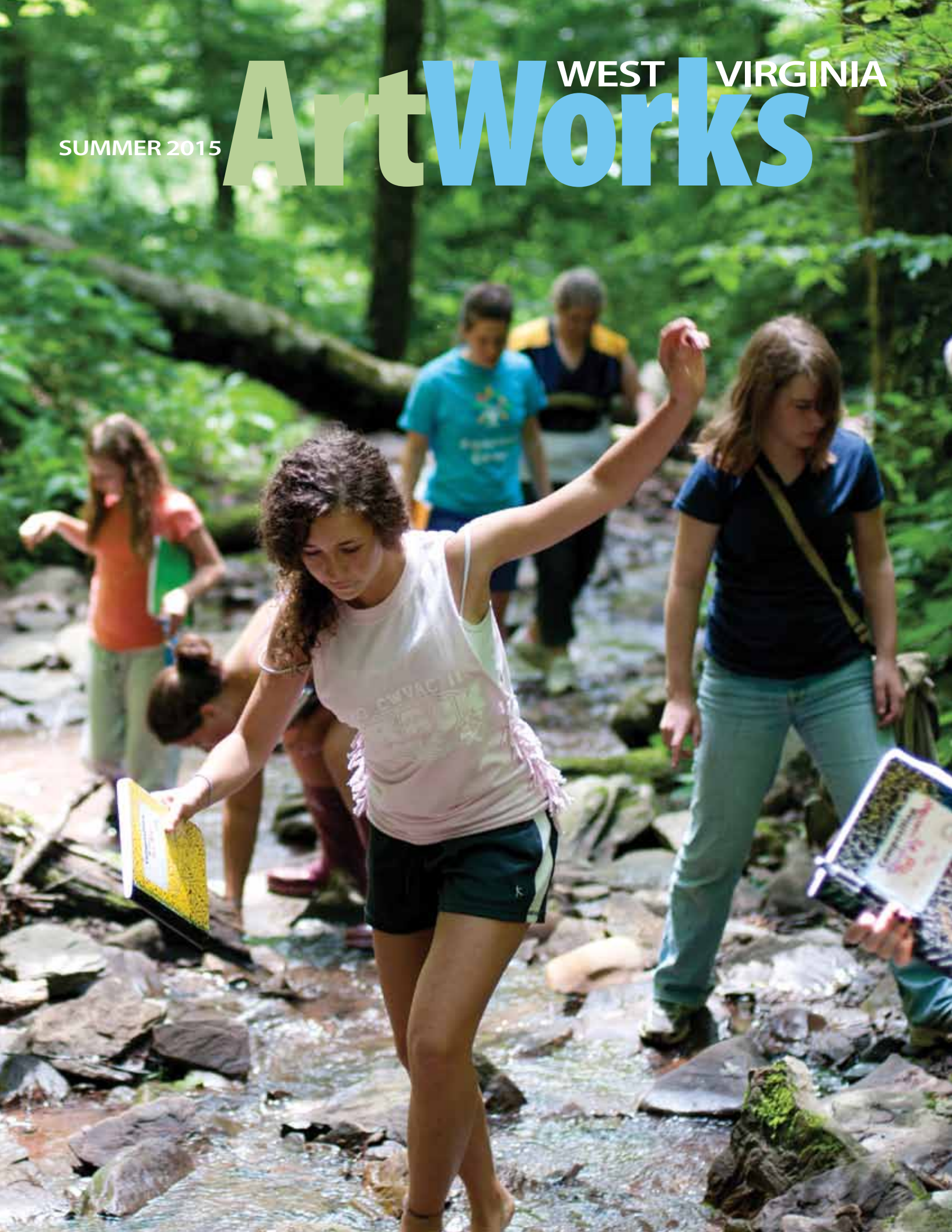


SUMMER 2015

WEST VIRGINIA ArtWorks



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SUMMER 2015



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Education and the Arts**
Kay H. Goodwin, Cabinet Secretary



**West Virginia Division of
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Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner

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Toontastic!



The Wheeling Symphony practices for its *Bugs Bunny at the Symphony II* concert. Photo courtesy of the Wheeling Symphony.

Wheeling Symphony Celebrates Art of Cartooning As a Way to Bring Younger Audiences into the Fold

By P.J. Dickerscheid



Oglebay Institute's *Toontastic!* exhibit at the Stifel Fine Arts Center featured selected pieces from Wheeling orthodontist Dan Joseph's private collection.

The Wheeling Symphony is finding creative ways to build its audience. Executive Director Bruce Wheeler said its most successful venture to date was its spring performance of *Bugs Bunny at the Symphony II*, a live orchestra performance that was accompanied by classic Warner Bros. cartoons shown on a large screen.

"It was our largest audience this season," Wheeler said. "We nearly filled the Capitol Theatre," which seats about 2,400.

Many Americans were introduced to classical music by watching cartoons because early cartoon studios incorporated classical music, popular music and original compositions into their animated shorts. For instance, the *Rabbit of Seville* is a spoof of Gioachino Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*.

Rhapsody Rabbit features Franz Liszt's *Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2*, and *What's Opera, Doc?* features Richard Wagner's *Ride of the Valkyries*.

The concert coincided with Oglebay Institute's *Toontastic!* exhibit at the Stifel Fine Arts Center to celebrate the art of animation and some popular cartoons. The exhibit featured more than 80 pieces from Wheeling orthodontist Dan Joseph's private collection as well as the collection of cartoonist Joe Wos. For 13 years, Wos was a visiting resident cartoonist at the Charles M. Schulz Museum in Santa Rosa, California, and is the founder and former executive director of the ToonSeum, Pittsburgh's museum of comic and cartoon art.

