

ArtsMatters



SHOWCASING THE ARTS IN THE MORRIS AREA

Arts Council *of the* Morris Area

2012

great conversations

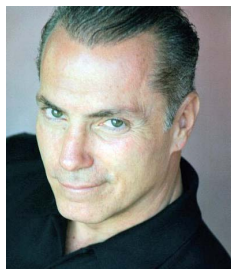
"bringing the art of conversation to life"

There's nothing quite like the thrill of live, face-to-face conversation. So skip the smart phone, the iPad and head straight for the Arts Council of the Morris Area's unique evening of dinner and enticing dialogue with celebrated hosts from the arts, education, food, medicine, civic life, sports, industry and more. Mingle with 32 remarkable host conversationalists during the cocktail hour and then dine with a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, a symphony conductor, a top sports physician, an actor from HBO's *The Sopranos*, an electronic media company executive, an award-winning chef, a national radio anchorman or any of the other, similarly fascinating and accomplished individuals. Each dinner table will feature one of these "host conversationalist" whose unique experiences, life story or achievements will catalyze intriguing conversations. Don't miss this truly memorable and unique experience!

Thanks to our generous Great Conversation sponsors: J. Weber Design, LLC; RXR Realty; Paul and Gail Mandel; The Madison Hotel; MetLife Foundation; The Star-Ledger; Avis Budget Charitable Foundation; Investors Bank; Kings Super Markets; NK Architects; and Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates LLC.

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss this one-of-a-kind evening while helping a wonderful organization continue its valuable work in the community!

Date: March 29, 2012
Time: 6:00pm – Reception
7:30pm – Dinner
Place: The Madison Hotel
1 Convent Road, Morristown
Tickets: \$195 – available online at www.morrisarts.org or by calling (973) 285-5115, x14
Contact: www.morrisarts.org, or (973) 285-5115, x13 or gmoran@morrisarts.org



Clockwise from top left – Host Conversationalists at GREAT CONVERSATIONS this year: Dr. Ruth B. Mandel, Director, Eagleton Institute of Politics and Board of Governors Professor of Politics, Rutgers University; Al Sapienza, actor from HBO's *The Sopranos*; John Schreiber, President and CEO, NJPAC; Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and Star-Ledger Enterprise writer Amy Ellis Nutt; Jacques Lacombe, Music Director New Jersey Symphony Orchestra (photo by Fred Stucker).

Executive Director Anne E. Aronovitch to retire



Anne E. Aronovitch

The Board of Trustees of the Arts Council of the Morris Area has announced the upcoming retirement of Anne E. Aronovitch as Executive Director of the Arts Council. The Board has initiated the search for a new Executive Director and qualified candidates should visit the Arts Council website (www.morrisarts.org) for the job posting and application details. Aronovitch will remain as Executive Director until a new Executive Director is selected and a smooth transition period insured.

Aronovitch's decision to leave comes at a time when both she and the Board believe that the Arts Council is stronger than at any time in the past. By the end of the fiscal year in June 2012, a new five year strategic plan will be in place and Aronovitch will be leaving behind a strong and vibrant organization with a dedicated, experienced and hardworking staff guaranteed to insure ongoing excellence and continuity of the Council's work.

(continued on page 2)

Director Aronovitch to retire...

(continued from page one)

Since assuming the role of Executive Director four years ago, Aronovitch has helped guide the organization through difficult economic times that have seen a broad reduction in arts funding. As a passionate champion of the Arts Council, she refused to accept that funding cuts must also mean program cuts and, together with the staff, she found creative ways to continue to deliver the organization's hallmark programs and services. Currently, she is spearheading the creation of a new website linked with conversion of the database platform, in addition to leading the process of creating a new five year strategic plan that will ensure the sustainability of the organization for years to come.

