

RAAC Newsletter Dec 2015 - Jan 2016



Hello friends!

Welcome to our combined December-January newsletter featuring an array of arts events and news for your early winter pleasure.

Coming up quickly is our First Friday at the Movies showing of "Selma" on Dec 4. This is a fundraiser for the Scrabble School Preservation Foundation, which is co-sponsoring this event with RAAC and the Rappahannock Historical Society. We're starting earlier at 7pm to allow time for discussions with invited guests afterwards. Please join us.

Our holiday theater extravaganza - "Annie" - opens Dec 4 and runs through the 13th with evening and matinee performances. Tickets for all 5 performances are going fast, so reserve online soon.

The Second Friday at the Library series features Nevill Turner on Dec 11 and Bill Dietel on Jan 8. Nevill will share behind-the-scenes stories in creating a local chutney empire. And Bill will regale us with tales from his days heading up the Rockefeller Foundation.

Soup & Soul gatherings begin in January with poet-photographer K.C. Bosch on Jan 23. It continues with Al Regnery's Madison Chamber Players in February and architect Jordan Goldstein in March. Tickets for all three events go on sale on our [website](#) in early December and typically sell out within a few days.

RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund is now inviting local artists and organizations to apply for 2016 arts grants. Applications and guidelines will be available [here](#) on Dec 15.

Looking ahead to spring, our Film Festival committee has released a call for entries to Virginia filmmakers for our second annual festival in April. See below for details.

Finally, congratulations to our Art Tour committee for another successful studio and gallery tour held over the Nov 7 - 8 weekend. Many thanks to participating artists and especially to our generous sponsors!

I hope to see you at an upcoming arts event, perhaps a movie, library talk, Soup & Soul, or play. Best wishes for a festive holiday and lively new year.

Matthew Black, President, RAAC



RAAC Newsletter

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Dec 2015/Jan 2016

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December 2015 & January 2016



ONE DREAM
CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

SELMA

COMING SOON



*Click on the bottom photo
to play the video.*

First Friday at the Movies "Selma"

*A fundraiser to benefit
The Scrabble School Preservation Foundation*

**Fri, Dec 4, 7pm, \$10 adults, \$5 children
The Theatre At Washington
291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747**

**Starring David Oyelowo, Carmen Ejogo,
Tim Roth, Jim France, Oprah Winfrey**

Director Ava DuVernay

Written by Paul Webb

Biography/drama/history; 128 minutes

**Rated PG-13 for disturbing thematic material,
including violence, a suggestive moment,
and brief strong language**

Awards: won over 45 awards and 69 nominations

The fundraiser

The movie showing is co-sponsored by The Scrabble School Preservation Foundation, the Rappahannock Historical Society, and RAAC. Funds raised from the "Selma" screening will help support the Foundation's public and school outreach programs.

Dr. Hortense Hinton Jackson will lead a discussion following the film. Jackson is a noted educator and former provost of the Manassas campus of Northern Virginia Community College. A native of Culpeper, she has served on numerous boards and is past president of the local chapter of the NAACP.

The movie

This acclaimed film chronicles the tumultuous three-month period in 1965, when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. led a campaign to secure equal voting rights in the face of violent opposition. The epic march from Selma to Montgomery culminated in President Johnson signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965, one of the most significant victories for the civil rights movement. For full information about the movie, [click here](#).

Scrabble School

Built in 1921, Scrabble School is one of more than 5,000 schools built across the South thanks to the leadership and beneficence of Sears Roebuck co-founder Julius Rosenwald and African-American educator and leader Booker T. Washington. So few Rosenwald Schools remain that in 2003 the National Trust for Historic Preservation listed them among America's "most endangered places."

The Washington Post published an extensive article on Rosenwald schools on Aug 31, 2015. The report highlights Scrabble School and two of its former students, Lillian Aylor and Irene Timbers. [Click here](#) to view the article.

RAAC's next First Friday at the Movies presentation will be shown on Feb 5, 2016.