The exhibit included storyboard sketches and animation cells of



Patrons at the Stifel Fine Arts Center dress up as their favorite cartoon characters. Photo courtesy of Olgebay Institute.



Symphony's Selfie Station a Smash Hit

The Wheeling Symphony is using social media to promote itself and build audiences.

A Selfie Station installed in the Capitol Theatre lobby allows patrons to take photos of themselves to share with friends. The Symphony's social media administrator uploads the photos to the symphony's Facebook page and a digital billboard outside the theater, so patrons can see their photos as they leave.

This station has become a highlight of the Symphony's pre-concert and intermission, allowing it to reach Facebook audiences of all ages.



Joe Wos, founder of the ToonSeum in Pittsburgh, conducts a family workshop. Photo courtesy of Oglebay Institute.



A live performance by the Wheeling Symphony complements classic Warner Bros. cartoons on a large screen. Photo courtesy of Oglebay Institute.

iconic characters from multiple generations and from all the favorite studios, such as Warner Bros., Disney and Hanna-Barbera, to name a few.

The Wheeling Symphony Society Inc. received a \$7,350 Challenge America grant from the West Virginia Commission on the Arts and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History to provide several interactive programs, including animation

workshops, school programs and a cartoon festival to coincide with the concert and exhibit.

The complementing art events were sponsored by the Wheeling Symphony Society Inc., Oglebay Institute, the Wheeling National Heritage Area Corporation, West Liberty University and others.

The collaboration was in keeping with the symphony's goal of

increasing the number of family oriented concerts it presents, and helped to build its base of supporters by bringing younger listeners into the fold.

The 86-year-old symphony has presented a number of concerts of late with the same goal, including *Cirque de la Symphonie*, *Symphony on Ice*, a Young People's Concert Tour, a pop series, and a college series.

Greenbrier East's Neely Seams Performs at National Poetry Out Loud Contest

By P.J. Dickerscheid



Neely Seams of Greenbrier East High School represents West Virginia at the Poetry Out Loud national competition in Washington, D.C. Photo by James Kegley.

West Virginia's 2015 Poetry Out Loud (POL) champion, Neely Seams of Greenbrier East High School, was one of eight finalists in the Region 1 national POL finals in Washington, D.C., in late April.

Besides performing three poems – “Mi Historia” by David Dominguez, “Epitaph on the Tombstone of a Child, the Last of Seven that Died

Before” by Aphra Behn and “Love Song” by Dorothy Parker – Neely was treated to a congressional breakfast, where last year’s national champion, Anita Norman of Tennessee, spoke. Neely also got a chance to meet U.S. Congressman Evan Jenkins and Senator Shelley Moore Capito while in the nation’s capital for the competition that encourages

students to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance.

While in D.C., the National Endowment for the Arts honored the state of West Virginia for its efforts to enhance this year’s state contest by integrating additional arts learning experiences into the competition. West Virginia’s POL coordinator Jim Wolfe was asked to inform other state coordinators visiting the nation’s capital about the opportunity given to state finalists to attend a special art exhibit and reception at The Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences, where renowned artist Mark Licari talked about his work on display.

In a presentation titled “Beyond the Competition,” Wolfe also talked about state finalists being given the opportunity to collaborate on and perform an original song with Mira Stanley and Chuck E. Costa of the folk-pop duo The Sea The Sea.

Also new this year, each state participant took home artwork by several outstanding West Virginia artists, including a wooden journal by Matt Thomas of Shock, a ceramic mug by Eric Pardue of Milton, a lapel pin by Charly Jupiter Hamilton of Charleston and a copy of Poet Laureate Marc Harshman’s poem



West Virginia’s 2015 POL winner Neely Seams poses with Poetry Foundation Program Director Steve Young and National Endowment for the Arts Program Manager Eleanor Billington. Photo by James Kegley.



“A Song for West Virginia” that includes photographs by Steve Shaluta of St. Albans. The winner’s trophy was hand-crafted by metal artist Lucas Warner of Hendricks, who is an apprentice under internationally known artist Jeff Fetty.

For some students, it was their first visit to an art gallery and their first chance to touch a hand-made work of art. By awarding these special items and experiences, Arts Director Renée Margocee said the West Virginia Division of Culture and History wanted to give each student a very intimate and intensive art experience in the hopes of sparking or nurturing a lifelong interest in and support for the arts.

West Virginia’s top five

- Neely Seams, Greenbrier East High School, winner**
- Tyler Ray, Webster County High School, runner-up**
- Sabrina Dahlia, Morgantown High School**
- Brooke King, Ripley High School**
- Maria Shibley, Spring Mills High School**

Above: Students collaborate on an original song with Mira Stanley and Chuck E. Costa of the folk-pop duo The Sea The Sea. Photo by Kelli Steele Dailey.

Below: While in the nation’s capital, Neely Seams met with U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito. Photo courtesy of U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito.





West Virginia Poet Laureate Marc Harshman, composer Adam Plantz, and choreographer Jerry Rose on stage with *Adrift* dancers.

'Adrift' Premiere A Collaboration of West Virginia Artists

By P.J. Dickerscheid
Photos by Kelli Steele Dailey

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History hosted the April premiere of *Adrift*, a unique collaboration among West Virginia Poet Laureate Marc Harshman, Charleston native musician and composer Adam Plantz, choreographer Jerry Rose of the Beckley Dance Theatre, the West Virginia Youth Symphony led by Maestro Bob Turizziani, and select dancers attending the 2015 West Virginia Dance Festival.

