

RAAC Newsletter March 2016



Hello friends!

The other day I caught a whiff of spring in the air, but on second thought, it was more likely the energy from all the arts happenings in the county.

There's much coming your way: "Ex Machina" at First Friday at the Movies, a talk by our very own Jim Northup (Superintendent of the Shenandoah National Park) set for Second Friday at the Library, and Soup & Soul featuring noted architect Jordan Goldstein. In addition, an improv workshop for kids has been scheduled at the RAAC Community Theatre, reservations required.

RAAC Community Theatre announces an inaugural performance collaboration with another theater! "The Odd Couple" is scheduled for three performances at the RAAC Community Theatre and three more performances at the Fauquier Community Theatre. Tickets for any of the six shows can be purchased on the [RAAC website](#).

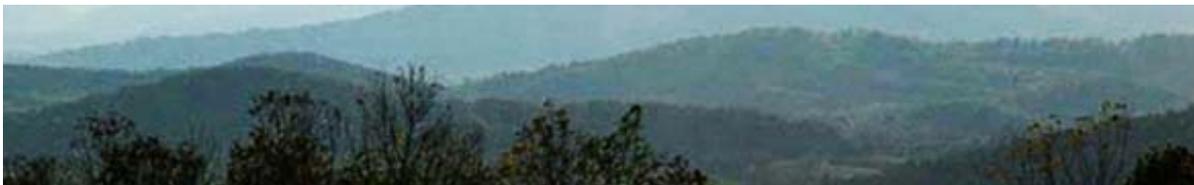
RAAC's second annual Film Festival at Little Washington is in the final stages of preparation. Over 100 entries were submitted by Virginia filmmakers - and selected films will be screened during the April 8-10 Festival.

For artists and organizations planning to submit grant proposals to RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund, please remember that March 15 is the final day that we'll accept [applications](#).

Last week you may have received our annual membership letter inviting you to join or renew your RAAC membership. If not, [click here](#) for membership information. We are an all-volunteer organization, and all funds are channeled back into Rappahannock to inspire art and build community. You can help make this happen by contributing financially, participating as a volunteer, and by attending arts events in the county.

Another way to enjoy and explore the arts is by taking classes and learning from others. RappU is a newly created nonprofit that brings subject experts and learners together right here in Rappahannock! The ArtBeat section below lists the spring semester's arts-related classes; several other courses ranging from agriculture, to history, health, environment, personal finance, religion, and more, are also offered. Full information, including course descriptions and online registration can be found on the [RappU website](#). Register early; classes may fill. Tuition is nominal, and classes begin on or about March 31. What a great opportunity!

Matthew Black, President, RAAC



RAAC Newsletter

Vol 4, #3

March 2016

In this issue . . .

- Mar 4** First Friday at the Movies
"Ex Machina"
- Mar 11** Second Friday at the Library
Jim Northup, Superintendent, SNP
- Mar 15** Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund
Calling all artists!
Applications for grants
DEADLINE March 15
- Mar 19** Soup & Soul
Jordan Goldstein, architect
- Mar 19** RAAC Community Theatre
Improv workshop for kids 10 to 18
- Apr 1,2,3** RAAC Community Theatre *shows*
Apr 8,9,10 Fauquier Community Theatre *shows*
"The Odd Couple"
- Apr 8-10** Film Festival at Little Washington
Coming soon!
- Feature** RAAC membership drive
Now under way!
- Feature** Art Beat Rappahannock
March 2016





*Movie trailer
Click on the lower photo
to play the video*

**First Friday at the Movies
"Ex Machina"**

**Fri, Mar 4, 8pm, \$6
The Theatre At Washington
291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747**

**Starring Alicia Vikander, Domhnall Gleeson,
Oscar Isaac
Director and writer Alex Garland
Drama, mystery, Sci-Fi; 108 minutes
Rated R for graphic nudity, language,
sexual references, and some violence
Awards: 2016 Oscar for Best Visual Effects**

Twenty-something computer programmer Caleb wins a contest to spend a week at the isolated home of his boss, the CEO of the Internet's largest provider. Caleb is thrilled to meet Nathan, whom he idolizes, but quickly learns the real reason for his presence: to administer a Turing test that judges the consciousness and abilities of Ava, a female android created by Nathan.

From a review by Ben Kendrick in [ScreenRant.com](#):

. . . It's fair to say that in addition to being one of the most thought-provoking science fiction films of late, "Ex Machina" is also one of the most visually arresting.

