



Sinfonietta Nova Presents Die Fledermaus

West Windsor-based community orchestra Sinfonietta Nova will present *Die Fledermaus* on January 29 in the West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South at 346 Clarksville Road in Princeton Junction.

Sinfonietta Nova is a gathering of 40-45 local musicians who aim to inspire and engage the audience with innovative programming. They strive to offer unique perspectives on the classic repertoire, and a fresh look at works by living composers.

Members include local musicians and music educators who receive no salaries. The orchestra promotes awareness and appreciation of classical music through orchestral concerts and educational programs in local schools.

Programs aimed at fostering music appreciation are aided by music educators who provide strong ties between the orchestra and local schools. Students have the opportunity to see their teachers perform and the possibility of playing in a concert with their teachers.

The orchestra was founded in 2001 by Gail Hsiu-Wen Lee, artistic director and conductor. Ms. Lee works extensively in North America, Europe and Asia. Among the orchestras with which she has worked are the Seattle Symphony, the Women's Philharmonic (San Francisco), the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra, the Kaohsiung City Symphony (Taiwan), the North Hungarian Symphony Orchestra, Miskolc (Hungary), the Filharmonie Hradec Králové, the Janacek Filharmonie Ostrava, the Silesian Opera Theatre (Czech Republic), and the Varna State Philharmonie (Bulgaria).



In the 2009 production of Die Fledermaus, Anne Fuchs sang the role of Rosalinde, and tenor Aaron Blankfield sang Eisenstein, both were from Westminster Choir College.

Ms. Lee was engaged by New Jersey Music Educators Association in 2007 to conduct the New Jersey All State Orchestra. She also served as a lecturer at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University and has led Rutgers University Sinfonia and Opera at Rutgers in concerts. Ms. Lee holds a Masters Degree in Orchestral Conducting from Northwestern University, studied with Maestro Victor Yampolsky.

In 1995 upon returning to the United States from her post as the Associate Conductor with the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra, she was appointed to the position of Assistant Professor at Alfred University where she served as conductor of the Alfred University Orchestra, a position that she held until returning to New Jersey in 1997. Ms. Lee also served as Artistic Director and Conductor of the New Brunswick Chamber Orchestra until 2005.

Tickets for *Die Fledermaus* on January 29 are \$10-\$15. For more information and to purchase tickets, please contact 785-1812, tickets@sinfoniettanova.org or visit sinfoniettanova.org. (wv)

African American Read-In

The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and the Black Caucus of the NCTE sponsor a National African American Read-In during February. Their goal is to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month activities.

Schools, churches, libraries, bookstores, community and professional organizations and interested individuals are invited to host a Read-In. Each host is then asked to submit a Report Card after each event. The report cards are used to compute the number of participating readers each year. Individual report cards are then converted into an annual report card and database on the African American Read-in.

A Read-in can be as simple as bringing together friends to share a book authored by an African-American writer, or as elaborate as arranging public readings and media presentations that feature African-American writers.

The NCTE has an African-American Read-In Packet that includes a News Release, Host Invitation, and information on how to submit the Report Card. There is also a comprehensive NCTE-recommended list of books by African-American writers for all ages, and a supplemental list for young children.

Over the last 21 years, more than one million readers of all ethnic groups from the United States, the District of Columbia, the West Indies, African countries, and more have participated.

For more information, please call 800-369-6283, ext. 3632. To download a packet, reading list or access a host report card, please visit ncte.org.

Black History Month Literary Contests For Students

Minorities in the Profession Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association sponsor a Black History Month literary contest for high school students. The contest is designed to enhance interest in the practice of law by minorities and to encourage excellence in writing. Applicants are requested to discuss a topic of current interest in the news. Application deadline is early February.

For more information or to receive the rules, please call (732) 937-7540, email twilson@njsba.com, or visit njsba.com.

Ty Howard is a youth motivational speaker who challenges his audience members to strive for greatness. He holds a literary contest for public or private school students in grades 6-12. Applicants are requested to write an essay explaining the significance of one of the quotations listed in the guidelines.

Entries are due January 20. For more information, guidelines and entry form, please call 800-385-3177 or visit dynamicyouthspeaker.com/blackhistory_writing_contest.htm.

The Choral Arts Society of Washington hosts a writing competition for students in grades K-12. Students are asked to respond in poetic form to one of four writing prompts. They are encouraged to use their knowledge of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life, the Civil Rights Movement, and current events as inspiration for their writing.

Entries are due March 11. For more information, please call (202) 244-3669 or visit choralarts.org/MLK-Celebration-Community-Initiative/Writing-Competition.aspx.

Mercer Dance Ensemble Still Fresh After 30 Years

Mercer Dance Ensemble (MDE) is a lyrical modern dance company under the direction of Janell Byrne. The company uses contemporary dance forms to interpret everyday movement. They endeavor to teach this idea to students and audience members in a lighthearted way.

MDE was formed in October 1981 with its original focus on modern dance. For three decades, the ensemble has been expanding its repertoire of dance styles to broaden the knowledge and range of its dancers and help them look into and feel movement deeper and differently.

Artistic Director, Janell Byrne is a professional dancer, teacher, and choreographer. She has worked with The Princeton Ballet for many years and teaches dance at Mercer County Community College (MCCC) and The Mercer County High School for the Performing Arts.

MDE holds open auditions in September for anyone interested in joining the multi-culturally diverse troupe. MDE offers members the opportunity to learn contemporary dance styles and to develop as artisans. This experience is then enhanced when students and dancers take their knowledge to the community in lectures and demonstrations.

MDE has many professional and semi-professional dancers. Some come from the MCCC dance program, which offers jazz, ballet, and modern dance on all levels. MCCC dance majors can earn associate's degree, then transfer as juniors to a four-year college. Students can also earn an AFA degree in the performing arts in which they combine conservatory training in theatre, dance and music with education in the liberal arts and sciences.

Ms. Byrne, a native of California, is a former student of Stanley Holden and Margaret Hills in Los Angeles. A graduate of the Juilliard School, she studied with Alfredo Corvino. In addition to Mercer, Byrne has taught at Princeton University, The College of New Jersey, Princeton Ballet School, Lawrenceville School, and the Anthony Rabara Pilates Studio.



MDE dancers, left to right, Hanna Bruskin, DeHaven Rogers, Yvonne Clark, Brianne Scott and Ian Conley.

The Student Dance Concert will be on December 3 at 8 pm, and December 4 at 2 pm in the Studio Theatre, CM 122, Mercer County Community College at 1200 Old Trenton Road in West Windsor. Tickets are \$10-\$14. For more information, please call 570-3333 or visit kelseytheatre.net. For more information about MCCC Dance, please visit [\(ww\)](http://mccc.edu)

The Arts at TASK



Ron "Nikon Ron" Carter works in Photoshop with digitized photographs.

