



Culture & HERITAGE

NEWS UPDATE

Volume 5 Number 4 Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission Winter 2006-07

Shakespeare '70

It all began when the head of Washington Crossing Association invited Gerry Guarnieri to do a play in the summer of 1970. The production of Hamlet was so successful that Shakespeare '70 was asked to return the following summer. John Erath was asked to take over as director that summer, and has continued in that capacity for the past 35 years.

Gerry Guarnieri was a graduate of Temple University's Communications/Theater program and studied acting with the late William Hickey at HB Studios in New York. He served as designer for many area theatres, operas and playhouses. **Who's Who in The East** credits him with designing the first multi-media production of Mozart's comic opera, **The Magic Flute**.

John F. Erath, Ph.D., the company's president, recently retired from The College of New Jersey after 39 years on the faculty of the English Department. Nine years ago John established a partnership with TCNJ whereby Shakespeare '70 plays often fit into the curriculum. Students not only attend performances, but get involved both on-stage and off.

Shakespeare '70 has had a long history of delivering classical theater to Mercer County audiences. After 36 seasons at the Open Air Theatre in Washington Crossing Park the company moved its summer Shakespeare production to the Kelsey Theatre at Mercer County Community College. Now in residence at TCNJ, the company works closely with the college drama program and their students to produce two other annual performances there.



*Janet Quartarone and Dale Simon will portray the battling exes in Noel Coward's **Private Lives**.*

The 2007 season opens with Noel Coward's **Private Lives** at TCNJ's Black Box Theatre in Kendall Hall on February 15-17 and 22-24 at 8 p.m. & February 25 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$6-\$12. For more information, please call (609) 882-5979 or visit www.shakespeare70.org. (w)

GFS Turns 15

Grounds For Sculpture is a 35-acre public sculpture park and museum located in Hamilton Township. In 1992, the former NJ State Fairgrounds was selected by J. Seward Johnson as a stage from which to promote an understanding of and appreciation for contemporary sculpture.

Permanent and seasonal exhibitions offer visitors the opportunity to learn about contemporary sculpture through tours and

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Guild for Early Music Brings Together Diverse Groups

A regional consortium of ensembles, performers, and teachers of Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque music was organized in 2004. After years of collaborating in concerts, musicians have joined together to promote early music through performance, education and outreach.

Ensembles perform music from the 12th through the 18th century using the instruments and styles characteristic of those periods. Two of the groups are exclusively vocal. Featured instruments of the other member groups include harpsichord, recorder, viola da gamba, vielle, harp, baroque violin, viola, and cello, and Renaissance brass such as sackbut and cornetto.

Mercer County-based ensembles include Armonia (Medieval trio of song, narration and instruments), Le Triomphe de L'Amour (Baroque trio), Delaware River Consort (Renaissance vocal quartet), Princeton Recorder Society, Col Legno (Baroque quartet), Engelchor Consort (Medieval and Renaissance quintet of diverse instruments and voice), La Spirita (Viola da Gamba Renaissance consort), and Practitioners of Music (Baroque recorder and harpsichord duo).

The Guild has produced all-day early music festivals at Grounds for Sculpture where performers and audi-

ence mingled with sculptures and enjoyed the sounds of two harpsichords, tuned at "high" and "low" pitches, respectively. With indoor concerts and outdoor music featuring brass and woodwinds the first festival concluded with English Country dancing.

The Guild's website provides information about and links to member ensembles, individual performers and teachers, and resource information for instrument repair and artist management. An online calendar lists area public performances such as:

Music and the Muse featuring Engelchor Consort with texts and poetry set to music. December 10, 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m., Princeton University Art Museum in McCormick Hall. Admission is free, but seating is limited.

Best Nowells That E'er Befell featuring Fuma Sacra performing Medieval Christmas carols. December 10, 7:30 p.m., Bristol Chapel, 101 Walnut Street, Princeton. Tickets are \$15-\$20 and available at (609) 921-2663 or www.rider.edu/arts.

Bach for the Christmas Season featuring Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra and Choir conducted by Ton Koopman. December 11, 8 p.m., Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall on the

Princeton University Campus. Tickets are \$45-\$48 and available at (609) 258-2787 or www.mccarter.org. (wv)

Princeton Pro Musica performing G.F. Handel Messiah. December 15-16, 8 p.m., Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall on Princeton University campus. Tickets are \$38-\$45 and available at (609) 258-5000 or www.princeton.edu/richaud. (w)

Christmas Music featuring Westminster Community Chorus and Chamber Choir. December 17, 8 p.m. at Bristol Chapel, 101 Walnut Street, Princeton. Tickets are \$10-\$15 and available at (609) 921-2663 or www.rider.edu/arts.

For more information about the Guild for Early Music, please call (609) 393-3762 or visit www.guildforearlymusic.org.

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hands-on workshops. In addition, GFS offers concerts, dance and drama performances, film screenings, fairs and celebrations, community gatherings, a 35-acre arboretum, shopping, and dining.

2007 marks fifteen years for GFS. The year-long celebration will kick off with a T-shirt design contest. The public is invited to submit two original designs before

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Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa, a week-long celebration honoring African-American heritage, is observed between December 26 and January 1. Its origins are in the first harvest celebrations of Africa, from which it takes its name. “Matunda ya kwanza” means “first fruits” in Kiswahili.

At its founding in 1966, an additional “a” was added to have a letter represent each of the Seven

Principles of African communitarian—Nguzo Saba. These values stress family, community and culture.

The seven tenets of Nguzo Saba are: Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self-Determination), Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity), and Imani (Faith).

The daily greeting during the seven-day celebration is *Habari gani?*, What’s the news? and the answer is each of the principles for each of the days of Kwanzaa. Symbols of Kwanzaa are set in a central place in the home. A table is spread with a beautiful piece of African cloth, the mkeka (mat made of straw) is placed down and on it are placed Mazao (fruits and vegetables); Vibunzi/Muhindi (ears of corn to re-



Ceremonial lighting of mishumaa saba during Kwanzaa by a woman dressed in a uwole.

flect the number of children in the household); Kikombe cha umoja (communal unity cup); and a Kinara (candle holder) with Mishumaa saba (seven candles, one black for the people, three red for their struggle, and three green for the future and hope that comes from their struggle).

The black candle represents the first principle Umoja (unity) and is placed in the center of the kinara. The red candles represent the principles of Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujamaa (cooperative economics) and Kuumba (creativity) and are placed to the left of the black candle. The green candles represent the principles of Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Nia (purpose) and Imani (faith) and are placed to the right of the black candle. The black candle is lit first on the

first day of the celebration. And the remaining candles are lit afterwards from left to right on the following days. This procedure is to indicate that the people come first, then the struggle and then the hope that comes from the struggle.

A Kwanzaa ceremony would

include drumming and musical selections, libations, a reading of African history or discussion of the African principle of the day, a candle-lighting ritual, artistic performance, and, finally, a feast. Zawadi (artistic or educational gifts that are enriching) are traditionally exchanged between parents and children on January 1st, the last day of Kwanzaa.

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March 1. Artwork may be mailed, dropped off at the Domestic Arts Building or emailed to gtotaro@groundsfor sculpture.org. Two designs will be selected, one for the adult shirt and one for the child’s shirt.

Then beginning in February, the fifteenth of each month (excluding October) will feature **Free Guest Pass** to the first 15 cars entering the

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Holiday Magic Descends Upon the Yvonne Theatre Stage

Auditions were held at the end of the summer. Cast members were selected and notified at the beginning of the fall. Rehearsals have been going on for months. Finally after much anticipation, the Suburban Dance Force winter production of **Holiday Magic** will glide onto the Yvonne Theatre stage on December 1 and 2.

Suburban Dance Force was started sixteen years ago by Regina Littwin and Laura Keys. Regina is the artistic director and choreographer. She is a graduate of Dance Educators of America in association with Western Kentucky University and affiliated with the International Teachers of Dance. Laura Keys apprenticed with the Princeton Ballet Professional Company. A graduate of Dickinson College, she implemented a dance major in conjunction with choreographing for the college.

Treasurer and costumer for the company is Eloise Hopkins. A fifty-year veteran of dance, she studied at such prestigious schools as American Repertory Ballet. She is a certified teacher and member of Dance Masters of America in New York for over



Suburban Dance Force Snow Queen and Flakes

thirty years. She probably got her love for the stage from her father. Ralph Higgins played Uncle Drosselmeyer with the American Repertory Ballet's production of the **Nutcracker** for 34 years.

SDF productions are aimed at exposing children to the fine arts. Their performances are geared toward audiences with little or no knowledge of dance. Traditional music is adapted to contemporary styles and applied to modern dance techniques, there is usually some audience participation and performance times are kept short. Members of the cast range in age from 8 years old on up and are recruited from within the local community.

