# Arts Matters

SHOW CASING THE ARTS IN THE MORRIS AREA



2014

# Morris Arts' 31st annual Giralda Music and Arts Festival on June 22nd

The perfect way to start the summer? Morris Arts' 31st annual Giralda Music and Arts Festival, Sunday, June 22, 2014, at Giralda Farms Corporate Park, Dodge Drive/Madison Ave. (Rt. 124) in Madison. At Giralda, you can hear the state's top orchestra, relax on the beautiful lawns of the estate once owned by Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge, see (and purchase) original artworks, and hear live poetry (including a reading by prize-winning poet Jean Valentine). You can also enjoy family/children's arts activities, test your hula hoop skills, indulge your ice cream cravings at the fully stocked antique ice cream truck or just picnic outside on a beautiful day and relax with friends. Even weather won't matter since the rainsite at Dolan Performance Hall, Annunciation Center, College of St. Elizabeth, 2 Convent Rd.. Morristown will still host the concert as well as the art show & sale.

After a poetry reading by Jean Valentine (author of 11 books of poetry and winner of the Wallace Stevens Award, Guggenheim Fellowship, National Book Award for Poetry, among others), the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, will perform under prize-winning conductor, Gemma New. Their program includes Beethoven's *Fifth Symphony*, Tchaikovsky's "Pathetique" Symphony and Mozart's Cosi fan tutte Overture and, in honor of New Jersey's 350th anniversary, a salute to Frank Sinatra, a medley of Jersey Boys classics, Count Basie's "One O'Clock Jump" and patriotic favorites.

In keeping with Giralda tradition, there will be very generous prizes for the most inventive picnics and the fabulous 50/50 raffle, which nets some lucky person a big cash prize (often over \$1,000)! Invite that special someone, friends, family, neighbors, club members or college chums to share a picnic and help support the important work of Morris Arts, which has been engaging and building community through the arts for 41 years.

All proceeds benefit the many programs and services provided to artists, arts organizations, schools and the community by Morris Arts. Become a part of the Giralda tradition and bring your friends, families, classmates, neighbors or come by yourself to welcome summer with Morris Arts in this fun and most affordable way!

(See page 4 for details and ticket information)

Top L-R: Gemma New conducting 2013 performance of National Anthem; 2014 Conductor, Gemma New; Center: prizewinning picnic, *The Big Luau*; Right: Happy crowds enjoy 2013 Giralda.









# Still talking about Morris Arts' Great Conversations "bringing the art of conversation to life"



On May 1, 2014, close to 300 guests filled the ballroom at the Madison Hotel for Morris Arts' sixth annual Great Conversations, where once again, the magic of face-to-face conversations yielded a wonderful evening for all. The list of host conversationalists read like a veritable *Who's Who* and included "movers and shakers" whose life's work took them everywhere from the Olympic skating rink to the newsroom of the *NY Times*, from HBO to the international concert stage or from the National League Baseball field to the Sanzari Children's Hospital, and beyond. A Pulitzer-prize winning journalist, child psychiatrist and prizewinning poet, choreographer and former dancer, an Olympic champion figure skater and Superbowl running back were among the star-studded list of hosts. And, to top things off, dessert included a performance by American jazz guitar legend Bucky Pizzarelli! (Continued on page 2)

Clockwise from top left – photos by John Marelli of the following: Host Conversationalists Susan Ennis (Executive Vice President, Program Strategy & Planning, HBO), Dr. Owen Lewis (Child Psychiatrist; Poet; Author; Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University Medical Center); Janet Taylor Pickett (award winning visual artist and retired art professor) and her colleague, Kathy Imlay; Al Leiter (National League All-Star and 19 year MLB pitcher) with JoJo Starbuck (Two time US Olympic Figure Skater, three time US pairs skating champion); American jazz guitar legend, Bucky Pizzarelli performing.