Harshman said it was interesting that Plantz chose his poem "Adrift" to set to music because it is "very much a mood piece," and though Harshman doesn't consider himself a lyrical poet, "I was really hearing it. It

was musical, the way I put the words together."

Plantz said his musical composition carries a certain folk quality to it while the melody seeks to represent the comfort and familiarity of Harshman's impressions of life among the West Virginia hills.

Rose, who is known as the "Father of the West Virginia Dance Festival," originator of the West Virginia Ballet Festival, and a former soloist with the Charleston Ballet, said his interpretation of the piece revolves around the idea of a wandering mind, daydreaming and the idea that "perhaps your destination in life is adrift," but somewhere there's an anchor "to keep you from going off the edge."

Rose, for whom the Division of Culture and History established a continuing scholarship for

outstanding dancers in 2011, said he included some traditional as well as unexpected dance components to the piece while capitalizing on the unique talents of the 16 featured dancers from Buckhannon, Charleston, Clarksburg, Huntington, Morgantown and Parkersburg.

The West Virginia Youth Orchestra brought the piece to life under the direction of Turizziani, founder and music director of the Seneca Chamber Orchestra and the music director of the River Cities Symphony. He is the principal clarinetist of the West Virginia Symphony, and under his direction, the Youth Orchestra has made three international trips: Prague, Vienna, and central Europe in 2000, Italy and Austria in 2006, and Hungary, Poland, Austria, and Slovakia in 2012.

The division commissioned the



The dance routine for *Adrift* was choreographed by Jerry Rose.



Dancers perform while Poet Laureate Marc Harshman recites his original poem.



Plantz received a Master of Music in Composition at the University of Houston, Moores School of Music, after graduating in May of 2013 from West Virginia University with a Bachelor of Music in Composition degree. Plantz, who plays trumpet and piano, traveled to Berlin, Germany, during the summer of 2011 to study composition at the Freie Universität, Berlin with Samuel Adler of the Juilliard School and conducting with Emily Freeman-Brown of Bowling Green State University.

Rose has performed with numerous ballet companies and in 1987 appeared with actor Patrick Swayze in the movie *Dirty Dancing*. His choreography credits include *Honey In The Rock*, *Hatfields and McCoys*, and *Little Mary Sunshine*, among others.

Left: Lisa Church and Brian Murphy from the Beckley Dance Theatre perform during the *Adrift* premiere.

Below: Dancers Julianna Hanson of the Charleston Ballet, Sarah Walker of the Morgantown Ballet, and Bridgette Madden of the Charleston Ballet, (l-r) bring *Adrift* to life.

piece in June 2014. It was completed in February. Its premiere was held during the 33rd year of the West Virginia Dance Festival, which showcases the talent of more than 400 West Virginia dancers who come to perform and take classes from a nationally-acclaimed festival faculty.

Harshman, a storyteller, author and former teacher from Wheeling, became the state's ninth poet laureate in 2012 following the death of Irene McKinney. He performed his first major commission as poet laureate during West Virginia's 150th birthday celebration on June 20, 2013. He read his commemorative poem, "A Song for West Virginia," during anniversary events in his hometown of Wheeling and at the state Capitol in Charleston.



Adrift

By Marc Harshman

What we have here in late August
for solace, for calming the soul
are the crickets and locusts and frogs,
their rising and falling
as incessant as the sea's
lulling of the land,
these hidden ones, their quilted staccatos
lapping against the shores of the listenable quiet,
with their differing notes and pitch and tones blending
here, then there, then all
of a pattern,
a larger score
for many voices
and when I stretch to see
into this wave of quasi-tidal sound,
the fireflies' random winkings
suddenly shift
in sync with the tiny tenors singing
out from this summer choir
and I breathe, breathe again
and lay my head inside my arms
"and pulled, drawn,
but not driven, . . . pulled
as if toward light . . ."
I leave myself, sink into this heartland
here, where the great oceans once drifted,
here drift myself
under the subtle tides of these others, voices
from far away and long ago
whose steady trillings adorn
the shadows of my sleep
with balm as delectable
as apples, black bread, and wine,
as deep as the sleep
approaching every year this time
and soon enough always
if I reckon my years against
this earth's continuum
begun once and beginning still.
And so to bear me across
these seasons' silent thresholds
I have this tightly-strung fabric,
this audible comfort
woven from the gathered landscape
given just here, just now
this side of autumn,
this side of leaf fall and frost,
of harvest and thanks and the gift-giving after . . .
I could imagine it was all
freely offered
like the coming on again and again
of the heart's gentle pulse
up against forever.

*Quotation by Yehudi Menuhin,
an American-born violinist and
conductor.*

Reprinted with permission from West
Virginia Poet Laureate Marc Harshman



New Beginnings campers gather in a tree house. Photos courtesy of High Rocks Educational Corporation.

Art Helps High Rocks Girls Reach New Heights

By P.J. Dickerscheid

High Rocks Educational Corporation in Hillsboro uses the creative inspiration of the arts to challenge young West Virginia women to reach high academic, professional and life goals.

"The arts are a fundamental part of our process," Executive Director Sarah Riley said. "Art is a tool just like writing is a tool or speech is a tool. We use those tools to help the girls understand the world around us."