This year such holiday favorites as Snow, Rudolph

Mambo, a Toy Shop and some Elves, even Jack Frost and Santa will be featured.

Suburban Dance Force production of **Holiday Magic** will be appearing on December 2 at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., and December 3 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Rider University's Yvonne Theatre. Tickets are \$5-\$12 and available at the door or by calling (609) 530-0979 or (609) 695-7635. For more information about SDF, visit

www.suburbandance.org. (w)

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park. (1 per car to be used on the next visit); **Free Grounds For Sculpture Poster** to every car; **15% Members Discount** in the Museum Shop and at Rat's restaurant (parties of up to 13).

Special Anniversary programming will begin with the **GFS Oral History Information Session** reflections and remembrances of the New Jersey State Fairgrounds on January 20 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. For more information, call (609) 586-0616 or visit www.groundsfor sculpture.org. (w)

West Windsor Arts Council

In the fall of 2001, West Windsor Mayor Hsueh formed the Mayor's Art Center Formation Task Force to establish a plan to develop an arts center utilizing the historic Princeton Junction Firehouse. From that group came the West Windsor Arts Council. By 2002, the volunteer group had begun producing community arts programs at various venues throughout West Windsor.

Later that year, the group voted to apply for non-profit status and a board of directors was created to oversee development of the new arts council. In May 2003, the West Windsor Township Council voted unanimously to accept a resolution to establish a new arts center in the old firehouse, with management provided by WWAC. WWAC received its non-profit status determination from the IRS in January of 2004.

Most recently, the town council approved a Memorandum of Understanding between the township and WWAC. The September 2006 signing of this document was a critical milestone leading toward the conversion of the firehouse into an arts center.

As WWAC works to secure a permanent space they have found unique venues to provide arts programming. A collaboration with the West Windsor Community Farmer's Market enabled the council to present regular performances, organize art stands and boutiques. Nassau Park Pavilion was used for an opera concert, Summer Solstice Poetry reading and Autumn Art Afternoon.

The most significant event related to management was the decision by the WWAC board to hire Eduardo Garcia as the

council's executive director. He has over 30 years experience in arts administration within New Jersey.

Mr. Garcia has been working to establish collaborations with area arts organizations to produce an ever-expanding variety of programs. He has partnered with local businesses who provide a growing base of support and promotion. Ongoing outreach efforts devised to address the cultural needs of a widely diverse community continue with various multicultural associations representing a variety of ethnic backgrounds.

A collaboration with the West Windsor Public Library has provided WWAC with a setting for poetry readings, music programs and film screenings. The West Windsor Film Series begins on January 6 at 7:30 p.m. with ***Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress***, written and directed by Dai Sijie, in the West Windsor Library at 333 North Post Road in Princeton Junction. The film series is cosponsored by Friends of the West Windsor Library and West Windsor Arts Council. Please register at (609) 799-0462. (w)

For more information about West Windsor Arts Council programs and resources, please call (609) 919-1982 or visit www.westwindsorarts.org.

Trenton Visionaries: Art of Trenton's A-TEAM

The Trenton Visionaries exhibition will feature the work of 21 artists from the A-TEAM of Trenton—the Artists' cooperative of the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen,

Visionary Art is defined as art produced by self-taught individuals, usually without formal training, whose works arise from an innate personal vision that is expressed in the

creative act itself. Visionary art is *outsider* art because the raw and often idiosyncratic works do not typically fall within the bounds of fine or contemporary art.

The A-TEAM Artists of Trenton cooperative was formed in 2001 by a group of artists who regularly use the services of the Trenton

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New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts

New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (NJVLA) is a legal referral service for members of the state's arts and cultural community. Their efforts are focused, in particular, toward low income artists and non-profit arts and cultural organizations. NJVLA provides services in three primary areas—legal education, legal referrals and representation, and dispute resolution.

NJVLA founders are partners in New Jersey's top law firms, retired judges, law school professors, and the publisher of New Jersey's legal newspaper of record. They provide legal referrals to volunteer attorneys and teach artists about their legal rights and responsibilities in developing, protecting, and realizing the value in their work.

Artists face more legal challenges than ever before. The internet has created new copyright and trademark infringement issues. A burgeoning cable industry, clambering for quality programming from independent producers, means contract concerns. Gentrification of inner-cities has diminished the availability of affordable housing and artists' work space.

Legal referrals will involve matching lawyers with skills and experience that match

the need of a specific, qualifying, artist or organization, and to perform the work *pro bono*. Two of the three referral services provided by NJVLA are available to anyone regardless of income:

- **LEGAL LINE** – a one-time phone call to a volunteer attorney usually 30-60 minutes in length.

- **LAW FAX** – a document review service whereby a volunteer attorney will review a contract or other legal document of up to three pages in length.

The third referral service is for artists who meet income requirements and arts and cultural organizations who meet budget limits:

- **FULL-SERVICE** – NJVLA will attempt to match the client with a volunteer attorney who will provide legal representation for a specific matter. Eligible recipients must meet the following criteria:

- An artist must have an annual income and assets equal to or lesser than \$30,000; or \$50,000 for married or cohabitating artists; with \$2,000 per dependent credit.

- An arts or cultural organization must be a 501(c)3 corporation (or planning to become one) with an annual budget (as opposed to income) of less than \$750,000.

NJVLA also presents

educational programs and provides speakers on a wide range of arts-related legal topics. Some of those topics include Copyright Law, An Overview of Intellectual Property, Landlord Tenant Law, and Legal Issues for Filmmakers. NJVLA's website, www.njvla.org, contains links and general information on a variety of legal and other issues of interest to artists and those who work in the arts and cultural fields. A Needs Survey, available online, is an opportunity for the community to provide valuable input in ways that NJVAL can refine their goals and focus their resources on the community's primary needs.

As artists are better able to protect, distribute, and benefit from their own work, they will be in a much better position to enrich the lives of every citizen and to participate in the economy.

Artists or arts organizations who need help, attorneys or legal professionals who would like to help may contact the New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts by calling (856) 627-0428, by emailing info@njvla.org, or by visiting www.njvla.org. The mailing address is New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, P.O. Box 1520, Laurel Springs, NJ 08021.

KidsBridge Teaches Diversity Appreciation

KidsBridge Museum provides a variety of diversity appreciation and character education outreach programs and events, and provides educational resources to parents and educators. A collaboration with The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) created a cutting edge partnership to teach these concepts to elementary school children.

The learning lab features **Face to Face: Dealing with Prejudice and Discrimination**, an exhibit created by the Chicago Children's Museum that focuses on diversity appreciation and tolerance.

This exhibit is aimed at children, parents and guardians, college elementary and pre-school undergraduate education majors, undergraduate psychology majors, and student teachers in the Mercer County community.

TCNJ undergrads teach children visiting the mini museum as well as assess visitors before and after their visit.

The mini-museum is open to bookings from school groups, day camp groups and Sunday school groups at (609) 581-0239. A tour of the college campus can also be provided.

For more information, please call KidsBridge Inc. at (609) 396-4300 or visit www.kidsbridgemuseum.org. (w)

Dear Friends,

Falling leaves and falling temperatures mean Thanksgiving and the winter holidays are just around the corner. I encourage all of you to make use of the cultural resources in your home communities to make good holiday memories with friends and family this winter.

Mercer County offers a bounty of holiday celebrations and activities rooted in a variety of different cultures. The tremendous diversity in this County guarantees that all of us can expose ourselves to new traditions each year, and learn about our neighbors while enjoying the crisp winter weather and a bit of time off from work.

No matter what holidays you celebrate, you can find great things to do all winter long here in New Jersey's Capital County. I encourage you to try something new this winter, whether that be a Hogmanay bonfire at New Year's with friends, a holiday concert at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, or learning how to fry vegetables in hot oil in celebration of Chanukkah.



Happy holidays!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian M. Hughes".

Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

A-TEAM, continued from page 5

Area Soup Kitchen (TASK). The TASK Board of Trustees provided the A-Team with its initial support and continues to provide studio space and basic supplies.

All of the A-TEAM artists are self-taught. They work in a wide variety of media, including paint, pencil and ink, pastel, collage, photography and found object construction. The A-TEAM is open to all members of the soup kitchen community, and the price of admission is a piece of artwork and participation at A-TEAM meetings.

Many of these artists illustrate their artistic vision and spiritual journeys, share memories of family and home or document social and political issues. Curated by Elise Mannella, *Trenton Visionaries* reveals the artists' inspiration and the context in which they work.