Since 2001, A-TEAM artists have been creating imaginative, original works of art from materials that are donated, found, gleaned, or traded. These self-taught artists work in a variety of media including paint, pencil, ink, pastel, collage, photography and found object construction. Their powerful work illustrates an array of subjects from deep inner emotion to everyday life and whimsy.

A-TEAM Artists of Trenton was formed as a cooperative by clients of the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK). Members meet from 10:30 am to 3 pm on Tuesdays to work on and discuss their projects, plan exhibits, and host visits from local artists. A-TEAM work is on display and for sale in the TASK gallery at 72-1/2 Escher Street. Group projects include note cards and posters designed by members that are on sale at local galleries, museums, and the soup kitchen. Proceeds all sales go directly to the artists.

Rotating and permanent exhibits of A-TEAM work is on display at several companies around Trenton. Center for Health Care Strategies hosts a rotating exhibit at 200 American Metro Boulevard #119. Planned Parenthood at 941 White Horse Avenue #5 has a permanent display of more than 20 pieces. A-TEAM art is considered a well suited addition to the Your ReSource facility because of the artists' use of recycled and found materials. Your ReSource is a nonprofit that promotes reuse and recycling. They are located at 8 Industry Court in Ewing and can be reached at 530-1513.

ArtWorks hosts an A-TEAM exhibit every December at 19 Everett Alley in Trenton. **The Nature of Things** can be viewed on Tuesdays 12-8 pm, Thursdays 4-8 pm, and Saturdays 10 am-4 pm. For directions, please call 394-9436 or visit artworkstrenton.org.

The talents of TASK clients don't stop at the visual arts. The SHARE Project was established in 2009 to nurture their literary and musical interests. Participants meet on Thursdays from 11:30 am to 1 pm to write poetry, songs, short stories, and plays, and share and critique each other's work. Members also benefit from workshops presented by local performing arts professionals.

The FunkTASKtics band grew out of the Monday practice sessions. Musicians are invited to play keyboard, bass, drums, electric/acoustic guitars, and a number of rhythm instruments. Sessions start at 11:30 am with a structured jam, similar to an open mic, then move into regular band practice. FunkTASKtics play original pieces or cover songs, everything from folk to funk.

TASK is committed to assisting people in gaining self-sufficiency. Self expression through arts programs helps patrons gain confidence and build self-esteem. Anyone interested in participating in the arts programs, having a guided tour of the gallery or listening to the band is welcome during their meetings.

For more information about the A-TEAM of Trenton and SHARE program, please call 695-5456 or visit trentonsoupkitchen.org.

AAPSG Celebrates MLK

African-American Parent Support Group (AAPSG) will be commemorating the birthday of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 17 at 2 pm in the Mercer County Library. The program will feature a keynote speaker, a children's activity celebrating Dr. King's life and legacy, and a reception.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of AAPSG's advocacy on behalf of children in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District (WWPRSD). AAPSG supports African American students by enhancing positive self-esteem and helping the school district to maximize students' educational potential.

The AAPSG has developed year-round programs to bridge the achievement gap, such as summer math enrichment, fall family reading night, back to school nights, college fairs, Striving for Excellence awards and recognition ceremony, and program on balancing athletics & academics.

They work to build parental activism and advocacy; celebrate diversity and enhance cultural understanding in the community; increase the number of African-American faculty and administrators in policy-making positions in the WWPRSD; and promote leadership development programs for parents, students, and alumni.

For more information about AAPSG or their MLK event, please email wwpaapsg@gmail.com or visit west-windsor-plainsboro.k12.nj.us/visitors/community_links/a_a_p_s_g/. The Mercer County Library is located at 333 North Post Road in Princeton Junction. The library can be reached at 799-0462 or mcl.org. (wv)

Call For Artists

Mercer County Artists, the annual juried exhibit of artists who live, work or study in Mercer County, is seeking submissions. Artists are requested to deliver their work to The Gallery at Mercer County Community College on the second floor of the Communications Building at 1200 Old Trenton Road in West Windsor in mid-February. Accepted artwork will be on display during March. For more information or to receive a prospectus, please call 570-3588 or visit mccc.edu/community_gallery.

Aspirations is a literary/visual arts magazine published by Mercer County Community College. High school teachers in Mercer County are invited to submit their students' original art, poetry and prose for possible publication. A recognition program to acknowledge the contributors and their brilliance will be held on April 12 at 6:30 pm. Entries are due January 24. For more information, please call 570-3844 or visit mccc.edu/community_aspirations.shtml.

Dear Friends,

In this edition of our Culture & Heritage newsletter, you'll find a rich assortment of cultural events, displays, tours, and shows happening across the County throughout the winter. Whether these events are themed around the holidays or are simply an enriching arts or cultural fair, I encourage you to take a look and enjoy Mercer County's unique offerings.

The winter holidays are a very special time for nearly every tradition and background among those who live in our great county. At this time of year, we are reminded that although we each have our own ways of celebrating culture and renewing bonds, we are unified in the celebration of holidays and spending time with those closest to us.

The opportunities to celebrate this season in new and refreshing ways are many. From traditional favorite winter pastimes such as making wreaths and giving gifts, to attending holiday-themed plays or watching the annual re-enactment of Washington crossing the Delaware, please allow us to help you make this holiday season memorable.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and for a winter filled with new experiences.



Sincerely,

Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

Silver Jubilee Cultural Dance Celebration

India Foundation of Metropolitan Princeton (IFMP) will present their 25th Annual Cultural Show on December 4 at 3 pm. This show celebrates the culture of India through dance, music, fashion, and food.

South Asian-themed dancing will feature artists of all ages performing dances ranging from traditional to modern Bollywood beats. Indian classical choreographers from all over New Jersey have designed performances for IFMP members.

IFMP was established to promote Indian culture and to be a cultural link to younger generations. Their programs give young members the opportunity to express themselves in an environment that fosters cultural identity. Indian traditions are also celebrated in such public events as a Holi Celebration, Indian Independence day, Navratri Garba Nights, and Spiritual Event, with Hatha Yoga and Laughter yoga session.

The colorful festival of Holi is presented on Phalgun Purnima in the spring. Holi celebrates the triumph of good over bad and bridges the social gap to renew sweet relationships. On this day, people hug and wish each other Happy Holi. IFMP hosts an event where friends and family throw colorful dyed powder and liquid at each other.

During October the Hindu festival of Navratri is celebrated. Nav means nine and

ratri means night. Three days are dedicated to Goddess Durga (Warrior Goddess), whose various incarnations, Kumari, Parvati and Kali, represent the different classes of womanhood—child, young girl and mature woman. Three days are dedicated to Goddess Lakshmi (Goddess of Wealth and Prosperity), dressed in gold and mounted on an owl and three are dedicated to Goddess Saraswati (Goddess of Knowledge).