High Rocks is an award-winning leadership organization that provides transformative education and service learning to hundreds of young women a year. Riley's mother, Susan Burt, a former school librarian

and gifted/talented coordinator, started the program in 1996 after noticing that girls tended to lose their enthusiasm and positive outlooks in middle school. She wanted to help them build their self-confidence and become better prepared for bright futures.

Through the arts, High Rocks girls "learn more about themselves and the world around them; they learn new artistic skills, form a new respect for craftsmanship, build their personal identity, and discover innovative tools to express themselves. We are educating, empowering, and inspiring their creative voice," Riley wrote in a recent application for funding from the West Virginia Division of Culture and History and the Commission on the Arts.

In the past five years, High Rocks Educational Corporation has received \$40,453 in grants funded by the West Virginia Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. Most of that money came from the division's Arts in Education grant program, and was used to help pay artists to teach girls storytelling/media production, printmaking, various forms of creative expression. The grant also helped to produce a math musical theater, an artist-in-residence program and a series of after-school workshops that focus on songwriting and Appalachian music.

Eighth-grade girls participating in the New Beginnings camp in June build their confidence and communication skills by sharing their thoughts, talking about

relationships, and spending time in private reflection. They also engage in innovative programs that explore math, science, writing, horseback riding and games.

In July, graduates of previous New Beginnings camps – ninth through twelfth graders – return to High Rocks to follow specialty tracks, like “Math and Art: The Golden Mean,” which focuses on math, aesthetics, art, and theories of the universe.

One of High Rocks’ unique programs, math musical theater, touches on the connections between

mathematics and music theory by teaching the mathematical nature of rhythms, patterns, scales, and harmonies. The girls then apply these ideas when composing songs about mathematical rules and concepts, and add drama and voice when presenting and recording their original works.

During nightly campfires, the girls decorate journals, respond to creative-writing and visual-art prompts, create mixed media projects, collaborate on writing songs and poems, and perform songs,

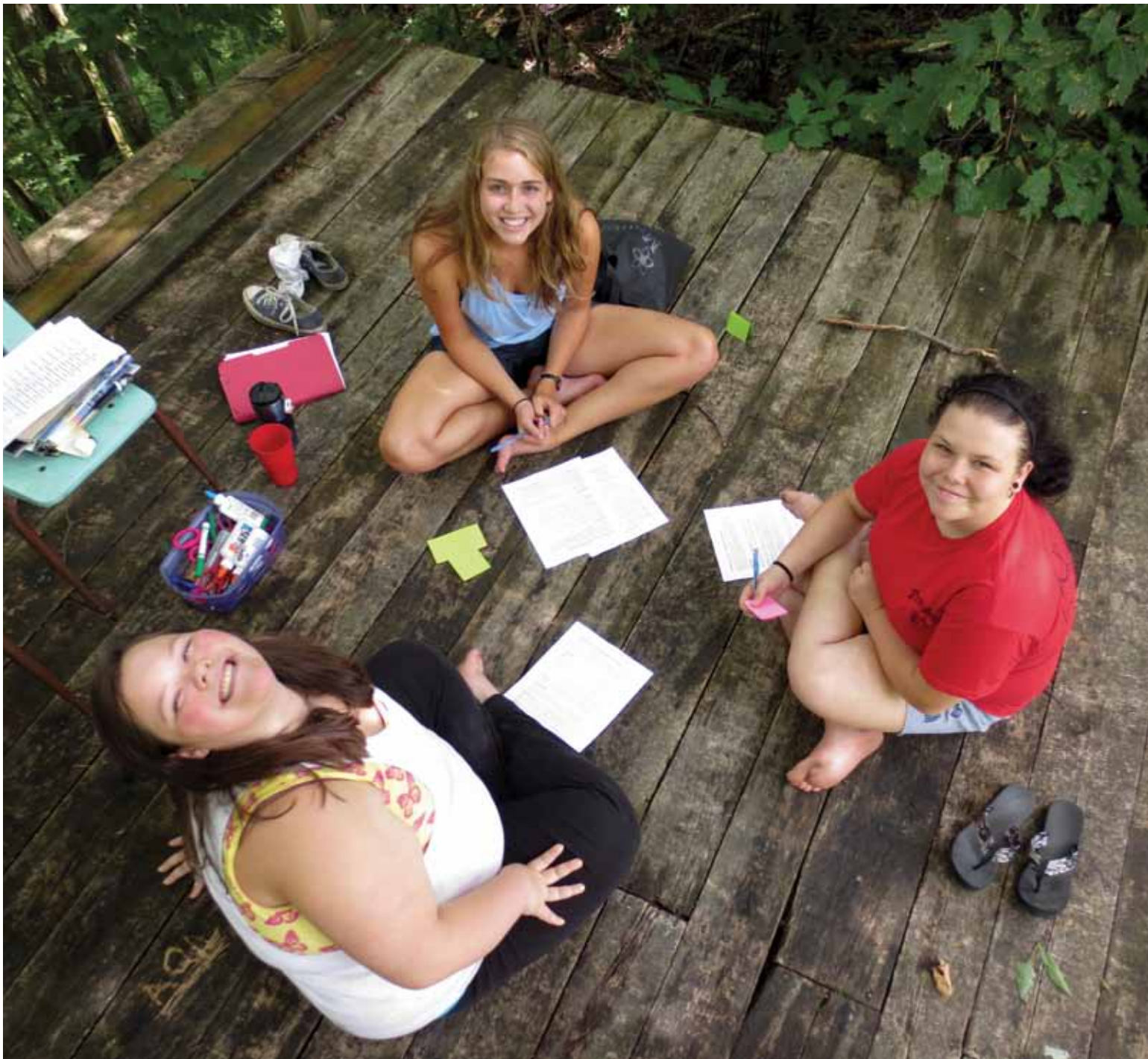
music, poetry, original plays and skits.