Trenton Visionaries is on display through December 31 in the ARTworks Gallery at 19 Everett Alley off Stockton Street in Trenton. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and by appointment by calling (609) 394-9436. (w)



Calendar **E**VENTS

The Mercer County Culture and Heritage Commission cannot be responsible for errors or omissions. Call ahead to confirm times and prices. For an expanded listing, visit www.mercercounty.org/CH/nl.htm. Deadline for Winter issue, which covers March, April and May is January 5, 2007.

Art Exhibits

Student Exhibitions; Sculpture & Ceramics, Dec. 12-Jan. 11, reception Dec. 12, 6-8 p.m.;

Group Exhibition, Feb. 6-23, reception Feb. 6, 6-8 p.m., Lucas Art Gallery, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. Mon-Fri, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (609) 258-8560 ;

www.princeton.edu.

Small Works, through Dec. 16, Gallery 125, 125 South Warren Street, Trenton. (609) 989-9119 ;

www.gallery125.com.

Kiosk Photography by Walter Frank, through Dec. 22, conTEMPORARY Arts Center, Princeton Shopping Center, 301 Harrison Street. (609) 924-8777 ;

www.artscouncilofprinceton.org. (w)

Trentonians in the Revolution, Dec. 26-Feb. 2, Tues-Fri, noon-6 p.m.;

Sat 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Gallery 125, 125 South Warren Street, Trenton. (609) 989-9119 ;

www.gallery125.com.

The Woven Image, through Dec. 31, Toad Hall Gallery, Grounds

for Sculpture, 19 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. (609) 586-2366. **www.groundsfor**

sculpture.org. (w)

Marie Sturken Works on Paper, through Dec. 31, Princeton Public Library, 65 Witherspoon Street. (609) 924-8777 ;

www.artscouncilofprinceton.org. (w)

Harvey Finkle photographs, Jan. 5-Feb. 1, Silva Gallery of Art, Pennington School, 112 West Delaware Avenue. Reception Jan. 5, 6-8 p.m. (609) 737-8069 ext. 400 ;

www.pennington.org. (w)

Japanese Prints 1860s-1910s, through Jan. 7, Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton University Campus. (609) 258-3788 ;

www.princetonartmuseum.org. (wv)

Owen Kanzler aerial photographs & Kate Graves bronze sculptures, Jan. 7-April 7, Toad Hall Gallery, Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Reception Jan. 13, 2-4 p.m. (609) 586-0616 ;

www.groundsfor

sculpture.org. (w)

Patty Chang, performance artist and videographer, Jan. 12-26, CAPPs, Mariboe Gallery, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. Reception and gallery talk Jan. 12, 6:30 p.m. (609) 490-7550. (w)

Twist of Fate, Naomi Campbell, Janet Cook, Steve Mader, Gabriela Gonzalez Dellosso, Jan. 13-Feb. 20, Ellarslie, Trenton City Museum, Cadwalader Park. Reception Jan. 20, 7-9 p.m. (609) 989-3632. (w)

Fin de Siecle and Modernist Art: Prints, Drawings, and Photographs, through Jan 14, Tues-Sat, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun, 1-5 p.m., Princeton University Art Museum, (609) 258-3788 (wv)

Focus on Sculpture photographs, Jan. 14-April 29, Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Gallery talk Jan. 27, 2 p.m. (609) 586-0616 ;

www.groundsfor

sculpture.org. (w)

National Drawing Exhibition, Jan. 17-Feb. 14, College of New Jersey,

Art Gallery, Holman Hall, Ewing. Reception Jan. 17, 5-7 p.m. (609) 771-2198 ; **www.tcnj.edu. (w)**

Pietro da Cortona paintings, through Jan. 21, Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton University Campus. (609) 258-3788 ;

www.princetonart

museum.org. (wv)

W. Carl Burger watercolors, Jan. 25-Feb. 22, Rider University Art Gallery, Bart Luedeke Center, 2083 Lawrenceville Road. Reception Jan. 25, 5-7 p.m. Artist talk Feb. 1, 7 p.m. (609) 896-5033. (w)

Cathy Watkins paintings, Feb. 2-16, CAPPs, Mariboe Gallery, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. Reception and gallery talk Feb. 2, 6:30-8 p.m. (609) 490-7550. (w)

Winter Exhibit, Feb. 9-March 13, Gallery 125, 125 South Warren Street, Trenton. (609) 989-9119 ;

www.gallery125.com.

Michael Wiley Interactive sculptures, Feb. 12-March 8, Silva Gallery of Art, Pennington School,

112 West Delaware Avenue. Reception Feb. 16, 6-8 p.m. (609) 737-8069 ext. 400; www.pennington.org. (w)

Dress Code, Feb. 21-March 28, College of New Jersey, Art Gallery, Holman Hall, 2200 Pennington Road, Ewing. Reception Feb. 21, 5-7 p.m. (609) 771-2198.

Sculpture: Manuel Neri, Stephen Siegel and Outstanding Student Work, through April 29, Grounds for Sculpture, 19 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. (609) 689-1089; www.groundsfor-sculpture.org. (w)

Players and Painted Stage Collection of Irish Theater, through April 22, Milberg Gallery, Firestone Library, Princeton University, One Washington Road. (609) 258-3197. (w)

Art Lectures

Asphalt, by Mirko Zardin, Dec. 6, 6 p.m., Princeton University School of Architecture, Betts Auditorium, Princeton University Campus. (609) 258-3741.

Venetian Art, 1500 to 1520 with Stephen Campbell, Johns Hopkins University, Dec. 7, 5 p.m., Institute for Advanced Study, Wolfensohn Hall, Einstein Drive, Princeton. (609) 734-8175.

Sensual and the Sensuous in Islamic Calligraphy with David Roxburgh, Harvard University, Jan. 18, 5 p.m., Princeton Univer-

sity Campus, McCormick Hall. (609) 734-8175.

Family Tragedy on the Walls of Pompeii with Natalie Kampen, Barnard College, Feb. 27, 5 p.m., Wolfensohn Hall, Einstein Drive, Princeton. (609) 734-8175.

Nature of Painting, Vanessa Tran, painter, Feb. 20, 4:30 p.m., Princeton University Campus, 101 McCormick Hall. (609) 258-8560; www.princeton.edu.

Benefits

Drumthwacket Foundation Gala, Dec. 1, 7-10 p.m., 354 Stockton Street, Princeton. \$250. Reservations (609) 683-0057.

Black and White Ball, Dec. 9, 6 p.m., Chauncey Center, Lawrenceville. Benefits Contact of Mercer County. \$250. (609) 883-2880.

Communities of Light, Dec. 17, 5 p.m., Womanspace. Display outdoor laminarias to raise awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault. \$10/Candle kit, benefits Womanspace. (609) 394-0136.

Santa's Arrival @ Princeton Airport, Dec. 24, 11 a.m., Route 206. Bring wrapped gift for Santa to give, and unwrapped gift for Mercer County Board of Social Services distribution. (609) 921-3100.

Inaugural Art Auction, Ross

Galleries, Jan. 20, 7 p.m., Ancient Order of the Hiberians, 2419 Kuser Road, Hamilton. Benefits Boheme Opera. \$15/\$25. (609) 581-7200.

La Belle Epoque Gala, Jan. 20, 7 p.m., Hyatt Regency Princeton, 102 Carnegie Center. Benefits Eden Institute Foundation. \$300. Register (609) 987-0099.

Gala, Feb. 20, 6:30 p.m., Prospect House, Princeton University Campus. Benefits Friends of the Princeton University Art Museum. \$200. (609) 258-3762.

Gala Dinner Dance, Feb. 24, 6 p.m. Marriott at Lafayette Yard, Trenton. Benefits Boheme Opera. (609) 581-7200.

Dance

Pennington Dance Holiday Show, Dec. 1, 6:45 p.m., Pennington Presbyterian Church, 13 South Main Street. (609) 737-7596; www.penningtondance.com.

Nutcracker Suite, Dec. 2, 7 p.m.; Dec. 3, 1 p.m., Thomas Glover School, 10 Southfield Road, Princeton Junction. West Windsor-Plainsboro Dance Company production. (609) 799-9677, (609) 799-9684; www.thedancecorner.org.

Dance Faculty Concert: New Works, Dec. 8-9, 8 p.m., Princeton University Theater and Dance Program, Berlind Theater,

91 University Place. \$15. (609) 258-2787.

Susan Jaffe's Traditional Holiday Nutcracker, Dec. 9, 4 p.m.; Dec. 10, noon & 4 p.m., Princeton Dance and Theater Studio, Montgomery High School, 1014 Route 601, Skillman. \$15-\$20. (609) 514-1600; www.princetondance.org.

