

# ArtsMatters

SHOWCASING THE ARTS IN THE MORRIS AREA



2019

## Morris Arts' 36th annual Giralda Music & Arts Festival on June 23rd



Looking for the perfect way to start the summer? Join Morris Arts at its 36th annual Giralda Music & Arts Festival, Sunday, June 23, 2019, at Giralda Farms, Dodge Drive/Madison Ave. (Rt. 124) in Madison. Relax on the gracious lawns of Giralda Farms (the former Dodge estate) and enjoy a program of light classics

performed by the renowned New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. At the same time, guests can picnic, enjoy a wonderful art/fine crafts show and sale, sample various food trucks (including an antique ice cream truck), participate in family/children's arts activities, or just sit back and enjoy spending time with friends and family.

Happily, weather is not a concern at all. Thanks to the Morris County Park Commission, our rainsite at the Mennen Arena, 161 East Hanover Ave., Morristown offers the same, full experience of the Giralda Music & Arts Festival as you would have outdoors – but in dry, air conditioned comfort. Check out photos from last year's event, the first time stormy weather moved Giralda to Mennen. People brought lawn chairs, enjoyed picnics, the art show and sale, family activities and, of course, the concert!

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 \$1,500)!

Under the baton of one of Chile's most prominent orchestral conductors, José Luis Domínguez, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra's Giralda program will feature concert, theater and dance music from Leonard Bernstein, Joe Pablo Moncayo, Astor Piazzolla, Florence Price, Duke Ellington and George Gershwin.

Morris Arts wishes to thank our sponsors:

### Giralda Property Sponsors:

Open Spaces Management Association, GRC Management Corp., Lincoln Equities LLC, Giralda Farms RE LLC, Linque Management Company, Inc., American Realty Capital, AHS Hospital Corp., Atlantic Health System, 1 Giralda Realty LLC, 3 Giralda Realty LLC, 7 Giralda Realty LLC, and Mack-Cali Realty Corp.

### Community Sponsors:

Crum & Forster Insurance, Turner Construction, MetLife Foundation, The Frank and Lydia Bergen Foundation, Kings Food Markets, Gary's Wine & Marketplace, Shoprite Supermarkets, County of Morris, Township of Chatham and Morris County Park Commission

*All proceeds benefit the many programs and services provided to artists, arts organizations, schools and the community by Morris Arts. So, 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 building community through the arts for 46 years.*

(see page 3 for more information and ticket pricing)



Left Column – Giralda 2018 at Mennen arena: 1.) Conductor José Luis Domínguez; 2.) NJSO Concertmaster Eric Wyrick performing in distance; 3.) picnicking at Mennen arena; (Photos by Jeff Sovelove for Morristowngreen.com); 4.) Hydrangea themed picnic.

Right Column – Giralda 2017 at Giralda Farms: 5.) Sameer Patel conducting the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra; 6.) happy crowds relax and enjoy the great music; 7.) Art show and sale; 8.) Croissant "crabs" at prizewinning "It's a Shore Thing" picnic; 9.) Having fun at the Trolls Across America picnic.



# Dynamic Discussions ruled at Morris Arts'



Deeply engrossed in fascinating discussions, guests were reluctant to see the Morris Arts' 11th Great Conversations gala come to an end. Little wonder, since guests and hosts explored such topics as encounters with cannibals, Nazi-looted art, preserving quality journalism, climate change adaptation strategies, the foibles of famous rock stars (and concert promotion challenges), the intricacies of staging Broadway shows, creative approaches to investing and researching new cancer treatments, to name a few.

For the first time, the event took place at the Birchwood Manor – whose expansive spaces accommodated the record attendance in comfort. The many smiling faces were testament to a rewarding and gratifying evening for all. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/yasju98r> for the full list of host conversationalists and their impressive accomplishments. Here are some photos from that fabulous evening!!