Campers also try their hand at painting, sculpting clay and other art mediums. Each girl also spends a night alone in the woods with a sleeping bag, three matches, a bottle of water, and a small bag of food.

During the school year, the girls receive individualized after-school tutoring and are involved in community service projects. High Rocks girls also receive counseling for setting life goals that may include college and careers.

The friendships the girls develop – and the knowledge, confidence and

High Rocks girls work on a project together during Camp Steele.



inspiration they receive – stay with them long after they leave camp.

“I found someplace I can be me,” one camper wrote in her evaluation. “I have more self-confidence and can do way more amazing things than before I came to camp. I’m a better and stronger person.”

Riley said a key to the program’s success is recruiting and developing relationships with “artists who love teaching as much as they love their art form.” Artists who are motivated by making a difference in young people’s lives can work wonders in helping girls find and use their own voices to express themselves.

Making appropriate changes based on feedback from the girls about which teaching artists, programs and activities they were most drawn to is critical to ensuring the program’s success, she said.

“If they are not enjoying it and learning from it, try something else.”



Above: A High Rocks AmeriCorps volunteer helps Camp Steele girls work in the garden.

Below: Jade, a High Rocks participant, talks about a project she made for the creative expressions class.



Barter Theatre's Project REAL Is Making a Difference in McDowell County

By Megan Atkinson

In classrooms at River View High School and Mount View High School in McDowell County, students are getting up out of their seats, clearing their desks out of the way, moving, creating and learning through implicit learning techniques.

Working with school educators, Barter Theatre's Project REAL

(Reinforcing Education through Artistic Learning) provides qualified teaching artists who use theater techniques to get students to learn by reflecting on their lives and connecting their experiences to math, science, English or social studies.

"I really enjoy having the chance to do something different, to not be sitting at my desk reading a book or working on the board," remarked one student of the Abingdon, Va., theater's program. "It's really memorable and really helps."

Each Project REAL class begins with a warm up that incorporates dynamic moving and breathing tools to get the students' blood and oxygen flowing. Along with dynamic movements, the students learn three or four vocabulary words either through physical expression or social interaction.

Next, students engage in an activity that focuses on connecting their emotional lives to the material. For instance, students learning about mass, volume, and density create their own eulogies by focusing on the mass that equals how many activities they experienced in their lives, volume that equals the space they took up when traveling and living at home, and then density that equals the effect they had based on their mass and volume.

Once they create their eulogies, students take turns reading each others' eulogies while that person lies on a table, which represents the coffin. Students who are listening to the person's life must identify the mass, volume, and density in that person's life, which leads to a conversation about what type of people have the greatest density and biggest impact on others.

Students also engage in activities that help them apply their knowledge of the key concepts. In this case, groups of students pretend they are on a survival show and get a choice of items to take with them on the island; however, to use the item they must identify the mass, volume, and density of those objects.

Project REAL is making a real difference in McDowell County. Assessments show students, particularly math students, perform significantly better after participating in Project REAL activities. On average, math scores improved by nearly 40 percent.

Teachers are also impressed by Project REAL as they watch the curriculum come alive for students. Program information is shared with partnering teachers, giving them the opportunity to integrate the tools into their lesson plans.

To learn more about Project REAL, visit Barter's website at bartertheatre.com or contact Megan Atkinson, the Director/Creator of Project REAL at education@bartertheatre.com.





Lewisburg's Carnegie Hall, built in 1902, is designed in the Greek revival style. Photo by Carla Frye.

Millions in Arts Grants Support Historic Theaters on West Virginia Trail

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History and the West Virginia Commission on the Arts awarded nearly \$2 million in grants to help restore more than a third of the historic theaters listed on the West Virginia Historic Theater Trail.

And that does not include millions more in state grants that supported arts programming in these stunning venues over the years.

Recipients that took advantage of the Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources grants administered by the division's Arts Section include the Alpine Theatre in Ripley, the Capitol Theatre in Wheeling, Carnegie Hall in Lewisburg, the Fayette Theater in Fayetteville, the Keith-Albee Theatre in Huntington, The Landmark Studio for the Arts in Sutton, the Old

Opera House in Charles Town, the Metropolitan Theatre in Morgantown, the Randolph County Community Arts Center in Elkins and the Smoot Theatre in Parkersburg.

This grant program provides \$2,500 to \$500,000 in support funds to West Virginia schools and nonprofit arts organizations for the acquisition, construction and renovation of arts venues, accessibility improvements and capital purchases of durable equipment.

The division's State Historic Preservation Office and the Preservation Alliance of West Virginia received a Preserve America grant to develop the statewide thematic tour. All theaters included on the trail, except drive-ins, are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

So the next time you're looking for some entertainment, take a drive and enjoy one of the many fine performances presented inside these remarkable venues.