Atlantic Ballet Company, Dec. 9, 4 p.m.; Dec. 10, 4 p.m. & 8 p.m., College of New Jersey, Kendall Hall, 2200 Pennington Road, Ewing. (609) 771-2551.

Dance Performance Workshop, Dec. 13, 8 p.m., Princeton University Theater & Dance Program, Hagan Dance Studio, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. (609) 258-1742.

Belle Mead Ballet Nutcracker, Dec. 22, 7 p.m.; Dec. 23, 2 p.m. & 4 p.m., Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. \$12. (609) 584-9444.

Moscow Ballet Nutcracker, Dec. 26-27, 7:30 p.m., Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, Memorial Drive, Trenton. \$25-\$65. (609) 984-8400.

DanceBrazil, Jan. 30, 8 p.m., McCarter Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. \$37-\$50. (609) 258-2787.

Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Feb. 8, 8 p.m., McCarter Theater, 91 University Place,

Princeton. \$33-\$46. (609) 258-2787.

Savion Glover, Feb. 13, 8 p.m., McCarter Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. \$45-\$55. (609) 258-2787.

Spring Dance Festival, Feb. 23-24, 8 p.m.; Feb. 24, 2 p.m.; Feb. 25, 3 p.m., Princeton University Theater and Dance Program, Berlind Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. \$15. (609) 258-2787.

Dancing Through the Ceiling, Feb. 28, 8 p.m., McCarter Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. American Repertory Ballet. (609) 258-2787; www.arballet.org.

Dancing

Scottish Country Dance Classes, Mondays, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Meadow Lakes Retirement Community, Etra Road (Rte. 571), Hightstown. \$3. (609) 936-0891; www.rscds-nj.org.

Masqueraders Square Dance Club, Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Grace-St. Paul's Church, 3715 E. State St., Hamilton. (609) 530-0849.

Salsa, Cha Cha, and Mambo Lessons, Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m.-1 a.m., 449 Room, 449 South Broad Street, Trenton. \$10. (609) 656-1199, ext. 104.

Country Line Dancing, Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Hillbilly Hall Tavern & Restaurant, 203 Hopewell-

Werstville Road, Hopewell. \$5. (609) 466-9856.

Country Western Dance, Tuesdays, 7-10 p.m., Enterprise Fire Company Ballroom, 569 Klockner Road, Hamilton. \$8. (609) 841-9083.

International Folk Dancing, Tuesdays, 6:30-9 p.m., 58 Riverside Drive, Princeton. \$3. (609) 655-0758; www.princetonfolkdance.org.

Israeli Folk Dancing for Women, second, fourth Tuesdays, 10-11 a.m., Rimon, 483 Dutch Neck Road, East Windsor. (609) 799-5506.

Princeton Country Dancers, Wednesdays, 7:40-10:30 p.m., Suzanne Patterson Center, Monument Drive, Princeton. \$7. (609) 888-8847.

Folk Dancing, Fridays, 8-11 p.m., Suzanne Patterson Center, 45 Stockton Road, Princeton. \$5. (609) 895-9512; www.princetonfolkdance.org.

Swing Dance Lessons, second & fourth Fridays, 8 p.m., dancing 9 p.m.-midnight, St. Matthias Episcopal Church, 2200 Genesee Street, Hamilton. \$10; (609) 252-0502; www.rhythmandbugs.com.

Ballroom Dance Lessons, weekdays 1-10 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Broadway Ballroom Dance Studio,

1935 Lawrence Road, Lawrence. \$60/3 lessons. (609) 219-0071.

Central Jersey Dance Society, first Saturday each month, 6 p.m.; third Friday each month, 7:30 p.m., Suzanne Patterson Center, 45 Stockton Road, Princeton. \$8-\$11. (609) 945-1883; www.centraljerseydance.org.

Movement Workshop, Dec. 1, Dec. 22, 8-10 p.m., Dance Improve Live, All Saints' Church, 16 All Saints' Road, Princeton. \$12. (609) 924-3767.

Country Holiday Dance Party, Dec. 3, 6-9 p.m., German-American Club, 215 Uncle Pete's Road, Yardville. \$6. Reservations (609) 585-5200; www.gakclub.org.

Argentine Tango Workshop, Dec. 8, 7-9 p.m., Pennington Dance, Cyrus Lodge, 131 Burd Street, Pennington. For teens, adults, and couples. \$20. Register (609) 737-7596.

Drumming Workshop, Dec. 16, 6:30-7:30 p.m., \$15; **Rhythm, Dance & Drum Circle**, Dec. 16, 8-9:30 p.m., Princeton Center for Yoga & Health, Montgomery Professional Center, 50 Vreeland Drive, Suite 506, Skillman. \$10. (609) 924-7294; www.princetonoyoga.com.

African Dance & Drumming, Jan. 14, 3-5 p.m., Princeton Friends School, 470 Quaker

Road. (609) 737-7596; www.penningtondance.com.

American Oldies Dance, Jan. 20, 8-10 p.m., German-American Club, 215 Uncle Pete's Road, Yardville. \$6. Reservations (609) 585-5200; www.gakclub.org.

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Workshop & Tea Dance, Feb. 25, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Cranbury. \$35. (609) 936-0891. www.rscds-nj.org.

Film

Award-Winning Films, second Thursday each month, 7 p.m., Lawrence HQ Branch Library, 2751 Brunswick Pike. Register (609) 882-9246; www.mcl.org.

Paradise Now, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., Jewish Film Series, Congregation Beth Chaim, 329 Village Road East, West Windsor. Screening & discussion. Register (609) 799-9401.

Classic Holiday Films, Dec. 28, 3 p.m., conTEMPORARY Arts Center, Princeton Shopping Center 301 Harrison Street. \$5-\$6. (609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilofprinceton.org.

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress, written and directed by Dai Sijie, Jan. 6, 7:30 p.m. West Windsor Branch of the Mercer County Library

System, 333 North Post Road, Princeton Junction. Register (609) 799-0462. (w)

Student Videos, Feb. 6-23, 4:30-6 p.m., Stewart Film Theater, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. Reception Feb. 6, 6-8 p.m., Lucas Art Gallery. (609) 258-8560; www.princeton.edu.

The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg, Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m., Jewish Film Series, Congregation Beth Chaim, 329 Village Road East, West Windsor. Screening & discussion. Register (609) 799-9401.

Heritage & Holiday Activities

Winter Wonderland @ Kuser Farm Park, Nov. 29-Dec. 2, 6-8:30 p.m., 390 Newkirk Avenue, Hamilton. (609) 890-3630; www.hamiltonnj.com.

Princeton YMCA Swim with Santa, Dec. 1, 6 p.m.-8 p.m., Princeton Theological Seminary Pool, Emmons Drive, West Windsor. (609) 497-9622; www.princetonwmca.org.

Cultural Holiday Traditions Festival, Dec. 2, 12:30 p.m., Plainsboro Township, Municipal Building, Public Library, and Wicoff House. (609) 799-0909.

Holiday Craft Show, Dec. 2, 9:30 a.m., West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South, 346 Clarksville Road, West

Windsor. Benefits PTSA. \$1. (609) 716-5000, ext. 5050.

Eastern European Holiday Festival featuring Simple Gifts in Concert, Dec. 2, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. (609) 586-0616; www.groundsfor sculpture.org.

Holiday Festivities with Santa and Snowy, Dec. 2, 12:30 p.m.-3 p.m., Princeton Shopping Center, 301 North Harrison Street. (609) 921-6234; www.Princeton shoppingcenter.com.

St. Nicholas Holiday Bazaar, Dec. 2, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Trinity Church, 33 Mercer Street, Princeton. (609) 924-2277.

Tree Lighting with Santa, Dec. 3, 3-5 p.m., Lawrenceville Main Street, Weeden Park. (609) 219-9300.

Ice Carving, Dec. 3, noon-3 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. (609) 586-0616; www.groundsfor sculpture.org.

Morven Festival of Trees, Dec. 3-Jan 7, 55 Stockton Street, Princeton. Register (609) 924-8144.

Holiday Lights, Hopewell Valley Chorus, Dec. 8, 8 p.m., Pennington Presbyterian Church, 13 South Main Street. \$7-\$11. (609) 737-3177; www.princetonol.com/

groups/hvchorus.

Winter Tales, read by D.J. Haslett, poet, musician, and artist, *Swan Lake*, Dec. 3; *The Polar Express*, Dec. 10; *Hans Brinker or the Silver Skates*, Dec. 17, 1:30 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. (609) 689-1089.

Tree of Light Celebration, Dec. 8, 7-9 p.m., The Lewis School, 53 Bayard Lane, Princeton. (609) 924-8120.