Guests enjoyed the chance to mingle with our hosts before dinner and then dine with the host of their choice. It was an evening of inspiring and lively discussions - and a unique opportunity for guests to glean valuable insights, learn the "backstory" behind these great people, and to come away feeling enriched, energized and enlightened!









Clockwise from top: Host conversationalists Neil N. Jasey (Former Commissioner, NJ Department of Banking & Finance); Mila Jasey (New Jersey Assemblywoman), guest Yuki Kimura and host conversationalist Dr. Jeffrey R. Boscamp (Vice President, Chief Academic Officer at Hackensack University Medical Center: Chair of Pediatrics. Joseph M. Sanzari Children's Hospital): International concert pianist Sebastian Forster with MetLife executive Brian Fox; Great Conversations Co-chairs and sponsors, Edda and James Gillen with guests Nelson and Nancy Schaenen; Morris Arts benefactors William and Valerie Keefauver.











Clockwise from top left: Morris Arts Board President Tom McMillian with Paul Mandel and Gina Moran; Awardees, John Pietrowski, Eileen Murray, Joanna Pang Atkins, Dr. James Gallagher, Neil McNulty, Paul Nusbaum, Dennis White, with Morris Arts Executive Director, Tom Werder: Morris Arts Board Member Dick Eger with Elaine Ehlers Arts Scholarship Winner, percussionist Neil McNulty and Tom Werder; Kay and Frank Failla of the Failla Foundation flank Morris Arts' Kadie Dempsey, Director of Arts in Community; the Lakeland Youth Symphony "in action."

# **CELEBRATE THE ARTS, held at Morris Museum,** features Morris Arts awards

Nearly 250 from the county and state arts and cultural community attended this special event where Morris Arts recognizes individuals and organizations noted for their outstanding accomplishments, commitment and contribution to the arts in our community. Held for the first time in the beautiful spaces of the Morris Museum and Bickford Theatre, the event featured a reception, the awards ceremony, delightful performance by the Lakeland Youth Symphony (a local arts grantee of Morris Arts) and a performance by a 4th grade class from Normandy Park School (from the Multi-Cultural Dance residency led by awardee Joanna Pang Atkins). The Elaine Ehlers Arts Scholarship Winner, percussionist Neil McNulty, was introduced – as was the Eugenie Coladarci Arts Scholarship winner, soprano Katherine Merwin. It was an evening to be inspired.

## Teaching Artists shine at Arts in Education Showcase

On May 14 and 15, 2014, Morris Arts presented its Annual Arts Education Showcase at The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey's F.M. Kirby Theatre in Madison. Teaching artists from throughout the country treated the audience to intriguing dance, puppetry, poetry, music, "living" history, and other fine programs presented live in this two-day showcase spectacular. Over 120 cultural arts representatives, teachers, administrators, and PTA members from 9 counties had a chance to preview live performances of the exciting programs and new additions available for school performances, workshops and artist residencies during the 2014-15 academic year. Morris Arts gratefully acknowledges the event sponsor, the New Jersey Automobile Club Foundation for Safety and Education. Our thanks also go to our Showcase hosts, The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, for their generous professional assistance with the Showcase.

Clockwise from top left: Carol Hendrickson and Marco Giammetti of Spiritree; Poet B.J.Ward of I am Alive! A Poetry Experience; accordionist with country music group, The Doo-Wah Riders; Kitty Jones of Kit's Interactive Theatre; and Music Technology with Brent Daniels.







# **Atrium Gallery:**

## Spring/Summer 2014 Exhibit: May 16-September 2, 2014

On May 16, 2014, Spring/Summer Exhibit opened at the Atrium Gallery. Incorporating enormous variety in subject matter and media, the show highlights the creative energies of 93 artists, displaying 242 artworks. Artwork by members of the Blackwell Street Center for the Arts can be seen in the 5th floor atrium area while works by members of the Art Association in Roxbury occupy the seating area and elevator lobby of the 5th floor and the entire 4th floor. Viewers can enjoy artworks by members of the Myhelan Artists Network on the 3rd floor and art by members of the Contemporary Art Group displayed on the 2nd floor. The exhibit runs through September 2, 2014.