IFMP Celebration features dancers in colorful, elaborate costumes.

Sweetmeats are prepared for the celebrations. Children and adults dress up and perform in new brightly colored dresses.

The Cultural Dance Celebration will be on December 4 at 3 pm in the Robbinsville High School at 155 Robbinsville-Edinburg Road. Following the show an Indian vegetarian dinner will be served to all guests. Tickets are \$20-\$30. For more information, please call 297-7242 or visit ifmpnj.org. (wv)



Calendar of Events

MCC&HC cannot be responsible for errors or omissions. Call ahead to confirm times and prices. Unless otherwise noted, the area code is 609. For an expanded listing, visit nj.gov/counties/mercer/commissions/cultural/newsletter.html. Deadline for spring issue, which covers March, April, and May is January 12, 2011.

Art Happenings

Princeton Photography Club meetings, 2nd Wed 7:30 pm, D & R Greenway Land Trust, One Preservation Place, Princeton. (732) 422-3676; princetonphotoclub.org. (wv)

Daniel Thomas watercolors, Dec 1-31, West Windsor Library, 333 North Post Road. 799-0462; mcl.org. (wv)

Artists' Apiary, Dec 5, Jan 9, Feb 13, 10 am-1 pm, Camillo's Cafe, Princeton Shopping Center, 301 North Harrison Street. \$40. 252-0608; camilloscafe.net. (wv)

Kinetic Sculpture Workshop, Dec 11, 10:30 am, GFS, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. \$55. Register 586-0616; groundsforsculpture.org. (wv)

Ecological Nations lecture, Dec 1, 6 pm, Princeton University School of Architecture, Betts Auditorium. 258-3741; soa.princeton.edu.

Atelier Tour, Dec 8, 5:30 pm, Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. \$20. Register 586-0616; groundsforsculpture.org. (wv)

Larry Parsons, Rhoda Kassof-Isaac photos, thru Dec 19, Gallery 14, 14 Mercer Street, Hopewell. 333-8511; photogallery14.com.

Sauce for the Goose, Dec 3-21, Arts Council of Princeton, 102 Witherspoon Street. 924-8777; artscouncilofprinceton.org. (wv)

Winter in Art, thru Dec 30, 925 Alexander Road, Princeton Junction. 919-1982; westwindsorarts.org. (wv)

Nature through Childrens' Eyes, Jan 10-Feb 18, D&R Greenway, One Preservation Place, Princeton. 924-4646; drgreenway.org. (wv)

Michael Graves paintings, Jan 27-Feb 24, Rider University Art Gallery, 2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrence. Reception Jan 27, 5-7 pm; Artist talk Feb 3, 7 pm. 895-5588; rider.edu. (wv)

Anne Reid Gallery

Bette Blank: One Thousand Words, thru Dec 17.

Vision of Princeton University 2016, Jan 11-Feb 4.

Carol Hanson & Stacie Speer Scott, Feb 16-March 11.

Anne Reid Gallery, Princeton Day School, Great Road, Princeton. 924-6700; pds.org.

Gallery at Chapin School

Tom Birkner, Nancy Bentley paintings, thru Dec 11.

Jeffery Genthner Paintings, wood carving, Dec 29-Jan 29. Reception Jan 12, 5-7 pm.

Shelley Thorstensen, paintings & prints, Jan 29-Feb 26. Reception Feb 2, 5-7 pm.

The Gallery at Chapin School, 4101 Princeton Pike, Princeton. 924-7206; chapinschool.org. (wv)

Mariboe Gallery Receptions

Faculty Show, Dec 3, 6:30-8 pm. Gallery talk 7:15 pm.

Naomi Reis, Jan 14, 6:30-8 pm, Gallery talk 7:15 pm.

Winter Term, Feb 23, 6:30-8 pm.

Mariboe Gallery, Peddie School, 201 South Main Street, Hightstown. 944-7551; peddie.org/mariboegallery. (wv)

Ellarslie Mansion

Ceramics Invitational, thru Jan 2.

Clifford Ward & Tom Chesar, Jan 8-Feb 27. Reception Jan 15, 7-9 pm.

Trenton Pottery Artists, Jan 29-May 8. Reception Jan 29, 7-9 pm.

Trenton City Museum, Cadwalader Park, Parkside Avenue, Trenton. 989.3632; ellarslie.org. (wv)

Princeton University

Art Museum

Art for Families: Art Tales: Stories from Around the World, Dec 4, 10:30 am

Gauguin' Prints, thru Jan 2

Nobody's Property: Art, Land, Space, thru Feb 20

Midcentury, thru Feb 20.

Princeton University Art Museum, McCormick Hall. 258-3788; artmuseum.princeton.edu. (wv)

Library

Straight Through: Magellan to Cook and the Pacific, thru Jan

Money on Paper, thru Jan

John F. Kennedy, thru Jan 31.

Princeton University Library, Firestone Library, One Washington Road. 258-1470; library.princeton.edu. (wv)

Benefits

I Am Trenton Reception, Dec 5, 6-9 pm, Artworks Gallery, 19 Everetts Alley, Trenton. 394.9436 artworkstrenton.org. (wv)

East Mets Fête Gala, Feb 5, 6 pm-12 am, Princeton University Art Museum, McCormick Hall. Benefits Education and Academic Programming. 258-3788; artmuseum.princeton.edu. (wv)

Dance

MDE Student Dance Concert, Dec 3, 8 pm; Dec 4, 2 pm, Studio Theatre, CM 122, MCCC, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. \$10-\$14. 570-3333; kelseytheatre.net. (wv)

Pennington Dance Performance, Dec 3, 6:45 pm, Pennington Presbyterian Church, 13 South Main Street. 737-7596; penningtondance.com.

Nutcracker, Dec 4, 7 pm; Dec 5, 1 pm, Grover Middle School, Southfield Road, West Windsor. Dance Corner. \$8-\$9. 799 9677; thedancecorner.org.

Roxey Ballet Nutcracker, Dec 4, 3 pm & 7 pm; Dec 5, 1 pm & 4 pm, College of New Jersey, Kendall Hall, 2000 Pennington Road, Ewing. \$14-\$50. 397-7616; roxeyballet.com. (wv)

ARB Nutcracker, Dec 11, 1 pm & 4 pm, Trenton War Memorial, Memorial Drive. \$24-\$39. 984.8400; thewarmemorial.com. (wv)

McCarter Theater

Princeton University Collaborative Dance Thesis, Dec 3-4, 8 pm.

Ballet Theater of Russia Swan Lake, Jan 23, 3 pm. \$44-\$55.

Tango Fire of Buenos Aires, Jan 28, 7:30 pm. \$41-\$52.