Tree Lighting Ceremony & Santa Claus, Dec. 8, 5-6 p.m., City Hall Front Steps, 319 East State Street, Trenton. (609) 989-2162; www.ci.Trenton.nj.us/Trenton.

Tree Lighting Ceremony, Dec. 9, 7 p.m., Ron Rogers Arboretum, Route 571 and Clarksville Road, West Windsor. Sponsored by Mercer County Chamber WW Division. Music by West Windsor-Plainsboro School students. (609) 799-6141.

Holiday Carolers, Dec. 10, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. (609) 586-0616; www.groundsfor sculpture.org. (w)

Holiday Recital, Dec. 16, 4 p.m., conTEMPORARY Arts Center, Princeton Shopping Center, 301 Harrison Street. Phil Campanella Program.

(609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilofprinceton.org.

New Jersey Opera Theater Holiday Concert, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Reservations (609) 586-0616, ext. 20; www.groundsfor sculpture.org. (w)

Greater Trenton Choral Society Holiday Concert, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m., Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 2220 Pennington Road, Ewing. (609) 443-3573. (w)

Christmas Holiday Spectacular, Greater Trenton Symphony Orchestra, Dec. 17, 3 p.m., Patriots Theatre, Trenton War Memorial, Memorial Drive. \$20-\$40. (800) 955-5566; www.trentonsymphony.org. (w)

Menorah Lighting, Sheket children's choir, Dec. 19, 5 p.m., Palmer Square, North Hulfish Plaza, Princeton. (800) 644-3489.

Holiday Arts & Crafts, through Dec. 22, conTEMPORARY Arts Center, Princeton Shopping Center, 301 Harrison Street. (609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilofprinceton.org.

Christmas Eve Caroling, Blawenburg Brass Band, Dec. 24, 5:15 p.m., Palmer Square Green, Nassau Street. (609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilof

princeton.org.

George Washington Delaware River Crossing Reenactment, Dec. 25, 11 a.m., Washington Crossing Park, Routes 32 & 532, PA; Routes 29 & 546, NJ. (609) 737-0623.

Hogmanay New Year's Eve Bonfire with music, Dec. 31, 6 p.m., Lawrence Historical Society, Brearley House, Meadow Lane, Lawrenceville. (609) 895-1728.

GTSO New Year's Eve Concert, Dec. 31, 8 p.m., Patriots Theatre, Trenton War Memorial, Memorial Drive. \$25-\$65. (800) 955-5566; www.trentonsymphony.org. (w)

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Celebration, Jan. 19, 6-8 p.m., Mill Hill Playhouse, Front & Montgomery Streets, Trenton. (609) 989-2162; www.ci.Trenton.nj.us/Trenton.

Valentine's Dance, Feb. 10, 6 p.m.-midnight, German-American Society of Trenton, 215 Uncle Pete's Road, Yardville. \$6. (609) 585-5200; www.gakclub.org.

Singing Valentines from the Millstone Valley Chorus, February 10-14, \$50. Appointments (908) 874-3079; www.millstonevalley.org.

Chinese New Year Celebration, Feb. 17, 1-4 p.m. West Windsor Library, 333 North Post Road,

Princeton Junction. Register (609) 799-0462; www.mcl.org. (w)

Fat Tuesday Celebration, Feb. 20, **Mardi Gras Cajun buffet by Chez Alice**, 6-8 p.m.; **Snapperhead Zydeco Band**, 8-10 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. \$35. Reservations (609) 586-0616; www.groundsfor sculpture.org.

Historical House Tours

Abbott House, weekends, noon-5 p.m., 2200 Kuser Road, Hamilton. (609) 585-1686.

Bainbridge House, Tues-Sun, noon-4 p.m., 158 Nassau Street, Princeton. Historical Society of Princeton headquarters. (609) 921-6748.

Brearley House Tour, first Saturday each month, 10 a.m.-noon, Lawrence Historical Society, Meadow Lane. (609) 895-1728.

Drumthwacket, Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 354 Stockton Street, Princeton. \$5. Reservations (609) 683-0591.

Mill Hill District, Dec. 2, noon-5 p.m., Mill Hill Playhouse, 205 East Front Street, Trenton. \$15-\$20. www.oldmillhill society.org.

Morven, Wed-Fri, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat-Sun, noon-4 p.m., 65 Stockton Street, Princeton.

\$4-\$5. (609) 924-8144. **Old Barracks Museum**, daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Barrack Street, Trenton. \$4-\$6. (609) 396-1776; www.barracks.org.

Schenck House, second Sunday each month, 1-4 p.m., Historical Society of West Windsor, 50 Southfield Road. (609) 799-1278.

Trenton Battle Monument, weekends, 1-4 p.m., 348 North Warren Street, Trenton. (609) 737-0623.

Wicoff House, first & third Sunday each month, 2-4:30 p.m., Plainsboro Museum, 641 Plainsboro Road. (609) 799-9040.

William Trent House Tours in Spanish, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 12:30-4 p.m., 15 Market Street, Trenton. \$1-\$2.50. (609) 989-3027; www.williamtrent house.org.

Historic Princeton Walking Tour, Sunday, 2-4 p.m., Bainbridge House, 158 Nassau Street. \$4-\$7. (609) 921-6748.

Capital Region and Convention & Visitors Bureau, Lafayette & Barracks streets, Trenton. (609) 777-1770; www.visitcapital region.org.

Princeton University campus tour, Art Museum, Chapel, FitzRandolph Gateway, Museum of National History, and Nassau Hall. (609) 258-3603.

History Activities Colonial Kids activities & craft, weekends through Dec. 23, 12:30-2 p.m., William Trent House, 15 Market Street, Trenton. \$1-\$2.50. (609) 989-3027.

Lantern Walking Tours, Dec. 23, 6:45 p.m. & 7:15 p.m., Johnson Ferry House, Washington Crossing State Park, Route 29 at Route 546. \$5. Register (609) 737-2515.

Hogmanay New Year's Eve Bonfire with music, Dec. 31, 6 p.m., Lawrence Historical Society, Brearley House, Meadow Lane, Lawrenceville. (609) 895-1728.

Literary Events

ESL classes for Adults, Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m., Twin Rivers Library, 276 Abbington Drive, East Windsor. Register (609) 443-1880; www.mcl.org. (w)

Authors Read, Patrick McCabe, *The Butcher Boy* and Eoin McNamee, *Resurrection Man*, Dec. 1, 4:30 p.m., The Fund for Irish Studies, Stewart Film Theater, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. (609) 258-8561; www.princeton.edu.

Book Signings, *Talking to God: Portrait of a World at Prayer* by John Gattuso, Dec. 7, 8 p.m.; ***The Night Before Christmas* by Gennady Spirin**, Dec. 11, 7:30

p.m., Barnes & Noble Bookstore, 3535 U.S. Route 1 South, Princeton. (609) 716-1570; www.barnesandnoble.com. (w)

Creative Writing Student Reading Series, Dec. 13, 4:30 p.m., Princeton University, Stewart Film Theater, 185 Nassau Street. (609) 258-8561; www.princeton.edu.

Poetry Workshop, Dec. 21 Jan. 18, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m., Delaware Valley Poets, Lawrence Public Library, Darrah Lane. Bring 15 copies of your poem. (609) 882-9246.

Winter Solstice Party, Dec. 21, 4 p.m., Twin Rivers Library, 276 Abbingdon Drive, East Windsor. Ages 2 & up (609) 443-1880; www.mcl.org.

Book Club, Jan. 18, 7 p.m., *Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood; Feb. 15, 7 p.m., *Voyage of the Narwhal* by Barrett, Andrea, Lawrence HQ Library, 2751 Brunswick Pike. Register (609) 882-9246; www.mcl.org.

Delaware Valley Poets read, Jan. 18, Feb. 12, 8 p.m., Barnes & Noble Bookstore, 3535 U.S. Route 1 South, Princeton. (609) 716-1570; www.delawarevalleypoets.com. (w)

Book Sale, Feb. 1-28, Twin Rivers Library, 276 Abbingdon Drive, East Windsor. (609) 443-1880; www.mcl.org.

Fiction Writers Read,

Lorrie Moore & Meg Wolitzer, introduced by Joyce Carol Oates, Feb. 14, 4:30 p.m., Stewart Film Theater, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. (609) 258-8561; www.princeton.edu/~visarts/cwr/index.html.

Poets Read, Sarah Arvio; Matthea Harvey, Feb. 21, 4:30 p.m., Princeton University Campus, Stewart Film Theater, 185 Nassau Street. (609) 258-8561; www.princeton.edu.

Poets Read, Mairead Byrne and Greg Delanty, Feb. 23, 4:30 p.m., The Fund for Irish Studies, Stewart Film Theater, 185 Nassau Street. (609) 258-1742.

