The Arts Insider

March 2020

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The Charles County Arts Alliance presents its first ever literary event: Poetry on Stage and Writers Unite Seminar. Presented in partnership with Charles County Public Schools, the Charles County Chapter of the Maryland Writers

Association, and the Literary Writers Guild, this day of literary performance and information has something for everyone, spanning generations and styles of writing.

On Sunday, March 29 at 1:00 pm, high school students from La Plata, Henry E. Lackey, North Point, St. Charles, and Westlake kickoff the event with Poetry On Stage. They will compete for prizes by performing pre-selected poems. The winners will be selected by local arts professionals. Be sure to arrive on time. In order to provide as few distractions as possible while the students are performing, entrance to the main hall will be limited beginning at 1:00 pm.

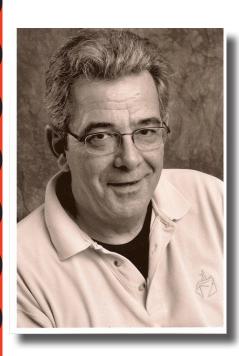
The Writers Unite Seminar follows the poetry competition, with an author's panel hosted by Lew McIntyre. Local authors will share their experiences on writing and publishing to inform and inspire all. In addition, attendees can meet local authors and ask plenty of questions about their books and writing styles during a book signing.

This event takes place at the Old Waldorf School, 3074 Crain Highway, Waldorf, MD 20601. Doors open at 12:30 pm. It is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is required. Click <u>here</u> to register for your ticket today. For more information call Monique Walker at (301) 392-5900. S

The Charles County Arts Alliance 2020 Poetry on Stage Competition is not affiliated with the Maryland State Arts Council's Poetry Out Loud program or the National Endowment for the Arts and Poetry Foundation. We are encouraging the Charles County Board of Education to participate in the state-sponsored Poetry Out Loud competition in 2021.

President's Letter

Dear Members and Supporters of the CCAA,



Here we are ending February with no snow and starting into March with the beginning of daylight savings time. Spring won't follow until March 19, but some say it has already begun.

What has begun is a new era for the Charles County Arts Alliance as Monique Walker moves up to the position vacated by Judy Crawford and becomes our new Administrative Director. Newcomer Mary Whitmore is joining us as our Administrative Specialist. You can read about both of these outstanding individuals in this edition of the Arts Insider.

Very soon we will present the first ever Poetry on Stage competition at Old Waldorf School, in conjunction with Charles County Public Schools, the Charles County Chapter of the Maryland Writers Association, and Life Journeys Writers Guild, Inc. This event will feature nine of our county's senior high students presenting "living poetry," seven published authors who will share their "ups and downs" concerning writing and getting published, and 14 book sellers and signers who will be willing to share with you the "inside scoop" on their latest literary work. As all this is going on, our Scholarship Panel will have just selected our 2020 scholarship

recipients and will announce the winners to all assembled.

This event should prove to be an exciting and entertaining program. Make sure you have planned to attend the Poetry on Stage and Writers Unite Seminar on March 29, 1:00 pm, at Old Waldorf School.

Coming up soon will be our Membership Meeting on May 2nd, and then our ArtsFest 2020. This will begin with a concert at La Plata Town Hall on Friday, June 12. Music, cultural, and artistic displays at the Town Hall on June 13, and our first Plein Air at Mattawoman Creek Art Center.

Come out and support the artistic growth of Charles County!

Sincerely,

Robert Robert K. Rausch President, Charles County Arts Alliance

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Charles County Arts Alliance: Promoting ALL the arts in Charles County, MD



A New Gallery Opens at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

Show Runs through June 30, 2020

The gallery opened on February 4 with 58 new works of art by 37 artists. Artists featured in this exhibit include: Anne N. Buffington, Suzanne Cassidy, William Cassidy, Scott M. Cote, Holly Dilatush, Cecelia Dunay, Michelle L. Evans, Beth Fabey, Jacob Farren, Loretta L. Foster, Penelope "Penny" Gold, Sally Marie Goldsmith, Roxana Gonzales, Doris Hall, Ron Hammans,



Carole Hans, Kayla Hare, Carl Harris, Jaden Hendricks, Arnold Hurley, Renee Jefferson-Copeland, Gordon Johnson, Michael Johnson, Phillip Lang, Addison Newton Likins, Joanna Macaulay, Julie Meisel, Constance E. Moore, Chuck Morse, Margaret Neal, Nancy Owens, Kenneth Riggleman, Ryan Roddey, Buddy Scott, Jill Smithson, Roberta Speight, and Janice Toepper.