Bale Folclorico Da Bahia, Feb 5, 7:30 pm. \$44-\$58.

Princeton University Spring Dance Festival, Feb 18-20, 8 pm.

McCarter Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. 258-2787 mccarter.org; princeton.edu/arts. (wv)

Dancing

Scottish Dancing, Mon, 7:30 pm, Meadow Lakes, Etra Road, Hightstown. \$3. 584-9764; rscds-nj.org.

American Ballroom Dancing, Wed 7-9 pm; Fri 8-11 pm, 569 Klockner Road, Hamilton, \$10. 931-0149; americanballroomco.com.

Folk Dancing, Tue 7-9 pm, Riverside School, 58 Riverside Avenue, Princeton. \$3. 655-0758; princetonfolkdance.org.

Princeton Country Dancers, Contra, Wed 7:40-10:30 pm; 4th Sat 8-11 pm; **English Country**, 2nd Sat, 8-11 pm; Suzanne Patterson Center, 45 Stockton Street. \$4-\$8. 924-6763; princetoncountrydancers.org.

Latin Dancing, Fri 8 pm, Tavern on the Lake, 101 Main Street, Hightstown. 800-727-3548; tavernonthelake.net.

Folk Dancing, Fri 8-11 pm, Susanne Patterson Center, 45 Stockton Street,

Princeton. \$5. 655-0758; princeton-folkdance.org.

Black Cat Argentine Tango, Fri 8 pm, Suzanne Patterson Center, Monument Drive, Princeton. \$12. 273-1378; theblackcattango.com.

Dance Improv, 2nd Fri 8-10:15 pm, All Saints Church, 16 All Saints Road, Princeton. \$15. 924-3767; danceimprov.com.

Film

Movies for Adults, Sun 2 pm, Ewing Library, 61 Scotch Road. 882-3130; mcl.org. (wv)

Radical Reels, Dec 3, 7:30, McCosh 10, Princeton University campus. \$10-\$15. 258-9220; princeton.edu/utickets.

Visions of Light, Art thru Film, Dec 9, 7:30 pm, Arts Council of Princeton, 102 Witherspoon Street. 924-8777; artscouncilofprinceton.org. (wv)

La prima cosa bella 2009, Jan 23; **Io, loro e Lara** 2009, Feb 20, 3 pm, Dorothea's House, 120 John Street, Princeton. 924-9713; doroth-eashouse.org.

History Activities

Festival of Trees, Dec 1-Jan 9, 10 am-3 pm, Morven Museum, 55 Stockton Street, Princeton. Preview party Dec 5, 5-7 pm. \$5-\$6. Register 924-8144; morven.org. (wv)

Blacks on Battlefront & Post-Revolutionary War, Dec 2-20, D&R Greenway, One Preservation Place, Princeton. Reception Dec 2, 6-8 pm. 924-4646; drgreenway.org. (wv)

Camden & Amboy Railroad meeting, Dec 3, 7:30 pm, Hightstown Freight Station, 164 North Main Street. trainweb.org/camdenandamboyrhistoricalgroup.

Lantern Walking Tours, Dec 17, 6:30 pm & 7 pm, Washington Crossing State Park, Route 546, Titusville. \$8. Register 737-2515; state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/washcross.html.

Crossing Re-Enactment, Dec 25, 1 pm, Washington Crossing State Park, Route 29 & 546, Titusville. 737-0623.

Patriot's Week, Dec 26-31, Downton Trenton. 877-PAT-WEEK; patriotsweek.com.

Trenton High School Memorabilia, thru Dec 30, Ellarslie, Cadwalader Park, Parkside Avenue, Trenton. 989-1191; ellarslie.org. (wv)

Black History Month Program, Feb 25, 7:30 pm, WW-Plainsboro High School South, 346 Clarksville Road, Princeton Junction. ww-p.org. (wv)

John Abbott House, Sat-Sun noon-5 pm, 2200 Kuser Road, Hamilton. 585-1686; hamiltonnj.com.

Brearley House, 1st Sat, 10 am-noon, Meadow Lane, Lawrenceville. Lawrence Historical Society. 895-1728; thelhs.org. (wv)

Civil War/Native American Museum, 2nd & 3rd weekends, 1-4 pm, 2202 Kuser Road, Hamilton. 585-8900; campolden.org.

Drumthwacket Tour, Wed noon, 354 Stockton Street, Princeton. \$5. Register 683-0057; drumthwacket.org.

Morven Museum Tours, Wed-Fri 11-2 pm; Sat-Sun 12-2 pm; **Tea**, Wed 1 pm, 55 Stockton Street, Princeton. \$5-\$15. 924-8144; morven.org.

National Guard Militia Museum, Tue & Fri, 9 am-3 pm, Lawrenceville Armory, 151 Eggert Crossing Road. 530-6802; state.nj.us/military/museum.

Schenck House, Holiday Event, Dec 11-12, 1-4 pm; **Historical Society Meeting & Grant Talk**, Jan 3, 7 pm; **House Tour**, Feb 13 (snow date Feb 20), 1-4 pm; **Dressing Up to Visit Grandma exhibit**, 50 Southfield Road, West Windsor. 799-1278.

State House Tours, Mon-Fri 10 am-3 pm; Sat 12-3 pm, 125 West State Street, Trenton. 633-2709; njleg.state.nj.us. (wv)

Princeton Historical Society

Walking Tour, Dec 1, 2-4 pm. \$4-\$7.

Emergency! Princeton's First Responders, thru Jan 17.

Holiday Craft: Gift Cards & Thank-You Notes, Dec 20, 10 am.

Craft: Noise Makers, Dec 31, 10 am.

Battle of Princeton Program, Jan 2, 1 pm. \$4-\$5.

The Historical Society of Princeton, Bainbridge House, 158 Nassau Street, Princeton. Register for programs 921-6748, ext 100; princetonhistory.org.

William Trent House

Evolution of the Gingerbread Man, Dec 4, 2 pm.

Holiday Open House, Dec 5, 1-4 pm.

Sachet Making, Dec 11, 12:30-4 pm.

18th Century Holiday Traditions, Dec 18, 12:30-4 pm.

Harpicord & 18th Century card games, Dec 26-31, 12:30-4 pm.

Trent House, 15 Market Street, Trenton. 12:30-4 pm. Free w/food donation for Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. 989-3027; williamtrenthouse.org.

Holiday/Heritage

Holiday Open House, Wed 11 am - 2 pm, Drumthwacket, 354 Stockton Street, Princeton. \$5. Register 683-0057; drumthwacket.org.

Festival of Trees, Dec 1-Jan 9, 10 am-3 pm, Morven Museum, 55 Stockton Street, Princeton. \$5. 924-8144; morven.org.