Alpine Theatre

This Modern style, two-story, flat roof, commercial building in Ripley has a stepped parapet wall in the front, a red brick facade and a central ticket booth flanked by the original paired doors. (Listed 2004)

Apollo Theatre

The most striking features of this circa 1914 Classical Revival-style building in Martinsburg are the repeated segmental arches over each bay in addition to triple sash transoms and a bracketed cornice with a brick

balustrade above. (Listed 1979)

Capitol Theatre

Architect Charles W. Bates designed this Wheeling theater in the Beaux Arts style with arched windows, classical details, bas-relief panels, garlands, cartouche and balustrades. (Listed 1979)

Carnegie Hall

Designed in the Greek Revival style, this Lewisburg performance hall, built in 1902, features an ionic order portico with pediment, shouldered architrave trim, tall first-floor windows and cornice with dentils. (Listed 1978)

Fayette Theater

This renovated movie house built in 1937 is one of the few Depression era movie houses still in use in southern West Virginia. Visitors can view the original movie projectors, which remained in use until the 1960's. (Listed 1990)

Keith-Albee Theatre

Built in 1928, this opulent palace theater in Huntington features the original Spanish evening decorative treatment on its ceiling and was made with 550 tons of steel and several million bricks. (Listed 1986)

Lewis Theatre

This longitudinally symmetric theater in Lewisburg built in 1939 is designed in the functional, post-deco style and is built primarily of hollow, glazed terra cotta block. (Listed 1978)

Metropolitan Theatre

This neoclassical revival style theater that opened in Morgantown in 1924 features fluted concrete ionic pilasters with egg and dart detail, two smaller brick pilasters, a concrete entablature with circular medallions and "Metropolitan" engraved in the frieze. (Listed 1984)

Mt. Zion Drive-in Theater

This 200-car drive-in theater has been providing entertainment in Calhoun County since 1950. Its circa

1947 snack bar includes windows from a Parkersburg church and one continuous piece of wood that runs down its center.

Municipal Auditorium

This monolithic concrete-and-steel structure in Charleston, completed in 1939 as a Public Works Administration project, was designed with the classic styling of the "Art Deco Grande Dame." (Listed 1999)

Old Brick Playhouse

Formerly the Randolph Garage Company, circa 1919, this late Edwardian-style brick building is a contributing structure to the downtown Elkins historic district. (Listed 1995)

Old Opera House

This classic theater in Charles Town, complete with fly-space for hanging scenery above the proscenium stage, an orchestra pit and a rarely seen curved balcony, opened in 1911. The large "P" at the top of the proscenium arch is a tribute to Annie G. Packette, who raised \$50,000 to build it. (Listed 1978)

Pocahontas Opera House

Ornate pressed-metal panels adorn the ceiling of this circa 1910 opera house in Marlinton that is accented by a balustrade of American chestnut that wraps around three sides of the balcony. (Listed 2000)

Randolph County Community Arts Center

Built in 1928, the former St. Brendan's Catholic Church in Elkins was designed in the Romanesque Revival style and features locally quarried sandstone blocks on the outside with a border of stone relief angels around the building. (Listed 2006)

Robey Theatre

Hamond Robey built the Robey Theatre in Spencer in 1911 specifically for the exhibition of films. A 1926 remodeling that changed the facade and enlarged the stage and theater remains intact today. (Listed 1989)

Smoot Theatre

This 1926 vaudeville house in Parkersburg with imposing Neo-Classical facade and brightly lit marquee was remodeled in the 1930's



Architect Charles W. Bates designed the Capitol Theatre in Wheeling in the Beaux Arts style. Photo Courtesy of the Capitol Theatre.



in the Art Deco style, with hand-cut Austrian chandeliers, beveled mirrors lining the walls, and mahogany and brass doors. (Listed 1992)

Star Movie Theatre

Built in 1916 as a car-storage garage, this brick structure was renovated and began showing films as the Berkeley Theatre in 1928. The last major renovation in 1949 included the notable marquee that lights up the downtown every weekend. (Listed 2009)

Sunset Drive-In

With the capacity to park 400 cars, this single-screen drive-in in Shinnston has been showing movies since 1947.

Tanner Theatre

Originally a federal building, this 1913 neoclassical structure in Morgantown was donated in 1976 to be developed and maintained as a cultural center for Monongalia County. (Listed 1979)

The Landmark

Built in 1886 as a Methodist Church in the Victorian style, The Landmark in Sutton retains the original 20-foot stained glass window, woodwork and steeple. (Listed 1987)

Towngate Theatre & Cinema

Built in 1850 as the Zion Lutheran Church, this Gothic, Greek and Italianate Revival style building has a façade with a central tower and large Gothic Revival windows. (Listed 1984)

Victoria Theater

Located in Wheeling’s historic market district, this 720-seat Victorian-style theater with many Beaux-Arts design influences opened in 1904. (Listed 1979)

Warner’s Drive-In

This single-screen drive-in, which opened in Franklin in 1953, accommodates up to 200 cars.

West Virginia State University Capitol Center Theatre

Opened as the Plaza Theatre in 1912, this Charleston theater was remodeled in 1921 with a Wurlitzer pipe organ, a projector room, 30-foot electrical sign and a marquee. (Listed 1985)



Above: The Metropolitan Theatre, built in the neoclassical revival style, opened in Morgantown in 1924. Photo courtesy of the Metropolitan Theatre.

Right: The classic-style Old Opera House in Charles Town opened in 1911. Photo courtesy of the Old Opera House.



Heritage Farm Museum & Village in Huntington is West Virginia's first Smithsonian Institution Affiliate. Photo courtesy of Heritage Farm Museum & Village.

Huntington's Heritage Farm Museum & Village Becomes West Virginia's First to Partner with Smithsonian

By P.J. Dickerscheid

Each year more than 6,000 schoolchildren from across West Virginia visit Heritage Farm Museum & Village in Huntington to learn about their Appalachian heritage through live sheep-shearing, blacksmithing, pottery-making, timber cutting and plenty of pickin' n' grinnin'.