Musical Performances

TCNJ Concerts; Percussion & Saxophone Ensembles, Dec. 1, 8 p.m.; **Choir & Women's Ensemble**, Dec. 2, 8 p.m.; **Brass Ensemble**, Dec. 3, 4 p.m.; **Chorale**, Dec. 3, 8 p.m.; **Wind Ensemble and Concert Band**, Dec. 7, 8 p.m., College of New Jersey, 2200 Pennington Road, Ewing. (609) 771-2551; www.tcnj.edu. (w)

O Magnum Mysterium, Advent Vespers/poetry, Dec. 3, 2:30 p.m., Princeton University Chapel, Washington Road. (609) 258-3654; www.princeton.edu. (w)
Children's Concert, WW-PHSS Symphony Or-

chestra, Dec. 3, 1:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m., High School South, 346 Clarksville Road, West Windsor. Benefits orchestra program. \$7. (609) 716-5050.

Princeton Band, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m., Rider University, Yvonne Theater, 2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville. (609) 896-5168.

After Noon Concert, Dec. 6, 12:30 p.m., Princeton University Chapel, Washington Road. (609) 258-3654.

Holly Days & Starry Nights, NJ Gay Men's Chorus, Dec. 8, 8 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 268 Washington Crossing-Pennington Road, Titusville. \$20. (609) 396-7774.

Lyric Theatermpany, Dec. 8, 8 p.m., College of New Jersey Concert Hall, 2200 Pennington Road, Ewing. (609) 771-2551.

American Boychoir Concert, Dec. 16, 8 p.m., Princeton University Chapel, Washington Road & William Street. \$10-\$30. (888) 269-2464; www.americanboychoir.org.

Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, Dec. 17, 1 p.m., Sovereign Bank Arena, 81 Hamilton Avenue & Route 129, Trenton. \$35-\$85. (609) 520-8383.

The Cheetah Girls, Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m., Sovereign Bank Arena, Route 29 & Hamilton Avenue, Tren-

ton. \$30-\$40. (888) S B A - T I X X ; www.sovereignbankarena.com.

Rachmaninoff, NJ Symphony Orchestra, Jan. 13, 8 p.m., Patriots Theater, War Memorial, Memorial Drive, Trenton. \$20-\$75. (800) ALLEGRO.

Alberto Reyes, pianist, Jan. 14, 3 p.m., Steinway Musical Society, Jacobs Music, 2540 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville. \$15. (609) 434-0222.

Russia's Mighty Five, NJ Symphony Orchestra, Jan. 26, 8 p.m., Patriots Theater, War Memorial, Memorial Drive, Trenton. \$20-\$75. (800) ALLEGRO.

Dean Regan, Jan. 27, 7 p.m., Community Concert Association of Bordentown, 50 Dunns Mill Road, Bordentown. \$10-\$40. (609) 218-0799.

Volanti Flutes Chamber Music, Feb. 8, 7 p.m., Rider University, Bart Luedeke Center Theater, 2083 Lawrenceville Road. (609) 896-5033.

Bowfire, Feb. 16, 8 p.m., McCarter Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. \$36-\$48. (609) 258-2787.

Dances for Organ, Feb 23, 8 p.m., Princeton University Chapel Washington Road at William Street. \$10-\$15. (609) 258-3654; www.princeton.edu.

Magnificent Seventh, NJ Symphony Orchestra, Feb. 24, 8 p.m., Patriots Theater, War Memorial, Memorial Drive, Trenton, (80) ALLEGRO. **Roberto Diaz**, viola, Feb. 24, 8 p.m., CAPPS Signature Saturdays, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. \$20. (609) 490-7550.

Deborah Ford & Ronald Baltimore, Feb. 25, 4 p.m., Princeton Pro Musica, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 801 West State Street, Trenton. \$20. (609) 683-5122.

Richardson Auditorium

Princeton University Orchestra, Dec. 8-9, 8 p.m. \$18.

Messiah, Dec. 15-16, 8 p.m., Princeton Pro Musica. \$38-\$45.

Princeton Symphony Orchestra Pops Holiday concert, Dec. 16, 4 p.m. \$15-\$60.

Canadian Brass, Dec. 18, 7:30 p.m. \$39-\$45.

Tchaikovsky Violin Concert, NJ Symphony Orchestra, Jan. 5, 8 p.m.

Princeton Symphony Orchestra Classical Series, Jan. 21, 4 p.m. Pre-concert lecture 3 p.m. \$15-\$60.

Artemis String Quartet, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., Princeton University Concerts. \$20-\$40.

The Mingus Big Band, Feb. 10, 8 p.m., Princeton University Concerts. \$17-\$26.

Takas String Quartet, Feb. 15, 8 p.m., Princeton University Concerts. \$20-\$40.

Richardson Chamber Players, Feb. 25, 3 p.m. \$20.

**Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall, Princeton University Campus. (609) 258-5000; www.princeton.edu/richaud. (w)*

Westminster Choir College

Cool Yule Jazz, Dec. 1, 8 p.m.

A Candlelight Christmas with Williamson Voices, Dec. 2, 8 p.m., Miller Chapel, Princeton Theological Seminary. \$15.

Holiday with the Opera Theater, Dec. 2, 8 p.m.; Dec. 3, 2 p.m., Princeton High School Performing Arts Center. \$15.

Concert Bell Choir, Dec. 2, 8 p.m.; Dec. 3, 3 p.m.

Rider Choir, Dec. 3, 8 p.m., Gill Chapel, Rider University, Lawrenceville.

Readings and Carols with choirs and brass ensemble, Dec. 8-9, 8 p.m., Princeton University Chapel. \$45.

Fuma Sacra, Best Nowells That E'er Befell, Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m.

Kaleidoscope Chamber Series, Dec. 15, 8 p.m.

Chanukah Concert with Conservatory Youth Chorale, Dec. 16, 8 p.m.

Community Chorus and

Chamber Choir, Dec. 17, 8 p.m.

As the Story Goes with Community Orchestra, Dec. 17, 8 p.m., Princeton High School Performing Arts Center. \$15.

Faculty Recitals, Jan. 14, 28, Feb. 11, 17, 18, 25, 3 p.m.

Volanti Flutes, Jan. 18, 12:15 p.m., Niles Chapel, Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street.

Chamber Orchestra, Jan. 28, 3 p.m., Kaleidoscope Series, Gill Chapel, Rider University, Lawrenceville. \$10.

Trio da Capo, Feb. 15, 12:15 p.m., Niles Chapel, Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street.

Stravinsky: Symphony of Psalm with Chapel Choir, Feb. 18, 3 p.m., Princeton High School Performing Arts Center. \$15.

Music from Spain, Feb. 24, 8 p.m.

**Westminster Choir College of Rider University, 101 Walnut Lane, Princeton. Concerts are at Bristol Chapel; \$10-\$15, except as noted. (609) 921-2663; www.rider.edu/arts.*

Jazz & Blues & Folk
Joey DeFrancesco, organist, Dec. 1, 8 p.m., CAPPS, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. Pre-concert chat 7 p.m.

\$20. (609) 490-7550.

Ellis Paul and Antje Duvokot, Dec. 3, 8 p.m., Concerts at the Crossing, Unitarian Church at Washington Crossing, Route 546, Titusville. \$20. (609) 406-1424.

Darla Rich Quartet, jazz, Dec. 6, 7 p.m., Fedora Café, 2633 Main Street, Lawrenceville. (609) 895-0844. **Darla Rich Quintet**, Dec. 31, 7 p.m. & 10 p.m., Hopewell Bistro, 15 East Broad Street, Hopewell. (609) 466-9889.

Tony Trischka, banjo, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Concerts at the Crossing. \$5-\$20. Register (609) 586-0616, ext. 20; www.groundsfor sculpture.org.

Sparky and Rhonda Rucker, Dec. 15, 8:15 p.m., Princeton Folk Music Society, Christ Congregation Church, 55 Walnut Lane, Princeton. \$15. (609) 799-0944.

Garnet Rogers, Jan. 29, 8:15 p.m., Princeton Folk Music Society, Christ Congregation Church, 55 Walnut Lane, Princeton. \$15. (609) 799-0944.

Tracy Grammer & Amy Speace, Feb. 10, 8 p.m., Concerts at the Crossing, Unitarian Church at Washington Crossing, Route 546, Titusville. \$20. (609) 406-1424.

Lou and Peter Berryman, Feb. 16, 8:15 p.m., Princeton Folk Music Society, Christ Congregation Church, 55 Walnut Lane, Princeton. \$15. (609) 799-0944.

Theater

Terra Nova, Dec. 1, 7-9, Theatre Intime, Hamilton Murray Theatre, Princeton University Campus. \$12. (609) 258-1742; www.theatreintime.org.