Christmas Carol Festival, Dec 2, 7:30-9 pm, Church of St. David, 1 New Village Road, West Windsor. 275-7111; stdavidtheking.com.

Holiday Walk, Dec 3, 6 pm, Main Street, Pennington. Pennington Dance performs, 6:45 pm. 737-7765; penningtonboro.org.

St. Nick's Bazaar, Preview, Dec 3, 7-9 pm; **Sale**, Dec 4, 9 am-1 pm, 33 Mercer Street, Princeton. 924-2277; trinityprinceton.org.

Christmas on the Farm, Dec 4, 10 am-4 pm, Howell Farm, Valley Road, Titusville. 737-3299; howellfarm.org.

Voices Chorale Holiday Concert, Dec 4, 10:30 am & 12:30 pm, Music Together, 225 Pennington-Hopewell Road, Hopewell. \$10-\$25. 397-0756; voiceschorale.org. (wv)

Sauce for the Goose, Dec 4-19, Arts Council of Princeton, 102 Witherspoon Street. Mon-Wed & Fri 9 am-5 pm; Thu 10 am-8 pm; Sat 10 am-4 pm. 924-8777; artscouncilofprinceton.org. (wv)

Mill Hill House Tour, Dec 4 (snow date Dec 5), 12-4 pm, Artworks, 19 Everetts Alley, Trenton. 656-9277; trentonmillhill.org.

Santa & Snowy Arrive, Dec 4, 12:30-3 pm, Princeton Shopping Center, 301 North Harrison Street. Craft & Concert. 921-6234; princetonshoppingcenter.com. (wv)

Holiday in the Village, Dec 5, 3-5 pm, Lawrenceville Main Street, Weeden Park, Route 206. 219-9300; lawrencevillemainstreet.com. (wv)

Roxey Ballet Nutcracker, Dec 4, 3 pm & 7 pm; Dec 5, 1 pm & 4 pm, College of New Jersey, Kendall Hall, 2000 Pennington Road, Ewing. \$14-\$50. 397-7616; roxeyballet.com. (wv)

Cultural Program, Dec 4, 7 pm, Princeton India Foundation, Robbinsville High School, 155 Robbinsville Edinburg Road. 799-5675; ifmpnj.org. (wv)

Westminster Bell Choir, Dec 4, 8 pm, Bristol Chapel, 101 Walnut Avenue, Princeton. \$20. 921-2663; rider.edu.

Rider University Chorale, Dec 5, 3 pm, Rider University, Gill Chapel, 2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville. 895-5781; rider.edu. (wv)

World Holidays Bravura Philharmonic, Dec 5, 7 pm, Princeton Alliance Church, 20 Schalks Crossing Road, Plainsboro. \$15-\$25. 790-9559; bravuraphil.org. (wv)

Natural Holiday Gifts, Dec 6-11, Sale Day, Dec 12, 12-3 pm, Greenway, One Preservation Place, Princeton. 924-4646; drgreenway.org. (wv)

Kosher Cafe East, Dec 8, 12:30 pm, Beth El Synagogue, 50 Maple Stream Road, East Windsor. Ages 60+ . \$5. Register 987-8100; jfcsonline.org. (wv)

Opera NJ: Holiday Fare, Dec 8, 7 pm, Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. 586-0616; groundsforsculpture.org. (wv)

Tree of Light, Dec 10, 6:30-9:30 pm, The Lewis School, Nassau Club, 6 Mercer Street, Princeton. 924-8120; lewisschool.org.

Hopewell Valley Chorus, Dec 10, 8 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church at Washington Crossing, 268 Route 546, Titusville. \$8-\$15. 737-3177 princetonol.com/groups/hvchorus.

Wreath Making, Dec 11, 1-3:30 pm, Nature Center, Washington Crossing State Park, Route 546, Titusville. Register 737-0623; state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/washcros.html.

Holiday Happenings, Dec 11, 4-7 pm, LMS Artists Network, 2683 Main Street, Lawrenceville. (609) 219-9300; lmsartistsnetwork.com.

Holiday Workshop, Dec 11, 1 pm; **Winter Tales w/D.J. Haslett**, 3 pm, Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. 586-0616; groundsforsculpture.org. (wv)

Princeton Brass, Dec 11, 7 pm, Rider University, Yvonne Theater, 2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville. 896-5303; rider.edu. (wv)

Family Holiday Show, Dec 11-12, 8 pm, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front & Montgomery streets, Trenton. 392-0766; passagetheatre.org. (wv)

NJ Gay Men's Chorus: Stories from the Hearth, Dec 12, 4 pm, Princeton Unitarian Church, 50 Cherry Hill Road. \$15-\$25. 732-579-8449; 732-579-8449. (wval)

Christmas Open House, Dec 12-13, 11 am-3 pm, Windsor Farms, 1202 Windsor Road. 443-9379; windsorfarmandmarket.com.

Menorah Lighting, Dec 14, 5 pm, Palmer Square, Princeton. 800-644-3489; palmersquare.com. (wv)

Princeton Pro Musica, Dec 17, 8 pm, Richardson Auditorium, Alexander Hall, Princeton University campus. \$25-\$55. 258-5000; princeton.edu/richaud. (wv)

Natural Ornaments, Dec 18, 1-3 pm, Nature Center, Washington Crossing State Park, Route 546, Titusville. Register 737-0623; state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/washcros.html.

Skate w/Santa, Dec 18, 5 pm, Mercer County Park Ice Rink, Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. \$5-\$7, free skate rental. 371-1669; mercercounty.org.

Christmas Night Crossing Lecture, Dec 18, 2 pm, Washington Crossing State Park, Route 546, Titusville. Register 737-0623; state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/washcros.html.

Christmas Pageant, Dec 19, 4-5 pm, Cathedral, 33 Mercer Street, Princeton. 924-2277; trinityprinceton.org. (wv)

American Boychoir, Dec 19, 4 pm, Richardson Auditorium, Alexander Hall, Princeton University campus. \$20-\$42. 258-5000; princeton.edu/richaud. (wv)

Santa's Arrival, Dec 24, 11 am, Princeton Airport, Route 206. Bring child's gift with name clearly labelled

& unwrapped gift for Mercer County Board of Social Services distribution. 921-3100; princetonairport.com.

Caroling, Dec 24, 5:15 pm, Palmer Square, Nassau Street, Princeton. 924-8777; artscouncilofprinceton.org.

Crossing Reenactment, Dec 25, 1 pm, Routes 29 & 546, Titusville.

Hogmanay Bonfire, Dec 31, 6 pm, Lawrence Historical Society, Brearley House, Meadow Lane, Lawrenceville. 895-1728; thelhs.org. (wv)

MLK Celebration, Jan 17, 2-4 pm, West Windsor Library, 333 North Post Road, Princeton Junction. ww-p.org.

