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# RAAC Newsletter February 2015

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**Hello everyone,**

It's tempting to throttle back during these cold winter days and curl up inside. But RAAC is offering another way to stay warm, have fun, and catch-up with friends. February is brimming with arts opportunities - watch "Boyhood" at First Friday at the movies on Feb 6, listen to tales from a decorated foreign correspondent at Second Friday at the Library on Feb 13, and sign up on the wait list for a sold-out Soup & Soul on Feb 28. And there's more - The Theatre at Washington and Castleton Festival are also offering wonderful performances this month.

Looking ahead, we are gearing up for our first annual RAAC Film Festival on April 10-12. Who knew that Rappahannock had so many filmmakers back in the hollows!

I'm thrilled to announce our newest event: the RAAC-Castleton Art Competition. Both organizations are inviting talented Rappahannock visual artists to celebrate music through their art. Finalists will be exhibited at Middle Street Gallery, and the grand winner will be featured on the 2015 Castleton Festival program cover.

Our annual membership drive is now under way. Letters asking you to join or renew will be in your mailboxes soon. We're expecting another great year but as an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization, we need your help. We channel all funds back into the community. Please join us!

**Matthew Black, President, RAAC**

# RAAC Newsletter

Vol. 3, #1

February 2015

[www.raac.org](http://www.raac.org)

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The Rappahannock Association  
for the Arts and the Community



*Click on the arrow above to view the video.*



## First Friday at the Movies "Boyhood"

**Fri, Feb 6, 8pm, \$6**  
**at The Theatre At Washington**  
**291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747**

**Starring** Ellar Coltrane, Patricia Arquette,  
**Ethan Hawke**

**Written and directed by Richard Linklater**  
**Drama; rated R for language including sexual**  
**references, and for teen drug and alcohol use;**  
**165 minutes**

**Awards: Winner of 3 Golden Globes & nominated**  
**for 6 Academy Awards**

Filed over 12 years with the same cast, Richard Linklater's "Boyhood" is a groundbreaking story of growing up as seen through the eyes of a child named Mason (a breakthrough performance by Ellar Coltrane), who literally grows up on screen before our eyes.

This film is a meticulously textured work set to the rhythm of life. Mr. Linklater both captures moments in time and relinquishes them as he moves from year to year. He isn't fighting time but embracing it in all its glorious and agonizingly fleeting beauty.

*This is a long movie, and there will be no intermission.*

**Please note** that there will be no captioning for this show. As part of a larger examination of hearing-assisted options, we are testing our improved sound system to assess how it performs for those of us with hearing difficulties. Please let us know.

**Upcoming film: "Gone Girl," Mar 6**

*[Click to visit RAAC's Film Series webpage.](#)*

**Second Friday at the Library**  
**Foreign correspondent**  
**Paul McGeough**



**Fri, Feb 13, 8pm, at the Rappahannock County Library**

RAAC welcomes Paul McGeough, a foreign correspondent for 25 years who has covered the war in Afghanistan, the war in Iraq, and the 9/11 attack on New York City, among many other assignments.

The author of half a dozen books and a long-time editor at the Sydney Morning Herald, McGeough has been named Australian Journalist of the Year two times and has won the Australian counterpart of the Pulitzer Prize, the Walkley, eight times.

McGeough, who lives in Huntly with his wife Nadia, calls his talk "Decisions and Consequences." He will discuss the lessons we can learn - or that we fail to learn - from our actions overseas. His focus will be less on the view from Washington and more on the lives and experiences of the people on the ground in the affected countries.

*The talk is free. All are welcome.*

*Upcoming talk: Fri, Mar 13, John Henry, stonework projects.*

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



## **Soup & Soul**

**Feb 28, Filmmaker Nina May**

**Mar 21, Writer Ed Dolnick**

RAAC's 2015 Soup & Soul season continues with speakers discussing film and non-fiction writing.

**Saturday, Feb 21, 6:30pm. Filmmaker Nina May.** Nina's credits as a film producer, director, and writer include "Life Fine Tuned," the story of a spoiled young rock star who realizes how empty her life is when she discovers the harmony of a new beginning. The film features aspiring young actors and musicians, and was filmed entirely in Virginia. She also produced, directed, and wrote "Emancipation, Revelation, Revolution," an award-winning documentary about the history of the civil rights movement in America, the role that both major political parties have played in it, and the voting habits of African Americans in America today.

**Saturday, March 21, 6:30pm. Writer Ed Dolnick.** Formerly a science writer for the Boston Globe, Ed has devoted the last several years to the writing of full-length books on a wide range of subjects. His most recent book is "The Rush," a close-up and fast-paced look at the California Gold Rush. His other non-fiction work includes a critical look at Freud's legacy, an examination of Sir Isaac Newton's world, the story of John Wesley Powell's journey down the Colorado River in row boats, and two books rooted in the art underworld.