The Charlotte Hall Veterans Home is Maryland's only long-term care and assisted living facility specifically for Veterans and their eligible spouses. The gallery is located along the E-Wing Assisted Living Dining hallway at 29449 Charlotte Hall Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20659. Hours are Monday - Sunday, 10:00 am to 8:00 pm. This is a sneak peek of the gallery and it can also be viewed online at https://charlescountyarts.











Ron Brown, CCAA Treasurer

Ron spent his early life in Pennsylvania. He relocated to Dundalk, Maryland in 1952. He received a Bachelor of Science in History from Frostburg State College, got married, and attended graduate school at the University of Maryland – College Park, where he received a Master of Arts in Nineteenth-Century European History. In 1969 Ron interviewed with the Charles County Board of Education for a position teaching world history at the new Henry E. Lackey High School. After teaching for a year in the public school system, Ron was hired by Charles County Community College (later the College of

Southern Maryland) to teach in the history department. His classes included Western Civilization, United States History, African American History, Maryland History, and Charles County History. He spent 44 years at CSM, during which time he was promoted to Full Professor, presided over the Faculty Senate, and chaired the Communications, Arts, and Humanities Division.

Ron retired from teaching in 2014 and was persuaded by Robert Rausch to join the Board of Directors at the Charles County Arts Alliance. He was later elected Treasurer and appointed Chair of the Scholarship Committee, through which thousands of dollars are awarded each year. Ron also presides over the Historical Society of Charles County and the Charles County Heritage Commission. Society Societ



Deadline to Apply for a Scholarship is March 6, 2020

Visit <u>https://charlescountyarts.org/program/scholarships</u> to download an application. Students can also obtain copies from their career counselors.

For more information, contact the CCAA office at 301-392-5900, or info@charlescountyarts.org. 🔊

Submit Your Application Today!

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Charles County Arts Alliance: Promoting ALL the arts in Charles County, MD



Changes to CCAA Administrative Staff

As of February 18, the CCAA Administrative Staff has undergone major changes. Monique Walker assumed the position of Administrative Director and Mary Whitmore joined the staff as Administrative Specialist. These changes promise to be exciting as both women lend their artistic expertise ensuring the CCAA's mission to support the arts and the creative spirit in Charles County continues to thrive.



Originally from Chester, Pennsylvania, Monique Walker is a wife and mother of two, an arts administrator, and dance educator currently residing in Waldorf. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Arts Management from the University of Massachusetts and has traveled the world as a performer, educator, and choreographer. Monique currently teaches at CityDance's School and Conservatory and DREAM Center for Dance, conducts movement workshops nationally, and presents choreography through her project-based performance company, MoDance Works. She has also taught at Drexel University, North Carolina State University, and The School at Jacob's Pillow. Her choreography has been presented at the Philadelphia Fringe Festival, Dance Place, the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, and she was a 2018 – 2019 NextLOOK Residency Artist, a partnership between Joe's Movement Emporium and The Clarice Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland.

Mary Whitmore holds a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Maryland, College Park, where she studied music composition. She received a Master of Music Composition from College Park in 2015 and has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music from Saint Mary's College of Maryland (2011), with a focus on Bassoon Performance. She was awarded the CCAA's Certificate of Artistic Merit in 2014 upon completion of the commissioned work Haara for the high school concert bands in Charles County. A Nanjemoy native and graduate of Lackey High School (2007), she has performed as a member of theater orchestras in the tri-county area for 15 years. Mary teaches wind instruments, piano, and vocal performance three nights a week at Bullock's Piano Salon in White Plains. She and her husband Joshua have a nine-month-old daughter named Valerie.



Congratulations Monique and Welcome, Mary, to the CCAAs



CCAA Around Town at A Notable Affair



On Sunday, February 23, 2020 CCAA Board President and Board Director Robert and Diane Rausch attended A Notable Affair – An Afternoon of Arts and Elegance, presented by Ivy and Pearls of Southern MD Community Charities at La Plata High School. Charles County natives, Soprano, Meroe Adeeb and Bass Baritone, Kevin Short were featured and performed an excellent concert featuring opera, spirituals, and contemporary music selections. The CCAA was also acknowledged by the organization for their support of the event and art programming in Charles County.