Now, Heritage Farm is poised to provide even richer hands-on lessons about our Appalachian heritage as West Virginia's first Smithsonian Institution Affiliate, a distinction that provides the farm with the resources and learning opportunities available through the world's largest museum and research complex based in Washington, D.C.

As one of more than 190 Smithsonian affiliates in more than 40 states, Puerto Rico and Panama,

Heritage Farm will have access to the Smithsonian's artifacts to supplement its already massive collection contained in seven museums and more than 30 buildings, including log homes, a blacksmith shop and working forge, and one-room schoolhouse. The farm also will receive recommendations for appropriate resources within the Smithsonian to accompany exhibit loans to the farm.

For starters, the Smithsonian is going to provide artifacts or distance-learning opportunities to coincide with the farm's annual Way Back Weekends, which feature a different topic each month, said Audy Perry, executive director of the Heritage Farm Foundation. In June it is music; July is the farm's ice cream social; August is Hatfields and McCoys; September is a cast iron cookoff; October is fiber; November is industry; and December is a holiday market.

The Smithsonian also will assist the

museum with identifying education and performing arts programs, expert speakers, teacher workshops, and technical assistance, and provide expertise on conservation, collections care, and exhibition development.

For schools, the farm now offers a new Smithsonian room with distance-learning opportunities. "Teachers can tell us what they would like to use as a wrap-up or beginner (lesson), and tap into the Smithsonian for whatever they are studying," said Perry, whose parents, Henriella and the late Mike Perry, founded Heritage Farm in 1996. It had been their homestead since 1973.

Perry said he is working to get broadband access at the farm so it can begin sharing its offerings with the Smithsonian and other museums across the country.

For more information, visit heritagefarmmuseum.com.

Rave Review

West Virginia Author Selected for Creative Fellowship

West Virginia fiction writer Natalie Sybolt of Kingwood was selected for a two-week residency at the Virginia Center for Creative Arts in Sweet Briar, Virginia.

Each year, the Creative Fellowship provides residency opportunities for artists from the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation's nine state and jurisdictional partners to support the work of composers, literary and visual artists. Each fellow receives a \$1,500 or \$3,000 grant, depending upon the length of his or her residency, and up to \$250 for travel expenses.

Sybolt, whose writings have appeared in *Glimmer Train*, *Switchback*, *Ardor Literary Magazine* and other publications, is one of seven fellows selected this year. Sybolt earned a master's in fine arts in fiction from West Virginia University in 2005 and is an assistant professor at Pierpont Community and Technical College.

Each year, the foundation provides funds to sponsor up to two artists from Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, U.S. Virgin Islands, and West Virginia. Visiting artists are provided with a private studio, room and board, and the company of other artists from around the nation for an intensive period of self-guided creative exploration and development.

Application information and materials are available at www.vcca.com.



Hosts Needed for Annual Listening Tour

Each year, the Arts staff of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History travels the state to hear your thoughts about the value and future of our programs and services.

Your crucial input helps guide our planning for programs, processes and funding.

As part of our process for scheduling fall listening tours, we need community hosts to assist in locating accessible venues and selecting dates and times for the listening tour. We rely on the hosts to share information with their members and community through organizational communications and news releases to the local media.

To add your community to this year's Listening Tour and serve as host, contact Robin Jones, administrative secretary, at 304.558.0240, ext. 155, or at Robin.L.Jones@wv.gov.

Entries for WVDCH's 19th Biennial Juried Exhibit Due August 7

West Virginia artists have until August 7 to submit entries for one of the state's most influential art shows, the 2015 West Virginia Juried Exhibition.

This year's exhibition will be November 8 through February 21, 2016, at Tamarack: The Best of West Virginia in Beckley with an opening reception beginning at 4 p.m. on November 8.

Since 1979, the biennial exhibit of the West Virginia Commission on the Arts and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History offers artists the opportunity to earn a share in \$33,000 in awards. The top three Governor's Purchase Awards earn \$5,000 each, one of which is named the D. Gene Jordon Memorial Award in honor of the former chairman of the Commission on the Arts. There are seven \$2,000 Purchase Awards and eight \$500 Merit Awards.

Artwork receiving the Governor's Awards and Awards of Excellence also becomes part of the West Virginia State Museum's Permanent Collection of Art.

Additional information, including entry forms, is available on our website at wvculture.org/Arts.



Student Competition Links Art, Sciences

Students across West Virginia are encouraged to participate in the West Virginia Science, Engineering and Art Fair this fall.

Set for October 16 at WVU Tech in Montgomery, the fair provides students in grades 6 through 12 with opportunities to showcase their knowledge of biology, physical sciences, and engineering in display projects, a symposium, Olympiad events and art projects.

The competition, now in its third year, is designed to reinforce classroom efforts to stimulate enthusiasm for science and career-related skills through academic



This was one of many 2014 entries for the West Virginia Science, Engineering and Art Fair. Photo by Tyler Evert.

competition and events. The fair is open to students statewide in public and private schools and home-school programs. There is no charge for participation.

Students may enter several categories that include experimental research performed on a topic, an informational poster on a researched

topic, an art object with a scientific theme, an oral presentation and a written report.

The fair is hosted by WVU Tech, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History. For more information, visit sciencefair.wvutec.edu.

