



Lifting the Curtain on the Arts in the Lehigh Valley

The Lehigh Valley Arts Council is gearing up for a year of programming that will lift the curtain on the state of the arts in the region and spotlight the arts resources that enhance education, economic development, and quality of life. As an arts services organization, the Arts Council goes behind the scenes to promote arts awareness and advocate its value. Many of the following events are open to the public, and we welcome your participation.

YOUNG AT ART EXPO

The Lehigh Valley Arts Council is proud to present the second annual Young at Art Expo on Saturday March 11, 2017. Held at Penn State Lehigh Valley from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., this expo invites families with children of all ages to enjoy music, dance, art, and exploration.

The day will be jam-packed with hands-on activities and performances, from dance routines and theatre workshops to arts demonstrations and craft projects.

Kids of every age and ability will have a chance to sample the arts in all forms, while parents can gather information about classes and summer camps.

Last year, we welcomed over 300 guests to our inaugural event, and the positive response from local families was wonderful! “My girls loved the different activity tables and face painting,” said Hazel Singleton, mother of two fun-loving girls, ages 7 and 4. “They also enjoyed the live performances which made it more entertaining!”



2016’s expo had twenty-two local groups promoting their programs and engaging the kids in fun activities at their tables. The organizations captivated the crowd with their performances or arts project. Lillian Freeman, owner of Allegro Dance Studio, commented, “My dancers loved performing in the open space and had a wonderful time. As a studio owner, I am very grateful for such an art-friendly event in the Lehigh Valley!”

We have some new surprises this year to delight your kids and inspire their love for the arts. Come join us for an entertaining and creative day!

Admission to Young at Art is FREE to the community thanks to our premier sponsor, PNC Bank, and supporting sponsors Fitzpatrick Lentz & Bubba, EBC Printing, and CISS, Ltd. Parking is free and plentiful, and food is available for purchase on-site.

SUPERINTENDENTS BREAKFAST

Arts Advocacy day is March 20, 2017, and the Lehigh Valley Arts Council is teaming up with the Allentown Art Museum to host a Superintendents Breakfast at the museum. The occasion is being used to release the results of the Arts Council’s 2015 study, “The State of Arts-in-Education in the Lehigh Valley.” Principals and faculty from the region’s twenty-two districts were surveyed in order to gauge the level of arts-in-education activities. The breakfast agenda will encourage participants to talk about how their districts were able to build support in their communities for arts programming.

ARTS ALIVE

Arts Alive invites members who are eager to step behind the scenes of an arts experience and rub shoulders with the creative process. The 2017 series will explore the “intimacy of space” as imagined by a landscape architect, captured in a musical salon, and depicted in the wearable art of a metalsmith. All three events will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Seating is limited and preregistration is required at LVArtsCouncil.org. The admission fee for each event is

ARTS COUNCIL MATTERS

Lifting the Curtain on the Arts... (continued)

\$25 for members, \$35 for nonmembers. There is special pricing of \$60 for members who purchase a three-event series ticket.

The series kicks off with the How Does Your Garden Show? event on Saturday, April 29, 2017, at Garden Design, Inc., with award-winning landscape architect Frederick Learey. Whether you like to entertain outdoors or seek sanctuary in nature or provide a playground for your family, you can make your landscape a reflection of your personality. Mr. Learey's extensive experience in designing formal estate gardens and outdoor living projects, including full outdoor kitchens and roof-covered spaces with outdoor heaters, sound and video, will captivate and inspire you.

On Saturday, June 17, 2017, experience the Music of Friends as Satori introduces classical music selections in the ideal setting for chamber music. Janet and Malcom Gross welcome guests into their lovely home to enjoy the intimacy of performance, followed by a light luncheon.

The final offering, Wearable Sculpture, is a visit to the Coopersburg studio of painter and metalsmith Loretta Tryon on Sunday, October 15, 2017. Tryon finds inspiration for her jewelry from the images in her abstract paintings, creating and embellishing three-dimensional shapes with patinas and engraving. Her process visually combines motion and gesture in metal. The studio tour will highlight the evolution of her thirty-year career as an artist.



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Our Mission:

To promote the arts; to encourage and support artists and their development; to assist arts organizations; and to facilitate communication and cooperation among artists, arts organizations, and the community.



The Lehigh Valley Arts Council is a Pennsylvania Partner in the Arts, a program of the PCA.

WHOSE BUSINESS IS THE ARTS?

Throughout 2016, the Arts Council has been gathering data for the Americans for the Arts national economic impact study, "Arts & Economic Prosperity V." Once every five years, the Arts Council participates in this research by collecting information from cultural non-profits and their audiences in the counties of Carbon, Lehigh, and Northampton. Thanks to your participation, we were able to provide nearly 100 organizational surveys and 800 audience surveys from the Lehigh Valley.

Americans for the Arts will analyze the data over the next several months and provide our region with its own detailed report in June 2017. At that time, the Lehigh Valley Arts Council and the Lehigh Valley Partnership will cohost the Whose Business is the Arts? public forum to release the results to the community and address challenges of mutual concern.

You are invited to serve on the planning committee for creating the agenda for the Whose Business is the Arts? public forum. The first meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 23, 2017, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., in the second-floor conference facility in the Butz Corporate Center, 840 Hamilton Street, Allentown.

Please RSVP your intention to attend to rforte@lvartscouncil.org by January 18, 2017. We look forward to working with you.

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THE INSIDE TRACK

Karen Yeakel was recently honored by *CSNews* as a "Top Women in Convenience"

for her influential leadership at Cross-America Partners LP.

Lisa K. Higgins announced her retirement from the **Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival** in December, having served as Director of Marketing & Public Relations for nearly twenty years. A self-professed data geek, Lisa was a strong proponent of data-driven marketing for expanding audiences.

Jeffrey F. Parks, Executive Director of the **ArtsQuest Foundation**, was appointed in December by Governor Wolf to serve as Chairman of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

NEW MEMBERS

Individual
Remy Golab
Jan Kleckner
Peter Lewnes

Business
Judith Rodwin

For a listing of disability-friendly events, go to ARTSandACCESS.org.

ONE LAST THOUGHT

Is it just me, or does this new year feel different? Upside down, maybe? Certainly less triumphant.

The other morning I read on my social-media feed that the winter solstice will be the darkest in 500 years, and I thought to myself, maybe that's why I feel so tired. But then later that day, CNN reported that was a false claim and they gave a lengthy, scientific explanation to try and convince me otherwise. What do you believe? The short or the long answer?

I mean what's true? Is climate change real or is it a hoax perpetrated by the Chinese? I looked up the meaning of the word "hoax." "An act intended to trick or dupe." Intended! Really? I am beginning to lose faith in words. And that scares me because the next step is a loss of faith in people. This new year it feels hollow to say "Have a Happy..." but perhaps we can settle for "Have a Restful New Year." I think it is going to be a long winter and we all need our sleep.

Randall Forte