Aronovitch began her relationship with the Arts Council in 1986 as a volunteer in the Arts Council's Business Volunteer in the Arts (BVA) program. Her success in the BVA program led to her joining the Arts Council's Board of Trustees where she served for 12 years, 11 of which were as the Board Secretary and Legal Counsel. In 2007, Aronovitch had left the private practice of law to pursue other interests. "I wanted to re-center my life and have the opportunity to travel," she explained. Fortunately for the Arts Council, she agreed to apply when the position of Acting Executive Director opened in February, 2008. She envisioned it solely as a temporary position but, as she later admitted, "I fell in love with the job along the way." She was appointed Executive Director in June of 2008.

In preparing to leave after her successor is hired, Aronovitch said: "I am grateful to the Board for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. It is one of those rare jobs where you can see – very tangibly – how your work touches people's lives. We really DO make a difference."

Arts Community to honor its own at Celebrate the Arts



L-R: 2011 Awardees: Mount Olive High School Art Teacher Diane Phares; Maria Lupo for Atlantic Health; Art Bonito; Janine Myers for Morristown CraftMarket of the Kiwanis Club of Randolph Township; Harry Simon; Catalina Ouyang; Madelyn Eltringham; Elaine Provost for the Blackwell Street Center for the Arts; Below: Soprano Chelsea Friedlander.

On April 10th, in the Gilded Age Mansion at Fairleigh Dickinson University, the Arts Council of the Morris Area will hold its annual Celebrate the Arts event and present its 2012 Awards for *Outstanding Arts Advocate: Allison Larena; Outstanding Arts Organization: Art League of the Chathams; Outstanding Corporation / Business: Investors Bank; Outstanding Arts Educator/ School: Visual Arts Department, County College of Morris; and Outstanding Professional in the Arts: Julie Friedman. Special Recognition* will be awarded to **Kevin Coughlin, Editor, MorristownGreen.com**. Elizabeth Chistopherson, CEO and Director of the Rita Allen Foundation and former Executive Director of NJN will present the awards. The event will also introduce this year's talented graduating high school seniors winning the Arts Council's Elaine Ehlers Arts Scholarship



and Eugenie Coladarci Arts Scholarship. The evening will conclude with a special performance by a prior Coladarci scholarship winner, Chelsea Friedlander, an award-winning soprano who graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Music and just completed her masters in voice at the Manhattan School of Music. It will truly be a night to be inspired!

The Arts Council wishes to thank our generous sponsors: The MCM Group at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney and Emma Joy Dana. Additional photos and more information on the awardees will be posted on the Arts Council website, www.morrisarts.org after the event.



Special thanks to the New Jersey Cultural Trust

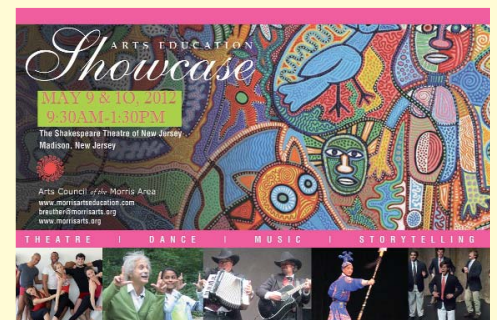
The Arts Council of the Morris Area is grateful to the New Jersey Cultural Trust (NJCT) for its generous funding to upgrade our website and database.

The NJCT was created in 2000 as a public/private partnership to help ensure a stable and healthy non-profit cultural industry in NJ that is sustainable even in the toughest economic times. The Trust provides grants to support capital projects endowments and institutional and financial stabilization of arts, history and humanities organizations in NJ. Funding for the grants comes from interest earned on the Cultural Trust Fund, which is a permanent investment fund.

ARTS IN EDUCATION SHOWCASE

On May 9 & 10, at the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre (36 Madison Ave. at Lancaster Rd. in Madison – on the campus of Drew University), the Arts Council will present its Arts In Education Showcase which highlights programs by teaching artists from throughout the country.