Dorothea's House

Polenta Festa, Dec 5, 5 pm.

Emotions of the Risorgimento with Silvana Patriarca, Jan 9, 5 pm.

The Venus Fixers, Ilaria Dagnini Brey, author, Feb 13, 5 pm.

Dorothea's House, 120 John Street, Princeton. 924-9713; dorotheashouse.org.

German American Society

Christmas Show, Dec 3, 6-10 pm, Dinner 4-5:30. \$16-\$20. 396-8332.

New Year's Eve with The Windjammers, Dec 31, Dinners 7. \$50-\$55. Register by Dec 16: 490-0943.

German American Club, 215 Uncle Pete's Road, Yardville. 585-5200; gakclub.org.

Literary Events

NJ Writers' Society, 4th Tue, 6 pm, Hopewell Library, 245 Pennington-Titusville Road, Pennington. 737-2610; mcl.org. (wv)

Delaware Valley Poets, 3rd Wed, 7:30 pm, Lawrence Library, 2751 Brunswick Pike; **Readings**, Jan 10, Feb 14, 7:30 pm, Barnes & Noble, Princeton Market-fair, 3535 Route 1 South. 203-6800; delawarevalleypoets.com. (wv)

Scrabble, Fri 6:30 pm, Classics Used & Rare Books, 117 South Warren Street, Trenton. 394-8400.

Anita Shreve, author of Rescue, Dec 2, 7 pm, Barnes & Noble, MarketFair, 3535 US Route 1, West Windsor. 716-1570; bn.com. (wv)

Creative Writing Workshops, Dec 4, 11, 10 am-5:30 pm, WW Arts Center, 925 Alexander Road, Princeton Junction. \$25-\$45. Ages 6-18. 919-1982; westwindsorarts.org. (wv)

Time for Books, Dec 8, Jan 12, Feb 9, 9:30 am, YWCA Princeton, 921-7532; ywcaprinceton.org. (wv)

African-American Book Club, Dec 9, 7 pm, YWCA Princeton, 59 Paul Robeson Place. 497-2100; ywcaprinceton.org. (wv)

Student Reading, Dec 15, 4:30 pm, Lewis Center, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. 258-1500; princeton.edu/arts.

Socrates Cafe, Dec 6, 7 pm, West Windsor Library, 333 North Post

Road, Princeton Junction. Register 799-0462; mcl.org. (wv)

Musical Performances

Edward Boutross Jazz, Thu 6:30 pm, Santino's Ristorante, 240 Route 130 South, Robbinsville. 443-5600; santinosristorante.com.

Handbell Chorus, Thu 7:30 pm, Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton. 202-957-8466; princetonchapelchoir.com.

Cafe Improv, 4th Sat 9 pm, Princeton Arts Council, 102 Witherspoon Street. \$2. 924-8777; cafeimprov.com. (wv)

Piano Teachers' Forum, Dec 3, Jan 7, Feb 4, 9 am, Jacobs Music, Route 1, Lawrence. \$10. 921-1510; pianoteachersforum.org.

Westminster Conservatory, Dec 3, Feb 11, 12 pm, Rider University Art Gallery, Student Center, 2083 Lawrenceville Road. 921-2663; rider.edu.

Voices Chorale, Dec 4, 10:30 am & 12:30 pm, Music Together, 225 Pennington-Hopewell Road, Hopewell. 637-9383; voiceschorale.org. (wv)

WWII Music w/Ted Otten & Michael Kownacky, Dec 3, 2-4 pm, West Windsor Senior Center, 271 Clarksville Road. 799-9068. (wv)

Rider University Band, Dec 6, 7:30 pm, Yvonne Theater, Lawrenceville. 896-5303; rider.edu. (wv)

Princeton Day School Concerts: Choral, Dec 8; **Instrumental**, Dec 13; **Winter**, Dec 15, 7:30, McAneny Theater, 850 Great Road, Princeton. 924-6700; pds.org. (wv)

Folk Music: Bob Zentz, Dec 10; **Diana Jones**, Jan 21; **Scott Ainslie**, Feb 18, 8 pm, Christ Church, 50 Walnut Lane, Princeton. 799-0944; \$20. princetonfolk.org. (wv)

Bravura Symphony, Dec 11, 8 pm; **Princeton Symphony**, Dec 12, 3 pm, WW Arts Center, 952 Alexander Road, Princeton Junction. \$8-\$15. 919-1982; westwindsorarts.org. (wv)

Tone Rangers, Dec 11, 7 pm, Halo Pub, 4617 Nottingham Way, Hamilton. 586-1811.

Capital Singers, Dec 12, 3 pm, Trenton Marriott, 1 Lafayette Street. 620-0160; capitalsingers.org. (wv)

Free Concerts: Choral Concert, Dec 14, 7:30 pm; **Jazz Band**, Dec 15, 8 pm; **Symphonic Band**, Dec 22, 8 pm. MCCC, Kelsey Theatre, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. 570-3735; mccc.edu.

John & Carm, Dec 15, 6 pm, Fedora Café, 2633 Main Street, Lawrenceville. 895-0844.

Pat Dinizio & Sun Palace, Dec 18, 8 pm, WW Arts Center, 952 Alexander Road, Princeton Junction. \$18-\$20. 919-1982; westwindsorarts.org. (wv)

Voices Chorale Poland & France Christmas, Dec 18, 8 pm, St. Paul Church, 214 Nassau Street, Princeton. \$10-\$45. 397-0756; voiceschorale.org.

WPRB 24-Hour Christmas Show, Dec 24-25, 6 pm, 103.3 FM. wprb.com.

Princeton Symphony, Jan 16, 4:30 pm, Wolfensohn Hall, Institute for Advanced Study, Einstein Drive, Princeton. 497-0020; princetonosymphony.org.

Kinnara Ensemble, Jan 22, 7 pm, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 79 One Mile Road Extension, East Windsor. \$10. kinnaraensemble.org.

Dryden Ensemble, Jan 22, 8 pm, Miller Chapel, Princeton Theological Seminary, Mercer Street. \$35. 466-8541; drydenensemble.org.

Steinway Musicale, Jan 23, Feb 20, 3 pm, Jacobs Music, 2540 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville. \$18. 434-0222; princetonol.com/groups/steinway.

Young Artists Concerto, Feb 16, 9 am-5 pm, Jacobs Music Center, 3250 Route 1, Lawrenceville. 790-9559; bravuraphil.org.

Princeton Singers: Remembrance, Feb 19, 5:30 pm & 8 pm; Feb 20, 5:30 pm, Art Museum, Princeton University. \$15. 258-3788; princetonartmuseum.org. (wv)

Winter Concert, Feb 22, 7:30 pm, Peddie School, 200 Main Street, Hightstown. peddie.org. (wv)

Concerts at the Crossing

John Lennon Legacy, Dec 4, 7:30. \$25.
Susan Werner. Jan 8. \$23.