- 1.) Tara Skirzensk
- 2.) Susan Roos, Bruce Harper, Maria Moats
- 3.) Moving testimonial from former mentoring student, Cristina Rovayo
- 4.) co-chairs Frank Vitolo and Steve Aluotto
- 5.) Jill Savage, Dr. Donnica Moore
- 6.) Denny Moynihan, Cecilia McKenney
- 7.) Jasmine and John Weber, Maureen Manger Crown, Hunt Ricker
- 8.) Jim Mignone, Amy Lehrer, Michael Hill
- 9.) Jonathan Villahermosa, Tom Werder, Jeff Sica
- 10.) Bruce and Gina Moran
- 11.) engaged guests (All photos by M.C. Ward)



## Teaching Artists/Programs shine at Arts in Education Showcase

On May 7, 2019, Morris Arts presented the 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, art, music, "living" history, and other exceptional programs during the showcase. Cultural arts representatives, teachers, administrators, and PTA members from nine counties previewed live performances of the exciting programs and new additions available for school performances, workshops and artist residencies during 2019-2020 school 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.

## Regional Cultural Arts Exchange

Please join us on June 11th from 9:30-12:00 at Morris Arts – 14 Maple Avenue in Morristown – for the Regional Cultural Arts Exchange. This gathering provides a great opportunity for cultural arts representatives to share ideas and experiences and exchange feedback on assembly programs, workshops and residencies. It also allows for networking among schools and making contacts for coordinating future block bookings.

Clockwise from top left: Kinobe (playing E. African kora); Nai Ni Chen, The Art of Chinese Dance; Tanglewood Marionettes; Freespace Dance; Sonnet Man.





## Young Artist Mentoring Program — 15 years and going strong:

The 2018-2019 Young Artist Mentoring Program ended on a high note this April as thirteen students and eight seniors left the program with plans to study art at numerous universities this upcoming fall.

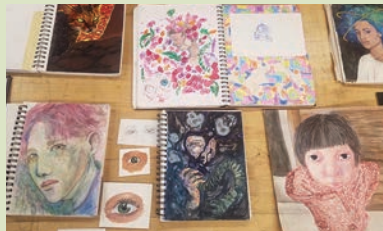
Founded in 2004, The Young Artist Mentoring Program is one of Morris Arts' longest running and most successful programs. It is a weekly after school program involving some of Morristown High School's most artistically talented students who need additional support in refining their artistic skills, developing their own personal style, and assembling a strong art portfolio, enhancing their ability to compete for admission into quality arts schools, college, a career in visual arts and/or scholarship aid.

Since its inception, the program has served 106 students, providing positive reinforcement and a supportive environment where students from different backgrounds and cultures can express their creativity, improve skills and increase their self-awareness. It also enables them to realize the potential impact they can have on their communities as future business and artistic leaders. Two professional artists, Susan Faiola and Mike Moran, meet with students for twenty weeks to provide mentoring/oversight, offer creative criticism and help the students create art portfolios for college or art school applications.

Our mentoring students have been accepted into Fairleigh Dickinson University; Maryland Institute College of Art; Massachusetts College of Art & Design; Montclair University; New York Institute of Technology; Pace University; Parsons School of Design; Philadelphia Art Institute; Pratt Institute; Savannah College of Arts and Design; Fashion Institute of Technology; The Philadelphia Art Institute and William Paterson University.

This year, student Matt Amati, a senior in the program, accepted an animation internship at Marvel Studios in New York City. And, at this year's Great Conversations, Mentoring Program graduate Cristina Mendoza Revayo gave a moving testimonial to the impact of the program on her life and subsequent artistic success.

Morris Arts is proud of the enduring impact this program has had on so many young lives, preparing students for professions in the arts and for careers that will provide them with a living and enable them to fulfill their passion for a life in the arts.



Artwork and mentoring students at work in Morris Arts' Young Artist Mentoring Program at Morristown High School, Morristown, NJ.

## Giralda Music & Arts Festival

(continued from page 1)

**Time:** Gates open at 4pm for activities and picnics (no pets, no BBQ's, no smoking). The concert starts at 6pm

**Location:** Giralda Farms, Dodge Drive and Madison Ave. (Rt. 124), Madison, NJ 07940

**Rainsite:** Mennen Arena, 161 E. Hanover Ave., Morristown (Doors open at 4:00pm for activities. The concert starts at 6pm).