Cultural arts representatives, teachers, administrators and PTA members have the chance to preview the many choices available for booking in the 2012-13 school year. Witnessing live performances of programs in theatre, dance, music, storytelling, visual arts, poetry, etc. enables schools to make informed choices about the assemblies and artist residencies that best suit their student needs. Please check www.morrisarts.org for further details.



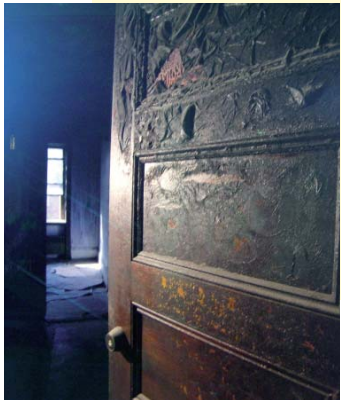
A Feast for the Eyes: Arts Council exhibits abound —



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The Gallery at 14 Maple

Remembrance of Things Past: Originally scheduled to end on February 15, this juried exhibit, curated by Dr. Virginia Fabbri Butera, Director of the Therese A. Maloney Gallery and Chair of the Art and Music Departments at College of St. Elizabeth, has been extended by popular demand until March 28th. With 56 works by over 50 artists who live or work in New Jersey, it presents distinctive and deeply moving, humorous and thought-provoking tributes to those events which touch our lives in profound and personal ways.

Be sure to SAVE THE DATE for **disconnected**, the Gallery's next juried exhibit, whose opening reception will be on May 2nd from 6-8pm. Jonathan Greene, Director of Exhibitions at the Hunterdon Art Museum, will be the Guest Curator.

1. Mohamed Khalil's *Yellow Brick Road*
2. Catherine Schmitt's *Journey to Africa*
3. Kendall Messick's *Conflagration #2*
4. Carlos Frias' *Genesis at Sea*
5. Amy Puccio's *45 and Single*

The Atrium Gallery

located on Floors 2-5, County Administration & Records Building, 10 Court St., Morristown

The Winter 2012 Exhibit features 181 works by 8 artists and runs through March 13th. See the vivid cityscapes of Raymond Sicignano; the photos exploring great artworks by Adel Gorgy; the serene studies of monastic life in Southeast Asia by Michael Paxton; multimedia paintings by Sandra P. Smith; the delicate "feather piece" mobiles by John Tetz; vibrantly colored post-Impressionist landscapes by Karen Lundquist; the fascinating large scale works by Jennifer Levine and the "naïve" paintings of Romanian artist Alex Chereches which fill the 4-floor gallery.

On March 16-18, the **Blackwell Street Juried Student Show** will be installed. Featuring the top 300+ student works, culled from nearly 700 submissions, this show is one of the highlights of the year, throwing a spotlight on some extraordinary young talents. SAVE THE DATE for its March 30th Opening Reception, from 6-9pm. It is free and open to the public — with free parking available in the garage below the building (enter on Schuyler Place). The exhibit will run through May 11, 2012.

On May 18, the **Spring/Summer 2012 Exhibit** will be installed and will feature works by artist members of the Blackwell Street Center for the Arts, the Art Association in Roxbury and the Myhelan Artists Network. SAVE THE DATE for its May 31 opening reception from 6-9pm. The exhibit will run through September 5, 2012.

From the Winter 2012 Exhibit:

1. Karen Lundquist's *Deep Ravine, November*
2. Alex Chereches' *Boar Hunting*
3. Jennifer Levine's *Strolling on a Cloud*
4. Adel Gorgy's *Beauty Dwells in the Dark Folds of Night* (after Rousseau)
5. Raymond Sicignano's *Lenox Lounge*



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At the Vision Café, February 27, 2012

Arts Council creates a new Strategic Plan

Gathering community input at the "Vision Café" on February 27th, the Arts Council's process of creating its next 5-year strategic plan is underway. With the guidance of facilitator Jason D. Alexander, Principal and co-Founder of Capacity for Change (West Chester, PA), the Board and Staff, with input from other stakeholders, are undertaking a comprehensive examination of the organization's current programs, goals and implementation strategies to insure that the Arts Council continues to evolve and serve the community through the arts, as it has done for 40 years.