Eilen Jewell & Chris Chadwick, Feb 12, 7:30 pm. \$5-\$20.

Concerts at the Crossing, Unitarian Church, Route 546, Titusville. 510-6278; concertsatthecrossing.com. (wv)

Lawrenceville School

Jazz Concert, Dec 5, 7 pm.

Midday Music, Dec 10, 12:30 pm.

Lessons & Carols, Dec 15, 5:30 pm.

Allegro Show, Jan 14, 7 pm.

Midday Music, Jan 21, 12:30 pm.

Winter Gathering, Jan 28, 8 pm.

Student Recital, Feb 6, 7 pm.

Midday Music, Feb 25, 12:30 pm.

The Lawrenceville School, 2500 Main Street, Route 206, Lawrenceville. 896-0400; lawrenceville.org.

Patriot's Theatre

ABBA Mania, Dec 3, 8 pm. \$25-\$55.

Celtic Tenors w/Greater Trenton Symphony, Dec 4, 7:30 pm. \$19-\$42.

Cheryl Wheeler, Dec 16, 7 pm. \$24.

Ernie White, Dec 19, 7 pm. \$20.

Capitol Steps, Dec 29, 7:30 pm. \$32.

GTSA & Boheme Opera: New Year's Eve Concert, Dec 31, 8 pm. \$25-\$65.

Voodoo Daddy, Jan 8, 8pm. \$25-\$42.

NJSO: Water, Jan 14, 7:30 pm. \$21-\$60.

Ari Hest, Jan 26, 7 pm. \$25.

Phila Sinfonia, Feb 20, 3 pm. \$5-\$25.

Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, Memorial Drive, Trenton. 955-5566; thewarmemorial.com. (wv)

Westminster Choir College

Opera, Dec 3, 8 pm, Princeton High School, Walnut Lane. \$20.

Mark Johnstone, guitar, Dec 17, 7:30 pm, Williamson Hall.

Christmas Spirit: Conservatory Community Chorus & Concert Choir, Dec 18, 8 pm. \$20.

Works by Alan Hovhanes, Jan 16, 3 pm.

Faculty Series Danielle Sinclair, soprano; Denise Mihalik, mezzo soprano; and Kathy Shanklin, piano, Jan 20, 12:15 pm, Niles Chapel, Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton.

Nancy Froyland Hoerl, soprano, and Akiko Hosaki, piano: Songs by Lori Laitman w/Poetry by Emily Dickinson, Ben Moore, and James Joyce, Jan 23, 3 pm.

Kathleen Scheide, harpsichord, Feb 2, 7:30 pm.

Sharon Sweet, soprano, Feb 6, 3 pm.

Thomas Faracco, tenor & J.J. Penna, piano, Feb 9, 7:30 pm.

Alan Morrison, organ, February 13, 4 pm, Miller Chapel, Princeton Theological Seminary, Mercer Street.

Barton-Lehrer Duo with Ena Bronstein Barton & Phyllis Alpert Lehrer on piano, Feb 17, 12:15 pm, Niles Chapel, Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton.

Westminster Choir College, Bristol Chapel, 101 Walnut Street, Princeton. unless noted. 921-2663; rider.edu.

College of New Jersey

Chamber Ensemble, Dec 2, 8 pm.

Percussion Ensemble, Dec 3, 8 pm.

Choirs, Dec 4, 8 pm.

Concert Band, Dec 8, 8 pm.

Orchestra, Dec 10, 8 pm.

The College of New Jersey, Mayo Concert Hall, 2000 Pennington Road, Ewing. Register 771-2585; tcnj.edu.

Theatre

Catch a Rising Star: Uncle Floyd, Dec 3-4; **Moody McCarthy**, Dec 10-11; **Johnny Mac**, Dec 17-18, 8 pm, Hyatt Regency, 102 Carnegie Center, West Windsor. \$20. Register 987-8018; catcharisingstar.com. (wv)

Mickey's Magic Show, Dec 5, 3 pm & 6:30 pm, Sun Bank Center, 81 Hamilton Avenue, Trenton. \$15-\$70. 800-298-4200comcasttx.com. (wv)

JW Actors Studio, Dec 16, 8 pm, Arts Council of Princeton, 102 Witherspoon Street. \$15. 924-8777; artscouncilofprinceton.org. (wv)

Carousel, Feb 24-26, Mar 3-5, 8 pm, Mar 5, 2 pm, Frist Theatre, Princeton University campus. Princeton University Players. \$8-12. 258-1742; princeton.edu/utickets.

Much Ado about Nothing, Feb 24-26, Mar 3-5, 8 pm, Frist Theatre, Princeton University campus. Prince-

ton Shakespeare Company. \$8. 258-9220; princeton.edu/utickets.

Major Barbara, Feb 3-5, 10-12, 8 pm; Feb 13, 2 pm, TCNJ, Black Box Theater, 2000 Pennington Road, Ewing. 882-5979; Shakespeare70.org. (wv)

Lewis Center for the Arts

Floyd Collins, Dec 3-4, 9-11, 8 pm.

Good for the Jews Symposium of Scholars & Artists on Jewish Identity in American Theatre and Performance, Dec 11, 9 am-5:30 pm.

A Broad Abroad, Jan 7-9, 8 pm.

The Skriker, Feb 11-12, 17-19, 8 pm. *Lewis Center for the Arts, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. 258-1500; princeton.edu.*

Kelsey Theatre

The Storm, Dec 4, 8 pm, Dec 5, 2 pm, Studio Theatre, CM 122. \$8-14.

It's A Wonderful Life, Dec 3-4, 7:30 pm; Dec 4-5, 2 pm, Studio Theatre, CM 122. \$10-\$14.

Alborada Spanish Dance Theatre: El Sueno (The Dream), Dec. 21, 7:30 pm. \$8-\$15.

Amadeus, Jan 7-16. \$10-\$14.

Few Good Men, Jan 21-30. \$10-\$14.

Wedding Singer, Feb 11-20. \$12-\$16. *Fri-Sat 7:30 pm; Sun 2 pm.*

Kelsey Kids

'Twas The Night Before Christmas, Dec 10, 7:30 pm; Dec. 11, 11 am; Dec 11-12, 2 pm & 4 pm. \$8-\$10.

The Nutcracker, Dec 17, 7:30 pm; Dec 18-19, 1 pm & 4 pm. \$12.

The Love Bug's Hug, Jan 22, 2 pm & 4 pm. \$8-\$10.

Pinocchio, Feb 4, 7:30 pm; Feb 5-6, 2 pm & 4 pm. \$8-\$10.