ArtsFest 2020 Vendor Registration is Open



Arts Exhibitors and Food Vendors are invited to register for the 28th annual ArtsFest. The outdoor arts festival will be held Saturday, June 13, 2020, from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, on the beautiful grounds of the La Plata Town Hall, in La Plata, Maryland. ArtsFest is the largest arts festival in Charles County, and one of the largest in Southern Maryland.

La Plata Town Hall is located at 305 Queen Anne Street, La Plata, MD 20646.

Click <u>here</u> to register today!

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Charles County Arts Alliance: Promoting ALL the arts in Charles County, MD



The Basket by Karen McIntyre



The clouds hung heavy with promised rain, but inside the small house, candles and kerosene lanterns chased away the shadows. Logs glowed and crackled in the fireplace, giving off the scents of manzanita and oak.

"Grandmother? What is that?"

"Hmm?" The grandmother came to stand next to the young girl, looking to where she was pointing. "That? I knew you would ask someday, child. Let me show you." The old woman stretched, reaching upwards, and reverently brought down the colorfully patterned basket from the high shelf. "Come, child, let's sit over here." She placed the basket in the middle of the rug in front of the crackling fireplace and sank awkwardly to sit across from her granddaughter.

"It's beautiful! Grandmother, why do you not use it? Or leave it down where it can be seen?" the child asked, reaching out her hand toward the basket.

"Go ahead. You can hold it, just treat it gently." She watched as the child picked up the basket, turning it this way and that. "It was my grandmother's, and her grandmother's before that."

"Oh! It is very, very old then, isn't it?" the child whispered in awe, as she gently set the basket back down on the rug.

The grandmother chuckled, knowing the child had meant no insult. "It is said that the Sky God watched as my grandmother's grandmother made it. It pleased him that she wove in the green of the trees, the purple and black of the forest shadows, the white of the snow. He promised good fortune to her family, as long as the basket was kept safe."

"What about these?" the child asked, pointing to the brown acorn caps along the basket's rim.

"When a child is born into our family, we add a new one. See - this one here is for you, this one for your mother before you."

"Which one is yours, Grandmother?"

"This one here." She reached out and touched it gently, smiling at her granddaughter. "Someday the basket will pass to you. You will add the caps for each new child; you will have the responsibility of safe-guarding the basket."

The child's eyes widened as she looked between the basket and her grandmother. "But, I'm just a child."

"For now, you are. But you won't always be. Someday is far enough off, and you will be ready by then." The grandmother pushed herself up and slowly stood. She held her hand out to the child. "Let's put it back for now

and make some hot chocolate. What do you say to that?"

"Yes! I would like that, Grandmother," the child said rising gracefully.

As the grandmother stretched to put the basket back on the high shelf, she paused, looking down at the child. Then she placed the basket on a lower shelf. "Come," she said leading the way into the small kitchen. "I will tell you a story about my grandmother while we have our drinks.

"Once upon a time, when I was about your age, I used to sneak the basket down from the high shelf where my grandmother kept it. I knew it was special, and that I wasn't supposed to play with it, but I couldn't resist. I would fill it with pinecones and pretend it was an offering to the gods. I would fill it with ears of corn and pretend I was a princess about to miraculously feed her people. I thought my grandmother had no idea what I was doing. Until one day when I took the basket down and found a small folded note in it. The note instructed me to bring the basket and meet her in the garden.

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LITERARY News

"Holding the basket ever so carefully, I walked outside, into the garden. I found my grandmother kneeling among the tomatoes. I expected her to be angry with me, but she just told me to put the basket down someplace safe and help her finish weeding between the plants. I tried to tell her that I knew I had been wrong and that I was sorry, but she just gently waved my words away. As we worked side by side the summer sun warming our shoulders, she told me the basket's history and what it meant to our family."

Stirring the marshmallows around in her hot chocolate, the child said, "Like you told me? Did she tell you that someday you would be responsible for the basket too?"

"That she did. I never again 'played' with the basket. Though sometimes I think it was happier when it was full of pinecones or ears of corn."

"How can a basket be 'happy', Grandmother? That's silly."

"Maybe. Maybe not. Maybe I'm just an old woman telling a story. But I don't think so. Let's try it. Go and get the basket."

The girl carefully fetched the basket and they went outside to gather pinecones from under the trees in the yard. As they began to fill the basket, the child began to understand what her grandmother had said. It seemed as if the basket got lighter with each pinecone they placed in it.

