
RAAC Newsletter August 2014



Hello everyone,

Once upon a time, summer seemed to be full of lazy, languid days where the major effort was finding a cool place to read or swim. Well, that may still be true, but it certainly isn't for RAAC! As you'll see in this month's newsletter, actors are busy rehearsing for two plays to be performed in mid-August and September. Three great movies have been vetted, picked, and scheduled for the Fall - don't rent the DVDs! Our Second Friday at the Library series is lining up intriguing and impressive guest speakers beginning this September.

The ever-popular Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour is gearing up for action with the selection of dozens of talented artists and local art galleries for the Nov 1-2 event. If you'd like to become an Art Tour sponsor, please go online to www.raac.org/aor14, click the "become a sponsor" button, and join the team.

Finally, I am delighted to announce the election of Barbara Wall as vice-president and Ralph Bates as fiscal vice-president of the RAAC Board. Barbara and Ralph bring deep professional skills to the Board as well as enormous energy, thoughtfulness, and commitment to the arts in Rappahannock. Please congratulate Barbara and Ralph when you see them.

Matthew Black, President, RAAC

RAAC Newsletter

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www.raac.org

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The Rappahannock Association
for the Arts and the Community



RAAC Community Theatre
310 Gay Street, Washington, VA

"The Wizard of Oz"

Auditions: Aug 2, 3, 9, and 10

Yes, "The Wiz" is coming to the RAAC Community Theatre for the holidays. Auditions are at the RAAC Community Theatre at 1pm each day. Rehearsals begin Sep 13, and performances are scheduled for Dec 5, 6, 12, 13, and 14. For additional information, contact Howard Coon at 540-212-3843 or email howapop@hotmail.com.

"The Real Inspector Hound"

Performances: Fri, Aug 15 and Sat, Aug 16; tickets \$15

Murder comes to the RAAC Community Theatre in this hilarious one-act send-up of country house, murder-mystery whodunits. Written by Tom Stoppard and directed by Russell Paulette, the play features a cast of local young people. To reserve and pay for tickets, visit [RAAC's theatre webpage](#). If you do not have internet access, call 800-695-6075.

"Salt and Pepper"

Performances: Fri, Sep 19 and Sat, Sep 20

This play, directed by Patty Hardee, is a series of interwoven stories that celebrate aging with grace, courage, and humor. Cast members include Brendan Martyn, Donna Chabot, Geoff Gowen, Barbara Black, Petrina Huston, Mimi Forbes, John Lesinski, and Gary Grossman. Reservations will open for "Salt and Pepper" in early August through [RAAC's theatre webpage](#).

"No Ordinary Person"

Performances: Fri, Oct 17 and Sat, Oct 18

RAAC's annual evening of autobiographical stories will be back for its 16th year, featuring new storytellers and new tales.

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

First Friday at the Movies

Films are shown at 8pm, ticket \$6
The Theatre At Washington
291 Gay Street, Washington, VA

"American Hustle"

Sep 5

Director: David O. Russell

Starring Christian Bale, Amy Adams, Bradley Cooper

Rated R; 138 minutes, drama

A con man, along with his seductive partner, is forced to work for a rogue FBI agent who pushes them into a world of Jersey power brokers and mafia.

"The Grand Budapest Hotel"

Oct 3

Director: Wes Anderson

Starring Ralph Fiennes, F. Murray Abraham, Mathieu Amalric,

Jude Law, Adrien Brody, Willem Dafoe, Jeff Goldblum, Harvey

Keitel, Bill Murray

Rated R; 100 Minutes, comedy



Between the World Wars, the concierge at a prestigious European hotel takes a bellboy as a trusted protege. Meanwhile, the upscale guests are involved in an art theft and a dispute over a vast family fortune.

"Chef"

Nov 7

Director: Jon Favreau

Writer: Jon Favreau

Stars: Jon Favreau, Sofia Vergara, John Leguizamo, Scarlett Johansson, Oliver Platt, Bobby Cannavale, Dustin Hoffman, Robert Downey Jr.

Rated R; 114 minutes, comedy

When a chef's plans for opening a restaurant in Los Angeles fail to pan out, he returns home to Miami and debuts a food truck instead. While trying to regain his zest for cookery, he also tries to mend his fractured family ties.

[Click to visit RAAC's film series webpage.](#)



RAAC annual members party
Save the date!

Location: Greenfield Farm

Date: Sep 28, 2014

Time: 4-6pm

Not a member of RAAC? You can learn how to join by clicking the link below.