Panelists Sought for Grant Reviews

The Arts Section of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History invites you to submit nominations of artists, arts administrators, educators and community leaders involved in the nonprofit and service sectors to serve on panels that review grant applications and make funding recommendations to the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

Panelists must be passionate about the arts, willing to commit time and energy to the review process, provide constructive critical judgments and reflect the diversity of our state.

Nominees must be at least 18 years of age and have experience in one or more of the following areas:

- An artistic discipline
- Arts learning
- Financial or organizational management of nonprofit organizations

■ Public art issues and acquisition procedures

■ Community-based arts projects

Individuals may nominate themselves or others.

To submit a nomination, mail the person's name, mailing address, phone number, email address, and a brief description of his or her qualifications and professional experience to WVDCH Arts Section, Grant Panel Nominations, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. East, Charleston, WV 25305.

CALENDAR

JULY

Now through August 7: Entry deadline for the 2015 West Virginia Juried Exhibition, Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, Charleston

Now through September 12:

West Virginia Quilts and Wall Hangings 2015 exhibit, Culture Center, Charleston

July 3-5: Mountain State Art & Craft Fair, Ripley

July 8-12: Pioneer Days, Marlinton

July 10-August 2: Contemporary American Theater Festival, Shepherdstown

July 20: Entry deadline for Berkeley Arts Council's "Life in the Wild" Juried Exhibit of Wildlife Art

July 29-August 2: Appalachian String Band Music Festival, Clifftop, Fayette County

AUGUST

August 7: Entry deadline for the 2015 West Virginia Juried Exhibition

August 7-8: Lewisburg Literary Festival, Lewisburg

August 19-21: Jurying for the 2015 West Virginia Juried Exhibition, Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, Charleston

August 21: Entry deadline for NICHE magazine's 2016 NICHE Awards in fine craft design. Visit www.nicheawards.com

SEPTEMBER

September 10: Entry deadline for CraftForms 2015 in Wayne, Pennsylvania. Visit www.craftformsentry.org

September 10-13: CultureFest World Music & Arts Festival, Pipestem

September 14-18: Artwork accepted for the 2015 West Virginia Juried Exhibition, Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, Charleston

September 25-November 8: "Freedom of Expression" Exhibition, Ice House Gallery, Berkeley Springs

September 25-27: Mountain Heritage Arts and Crafts Festival, Shenandoah Junction

September 3-October 4: "Life in the Wild" Juried Exhibit of Wildlife Art, Berkeley Art Works gallery, Martinsburg



Bill Howley 1952-2015

The state arts community lost a strong advocate in April, when Bill Howley, an arts supporter and good steward of the land, died in a single-car accident on I-79.

Bill, 62, of Chloe, was a program consultant for the West Virginia Division of Culture and History Arts Section's Staff Support program and a longtime peer adviser for the division's Peer Assistance Network, offering valuable advice and assistance to artists and arts organizations.

He also served as project director for the Ohio River Border Initiative, a joint effort of the Ohio Arts Council and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History that served artists and arts organizations in the Ohio River Valley until the two state arts agencies reallocated that funding.

Bill's reach extended beyond the arts. He was a leading consumer advocate on energy issues, and served as a coach, tutor and mentor to many children in his community.

Bill will be missed, but he will live on in our hearts as a man with enormous passion, intellect, and a good sense of humor.

NEA: Tell Us Your Story!

As the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) celebrates its 50th birthday this year, you are invited to share stories about the many ways the arts have impacted you and your communities. These stories include how the arts are part of your day, how the arts have inspired you to do something unique, how they have made a difference among you and your family, as well as in the communities and neighborhoods in which you live. If there is a specific NEA grant that had an impact on you and your community, share that, too.

Starting September 29, the date President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Arts and Humanities Act, the NEA will begin posting stories on its website and promoting them across social media. In addition to or instead of a narrative, you can include one to three photos and/or one video or audio of no more than five minutes.

For more information visit arts.gov/tell-us-your-story.

West Virginia Division of Culture and History Arts Section

304.558.0240



Renée Margocee is the Director of Arts for the West Virginia Division of Culture and History and is responsible for administering the division's arts programs, which include arts administration services, as well as state and federal grants for West

Virginia's arts organizations, individual artists, schools and communities.

Renee.Margocee@wv.gov



P.J. Dickerscheid is the Individual Artist Coordinator. She provides technical assistance to artists and artists' organizations, and administers the division's Professional Development for Artists and Artists' Organization grant program. She

also is the editor of the agency's quarterly publication *ArtWorks West Virginia* and its monthly television show *ArtWorks*.

Pamela.J.Dickerscheid@wv.gov



Debbie Haught is the Community Arts Coordinator. She oversees Arts Partners, Community Arts Project Support, American Masterpieces and EZ Arts Access grant programs. She also manages the Peer Assistance Network and offers training in grant

writing and organizational development across the state.

Debbie.R.Haught@wv.gov



Robin Jones is the Administrative Secretary for the Arts Section and helps administer, along with the Arts in Education coordinator, its Mini Grant program.

Robin.L.Jones@wv.gov



Barbie Smoot is the Grants Officer and Budget Manager. She maintains the database and financial records for all grant applications and is responsible for compliance with all state and federal rules, regulations and policies. She also oversees the

Training and Travel grant program.

Barbie.J.Smoot@wv.gov



Jim Wolfe is the Arts in Education coordinator. He administers the Arts in Education, Challenge America, and Mini-Grant programs, and is the state coordinator for Poetry Out Loud, a national recitation contest for high school students.

James.D.Wolfe@wv.gov



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