



## Greater Cultural Access Celebrates with Laughter

The Lehigh Valley Arts Council and the Disability Friendly Community will cohost a private event with comedian Josh Blue on Tuesday, June 14, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at the Williams Center for the Arts, Lafayette College, in Easton. A special performance by one of America’s funniest men caps off a yearlong commitment to expand arts and access with humor and gratitude to the many who made it a success.

Since winning NBC’s *Last Comic Standing* in 2006, Josh Blue’s popularity has skyrocketed on the national scene. He draws most of his humor from his cerebral palsy and upending political correctness. He has appeared in numerous television network comedy specials and recently debuted a one-hour Showtime special, *Sticky Change*. As critics have noted, “Josh Blue continues to break down stereotypes of people with disabilities one laugh at a time.”

Invitations to this exclusive performance will be sent out in April to a guest list that includes Arts Council members, social service agencies, and people with disabilities. Reservations are absolutely required and tickets will be



mailed to guests on a first-come, first-serve basis. A dessert reception will follow the performance.

Arts & Access officially launched in July 2015, as a yearlong celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Americans for Disabilities Act through the lens of the arts. The number of disability-friendly events that drew audiences with disabilities exceeded goals by twenty-five percent. Thirty cultural organizations teamed up with social service agencies to create a schedule of forty events, including sensory-friendly performances for children with autism, movement classes for Parkinson’s patients, and audio-described and open-captioned theatrical performances, lectures, exhibitions, poetry readings, film screenings, and public meetings.

“Arts & Access is very important to the entire community, but especially to the 81,000 people with disabilities living in the Lehigh Valley,” according to Executive Director Randall Forte. “It will be installed as a permanent program of the Arts Council in order to maintain momentum and ensure longevity.” The Arts Council is pledging assistance to cultural groups with training and equipment, marketing support, and grant incentives to help develop new programming.

## Expo Showcases Creative Play



On Saturday, March 12, 2016, the Lehigh Valley Arts Council will present Young at Art, a trade show highlighting arts engagement and creative play for families with children (ages four to

eighteen years old). Local arts providers will assist parents with selecting the right summer classes for their aspiring creatives. Parents will witness firsthand how the arts

ignite their children’s imagination, while their kids get the chance to explore their inner dancer, actor, musician, author, or visual artist. This inaugural event will be held at Penn State Lehigh Valley from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and admission is free and open to the public.

“Young at Art is a day devoted to curiosity and entertainment,” says Executive Director Randall Forte, “especially after such a lingering winter.” The expo showcases twenty regional arts and cultural businesses that offer a wide range of children’s programming for both young

# ARTS COUNCIL MATTERS

## Expo Showcases Creative... (cont.)

beginners and intermediate-level kids. Arts providers include Civic Theatre of Allentown, Baum School of Art, Allegro Dance Studio, Montero Violins, and Totts Gap Arts Institute.

The day's festivities will feature an arts demonstration or performance every fifteen minutes, so kids will have a chance "to imagine what kind of artist" they want to be this summer. Families will have the opportunity to meet different arts instructors and join in hands-on activities. Young talent from the Junior Strings Orchestra, the Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble, and the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts will provide additional entertainment and inspiration.

Lunch will be available for purchase, and parking is free. For more information, visit [LVArtsCouncil.org](http://LVArtsCouncil.org).

**Inside the Arts** is a bimonthly publication of the Lehigh Valley Arts Council, 840 Hamilton St., Suite 201, Allentown, PA 18101.

Editor-in-Chief: Randall Forte

Call for submission guidelines. News items must be received by the fifth of the month preceding publication.

Phone: (610) 437-5915      E-mail: [info@LVArtsCouncil.org](mailto:info@LVArtsCouncil.org)  
Fax: (610) 437-5259      Website: [www.LVArtsCouncil.org](http://www.LVArtsCouncil.org)

Publication of *Inside the Arts* is supported in part by grants from the Harry C. Trexler Trust, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and the County of Lehigh.