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

1000 Faces performance
Supported by a Mitchell Fund grant

Location: Stone Hill in the town of Flint Hill

Date: Oct 25, 2014

This popular event begins at 4pm with sheep-herding demonstrations and bagpipers playing. The 1000 Faces performance will start around 5:30pm.



[Click to visit RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Art Fund webpage.](#)



Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour **Artist Ruthie Windsor-Mann**

Join the artists and galleries of Rappahannock as we celebrate our 10th annual Art Tour, held this year the weekend of November 1-2. An artist new to the Art Tour will be featured each month in this newsletter.

This month's artist is Ruthie Windsor-Mann. Her still life (example at left) and landscape paintings use oil, watercolor, and pen & ink with the traditional brush work, palette knife, or a combination of the two creating a unique texture. It's all about the light. Her studio at Little Windbury, which is on top of a knoll, is filled with it.

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

RAAC grant to Castleton Festival enriches local students' summer

RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund enabled Rappahannock students to participate in Castleton Alive! educational programs this summer. Singers and instrumentalists from the Castleton Festival orchestra spent four days in July at Rappahannock Elementary School.

Students listened and learned how to identify musical cues, learned the importance of breathing in singing, and participated in vocal warmups and singing exercises. Students played games geared towards enhancing creative thought and improvisation skills, as well as learning about acting and movement in opera.

Pictured at right, Kyle Masson, Castleton's education/outreach manager, directs a warmup game called "Maestro Says." It is a variant of "Simon Says" that incorporates movement, singing, and body percussion.

In addition to the program at the elementary school, 13 Rappahannock middle and high school students spent a day shadowing orchestra members at the Festival. A number of Rappahannock students also attended the final dress rehearsal for "Don Giovanni," which included an interactive pre-show discussion and lecture, observing the dress rehearsal, and participating in a Q&A session with cast, orchestra, and crew members after the show.

[Click to visit RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Fund webpage.](#)





RAAC Board Executive Committee with Artisan Trail Network sign

RAAC joins Rappahannock County's new Artisan Trail

RAAC is proud to be a charter member and founding supporter of Rappahannock County's newly established Artisan Trail.

Pictured are the members of RAAC's Executive Committee in front of the RAAC Community Theatre. From left to right: Kevin Adams, secretary; Matthew Black, president; Barbara Wall, vice-president; Sallie Morgan, treasurer; and Ralph Bates, fiscal vice-president.

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

Rappahannock County Farm Tour set for Sep 27-28

The 2014 Rappahannock County Farm Tour & Festival, scheduled for the last weekend in September, will showcase almost 30 farms, wineries, and ag-related businesses in a delightful self-guided tour that takes you from one end of our beautiful county to another.

You'll see family homesteads, sheep and cattle operations, family-run wineries, historic homes, producers and vendors of artisanal food and beverages, beloved country stores, and orchards that have produced fruit for generations. In addition, you can stroll the grounds of picturesque Avon Hall while visiting the Artisans' Market in the town of Washington, VA.

Take advantage of this opportunity to travel winding country lanes, meet new people, and visit new places as we celebrate all that is extraordinary in our lives in Rappahannock.



**Rappahannock County farm land
Photo by Ronda Ann Gregorio**



Meet Barbara Wall, RAAC's new vice-president

RAAC board member Barbara Wall was named vice-president in June. Barbara and her husband Chris have been weekenders in Rappahannock County since 2006.

Though Barbara and Chris have only had a house in Rappahannock for eight years, they confess that they'd been "stalking" the county for fifteen years before that, looking for the perfect place. They were originally attracted by the beauty of the countryside, but soon figured out that it was the arts community in Rappahannock that really set the county apart.

Barbara says they feel privileged to have become a part of that community. "One of our DC friends who visited us for a weekend of Castleton Festival performances and who's familiar with RAAC's Art Tour declared at the end of the weekend, 'on the chess board of life, you and Chris made an excellent move when you settled in Rappahannock County.' We agreed and look forward to contributing to the arts here for years to come."

In DC, Barbara is senior counsel of news and information company Gannett Co., Inc., the publisher of 82 daily newspapers, including USA TODAY, and owner of over 40 television stations. A UVA college and law school graduate, Barbara has represented news organizations for 35 years. In 2012 the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press honored her with their First Amendment Achievement award.

But before she went to law school, the arts were what attracted Barbara. She grew up playing the piano in New Orleans and majored in Art History in college. In Rappahannock, she fell in love with RAAC's many offerings, particularly the Art Tour. She began volunteering at RAAC events and joined the board in 2010. In 2013 she also joined the board of the Castleton Festival.

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

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