"I don't understand, Grandmother."

"I think it's because the basket wants to be used, to be filled. Of course, maybe I'm just a silly old woman imagining things."

"No, you're not." The child paused, looking at the basket full of pinecones in her hands. "Can we put it back like this? I think it would be happier this way."

The grandmother put her hand on the girl's shoulder and smiled. "Yes, that would be a good thing. Already the basket is speaking to you. You will make a good guardian someday." She looked up at the sky as the first drops of rain began to fall. "Quickly now. Inside before the basket gets wet."

The girl carried the filled basket back into the house and

set it reverently on its shelf. She patted it gently before she went to join her grandmother to finish their nowcold chocolate. So

About the Author . . .Karen McIntyre

Karen D. McIntyre lives in La Plata, Maryland, with her husband and two cats. She retired after teaching twentyeight years in middle and high schools. In the spirit of the Renaissance woman, she taught Reading, English, Social Studies, Science, Math and Art. Once she retired, she finally had time to devote to



her writing. Karen has published two novels, *Parham's Mill* and *Ruby*, and is currently working on her third. She is the president of the Charles County Chapter of the Maryland Writers' Association, and sings with the Chesapeake Choral Arts Society. So



Maryland Arts Day 2020



Thursday, February 13 in Annapolis, was a rainy day. However, the weather did not deter over 500 people from across the state descending on the capital city for Maryland Arts Day 2020. It was a full day of arts advocacy, networking, and an opportunity to engage Maryland lawmakers. All in attendance were excited to make a common message known: the arts in Maryland matter and have a huge impact on the economic and cultural vitality of the state.

Maryland Arts Day is the largest annual gathering of arts professionals in Maryland. It connects artists, educators, administrators, volunteers and trustees with lawmakers from every legislative district in Maryland. The Southern Delegation had a strong show of support. In attendance from Charles County were the Charles County Arts Alliance

Board of Director Members and Administrative Staff: Robert Rausch, Angelica Jackson, Lew McIntyre, Fraser Tuffee, and Monique Walker; and

members from the Southern Maryland Carousel Group, Burkey Boggs and Melvin Williams.



The opening sessions began in the Francis Scott Key Auditorium at St. John's College and included greetings from lawmakers, First Lady Yumi Hogan, and the presentation of the Sue Hess Maryland Arts Advocate of the Year

to Rebecca Massie Lane from the Washington County of Fine Arts. All were excited and provided invigorating comments to get the attendees pumped, but the morning's standout was a rousing Keynote Address by Baltimore artist and advocate Joyce Scott. Infused with song and Ms. Scott's biting wit, she shared her creative story and its connection to how she was strongly influenced by her family and community. She also shared stories and pictures on how these same influencers gave her a light to shine and encouraged her to share that light through her work and creativity over the course of her life. Having been a professional artist since she was 23 years old, Ms. Scott's story and her work sparked a light in all attending, before setting off to speak with their respective lawmakers in the delegation rooms.

After closing the day with lunch, all were invited to continually email their lawmakers

advocating for three bills crucial to the sustaining the arts in Maryland. You can learn more about these bills by visiting https://www.votervoice.net/MDARTS/home and make you voice heard, cementing Maryland's steadily increasing placement as one of the top arts sectors in the country.



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March 2020



Thanks CCAA Members for Your Support!

Platinum Circle

Charlotte & Abbott Martin Diane Rausch Robert K. Rausch

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Community Bank of the Chesapeake

Gold Circle

Ron & Marti Brown Andy & Jessica Dixon Bert & Emily Ferren David & Nikole Smith Chris & Kate Zabriskie

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Non–Profit Organization

African American Heritage Society of Charles County Charles County Department of

Community Services Charles County Fair, Inc. Charles County Public Library Chesapeake Choral Arts Society Friends of Chapman State Park Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities Life Journeys Writers Guild Maryland Writers' Association -Ćharles County Chapter Mattawoman Creék Art Center Music Teachers Association of Charles County, Inc. Nanjemoy Community Center Port Tobacco Players Sagepoint Senior Living Services Southern Maryland Carousel Group Southern Maryland Decorative Painters Town of Indian Head Senior Ruth Bailev Norma Baretincic Cindi Barnhart Susie Bender Virginia Bridges Rose Burroughs Judy E. Cabos Carol Y. Charnock Brenda Clavburn Martha Knight Clements Carol Corbett Dorothy Crown Frank M. Culhane

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Youth

Kayla Berry Ja'Leana Graves Jaden Hendricks Joshua Owen Cali Quade



CCAA Membership Form



The mission of the Charles County Arts Alliance is to stimulate, promote, encourage and provide recognition of the arts and the creative spirit in Charles County, MD.