# **26th Blackwell Street** Juried Student Exhibit: March 28-April 29, 2014

March 28th brought more than 400 people to the Opening Reception for the 26th Annual Blackwell Street Juried Student Exhibit at the Atrium Gallery. With works in wood, bronze, ceramic, oil, acrylic, collage, multimedia, drypoint etching, charcoal, pen and ink, graphite, photography, etc., the exhibit was a stunning tribute to the creativity, skill and passion of young artists from throughout Morris County. A jury of five professional artists (Elaine Provost, David Gruol, Annette Hanna, Linda Aldrich, John Power and Roy Provost) from the Blackwell Street Center for the Arts selected approximately 300 works from nearly 650 submissions and then organized, hung and distributed prizes accordingly (including monetary awards for Best in Show and 1st Place ribbons). Evolving from a small exhibit in 1988, this current, massive Juried Student Show is unique in its democratic approach, with no restrictions on the number of pieces a school can submit and submissions that are open to public, private, parochial and home-schooled high school student artists from throughout Morris County.

Morris Arts manages the Atrium Art Gallery, selecting artists and scheduling exhibits on behalf of the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders. The Atrium Gallery, located on floors 2-5 at the Morris County Administration and Records Building, 10 Court St., Morristown, is free and open to the public during business hours, from 8:30am - 4:30pm on Mondays-Fridays. For additional information about the show, contact Dr. Lynn L. Siebert, Gallery Director, and Director of Arts Participation & Communication for Morris Arts, (973) 285-5115, ext. 10 or Lsiebert@morrisarts.org.

Clockwise from top left: Gail Mardfin's acrylic, Midnight Tulips; Bob Sharen's digital photomanipulation, Crone; Diane Gallo's pastel, The Dancer; Liza Smith-Simpson's acrylic, Flight Paths II; Maxine King's Sumi Ink & Wash, Remembrance; Linda Aldrich's egg tempera, Summer Kitchen.



Clockwise from top: Best in Show, Joy Liu's acrylic, April Rain; Tori Fessenden's egg tempera, Tori; Meghan Cooper's bronze, Cephalopod; Ella Cusano's paper and wood, Ballando Con Le Colori.

Cultural Arts Exchange Over 40 participants from six counties attended the May 19th Cultural Arts Exchange, which provided an ideal opportunity for cultural arts representatives to share ideas and experiences as well as exchange feedback on assembly and artist residency programs. The event promoted networking among schools, and coordinating future block bookings or shared programs. School-to-school mentoring also occurred, as cultural arts leaders shared their wisdom with new cultural arts planners.

### **Morristown High School Mentoring** program concludes the year

and Susan Faiola Noonan, six students from the Morristown High School Art



Mentoring Program, funded by the Lauren & Emily Failla Foundation, completed this year's Mentoring Program and received their certificates in April. Several are graduating in June and will continue their art studies at such schools as Montclair State University and the Savannah College of Art and Design. We acknowledge and congratulate all of them for their participation and commitment to the Mentoring Program.