### Board of Directors

President: Danielle Kulnis, National Penn Bank  
Vice President: Karen Yeakel, CrossAmerica Partners  
Treasurer: Bruce Loch, Thurston Royce Gallery of Fine Art, Ltd.  
Secretary: Steven Guy Leibensperger, Crayola LLC  
Samuel E. Cohen, Gross McGinley, LLP  
Daniel Kainz, Sculptor  
Gina Kormanik, Lehigh Valley Workforce Investment Board, Inc.  
Ann E. Lalik, Gallery Director & Arts Coordinator, Penn State LV  
Stephen R. La Pierre, LTCl Ind. Eligibility Review Specialists  
Thomas Stathos, Community Volunteer  
Kimberly Thompson, Lehigh Valley Health Network  
Todd Watkins, Lehigh University

### Ex Officio:

Randall Forte, Executive Director, Lehigh Valley Arts Council

### Staff

Carlos Barata, PA Partners in the Arts Coordinator  
Lauren Beck, Operations Manager  
Kimberly Infante, Manager, Cultural List Exchange Co-Op

### 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.

## 2016–17 Grant Cycle Begins

The Lehigh Valley Arts Council announces the beginning of the grant cycle for the 2016–17 Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts (PPA) Project Stream Grant. As one of thirteen state partners, the Lehigh Valley Arts Council administers the program in Lehigh, Northampton, and Carbon counties on behalf of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Applicants are encouraged to attend one of the following workshops:

- May 10, 2016  
Lehigh Valley Arts Council  
840 Hamilton Street, Allentown  
4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.
- May 12, 2016  
Location TBA  
Carbon County  
4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.
- May 24, 2016  
Touchstone Theatre  
321 E. Fourth Street, Bethlehem  
4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.

New and returning applicants have found these sessions critical to their success. Please RSVP your intention to attend a session by contacting Executive Director Randall Forte at [rforte@lvartscouncil.org](mailto:rforte@lvartscouncil.org). Forte will conduct the workshops and address your questions.

The PPA Project Stream Grant Program is very competitive and provides grants of up to \$2,500 to eligible individuals, community groups, and nonprofit organizations to conduct arts activities that have a significant public component. The total amount of funding equals \$34,600. Last year forty applicants were reviewed by a panel of community leaders and arts professionals, and twenty-seven projects received awards. Once the grant has been updated, the applications will be available on the Lehigh Valley Arts Council website. In the meantime, review last year's application and acquaint yourself with the guidelines and eligibility conditions. The deadline for submission is June 20, 2016.

### The Arts Alive Series continues with

"Portraiture: The Artist Within,"  
April 10, 2016, 10:30 a.m. to noon,  
at painter Dana Van Horn's studio.  
\$15 for members; \$25 for nonmembers.  
Buy tickets at [lvartscouncil.org](http://lvartscouncil.org).

## Promoting the Value and Impact of the Arts in the Lehigh Valley

### **Champions (\$2,000+)**

Air Products Foundation  
 Anonymous  
 The Century Fund  
 Charles C. Hoch Foundation  
 City Center Lehigh Valley  
 County of Lehigh  
 County of Northampton  
**Crayola LLC**  
 CrossAmerica Partners LLC  
**Dexter F. Baker & Dorothy H. Baker Foundation**  
 Discover Lehigh Valley  
 Duggan & Marcon, Inc.  
 East Penn Manufacturing Company, Inc.  
 W. Beall Fowler  
 Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network  
 Harry C. Trexler Trust  
**Just Born, Inc.**  
**Lehigh Valley Community Foundation**  
 Lehigh Valley Partnership  
 National Penn  
 Pennsylvania Council on the Arts  
 PPL  
 Sylvia Perkin Perpetual Charitable Trust  
**Talen Energy**  
**Ambassadors (\$1,000+)**  
 Boyle Construction, Inc.  
 Christmas City Printing  
 Embassy Bank  
 Express Business Center, Inc.  
 Jaiindl Properties, LLC  
 Keystone Savings Foundation  
 Lehigh Valley Health Network  
 Thomas & Joanne Stathos  
**Edwin & Karen Yeakel**  
**Advocates (\$500+)**  
 Amaranth Foundation  
 Brown Daub Foundation  
 Randall & Johanna Forte  
**Dawn Lennon**  
 Bruce & Pamela Loch  
 Smooth-On, Inc.  
 Todd & Nancy Watkins  
 Wells Fargo Philanthropy Fund