**Tickets:** (take advantage of lower pricing for advance tickets!)

**In advance:** Adults: \$18 (over 12); Children: \$4; under 4, free.  
(Group sales, 10 or more, \$15 adults)

**At the gate:** Adults: \$25 (over 12); Children: \$5; under 4, free.

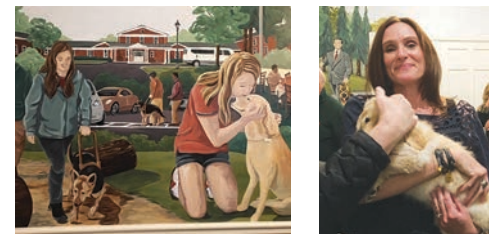
**Advance Tickets can be purchased at:**

- Morris Arts online at [www.morrisarts.org](http://www.morrisarts.org) or (973) 285-5115, x14
- Kings Supermarkets (Morristown and Chatham)
- Gary's Wine and Marketplace (Madison)

Individuals needing special assistance or accommodation should contact Kaity De Laura (973) 285-5115, x 14 or [kdelaurea@morrisarts.org](mailto:kdelaurea@morrisarts.org) at least 14 days prior to the event to ensure appropriate arrangements.

In the event of uncertain weather, please check the website [www.morrisarts.org](http://www.morrisarts.org) or call (973) 285-5115 AFTER 12 pm on the day of the concert for the latest updates.

## New mural celebrates the 90th anniversary of The Seeing Eye



L-R: Scene from Seeing Eye mural by Caren Frost Olmsted (photo by Marion Filler); Artist Caren Frost Olmsted holding a Seeing Eye puppy.

Celebrating 90 years and over 17,000 partnerships between the visually impaired and trained guide dogs during that time, the Seeing Eye headquarters commissioned a mural memorializing its work. Teaching artist Caren Frost Olmsted conceived the design and oversaw the six month project. With help from Seeing Eye volunteers, students from Randolph Middle School and employees of the Benjamin Moore Paint Company (which provided paint for the project), Olmsted worked for a month to complete the actual painting process. According to Seeing Eye spokeswoman Michelle Barlak, it all came together with Morris Arts providing a local arts grant, Randolph Middle School undertaking a fundraiser and Benjamin Moore (headquartered in Montvale) donating the paint. Morris Arts was proud to play a role in helping the Seeing Eye mark its 90th anniversary so uniquely — through the arts!

## MEET ME IN MORRISTOWN SHOPPING ART FOOD MUSIC FRIENDS

Collaborating with the Morristown Partnership, Morris Arts will once again bring craft exhibits, art and live music to Morristown on the last Thursday of the month, from May-August: on May 30, June 27, July 25 and August 29. Mark your calendars now.

## 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 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](http://www.morrisarts.org).

### All contributions are tax-deductible.

For more information contact Gina Moran, Morris Arts' Director of Development, at [gmoran@morrisarts.org](mailto:gmoran@morrisarts.org) or (973) 285-5115, ext. 13.

## Thanks

to our very generous recent funders whose support makes our work possible: Avison Young; Crum & Forster; FINN Partners; Merrill G. & Erita E. Hastings Foundation; investors Foundation Inc., Kennedys CMK; George A. Ohl Jr. Trust; and MetLife.

### 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.

Large Print

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](http://www.morrisarts.org),

like us on , and follow us on .

## SAVE THE DATES:

- **May 30: Meet Me in Morristown**, throughout Morristown, 5-9pm
- **June 11: Regional Cultural Arts Exchange**, 9:30-noon, Morris Arts (14 Maple Ave., Morristown)
- **June 23: Giralda Music & Arts Festival**, 4-7:30pm, Giralda Farms, Madison
- **June 25: Music Beyond Borders – The Zydeco Revelators**, 12:30-1:30pm, Morristown Green
- **June 27: Meet Me in Morristown**, throughout Morristown, 5-9pm
- **July 9: Music Beyond Borders – Armando Son Jimenez's Grupo Sabor** (Colombian salsa), 12:30-1:30pm, Morristown Green
- **July 23: Music Beyond Borders – Forestdance: Music of Africa**, 12:30-1:30pm, Morristown Green
- **July 25: Meet Me in Morristown**, throughout Morristown, 5-9pm
- **August 6: Music Beyond Borders – Mariachi Citlalli, a taste of Mexico**, 12:30-1:30pm, Morristown Green
- **August 29: Meet Me in Morristown**, throughout Morristown, 5-9pm