# Creative Placemaking — *Meet Me in Morristown*

Following the example of First Fridays in Boonton, Philadelphia and such, Morris Arts is collaborating with the Morristown Partnership to bring art, craft exhibits and live music to Morristown on the last Thursday of June, July, August and September in an effort to simultaneously boost the arts and downtown commerce. Offering sidewalk sales from 11am to 9pm, and sidewalk entertainment from 6pm to 9pm, on the last Thursday of the summer months, Meet Me in Morristown would extend from Anthony's Pizza on the Green to storefronts along South Street as far as Elm Street. Everything would be coordinated with local shops and restaurants, to avoid conflicts and help their operations, according to Kadie Dempsey, Morris Arts' Director of Arts and Community. The Partnership would reach out to business owners, while Morris Arts would screen the artists and performers. Participants would not receive any fees, but they could sell their artworks or collect tips. With support from Morristown Mayor Tim Doughtery and Morristown Council President Rebecca Feldman, Meet Me in Morristown addresses the growing demand for summer fun in downtown Morristown and ties in with the "creative placemaking" movement which engages local artists to enliven and transform public and private spaces. Summer offerings also include the Morristown Farmers Market (Sundays starting on June 15), the Morristown Jazz & Blues Festival and Morris Arts'/MPAC's free lunchtime *Music* Beyond Borders world music concerts on the Green, starting on June 24.

## Giralda Festival (Continued from page 1)

- **TIME:** Gates open at 4pm for activities and picnics (no pets, no BBQ's). The concert starts at 6pm.
- LOCATION: Giralda Farms Corporate Park, Dodge Drive and Madison Ave. (Rt. 124), Madison, NJ 07940
- RAINSITE: Dolan Performance Hall, Annunciation Center, College of St. Elizabeth, 2 Convent Rd., Morristown (Doors open at 5pm for activities [no picnics, pets, or BBQ's at the rainsite]. The concert starts at 6pm).
- TICKETS: (take advantage of lower pricing for advance tickets!)
   In advance: Adults: \$15 adults (over 12); Children: \$4; under 4, free.

At the gate: Adults: \$20 adults (over 12); Children: \$5; under 4, free.

#### Advance Tickets can be purchased at:

- Morris Arts online at www.morrisarts.org or (973) 285-5115, x14
- Kings Supermarkets (Morristown and Chatham)
- Gary's Wine and Marketplace (Madison)
   If you require special accommodation, please contact
   Kadie Dempsey (973) 285-515, x17.
- CONTACT: For general information, call (973) 285-5115, ext. 18 or contact Kaity DeLaura at (973) 285-5115, ext. 14 or via email at kdelaura@morrisarts.org. In the event of uncertain weather, please check the website www.morrisarts.org or call (973) 285-5115, ext. 18 AFTER 12 pm on the day of the concert for the latest updates.

Morris Arts wishes to thank our sponsors: David and Dorothy Clair; Richard R. Eger; Edda and Jim Gillen; and AthenianRazak/KeyBank; Frank & Lydia Bergen Foundation; Brinton Eaton Wealth Advisors; Gary's Wine & Marketplace; GRC Management; investors Bank; JWeber Creative, LLC; Kings Super Markets; Lincoln Equities LLC; Maersk Inc.; Open Spaces Management Association; RXR Realty LLC; Yelp. Corporate Arts Sponsor: NJ.com; Media Sponsor: Daily Record



standing Board Member and benefactor Dick Eger will be retiring from Morris Arts this month, after nearly two decades of outstanding service and inspired leadership. A true Renaissance man – pianist, art

collector, photographer, jewelry designer, cartoonist, blogger, senior financial advisor at Merrill Lynch, former chief biochemist and leukemia researcher and administrator at Memorial Sloan Kettering and former Chair of Carnegie Hall's Reception Committee, Eger embodies the perfect champion of the arts. As he stated, "Being surrounded by music, art and intellectual thought is the ultimate trip ... The arts feed our imagination which in turn fuels our creativity." During his presidency, Morris Arts doubled its budget; established a Countywide Cultural Plan; doubled the impact of its Arts in Education program, and launched several special programs including the The Arts Council/Dodge Foundation Partnership Grant Program, The Unity Quilt Project 2001-2002 (in response to 9-11), The Morristown High School Mentoring Program in 2004 (still thriving today), and The Elaine Ehlers Arts Scholarship in 2002. When Morris Arts moved to its current location, he championed the formation of the Gallery at 14 Maple for whose exhibits he has served as panelist, exhibit installer, and curator. Dick has also shared his financial expertise on Budget, Finance and Investment committees over the years, enabling Morris Arts to remain on solid financial foundations despite the difficult economic times. During his entire tenure with Morris Arts, Dick's dedication, commitment, generosity and encouragement have motivated and inspired both Board and staff. His humor and warmth (not to mention his chocolate-covered strawberries) are legendary. Our deep and heartfelt thanks go to Dick Eger, a truly beloved champion of the arts and guiding force at Morris Arts!