### **Patrons (\$250+)**

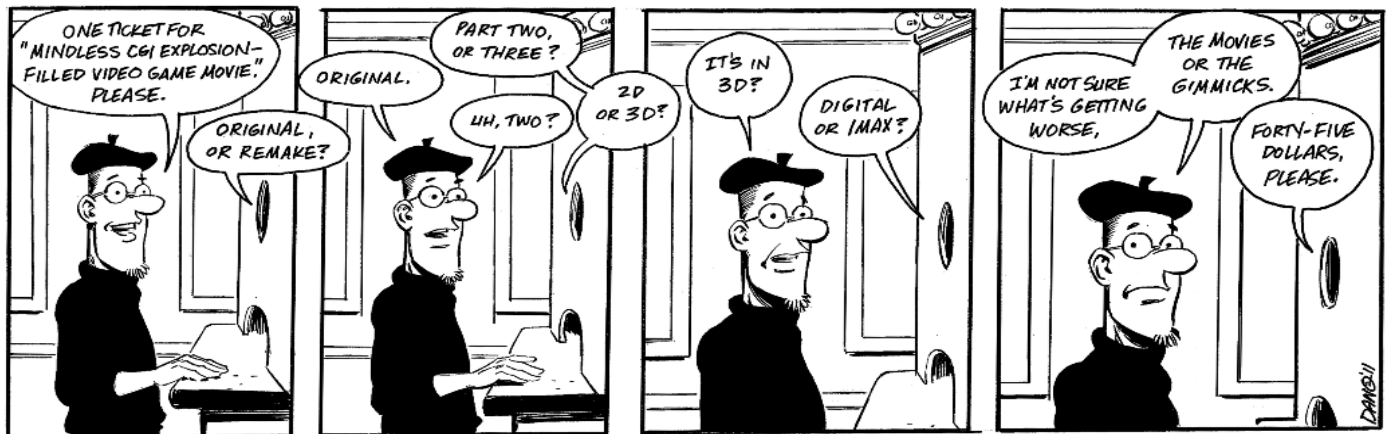
Edna Balmat  
 Kenneth & Susan Berkenstock  
**Alvin H. Butz, Inc.**  
 Dolly & Lee Butz  
 Gross McGinley, LLC  
 David & Gina Kormanic  
 Danielle & William Kulnis  
 John & Ann A. Lalik  
 Stephen R. La Pierre  
 Ellen Larmer & Daniel F. Kainz  
 Stephen G. Leibensperger  
 Bob & Sandy Lovett  
 Martin D. Cohen Family Foundation  
 Marilyn Roberts  
 George & MaryLou Shortess  
 John & Sandra Soler  
 Trade Mark Printing  
**Sponsors (\$100+)**  
**Steve & Diann Berry**  
**Robert & Laura Black**  
**Mary Bongiorno**  
 Bradley Pulverizing Co.  
 Richard & Juanita Bronstein  
 Catherine J. Capkovic  
 Peter & Nancy Cleff  
 Curtis Dretsch  
**Robert & Anne Episcopo**  
 George & Jodi Ferrio  
**Marlene & Arnan Finkelstein**  
 Bob & Susan Gadowski  
**Peggy Whitney Hobbs**  
 Bernhart Hochleitner  
 Charles & Dale Inlander  
**Miria & Mike Ioannou**  
 Stephanie & Robert Kricun  
 Henry & Laura Lawrence  
 Blake & Marilyn Marles  
 Diane Martin  
 Barbara Martyska & James Lieberman  
 Elizabeth Massa  
 Howard C. McGinn  
 C. Steven & Rill Ann Miller  
 Dr. James K. Miller  
 Jamie Musselman  
 Dr. Christine I. Oaklander  
 Robert Pearce