Greetings, Dec. 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 8 p.m.; Dec. 3, 10, 2:30 p.m., Off-Broadstreet Theater, 5 South Greenwood Avenue, Hopewell. \$26-\$28. (609) 466-2766; www.off-broadstreet.com.

Student Plays, Dec. 1-2, 8-9; Jan. 11-14, 8 p.m., Princeton University Theater & Dance Program, Matthews Acting Studio, 185 Nassau Street. (609) 258-1742.

A Christmas Carol, Dec. 3, 5:30 p.m.; Dec 7-23, Wed-Fri, 7:30 p.m.; Sat-Sun, 1 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.; Dec 24, noon & 4 p.m., McCarter Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. \$31-\$49. (609) 258-2787. Fezziwig Party, Dec. 7, 5:30 p.m., \$37. Register (609) 258-2787.

Westminster Opera Theater Workshop: You've Got Mail, Dec. 5, 8 p.m., Westminster Conservatory, The Playhouse, 101 Walnut Street, Princeton. (609) 921-2663.

Fire Girls, Dec. 8-9, 7 p.m.; Dec. 10, 3 p.m., Mill Hill Playhouse, Front & Montgomery Streets, Trenton. \$5. Register (609) 392-0766; www.passage-theatre.org. (w)

Charles Evered's Adopt A Sailor, staged reading, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m., conTEMPORARY Arts Center, Princeton Shopping Center, 301 North Harrison Street. \$5-\$6. (609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilof-princeton.org

Lookingglass Alice, Jan. 9, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 10-28, Wed-Thur 7:30 p.m.; Fri-Sat 8 p.m.; Sat 3 p.m.; Sun 2 p.m., McCarter Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. \$40-\$53. (609) 258-2787. (w)

Jolson & Company, Jan. 5-Feb. 17, Fri-Sat 8 p.m.; Sun 2:30 p.m., Off-Broadstreet Theater, 5 South Greenwood Avenue, Hopewell. \$26-\$28. (609) 466-2766; www.off-broadstreet.com.

Freshman One-Act Festival, Feb. 8-10, 8 p.m., Theatre Intime, Hamilton Murray Theatre, Princeton University Campus. \$12. (609) 258-1742; www.theatreintime.org.

Uncommon Women & Others, Feb. 9-10, 15-17, 8 p.m., Princeton University Theater & Dance Program, Matthews Acting Studio, 185

Nassau Street, Princeton. (609) 258-1742; www.Princeton.edu.

Pippin! Feb. 15-17, 8 p.m., Peddie School Theater & Music Departments, Mount Burke Theatre, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. (609) 490-7550; www.peddie.org. (w)

Noel Coward's Private Lives, Feb. 15-17, 22-24, 8 p.m.; Feb. 25, 2 p.m., Black Box Theater, Kendall Hall, College of New Jersey, 2200 Pennington Avenue, Ewing. Shakespeare '70 presentation. \$6-\$12. (609) 882-5979; www.shakespeare70.org.

Gross Indecency: Trials of Oscar Wilde, Feb. 15, 7 p.m.; Feb 16-17, 23-24, 8 p.m., Rider University, Yvonne Theater, 2083 Lawrenceville Road. \$10. (609) 896-5303; www.rider.edu. (w)

Playwrights Unit, Feb. 16-18, 8 p.m., Passage Theater, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front & Montgomery streets, Trenton. (609) 392-0766; www.passage-theatre.org. (w)

Valentine at Bellevue, Feb. 22-24, 8 p.m., Theatre Intime, Hamilton Murray Theatre, Princeton University Campus. \$12. (609) 258-1742; www.theatreintime.org.

Kelsey Theater*

Through Our Eyes, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m. ClubArts

Onstage presentation. \$20-\$35.

It's a Wonderful Life—The Musical, Dec. 2 & 9, 8 p.m.; Dec. 2-3 & 9-10, 2 p.m. \$10-\$16.

The Baker's Wife, Jan. 5-6, 12-13, 8 p.m.; Jan. 7 & 14, 2 p.m. \$10-\$16.

Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Feb. 9-10, 16-17, 8 p.m.; Feb. 10-11, 18, 2 p.m. \$10-\$16.

The Middle Ages—The Mysteries, Feb. 16-17, 23-24, 8 p.m. In The Studio Theatre presentation. \$5-\$12.

*Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. (609) 570-3333; www.kelseytheatre.net. (wv)

Kelsey Theatre for Kids*

'Twas The Night Before Christmas, Dec. 15, 7 p.m.; Dec. 16-17, 11 a.m., 2 & 4 p.m. \$8-\$10.

The Nutcracker, Dec. 22, 7 p.m.; Dec. 23, 2 & 4 p.m. \$12.

Gizmo Guys, Jan. 6, 2 & 4 p.m. \$8-\$10.

Russian American Kids Circus, Jan. 20, 2 & 4 p.m. \$12.

James & The Giant Peach, Jan. 26, 7 p.m.; Jan. 27 & 28, 2 & 4 p.m. \$8-\$10.

The Lion, the Witch & The Wardrobe, Feb. 3, 2 & 4 p.m. \$8-\$10.

Henry & Mudge, Feb. 17, 2 & 4 p.m. \$8-\$10.

**Mercer County Community College, Kelsey Theatre, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. (609) 584-9444; www.kelseyatmccc.org.*

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Dec. 6-9, 10 a.m., Off-Broadstreet Theatre, 5 South Greenwood Avenue, Hopewell. Ages 2-7. \$4. (609) 466-2766; www.off-broadstreet.com.

Umbilical Brothers in Thwack, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m., McCarter Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. \$22-\$33. (609) 258-2787; www.mccarter.org. (w)

Dan Zanes in Catch That Train, Feb. 24, 10:30 a.m., McCarter Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. \$18. (609) 258-2787; www.mccarter.org. (w)

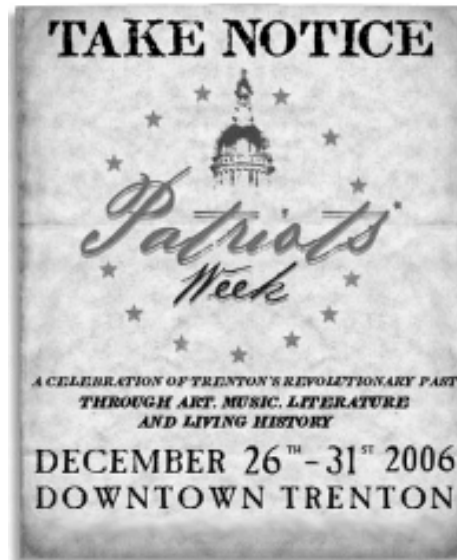
The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, Dec. 9, 3:30 p.m., Cotsen Children's Library, Firestone Library, Princeton University Campus, Washington Road. Youth Stages presentation. (609) 258-2697; www.youthstages.com.

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, Jan. 20, 2 p.m., Princeton Public Library, 65 Witherspoon Street. Youth Stages presentation. (609) 924-9529; www.youthstages.com. (w)

Try-Outs/Opportunities

Princeton Garden Statesmen Barber-shop Chorus, Tues, 7:30 p.m., seeking men for all voice parts, Pavilions at Forestal Village, 5000 Windrow Drive, Plainsboro. (609) 252-1515; www.menwhosing.org.

Nutcracker Ballet Camp, Dec. 26-29, 9 a.m. & 1 p.m., Princeton YWCA, 59 Paul Robeson Place. Ages 4-7. \$150. (609) 497-2100; www.ywcaprinceton.org.



The largest Revolutionary War festival in America will occupy downtown Trenton December 26-30. The same streets and fields where George Washington, after the famous Christmas Day Delaware River crossing, surprised and beat the Hessians and the British will be filled with reenactors. The First and Second Battles of Trenton, which changed the course of the war and made possible the American nation, will once again rage between The Patriots and the Red Coats. "To arms!"

Educational and entertaining events returning from last year include: Lectures on Revolution 101, the History of Tea, Early American Domestic Arts; 18th Century Trials, dramatized by the American Historical Theatre; the comedy and wit of The Capitol Steps; Tours of the Trenton Battlefield, Washington's route from the Delaware crossing through Trenton to Princeton, and the New Jer-

sey State House; Thomas Paine reading from *The American Crisis* at the Old Barracks, where the unsuspecting Hessians slept; and, of course, The Reenactments of the First and Second Battles of Trenton, which crown the events on Saturday.