[Click to visit RAAC's First Friday at the Movies webpage.](#)



Photo, top
Olivia Devening (Annie)
& Howard Coon (Daddy
Warbucks)

Photo, bottom, left to right,
Jasper Gros (Rooster
Hannigan),
Olivia Devening,
Joanna Hughes (Grace Farrell),
Howard Coon

*Top photo by Ray Boc;
bottom photo by Patty Hardee*

RAAC Community Theatre "Annie" holiday play

Fri, Dec 4, at 8pm
Sat, Dec 5, at 3pm
Fri, Dec 11, at 8pm
Sat, Dec 12, at 3pm
Sun, Dec 13, at 3pm

310 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747
Tickets \$15; children under 12, \$5

Don't miss the RAAC Community Theatre production of this popular musical inspired by the comic strip "Little Orphan Annie." **Tickets are going fast!**

"Annie" is a Broadway musical based upon the Harold Gray comic strip "Little Orphan Annie," with music by Charles Strouse, lyrics by Martin Charnin, and the book by Thomas Meehan. The original production opened in 1977 and ran for nearly six years, winning a Tony Award for Best Musical. The song "Tomorrow" is one of its most popular musical numbers.

Stepanie Mastro directs the cast of more than 40 kids and adults in "Annie Junior," a shortened version of the musical. The production stars Olivia Devening as Annie, Howard Coon as Daddy Warbucks, and Erin Platt as Miss Hannigan. Annie Williams choreographed the dancing, Geoff Gowen led the musical team, and Cynthia Stamps designed the stage set.

To reserve and pay for tickets, [click here](#). If you do not have Internet access, reservations can be made by calling 1-800-695-6075.

[Click to visit RAAC's Community Theatre webpage.](#)



**Second Friday at the Library
Nevill Turner**

**Fri, Dec 11, 8pm, Rappahannock County Library
4 Library Lane, Washington, VA 22747**

December's speaker will be Rappahannock's own Nevill Turner, who will talk about the joys and woes of his life as an entrepreneur. Turner, whose storytelling skills have several times been displayed at No Ordinary Person, calls his talk "My Brilliant Career."

Ten years ago his wife, Clare, started up the Virginia Chutney Company, and Nevill and their son Oliver joined six months later. In the food industry, nine out of ten start-ups fail within two years. Even knowing that, the Turners plunged ahead. Nevill will discuss why the odds are so daunting and how they have managed to survive and thrive (?) even so.

The talk is free. All are welcome.

[Click to visit RAAC's Second Friday at the Library webpage.](#)



Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund Call for proposals opens Dec 15

RAAC announces the opening of the fourth annual grant season for our Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund. Proposals for 2016 grants are welcomed from emerging and established artists of all ages, arts organizations, arts programs within community-based organizations, collaborative projects, and especially for projects with a community focus. All arts media are eligible - visual art, literature, music, film/video, dance, theater, and projects combining multiple media.

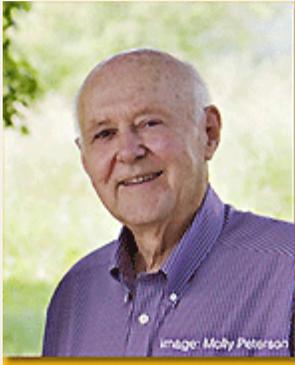
The new grant guidelines and application for 2016, as well as detailed information about eligibility, timetables, the review process, and previous grantees, will be available on [RAAC's website](#) on December 15. **The deadline for submitting applications is Mar 31.**

Since 2012 the Fund has awarded more than \$70,000 in grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 to 39 local arts projects, non-profit organizations, and emerging and established artists. Recent grants include arts programming in Rappahannock schools, community music performances, artists' workshops and continuing education, video productions, and dance scholarships.

RAAC President Matthew Black notes, "In an already flourishing arts community, the Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund has added a new dimension by encouraging and assisting county artists and arts programming through financial support. These grants are investments in an important natural resource that is vital to the character and health of Rappahannock County. The RAAC Board and its Fund Committee are thrilled to offer another round of grants and eagerly await a new crop of proposals and more great projects."

The Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund was established with a generous bequest from the estate of Claudia Mitchell, RAAC's president for many years and a dedicated supporter of the arts and community. The Fund continues to grow through ongoing donations, fundraising events, and income generated by RAAC programs, principally the annual Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour and the Film Festival at Little Washington.

[Click to visit RAAC's Mitchell Arts Fund webpages.](#)



Second Friday at the Library Bill Dietel

**Fri, Jan 8, 8pm, Rappahannock County Library
4 Library Lane, Washington, VA 22747**

January's speaker will be Bill Dietel, storyteller and philanthropist *extraordinaire*. Bill drew a standing room only crowd to the library last year for a rollicking account of his years as a girls' school principal.

Bill's back by popular demand, this time for a talk he calls "Room 5600." That was the designation of the offices on the 56th floor at Rockefeller Center in New York. For many years Bill worked there with the Rockefeller Brothers Foundation. He will give us a behind-the-scenes peek at what he saw from the top of the world.

The talk is free. All are welcome.

[Click to visit RAAC's Second Friday at the Library webpage.](#)



Film Festival at Little Washington Deadline for film submissions

Fri, Jan 15, 2016

The 2016 film submission period is in full swing and ends Jan 15, 2016. Theresa Woods, the Festival's program director, notes, "the [Virginia Film Office](#) in Richmond is giving us wonderful publicity on their [Facebook page](#), and we are already hearing from filmmakers throughout the state."

We look forward to another exciting weekend of screenings and Q&As, and gatherings with filmmakers at events throughout the county as we showcase Virginia's talented up-and-coming independent filmmakers. Visit RAAC's film webpages (link below) for updates and information.

[Click to visit RAAC's Film Festival webpages.](#) 7 of 11



Soup & Soul

K.C. Bosch, poet

Sat, Jan 23

Madison Chamber Players

Sat, Feb 20

Jordan Goldstein, architect

Sat, Mar 19

RAAC's annual Soup & Soul series offers an opportunity to hear from local artists about their work and their creative process. The events are held in host homes in the county, and include a potluck dinner along with soup provided by the hosts.

The 2016 series features poet K.C. Bosch on Jan 23, the Madison Chamber Players string quartet on Feb 20, and architect Jordan Goldstein on Mar 19.

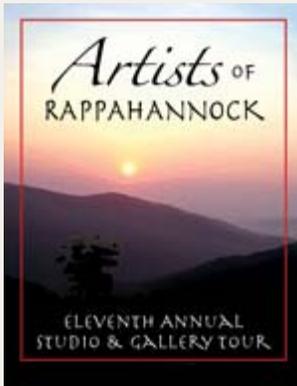
One benefit of RAAC membership is early notification of these events. RAAC members will receive an email during the first week of December with a specific members' link to purchase tickets (\$20 each). Tickets will then be available to the general public on [RAAC's website](#) as of Dec 7. Space is limited, so early response is recommended. If an event is full, the RAAC website will also provide a chance to place your name on a wait list.

K.C. Bosch is a photographer, woodworker, and poet. Raised in a large military family, he lived and worked all over before settling in Rappahannock County, which has been his home and inspiration for the last two decades. His poetry can be found at literary journals such as Camel Saloon, Poetry Breakfast, Dead Mule, and Vox Poetica. "Stealing Days" is his first book. K.C. is also a recent recipient of a Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund grant.

Rappahannock resident **Al Regnery** and the three other musicians who form the string quartet known as the **Madison Chamber Players** have been playing together for 15 years. Their Soup & Soul presentation will feature music from different periods, historical and musical context for each piece, and perspective on the creative process for musicians who are part of a performing group.