## Music Beyond Borders marks its 10th anniversary bringing world music and dance to the Morristown Green.

You don't have to wait in an airport, pack suitcases or endure a long flight to enjoy music and dance from around the world. It is all coming to the Morristown Green! Initiated in 2010, this series of free outdoor world music/dance performances reflects an ongoing collaboration between Morris Arts and Mayo Performing Arts Center (with the rainsite graciously provided by Morristown United Methodist Church – 50 Park Place on the Green). Now in its tenth season, *Music Beyond Borders* not only reflects the diversity of our community but also taps into the cultural riches from multiple continents. This year's schedule includes:

**June 25, 2019: The Zydeco Revelators** – The Zydeco Revelators deliver hot Louisiana-inspired dance music. Take a little bit of "Jambalaya," add some stompin' cowboy zydeco classics, and season with a dash of classic rock and jam band. Groove with sweet Cajun accordion riffs backed by electric guitar, a powerhouse rhythm section, and that cool metal rubboard vest! Get ready to dance up a storm.

**July 9, 2019: Armando Son Jimenez' Grupo Sabor (Colombian Salsa)** – Since he migrated to the USA more than 25 years ago, Jorge Armando Jimenez (aka Sonjimenez or Sonji) has performed with top *salsa* musicians at prominent venues from NYC's B.B. Kings to Club Tropicana in Milan, Italy. His trio, Grupo Sabor, has a hot, tropical swing which combines hard *salsa*, some Cuban *stile*, romantic *salsa* and *cumbia*. Celebrate summer with the hot Latin rhythms of this fabulous *salsa* trio.

**July 23, 2019: Forestdance: Music of Africa** – A Yale scholar, teaching artist, *mbira* (W. African thumb piano) player and advocate of African culture, Kevin Nathaniel Hylton has performed at Lincoln Center, Juilliard, the Met Museum and Symphony Space and created multiple performing ensembles exploring the many facets of African (and world) music. His Forestdance trio features two widely renowned African musicians, Famoro Dioubate on *balaphon* (African xylophone) and Salieu Suso on *kora* (21 stringed African harp) whose musical traditions date back to the 13th century yet still intrigue and inspire listeners of today.

**August 6, 2019: Mariachi Citlalli: a taste of Mexico** – This highly talented mariachi band performs a wide range of Mexican music from traditional to contemporary. Founded in 2000, the group's members perform on trumpet, *vihuela* (5 string guitar-like instrument), guitarron (large guitar), and keyboard/accordion.

Mariachi Citlalli has performed on national media and for such celebrities as Rosie O'Donnell, President Bush (Sr.), former Mexican President Ernesto Cedillo, Mariah Carey, and Conan O'Brien, among others. They have also performed at such venues as Madison Square Garden, Lincoln Center, the Ed Sullivan Theater, Shea Stadium, the Plaza Hotel, the Waldorf Astoria, and the United Nations.

So brown bag a meal, stop by while walking in town, take a break from work and bring friends to sample cultures from around the world while getting to know your neighbors. The world is literally at your doorstep! "We hope that people will enjoy our wonderful free lunchtime outdoor concerts that celebrate the rich cultural diversity of the area," said Allison Larena, President and CEO of the Mayo Performing Arts Center. Tom Werder, Executive Director of Morris Arts, adds, "It's exciting to collaborate with MPAC on this special series and to bring performing arts from around the world to the center of Morristown."

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/y7rm6x32> for details and to learn more about the performers. You too can travel the world on your lunch hour – it's free and no plane ticket is needed!



Clockwise from top left: The Forestdance Trio (West African Musicians Famoro Dioubate and Salieu Suso with Kevin Nathaniel Hylton); The Zydeco Revelators; Armando Son Jimenez of Grupo Sabor; Mariachi Citlalli/a taste of Mexico.