SUPPORTING THE ARTS COUNCIL:

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 the Arts Council.
- **Celebrate holidays and milestones with a tribute gift to the Arts Council.** A donation to the Arts Council 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 double 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.

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

Thanks...

to our very generous funders whose support makes our work possible: F.M.Kirby Foundation; Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation; The Hyde and Watson Foundation; Macy's Corporate Services, Inc.; Tasters Guild of New Jersey; Investors Bank Charitable Foundation; and Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation.

SAVE THE DATES:

June 24: Giralda Music and Arts Festival,
4-7:30pm – details on www.morrisarts.org

June 27: Music Without Borders,
12 noon-1:15pm

Attention All Artists/Arts Organizations: Upcoming Artist Training, Gatherings and Workshops:

March 13, 5:30-7pm, Artist Gathering – Meet and socialize with your fellow artists at the Hyatt Morristown, 3 Speedwell Ave. Cash bar.

March 28, 2 identical sessions, 9:30-11am or 5:30-7pm – Local Arts Grant Writing Workshops – Local arts organizations interested in learning how to write grant applications for the Arts Council's Local Arts Grants (LAG) should attend this workshop which provides a "walk through" of the grantwriting process. Training room, 3rd floor, 14 Maple Ave., Morristown.

April 24, 5:30-7:30pm – Local Arts Grantee meeting – A gathering of Local Arts Grantees interested in meeting on a regular basis to discuss collaborations, sharing resources, etc.. 3rd floor, 14 Maple Ave., Morristown.

April 26, 5:30-7pm – ADA training for Local Arts Grantees – Led by prominent Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) experts, John McEwen and Robert Carr, this important training is available free for Local Arts Grantees. Other interested Morris County arts organizations should contact Kadie Dempsey at kdempsey@morrisarts.org or (973) 285-5115, x17 – Training room, 3rd floor 14 Maple Ave., Morristown.

The Arts Council 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

THANKS TO THE ARTIST BAKER FOR VALENTINE'S BENEFIT

**Eat Your
H ART OUT!**

On February 14th, Valentine's Day, the Artist Baker (12-16 Cattano Ave., Morristown) hosted a special Valentine's Dessert Party to benefit the Arts Council of the Morris Area. A capacity crowd enjoyed the Artist Baker's scrumptious, 5-course dessert menu conceived by pastry chefs Andrea Lekberg and Erica Leahy. The Arts Council was honored to be selected as beneficiary for this delicious event.

Art Around the Park returns in March

On March 20, Morristown's free self-guided gallery walk will feature works on exhibit at the Gallery at 14 Maple, the Atrium Gallery, the Simon Gallery, and such nontraditional spaces as the Eclectic Grill, Symphony Workplaces, and Citibank, which include art curated by Harry Simon. The Hyatt Morristown's Eclectic Grill offers a *prix fixe* dinner for those who want to top off the evening of art with some camaraderie. Visit www.simongallery.com for maps and details.

May 6th Morristown Art Walk, 11am-5pm, to showcase 50 artists

Morristown Art Walk is a one-day event that invites the public into downtown Morristown for an afternoon of celebrating the visual arts in our community. Co-sponsored by the Arts Council of the Morris Area and ArtSpace Studio, the event will showcase 50 area artists in downtown public, private and business spaces where artists will exhibit and sell their work. Many artists will also be working on demonstration pieces, providing the public with an opportunity to witness the creative process firsthand.

The Art Walk will be located within the area between Elm Street and the Morristown Green, with most locations on South Street or in close proximity. Printed maps and handouts listing all participating locations, along with publicity materials, will be available in advance and on the day of the event. Each event site will be designated with a balloon to identify the artists' location.

Be sure to join us for this very special event. Visit www.morrisarts.org for more information.