As the managing director and principal at the Washington, DC outpost of Gensler, an international multidisciplinary design and architecture firm, architect **Jordan Goldstein** has won national and regional awards for excellence in architecture, interior design, and product design. He has been published in several design periodicals, including Interior Design, Contract, and The Washington Post. The house he designed for his family here in Rappahannock was featured in Dwell magazine, which quoted him as saying that "Connectivity was a driver when we set out to do this. To have greater connectivity as a family, and then connectivity to the land."

[Click to visit RAAC's Soup & Soul webpage.](#)



Art Tour 2015 Wrap up

The 11th Annual Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour on Nov 7 & 8 was a great success for Rappahannock's large group of talented and diverse artists and our community as a whole. The new Tour Headquarters venue at The Washington School provided a spacious and impressive space for the dramatic art display. All proceeds from the Tour will go directly back into our artistic community through Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund grants.

There are so many people to thank for the sustained team effort required to pull off this great annual event: the artists for their collective efforts to produce fine artworks and open their studios to the appreciative crowds, the owners of the eight special galleries, the Tour sponsors who gave so generously, the dedicated volunteers who performed their jobs with energy and enthusiasm, and the business owners who provided food and lodging to enhance the visitors' experience.

Many thanks to RAAC's planning committee members: co-chairs Nancy Raines and Heather Wicke, Tim Ayers, Robert Ballard, Barbara Black, Matthew Black, Patti Brennan, Kathy Farmer, Charles Fortuna, Nancy Keyser, Tod Morgan, Bill Praguski, Megan Smith, and Charlotte Taylor; and all of the residents who came out to enjoy the Tour and support the artists.

It doesn't just take a village, in this case it takes an entire community of people working together to make the Art Tour the successful celebration that it has been for eleven years.

[Click to visit RAAC's Art Tour webpages.](#)



Art Beat Rappahannock December 2015 & January 2016

<>Featuring non-RAAC arts events in Rappahannock County<>

Theater performances

- Dec 5, 8pm, **The Theatre at Washington, Virginia**, Frank Vignola Trio, jazz guitar
Dec 19, 8pm, Dark Hollow Bluegrass Band, "Blue Grass Holidays," vocals, bluegrass music
Jan 16, 8pm, Chuck Redd with Robert Redd, "Redd Hot Jazz!" [DETAILS](#)
- Dec 20, 4pm, **Castleton Festival**, The Barnes & Hampton Celtic Consort, Linn Barnes & Allison Hampton with Joseph Cunliffe & Steve Bloom
[DETAILS](#)

More arts events

- Dec 4-6, 11-13, 18-20, 26-27, Jan 1-3; 11am-5pm, **Middle Street Gallery** presents 8" x 10" x \$100 (or less): small works of affordable art & mini-shows by MSG members.
[DETAILS](#)
- Dec 4, 9pm, **Headmaster's Pub**, Leon Rector, music
Dec 5, 8pm, Dubious Brothers, music
Dec 12, 8pm, Steve Hagedorn, music
Dec 19, 8pm, Bobby G and Friends, music
Jan 2016 events: *check the [Pub's website](#).*
[DETAILS](#)
- Dec 4, 8pm, **Griffin Tavern**, music
Dec 5, 8:30pm, Bryan Elijah Smith & the Wild Hearts, music
Dec 12, 8:30pm, Five by Five Band, music
Dec 31, 6pm, Moondog Medicine Show, music
Jan 2016 events: check the [Griffin Tavern website](#).
[DETAILS](#)
- Dec 5, 1-3:30pm, **Gray Ghost Vineyards**, Valerie Von Fange, music
Dec 6, 1-4pm, Dave Goodrich, music
Jan 2016 events: check [Gray Ghost's website](#).
[DETAILS](#)

Check the event sponsor's website for schedule changes.

To submit an event, email artbeat@raac.org.

[Click to visit RAAC's website.](#)

Mark Your Calendar!

**For all the details, additions, and schedule changes, visit [RAAC's calendar](#).
New events are added frequently, so please check often.**

www.raac.org

Rappahannock Association for Arts and Community

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1-800-695-6075

RAAC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization staffed solely by volunteers.
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