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MARCH NEWSLETTER

Duck Season ... Rabbit Season ... Budget Season?

As if the evidence of my misspent youth didn't speak for itself, I was reminded today of how much I used to love Bugs Bunny cartoons. Kill the Wabbit spoke to what would later develop into my obsession with hyper-dramatic music. Little Red Riding Rabbit convinced me that a cape is an essential wardrobe item. More than any of the episodes, though, the Duck Season/Rabbit Season cartoon left me in a laughing heap on the floor. Bugs and Daffy attempting to outsmart each other and escape Elmer Fudd? Pure comedy.

As you probably know, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors currently is knee-deep in budget season. The process has been a blur of spreadsheets and motions and talking points as the varying interests attempt to keep the budget "hunter" at bay.

I don't keep my own views a secret: I believe that the County's investment in the arts is tiny compared to the benefit the community receives and the BOCS should continue to honor that investment. I also believe that the County has community partners in other critical areas and that those partners must be funded. It is not enough, however, for me to get on my soapbox in a newsletter. Without regard for whether you agree with my thoughts about funding, I hope you will agree that it is absolutely imperative that we make our priorities known to our local leadership.

There are many ways for you to speak out:

- Start or participate in an online petition; music teachers of PWC started a great one in support of the elementary strings program – http://www.thepetitionsite.com/177/505/445/save-our-school-programs-prince-william/?taf_id=13465956&cid=fb_na
- Appear at the BOCS meetings and speak your peace during Citizen's Time and Public Hearings
- Contact your representative and the entire BOCS via email and encourage your circles of influence to do the same
- Participate in the Our Prince William movement as it advocates in favor of the "Fundamental Five" (Arts & Recreation, Education, Health & Human Services, Public Safety, and Transportation), that interconnected body of community partners and service providers that are critical to the quality of life in the County:
<https://www.facebook.com/ourprincewilliamva>

It would be cynical to suggest that the County's budget cycle is as simple as a rabbit season/duck season battle of wits, but it would be naïve to think that we don't have to be prepared to outsmart those who believe that the arts are valueless. Let's take a stand, shall we?

Your Wascally Wabbit and Faithful Servant,
Sheyna Burt, Chair
Prince William County Arts Council

*** March 10th 2015 6 p.m. McCoart, Powells Creek A/B***

Upcoming Arts Council Meetings

| | | |
|-----------------|--------|----------------------------|
| April 14th 2015 | 6 p.m. | McCoart, Powells Creek A/B |
| May 12th 2015 | 6 p.m. | McCoart, Powells Creek A/B |
| June 9th 2015 | 6 p.m. | McCoart, Powells Creek A/B |

ARTS ALIVE! UPDATE:

Arts Alive! MAY 2nd 2015 12-4pm

We need volunteers! Please contact cshaaber@pwgov.org and let us know if you can help us make this event a success!

We have lots of participants registered already and some great Vendors will be on hand selling their artistic wares.

Please let us know if you have any Vendors in mind for Arts Alive and send them our way!

WEBSITE INFO:

Arts Council members please email cshaaber@pwgov.org for a Profile form so you can be featured on our Arts Council Website
Send your events to cshaaber@pwgov.org to be posted on the Arts Council Website and social media sites. We have lots of cyber traffic ☺
Also visit the website for the Arts Alive 2015 Participation and Vendor forms.

The Arts Council logo and Parks and Recreation logo is now available to download and place on your organizations website

Previous newsletters can be found on the website

ARTS GRANTS WORKSHOP:

The Grant workshop will be held on March 16th at 6.30pm at the Powells Creek Room at the McCoart Building
Attendance is mandatory for any organization wishing to apply for a Grant.

LOCUST SHADE PARK AMPHITHEATER:

We are looking for performers for the Locust Shade Amphitheater this summer. We also are renting the space out to all A/C groups at a discounted rate. For more info email cshaaber@pwgov.org

VETERANS AND THE ARTS

Please let us know if you and your organization have any Veterans outreach and or what you do to support local Veterans. We want to hear from you! Email cshaaber@pwgov.org with your information. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS and HAPPENINGS:

- ✳ Lou Rosgen will be playing Thursdays at the Chantilly Potbelly restaurant and April 18 at the Livewell Festival in Manassas
- ✳ Manassas Chorale Voices United 2015 registration is now open! Be a part of this annual sacred music gathering open to all singers aged high school through retirement - there is no audition. Singers attend preliminary rehearsals in February and March, then participate in a two-day workshop on March 20-21 with our guest clinician and conductor, Dr. Kenney Potter, culminating in an evening concert in conjunction with the Manassas Chorale at the Hylton Performing Arts Center.
Early Bird registration deadline is February 15. Visit our website <http://manassaschorale.org/voices-united/> for more information!
- ✳ Center for the Arts-Brian Kelley, a Fairfax, Virginia native, is an artist and teacher who works in painting, drawing, and printmaking. His work is grounded in direct observation but augmented with invention to create work that is close, but never quite true-to-life. Recent work for the exhibition, "Tower," focuses primarily on how architecture forms can encapsulate both the dreams and memories of the people that build them. Built form implies a cloudy narrative of creation and intention. Kelley currently teaches drawing at the NVCC Manassas campus. He regularly exhibits in the DC Metro area and nationally. February 4 – March 13, 2015
- ✳ Rippon Lodge Spring Art Fling!
5/30/2015 11 a.m. 15520 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge, VA 22191
The arts have come alive at Rippon Lodge. Enjoy live performances, living history demonstrations, local artist exhibits, and participate in hands-on activities

- ❖ Rooftop Productions INCORRUPTIBLE
INCORRUPTIBLE is a dark comedy by Michael Hollinger and will be directed by Vincent Worthington. The monks of a down and out medieval monastery resort to desperate (and hilarious) measures in an effort to survive and save their humble shrine. Performances are scheduled at the Kellar Theater at the Center for the Arts on Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm from May 1-16, 2015. Call 703-330-2787 to let us know which day you would like to audition.
Further information on the Center for the Arts website at www.center-for-the-arts.org
- ❖ Gainesville Ballet is presenting CARMINA BURANA at the Hylton Performing Arts Center on Friday, March 20, 7pm. It's the premiere performance of the new choreography by Artistic Director Rafik Hegab, starring Gainesville Ballet's international company of dancers. A very exciting announcement about a guest star will be posted soon! Buy tickets at <http://www.tickets.com/search/?s=gainesville%20ballet>
- ❖ New Dominion Choraliers of Prince William County
March 28, 2015 7:30 PM Hylton Performing Arts Center
New Dominion Choraliers of Prince William County Herald the Arrival of Spring With "A Musical Collaboration: From Schubert to the American Songbook!" The Choraliers, voted the "Best Performing Arts Group" 2014 in Prince William County, will present this beautiful composition with their special guests, the Stafford Regional Choral Society and the Old Bridge Chamber Orchestra
- ❖ "A Broadway Adventure!"
New Dominion Choraliers of Prince William
April 25, 2015 7:30 PM and April 26, 2015 3:30 PM
Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas
Embark on "A Broadway Adventure!" with the New Dominion Choraliers of Prince William County
"A Broadway Adventure!" awaits you!
Under the direction of Katherine Nelson-Tracey, the Choraliers will set your hearts to humming and your feet to dancing as they carry you away with some of Broadway's most memorable melodies. Dancers from Dance Etc. School of the Arts, under the direction of Ann Boyle, will add their original choreography for several numbers. Tickets are available at the box office, online www.hyltoncenter.org, or at 888-945-2468. Tickets for Adults are \$20; \$15 for Seniors (55+)/Students (14+)/Military/Veterans; \$5 for children ages 5 through 13; and Free for children under age 5. NDC will continue its support of Trevor's Treasures by collecting unwrapped toys and donations in the lobby at the concerts. Trevor Blake was a local boy, diagnosed with a rare form of cancer, who passed away in 2013, but his family continues his mission to bring toys to children fighting cancer.
- ❖ Arts Advocacy Day in Washington, DC
Make your voice heard at Arts Advocacy Day on March 23rd and 24th in Washington, DC! Register with Americans for the Arts by March 9th
- ❖ The Natural World Exhibit March 19 – April 23, 2015; Reception March 21, 6-8pm
Center for the Arts -The Natural World Steve Heap, Dan Jenkins, Susan McPherson, Craig Shier
Take time out to view sights of the natural world. There may be only a few images in this exhibit of familiar places -- through extensive travels and even more extensive talents photographers Steve Heap, Dan Jenkins Susan McPherson and Craig Shier explore new environments and new ways to present them.

