schuyler Place). The Gallery is open Mondays-Fridays, 8am-5pm. The new exhibit runs through March 13th, 2012.

From Top Left: 1) *Ideal Hosiery* by Raymond Sicignano; 2) *Black Shadow Absent* and 3) *After Matisse (Odalisque)* by Adel Gorgy; 4) *Summer on the Roof*, by Jennifer Levine.

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of the Morris Area**
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Partial funding for ARTS MATTERS from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/ Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts has awarded the *Arts Council of the Morris Area* a "Citation of Excellence" and designation as a "Major Service Organization" in recognition of the quality of its solid history of "service excellence, substantial activity and broad public service".

**This newsletter
is available
in large print.
Please call
(973) 285-5115, ext. 10.**

**Large
Print**

Be sure to visit us at
www.morrisarts.org,

friend us on

and follow us on

Morristown High School artist/student mentoring program thriving

Another exciting year is underway! With continuing support from the Lauren Elizabeth Failla Foundation, the mentoring students visited the DeKooning exhibit at NYC's Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) and will be studying life drawing with a live model for two consecutive weeks! They have also started their own Facebook page. Participating juniors and seniors are hard at work on their portfolios and thriving under the close guidance of professional artists Dan Fenelon and Susan Faiola Noonan.

Art Around the Park returns on December 6th

Join us again for Morristown's free, quarterly, self-guided gallery on December 6th from 5-8pm. Participating galleries will include the Arts Council's Gallery at 14 Maple (*Remembrance of Things Past* exhibit), the Atrium Gallery (the Fall/Winter Exhibit featuring 200 works by 39 artists), the Simon Gallery and nontraditional art spaces such as the Eclectic Grill at the Hyatt and more. A *prix fixe* dinner at the Hyatt's Eclectic Grill is available that evening. Visit www.simongallery.com for more details.



Ehlers and Coladarci Arts Scholarship applications available

Application forms, due by 5pm on Friday, February 10th, will be available in early December at the guidance offices of Morris County high schools (public, private and parochial) and online at the Arts Council website, www.morrisarts.org (under Programs/Events tab in Coladarci/Ehlers Arts Scholarship section). The Elaine Ehlers Arts Scholarship (\$5,000) and the Eugenie Coladarci Arts Scholarship (\$1,250) are awarded each year to graduating high school seniors who must be Morris County residents, have demonstrated artistic excellence in dance, drama, music or visual arts and plan to pursue post-secondary studies at an accredited institution or acknowledged arts school or fine arts program.

Nominations being accepted for the Arts Council's Annual Awards

Each year, the Arts Council recognizes the contributions of individuals and organizations to the vibrancy of the arts and cultural life in our county through awards given at its Celebration of the Arts event in May. Guidelines for submitting nominations (in the areas of Outstanding Arts Advocate, Outstanding Corporation/Business, Outstanding Arts Educator/School, Outstanding Arts Organization and Outstanding Professional in the Arts) can be found on the Arts Council website, www.morrisarts.org (under Events, Celebrate the Arts).