High School Musical 2, Feb. 25-26, 7:30 pm, Feb. 27, 2 pm & 4 pm. \$8-\$10.

Pippi Longstocking, Feb. 26, 2 pm & 4 pm. \$8-\$10.

Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. 570-3333; kelseyatmccc.org. (wv)

Theatre Intime

Garden District, Dec 2-4, 9-11, 8 pm; Dec 11, 2 pm. \$12.

Recent Tragic Events, Feb 17-19, 24-26, 8 pm; Feb 26, 2 pm. \$12.

Freshman One-Act Festival, Feb 3-5, 8 pm. \$12.

Theatre Intime, Hamilton Murray Theater, Princeton University campus. 258-1742; theatreintime.org.

Off-Broadstreet Theater

In One Bed & Out Other, Dec 3-Jan 22.

Savannah Disputation, Feb 4-Mar 12.

Off-Broadstreet Theater, 5 South Greenwood Avenue, Hopewell. Fri-Sat 7 pm; Sun 1:30 pm \$28-\$30. 466-2766; off-broadstreet.com. (wv)



Teacher Delivers Patriot's Lecture

The American Revolution was a bloody conflict pitting neighbor against neighbor in a civil struggle played out within the context of Atlantic imperial politics. A talk, sponsored by the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA), will provide background to the events commemorated by Patriots' Week.

The lecture will be delivered by the winner of a contest among New Jersey public school teachers. The successful applicant will also receive a \$500 honorarium from Destination Trenton and NJEA.

Interested teachers are requested to submit a five-minute video detailing their credentials, the focus of the lecture and why their participation would be meaningful. Two references and a letter of reference from a school administrator, parent or student must be submitted. Application deadline is December 3. Contest rules and application can be downloaded at patriotsweek.com/podium.html.

Since 2004, Trenton Downtown Association has organized Patriots' Week, which features more than 30 events ranging from art displays, literature readings, cinema offerings, tours of historic sites, recreation of the two Battles of Trenton with re-enactors in period costume, living history events, live performances and fun, educational programs for children.

From December 26 through December 31 venues all over Trenton offer an abundance of activities for history buffs and cultural enthusiasts alike. The Patriots' Podium will be delivered on December 26 at 10 am in the Masonic Temple on Barracks Street.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, please call 1-877-728-9335 or visit patriotsweek.com.

To learn more about the history of New Jersey, please visit the New Jersey Historical Commission at newjerseyhistory.org.

New Jersey Civil War Flag Exhibit

New Jersey Civil War Heritage Association (NJCWHA) was founded in 1997 to study, preserve, and display the Civil War era flags from the State House Flag Collection. The collection of 191 flags includes 140 which date from 1865 to 1900.



Regimental Flag of the 3rd Regiment, NJ Volunteers (1898)

During the Civil War, New Jersey fielded 37 infantry regiments, 3 cavalry regiments, 5 batteries of artillery, and several independent militia units. Each unit received its flag from private donation, state or federal issue. At the end of the war, some of the flags were retained by soldiers or were torn apart into keepsake fragments. Flags that were turned in by units as they disbanded formed the nucleus of the State House Collection.

In 1871 the Legislature authorized the Quartermaster General to seek out and recover regimental flags that were not yet in his possession. Flags were displayed in the State House until 1885 when a fire destroyed the front portion of the building. In 1888, the flags were displayed in a fireproof room in the renovated Statehouse, then moved to the State House Annex in the 1920s and displayed there until 1985, when they were entrusted to the care of the State Museum.

Since 2000, the collection has been displayed in the Department of State west gallery at 225 West State Street in Trenton. Funds for their specially designed display cases were provided by the State of New Jersey. NJCWHA paid for the interpretive panels and battle maps. The gallery is open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 4:30 pm, except holidays.

For more information about the State House Flag Collection or NJCWHA projects, email Info@NJCivilWar.com or visit njcivilwar.org.

A Place in Time Alexander Road Firehouse

West Windsor Arts Council recently opened their new arts center in a converted fire house. The building at 925 Alexander Road was erected in 1931 to house Volunteer Princeton Junction Fire Company #1 Inc. The company was organized in 1926 as The Berrien City Volunteer Fire Company #1 Inc. and chartered under the new name in 1927.

During the Great Depression, progress of the company slowed and Bingo was started in June of 1938 to help keep the company going.

A First Aid and Civil Defense Station was maintained at the fire house during World War II. While the men were away at war, the women of the community were called upon to operate the engines in the event of a fire.

The prosperity of the 60's saw uninterrupted growth in the community as well as the fire company. Two more bays were

added to the fire house and three pieces of equipment were purchased. In the 70's the women began to volunteer to drive the fire engines and assist at the fires. Continued growth of the community over the next few decades necessitated expanding fire fighting and rescue services, equipment and the Fire House.

In 2001, Mayor Shing-Fu Hsueh began to encourage community interest in utilizing the historic fire house as an arts center to provide arts programming to the residents of West Windsor.

The West Windsor Arts Council (WWAC) was formed as an outgrowth of the Mayor's Art Center Formation Task Force. In 2002, the volunteer group began producing arts programs at various locales.

In 2006, a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the use of the Alexander Road Firehouse was signed between West Windsor Township and the WWAC. An ar-



Side view of the Princeton Junction Fire House c 1960.
Gay Huber collection

chitectural analysis, specifications to bring the building up to code, selecting the interior design architect, and fundraising began in earnest.

WWAC has a beautiful new gallery and a full slate of classes and workshops, which include visual, literary and performance art forms for everyone from young children and families to teens, tweens, and adults, and persons with special needs. For more information, please call 919-1982 or visit westwindsorarts.org. (wv)



Culture & HERITAGE NEWS

Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission
640 South Broad Street • Trenton, NJ 08650

This newsletter is available in large print. To request your copy, call 609-989-6899 (VOICE) 609-989-6865 (TTY).

To have an event listed in the quarterly *Update*, monthly online calendar or weekly FYI email, please include the following information: name of event; date and time; location-address; brief description of event; price or fee; phone number for public inquiries; website and/or email address, and ADA accommodations. Please email to: mrunyon@mercercounty.org. If you would like to receive the weekly FYI emails, please send your email address to: mrunyon@mercercounty.org.

Please refer to this chart for ADA accommodations codes.

W	A	T	S	P	L	B	V
Wheelchair Accessible	Assistive Listening System	TTY	Sign Language Interpretation	Large Print	Live Audio Description	Braille	Access for Blind or Low Vision



What other information would you like to see covered in the *Update*? Please share the *Update* with your friends and colleagues. To be on the mailing list, call 989-6899. The *Update* is available for download in a PDF format at: nj.gov/counties/mercercounty/commissions/cultural/newsletter.html.



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Brian M. Hughes, County Executive

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