New events include: Mayor David Dinkins speaking on contemporary patriots and the continued fight to make American ideals reality; Dinner at Abraham Hunt's House—drama by the American Historical Theatre, food by the Trenton Marriott and Lafayette Yard; Lectures on George Washington and the Masonic Order, the Revolution through the eyes of enlisted men, Washington's decision to re-accept black soldiers in the Continental Army, and spies in the American Revolution; a colonial beer tasting; a signers and ghosts graveyard tour; Thomas Jefferson recreating the first ever public reading of the *Declaration of Independence* at the mural commemorating the event; and a colonial ball with lessons in dancing, music and period costume.

Children's education programming includes a day-long patriotic arts camps at ARTworks and 18th Century crafts at the William Trent House.

For more information on Patriots Week visit www.patriotsweek.com.

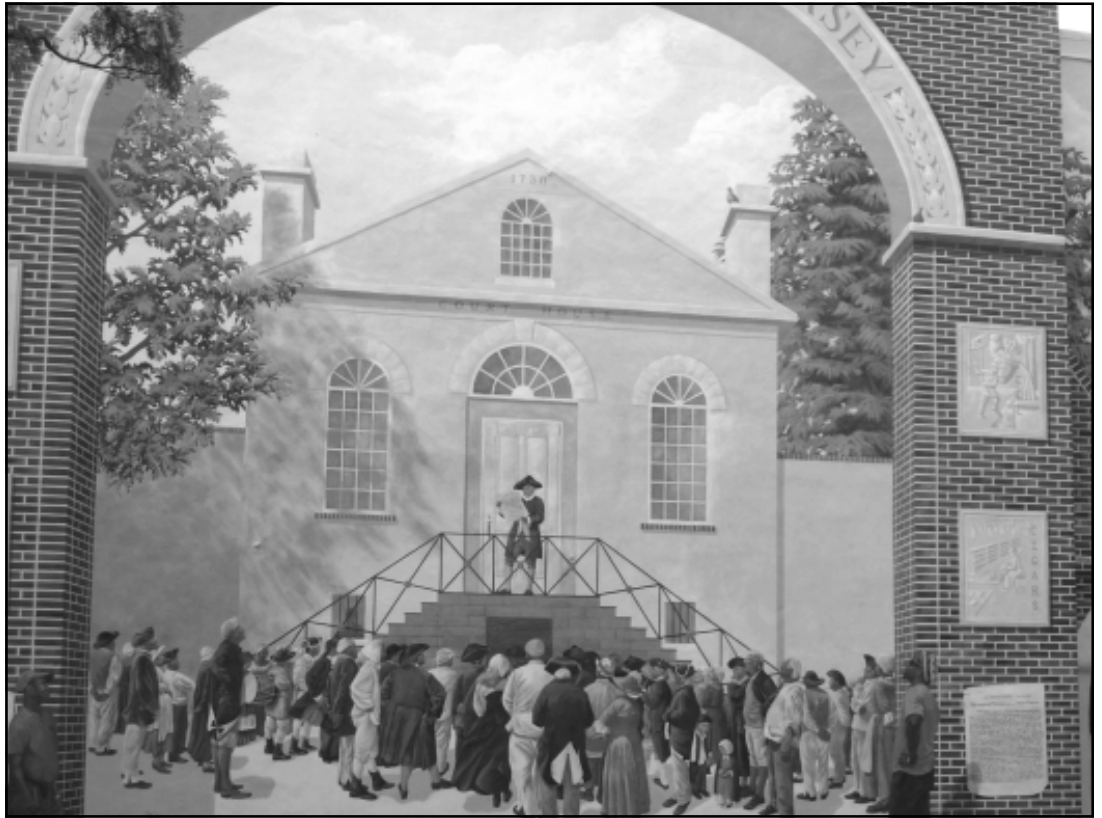
Trenton's Historical Mural Illustrates Our Nation's Beginnings

On July 8, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was first read publicly in three cities: Philadelphia, Easton (PA), and Trenton. Historians believe that the Trenton reading may actually have been the first of the three and, thus, the first in the nation.

Trenton Downtown Association commissioned muralist Illia Barger to recreate one of Trenton's true historic moments. This was accomplished with a sweeping de-

scription of the reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Hunterdon County Courthouse, which stood across the street from the mural site on South Warren Street.

A new Hunterdon County Courthouse was erected in Flemington in 1791. In 1838, the state legislature, carved Mercer County out of Hunterdon, Somerset, Burlington and Middlesex counties. The new county was named after General Hugh Mercer, a distinguished Revolutionary War hero who died from wounds he received during the Battle of Princeton in 1777.



Historical mural on the back wall of the Weidel Insurance Company at 23 S. Warren Street.

Experts at the Old Barracks Museum worked closely with the muralist to make sure the Colonial garb and other historical aspects were correct on the mural that measures 36 feet tall by 60 feet wide. Gyasi Mann, Fred Minus, Algernon Ward and Noah Lewis appear as African-American figures in the mural. Kyle Allen is the Drummer Boy. The image of Richard Patterson, Director of the Old Barracks Museum, appears as the reader of The Declaration of Independence at the top of the stairs. Many other Old Barracks staff members ap-

pear as figures in the mural.

An element of the painting that Illia Barger named "*The Wind of Change*" for freedom animated the dress and hair of the female spectator in the center of the crowd.

The mural is made contemporary by the inclusion of everyday people from today—black, white, young, old, male and female. This was Illia's way of illustrating how the Declaration starts out, "We the people." There is even a silhouette of the mural's vandal, who briefly delayed the public presentation of the mural, in the barred jail window on the left.

A Place in Time Domestic Arts Building

The Domestic Arts Building at the Grounds for Sculpture was originally constructed in the 1920s as an exhibit hall for New Jersey State Fair. It housed displays of handicrafts, needlework, canned goods, and other practical arts relating to the home. The ornamental terra-cotta tiles, which decorate the entrance, were made by the Mueller Mosaic Company of Trenton.

Fairs were held intermittently in Trenton Township since 1745. A royal charter granted by King George II, allowing fairs for the purpose of buying and selling livestock and other merchandise, established the first fair in Colonial America. In 1797 State Legislature banned all fairs until a revision was sought by the State Agricultural Society in 1858. Agricultural fairs with thoroughbred horse racing were held sporadically in the mid-1880s.

The Inter-State Fair Association, established in 1888, purchased acreage for a fairgrounds with a racetrack. Their events were hugely successful, drawing crowds to view the displays of livestock, agricultural products and farming equipment, culinary arts and needlework. Midway attractions and entertainment were popular. Special events included a



Domestic Arts Building at Grounds for Sculpture.

shooting match between Annie Oakley and Miles Johnson, and horsemanship and lassoing demonstrations by cowboys and indians from Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show. As automobiles replaced horses for transportation, cars became the main attraction on the fairground's racetrack.

Dwindling attendance and profits forced the owner to sell the land in 1980 when the NJ State Fair was held for the last time on this site.

In 1989 construction began on Grounds For Sculpture. The park was designed to provide an arboretum-like setting, with flowering shrubs, deciduous trees and unique evergreens. Berms and waterways were excavated to create topographical contours and backdrops for displaying

sculpture. A gazebo with a deck was constructed by the lotus pond. There's even a helipad.

The Motor Exhibit Building was renovated to provide artist's studios, storage, and a central bay area. The circa 1940 steel-framed Museum building, erected to shelter Fair exhibits of small livestock, was moved and transformed into a modern, glass-walled exhibition space. Sculptures in a variety of media, from metal to plaster to paper, by some of the world's finest contemporary artists are displayed there.

Grounds for Sculpture is located at 19 Fairgrounds Road in Hamilton. For more information, please call (609) 586-0616 or visit www.groundsforsculpture.org. (w)

This newsletter is available in large print.
 To request your copy, call 609-278-2712
 (VOICE) 609-989-6865 (TTY).

To have your events listed in our newsletter and online calendar, please write or email the following information: type of event; sponsor; location with street address and municipality; fees; phone number for public inquiries; a phone number for the staff to contact for questions, a web site and/or email address, funding credit and ADA compliance. Please mail to: Mercer County Division of Culture and Heritage, Box 8068, 640 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08650, or email to: mrnyon@mercercounty.org. If you feel that your event merits a longer story, please write, email or call (609) 989-6899.











Please help us to better serve you, let us know what other information you are interested in. Please share this newsletter with your friends and colleagues; if you, or someone you know, would like to be added to our mailing list, call 609-989-6899 or email mrnyon@mercercounty.org.



640 South Broad Street • Trenton, NJ 08650

Please refer to this chart for ADA accommodations codes.

W  Wheelchair accessible	A  Assistive Listening System	T  TTY	S  Sign Language Interpretation	P  Large Print	L  Live Audio Description	B  Braille	V  Access for Blind or Low Vision
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Brian M. Hughes, County Executive

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