#### TO SUPPORT MORRIS ARTS: HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Consider an in-kind gift. Now is a great time to share your technical or professional expertise or items that you think might be useful to Morris Arts.
- Celebrate holidays and milestones with a tribute gift to Morris Arts. A donation to Morris Arts is the perfect gift to for a loved one committed to creativity.
- Check to see whether your company has a matching gift program. Some companies will match the donations or value of volunteer time given by their employees.
- Send us your e-mail address! We value sustainability and community – help us communicate with you more effectively as we all work to build a greener, more creative world. To sign up, visit www.morrisarts.org.

All contributions are tax-deductible. For more information contact Gina Moran, Morris Arts' Development Director, at gmoran@morrisarts.org or (973) 285-5115, ext. 13.

**THANKS** to our very generous recent funders whose support makes our work possible: The Avis Budget Charitable Foundation; The Bank of America Foundation; Brinton Eaton Wealth Advisors; The Comprehensive Group; Dassault Falcon Jet; Gallagher Family Legacy; Hackensack University Medical Center; Merrill G. & Emita E. Hastings Foundation; investors Bank; MCM Wealth Management at Morgan Stanley; MetLife, Inc.; Mondelēz International; Morgan Stanley & Co., Inc.; NJ.com; New Jersey Automobile Club Foundation for Safety & Education; NK Architects; Normandy Real Estate Partners; Pfizer Consumer Healthcare; PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP; Quest Diagnostics; Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Peretti LLP; The Star-Ledger; TD Charitable Foundation; JWeber Creative, LLC; and Wyndham Worldwide.

#### **Morris Arts**

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The New Jersey State Council on the Arts has awarded *Morris Arts* 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 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 ,



# MUSIC BEYOND BORDERS 2014 brings South America, Africa, Klezmer and Irish Dance to Morristown's Green this summer: Mark your calendars now!









L-R: Eco Del Sur (Music of South America); African Global Arts (African and Afro-Cuban dance); The Klez Dispensers (klezmer music); The Peter Smith School of Irish Dance (Irish dance and music).

For the 5th consecutive year, Morris Arts continues its collaboration with the Mayo Performing Arts Center, programming four free, outdoor, world-music concerts during June, July and August 2014. All concerts will run from 12:30-1:30pm on the Morristown Green. (Rainsite: Morristown United Methodist Church on the Green, 50 Park Place). This year's schedule includes:

- JUNE 24: South American music with Eco del Sur Musicians from such countries as Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru explore and perform ancient Andean music as well as contemporary music from different South American regions.
- JULY 8: African Global Arts and Iwa L'ewa Heritage Dance Ensemble. Celebrate the African
  cultural legacy throughout the world, not just from countries like Guinea, Mali or Senegal, but also
  from the United States, Trinidad, Haiti, Brazil, Cuba and more. African and Afo-Cuban dancing will
  be featured
- JULY 22: The Klez Dispensers This "juicy, fresh and daring" virtuosic Klezmer band has been dishing up its state-of-the-art, swinging American-style klezmer since the 1990s. No one can resist the urge to move to their music.
- AUGUST 5: Peter Smith School of Irish Dance The school has trained several World, All-Ireland and North American champions during its 50 year history. Enjoy an afternoon of Irish dance and live music.

This summer, experience the world on the Morristown Green – for free – with *Music Beyond Borders* 2014!