**About the series:** Soup & Soul is hosted in local homes, and each event includes a potluck dinner in addition to the presentation by the featured artist. Patrons are asked to bring a food item to share.

Tickets for Soup & Soul are \$20 per person, per event, and may be purchased through the RAAC website (link below).

***RAAC maintains a wait list for sold-out performances.***

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

**Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund**  
**Grants available**  
**Deadline Mar 15**

Grants are now available to Rappahannock artists and organizations!

Are you, or do you know, an emerging or established Rappahannock artist, or an arts or community organization with an arts project in the county that deserves and needs support?

The Mitchell Arts Fund Committee is accepting applications for its 2015 grants. The application, guidelines, and a list of past grantees can be found on our [Mitchell Fund webpage](#).

Deadline for applications is March 15, with notification to all applicants by May 15.

**Many thanks for spreading the word!**

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



**The Film Festival at Little Washington**  
**Apr 10-12**

SAVE THE DATES! Excitement continues to build around RAAC's first annual Film Festival at Little Washington. Scheduled for the weekend of April 10-12, the festival will screen both feature-length and short films by talented local independent filmmakers at The Theatre at Washington.

On Saturday, a pop-up movie hall at the RAAC Theatre across the street will feature sneak previews of works in progress. After the films, Q&A sessions with filmmakers promise to be entertaining and thought provoking, and there will be numerous opportunities to mingle with the filmmakers over wine and coffee.

Click the link below for more information, including sponsorship and volunteer opportunities.

*[Click to visit RAAC's Film Festival webpage.](#)*

**RAAC-Castleton Art Competition**  
**Deadline Apr 15**

RAAC and the Castleton Festival invite Rappahannock visual artists to celebrate music through their art. The deadline for entries is April 15.

We're accepting two-dimensional artwork that captures the look, sound, or experience of music through representational or abstract art. Three esteemed judges will select finalists (separate categories for adults and high school students).

The grand winner will be featured in this year's Castleton Festival promotional materials, including the cover of the Festival program! A reception and exhibit of all finalists at Middle Street Gallery will be held later this spring.

For guidelines and application, description of awards, and judges' bios, [click here](#).

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



**RAAC Community Theatre**  
**310 Gay Street, Washington, VA**

**"You Can't Take It With You"**

May 1, 2, and 3

This three-act comedy, written by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, has been cast and is now in rehearsal. More information about this play will be published in the next edition of this newsletter.

Tickets will go on sale on the RAAC website soon and usually sell out fast.

***"The Gin Game," previously scheduled for March, will be performed in the fall.***

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

## RAAC membership drive

Join RAAC and enjoy the winter: our plays, movies, library talks, and Soup & Soul will keep you entertained! And come spring, you'll have RAAC's first film festival - and some wonderful plays at the RAAC Theatre - to look forward to.

RAAC's annual 2014 membership drive is under way. Our letter inviting you to join or renew will be arriving in your mailbox soon. Please have a look and join your friends and neighbors in supporting RAAC's community arts programs. You may also contribute directly to RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund, which offers grants to local artists and arts organizations.

To renew your RAAC membership and contribute to the Mitchell Arts Fund, simply fill out the form on the letter mailed to you and return it with a check to RAAC. Or, go to [raac.org](http://raac.org) or click on the "[Donate to RAAC](#)" button to pay with your credit card or PayPal. You will receive acknowledgment of your contribution by mail.

As a member, you will receive early notice of all events. Your contributions and participation will build and sustain a vibrant community through the arts.

*Support the arts, build community!*

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





**Meet Lynn Dolnick  
RAAC Board member**

At one time or another Lynn Dolnick has lived in Rappahannock part time, full time, and weekends, starting in 1995. Now she and her husband Ed spend summer and winter in Rappahannock and spring and fall in Brooklyn, New York, where Lynn spends as much time as she can with family - two sons and daughters-in-law, two granddaughters, a brother, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Lynn has always sought out communities, and she was drawn to Rappahannock by both its natural beauty and its reputation for embracing the arts. She joined the RAAC Board in 2012. Lynn and Ed are really delighted in getting to know this vibrant, enthusiastic community. They manage the popular Second Friday at the Library series, and Lynn is also leading an effort to redesign the RAAC website and serves on RAAC's Mitchell Arts Fund committee.

Lynn worked at the National Zoo for over two decades in many capacities, lastly as Associate Director for Exhibits and Education. She is passionate about art, science (she was a biologist in a former life), and conservation. Her art obsession these days is fabric dyeing and quilting, although she's a little worried she's running out of beds.

Lynn has served on many boards, several of them to do with women's issues and national and international conservation. African wildlife is her great love, and she is currently a Trustee of the African Wildlife Foundation.

*[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](http://www.raac.org)**

**The Rappahannock Association for the Arts and the Community**  
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Washington, VA 22747

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RAAC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization staffed solely by volunteers.  
Email us at [newsletter@raac.org](mailto:newsletter@raac.org)

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