Ted & Gale Phillips  
 Premiere Placement, Inc.  
 Audrey Gardner Racines  
 Elizabeth & Danny Reinsmith  
 Robert Knox Consulting LLC  
 Robert Ruhe  
**Sara Woodward Schrum**  
 Mark & Deena Scoblionko  
 Roxanne Snyder  
 Kathryn Stagl  
 Phillip & Elizabeth Stelts  
 Shelley Stettner  
 Ronald & Joan Stocker  
 Loretta Tryon  
 Ricardo Viera & Martha Marchena  
 Elizabeth Warsaw  
 Robert Williams  
 Daniel & Carol Shiner Wilson  
 John & Emma Young  
**Friends (\$25+)**  
 Leonard Abrams  
 Margaret R. Adamczyk  
 Antonio & Karen Angello  
 Anonymous  
 Warren & Linda Armstrong  
**Barbara Barker**  
 Sheryl & Rance Block  
 Robert & Susan Boehret  
 Marc Bonanni  
 Llyena Boylan & Donald Spieth  
 Nathan Braunstein  
 Merrill & Nancy Brenner  
**Cathy & Barry Britton**  
 Frederic & Jennifer Brock  
 George & Elizabeth Brower  
 Tom Buchner  
 Robert & Maureen Calder  
 Robin Cook  
 Percy & Anne Daugherty  
 Lynn Davis  
 Amy & Scott Diehl  
 Elsa Dimick  
 Dries Do-It Center  
 Jane Errera  
 John & Maureen Fernbacher  
 Natalie Foster  
 Mike & Patty Foux  
**Jack & Sylvia Gallop**  
 Hon. James Knoll Gardener

John Garrity  
 Joseph & Marlene Gilley  
 Gordon Groff  
 Tom Harbin & Judi Roggie  
 Marna Hayden  
 Peter & Emilie Heesen  
 Peggy Heim  
 William & Cindy Horn  
 Douglas & Susanna Ihlenfeld  
 Paul Keller  
**Barbara Kovitz**  
 Roland & Barbara Kushner  
 Diane LaBelle & Norman Giradot  
 Ursula & Edward Levy  
 Roberta Marcus  
 Kathy McAuley & Michael Much  
 Robert & Linda Mericle  
**Vanessa Moore**  
 Harley Newman  
 Bruce & Karen Nicholson  
 Henry & Phyllis Perkin  
 Marianne & Stephen Phillips  
 Roger & Marie Phillips  
**Jim & Carol Redenbaugh**  
 Alene & Michael Rose  
 Linda A. Rosenfeld  
**Janet Roth**  
 Stephen & Maureen Russell  
 Karen & John Samuels  
 Carl Schietrum  
 Lawrence & Marion Sheinberg  
 Ann Simmons  
 Deborah A. Slahta  
 Gloria Snyder  
 Kurt & J. Lynn Steckley  
 Elizabeth Steltz  
 Michael & Sybil Stershic  
 Elaine & Carl Stolpe  
 Maribeth Sublich  
 Barbara Tracy  
 Sonja & Clint Walker  
 Janice Weston  
 John & Betsy Wetzig  
 Marta Whistler  
 Constance White  
 Paul & Lucille Windt  
 Elmer & Alice Yeakel

*Names of recent donors (as of 2/26/16) are bolded.*

address service requested



**THE INSIDE TRACK**

Kudos to the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival for receiving a Lehigh Valley

Community Foundation grant for the "Where There's a WILL, There's a Way" program, which will provide free and subsidized tickets to the Festival and its educational programs.

The Bach Choir of Bethlehem has formed an alliance with the Bel Canto Children's Chorus and will now provide administrative, operational, and artistic support to the newly christened Bel Canto Children's Chorus of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem.

For a listing of disability-friendly events, go to [ARTSandACCESS.org](http://ARTSandACCESS.org).

**NEW MEMBERS**

Individual

Barbara Barker  
Christie Herbener  
Judy Moeller

Household

Nancy Ruffner  
Jacqueline Schwartz  
Trudy Siak  
Augusta Thomas

Business

Michele & Michael Felix

Business

Montero Violins

**ONE LAST THOUGHT**

Dear Parents,

Now is the time to start planning for a creative outlet for your kids this summer and keep them inspired to learn. The Young at Art expo on March 12th at Penn State Lehigh Valley offers a one-stop shop for exploring a variety of summer enrichment programs. Twenty vendors will be showcasing their arts classes and camps with program information, hands-on arts activities, and performances.

You will be able to witness firsthand how the arts ignite your child's imagination, while they get the chance to imagine what kind of artist they want to be this summer. This inaugural event will be held at Penn State Lehigh Valley, 2809 Saucon Valley Road, Center Valley, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and admission is free and open to the public.

Lunch will be available for purchase, and parking is free. For more information on the day's programming, visit [LVArtsCouncil.org](http://LVArtsCouncil.org).

*Randall Forte*