Show Your Support for the Arts by Joining the CCAA!

The benefits of CCAA membership last year-round:

• CCAA Arts Insider monthly E-newsletter

- CCAA Arts Newsflash weekly E-update of arts events
- \$1 discount for each ticket purchased for Port Tobacco Players theatrical productions
- CCAA voting privileges
- And most importantly, the satisfaction that comes from actively supporting the arts in Charles County!

Men	nbership Categories (check one):		Renewal		New Member
	Platinum Circle – \$500	Name (exactly as you want it to appear in print):			
	Gold Circle – \$250	i vanne (exactly as you want it to appear in princ).			
	Silver Circle – \$150				
	Arts Patron – \$125	Organization/Business (if applicable):			
	Arts Sponsor – \$100				
	Arts Activist – \$75				
	Family – \$50	Add	ress:		
	Individual – \$30				
	Senior (60+) – \$20	City	: Stat	-0:	Zip:
	Youth (under 18) – \$10	<u>City</u>	. Stat		<u> </u>
<u>Business & Nonprofit</u> :		Phone:			
	Corporate – \$500	<u>E-m</u>	ail		
	Business – \$250				
	Nonprofit Organization – \$75	Wa	nt to volunteer? We'd l	ove	the help!
	Other (Donations)		ArtsFest Committee		Grant Committee
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Budget/Finance/Audit Committee Scholarship Committee		Membership Committee Outreach/Marketing Committee
The	CCAA is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization.		Events Committee Gallery Committee		Administrative/Office Work Technical/IT Support
All membership dues and donations are 100 percent tax–deductible.		Charles County Arts Alliance P.O. Box 697, White Plains, MD 20695 www.charlescountyarts.org / 301–392–5900 info@charlescountyarts.org			

Master Calendar FY 2020

2019

Saturday, July 13, 10:00 am – Noon CCAA Board Meeting United Way House, La Plata

Wednesday, July 17, 5:30 pm Artists without Limits" Public Reception Charles County Commissioners Gallery

Saturday, August 3, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm CCAA Summer Retreat Solomons, MD

Saturday, September 7, 10:00 am – Noon CCAA Board Meeting United Way House, La Plata

Thursday – Sunday, September 12 – 15 Charles County Fair, P.D. Brown Fine Arts Building Charles County Fairgrounds, La Plata

Saturday, October 5, 10:00 am – Noon CCAA Board Meeting United Way House, La Plata

Saturday, October 19, 2:00 – 4:00 pm Meet the Artists Public Reception Waldorf West Library

Saturday, November 2, 10:00 am – Noon CCAA Board Meeting United Way House, La Plata

Saturday, November 16, 6:00 – 10:00 pm CCAA Annual Gala Old Waldorf School, Waldorf

Saturday, December 7, 10:00 am – Noon CCAA Board Meeting United Way House, La Plata

2020

Saturday, January 25, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm CCAA Mid-Winter Retreat Waldorf West Library

Saturday, February 12, 7:30 – 9:30 pm CCAA Board Meeting United Way House, La Plata

Thursday, February 13, 8:15 am – 2:00 pm Maryland Arts Day Annapolis, MD

Saturday, March 14, 10:30 – 11:30 am CCAA Board Meeting Old Waldorf School, Waldorf

Sunday, March 29, 1:00 pm Poetry On Stage and Writers Unite Seminar Old Waldorf School, Waldorf

Saturday, April 4, 10:00 am – Noon CCAA Board Meeting United Way House, La Plata

Saturday, May 2, 2:00 – 4:00 pm CCAA Annual Membership Reception and Meeting Waldorf West Library – Main Gallery

Thursday, June 4, 7:00 pm CCAA Board Meeting United Way House, La Plata

Friday through Sunday, June 12 – 14 ArtsFest Weekend La Plata Town Hall and Mattawoman Creek Art Center

Note: Dates and times may be subject to change.

Arts Insider

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March 2020





P.O. Box 697 White Plains, MD 20695



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Charitab e Trust