"Ex Machina" is memorable and downright challenging, full of sharp performances that blur the lines between humanity and programming - as well as twists that playfully defy the film's audience. It's an art-house movie, one that may move too slow or spend too much time in subtle reflection for casual viewers, but that doesn't mean Garland has missed his mark. Tracing a careful line between good and evil, genius and insanity, as well as soul and soullessness, "Ex Machina" is a captivating viewing - one that will leave moviegoers with plenty to contemplate.

**Upcoming films:
"Testament of Youth," Apr 1
"Brooklyn," May 6**

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



Second Friday at the Library
Jim Northup
Superintendent, Shenandoah National Park

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

March's speaker is Jim Northup, who will talk about his career with the National Park Service and the issues now facing Shenandoah National Park.

Over the years Northup has worked at some of America's most iconic national parks - Smoky Mountains, Grand Teton, Grand Canyon, and others across the nation. His career has come full circle: Northup began his career at Shenandoah National Park in 1979, and he was named Park Superintendent in 2013. This year marks the centennial celebration of the creation of the National Park Service.

For more information about the speaker, [click here](#).

The talk is free. All are welcome.

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



Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund
Application for grants DEADLINE March 15

Reminder - The application window closes Tuesday, Mar 15. Your proposal must be postmarked or emailed by midnight.

Grant guidelines and the application for 2016 are available by [clicking here](#). Proposals are welcomed from emerging and established artists of all ages, arts organizations, arts programs within community-based organizations, collaborative projects, and especially projects with a community focus. All arts media are eligible - visual art, literature, music, film/video, dance, theater, and projects combining multiple media.

Since 2012 the Mitchell Fund has awarded more than \$70,000 in grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 to 39 local arts projects, nonprofit organizations, and emerging and established artists.

For details, including the application, eligibility, timetables, review process, and a list of previous grantees, click the link below.

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



Soup & Soul **Jordan Goldstein, architect**

Sat, Mar 19

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" and "Contract," and in 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."

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 event is currently sold out, but tickets usually become available. You are encouraged to place your name on the [wait list](#). Tickets are \$20 each.

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



Improv workshop for kids 10 to 18

RAAC Community Theatre

310 Gay St

Washington, VA 22747

Sat, Mar 19, 10am to 5pm

Tuition \$20

Improv is both a valuable acting tool and a fun life skill. The RAAC Community Theatre is offering a one-day improv workshop for kids aged 10 to 18, taught by DC actor / comic / teacher / playwright [Renee Calarco](#).

Renee will start with basics and lead participants through improv theatre games and skill-building exercises. If there is time and interest, participants will use what they've learned to create short scenes. Please dress comfortably and be prepared to play and to have fun.

Renee lives and works in Washington, DC. She has been studying, teaching, and performing comedy improv since 1987. Over the years, she has performed with Washington Improv Theater, Dropping the Cow, and Precipice Improv.

The workshop is limited to 15 children, so reserve your child's space soon by [clicking here](#). Individuals without Internet access may call 1-800-695-6075 for reservations.

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



"The Odd Couple"

RAAC Community Theatre shows
310 Gay St
Washington, VA 22747
Fri, Apr 1, at 8pm
Sat, Apr 2, at 8pm
Sun, Apr 3, at 3 pm

Fauquier Community Theatre shows
4225 Aiken Dr
Warrenton, VA 20187
Fri, Apr 8, at 8pm
Sat, Apr 9, at 8pm
Sun, Apr 10, at 2pm

"The Odd Couple" is one of Neil Simon's funniest and most loved plays. Running on Broadway for 964 performances, it has spawned countless productions around the world, as well as film and TV adaptations. Simon even wrote a female version of the play.

The story revolves around the conflict when two best friends - neatnik Felix Ungar and the slovenly Oscar Madison - share an apartment. Their natural differences are aided and abetted by their trash-talking poker buddies and the giggly, lascivious Pigeon sisters from upstairs. Despite the laugh-a-minute misunderstandings and bickering between Felix and Oscar, the play is an examination of the transformative power of friendship. The cast features John Lesinski as Felix and Bob Hurley as Oscar. Patty Hardee directs.

As part of an effort to reach out to and exchange productions with other regional theaters, RAAC's production of "The Odd Couple" will be performed three times at the Fauquier Community Theatre as well as at the RAAC Community Theatre.

Make online reservations for any of the six shows on the [RAAC Community Theatre webpage](#). Theatergoers without Internet access may call 1-800-695-6075 for RAAC Community Theatre performances or 540-349-8760 for [Fauquier Community Theatre performances](#) (follow the prompts and leave a message).

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



Film Festival at Little Washington Coming soon!

Fri-Sun, Apr 8-10

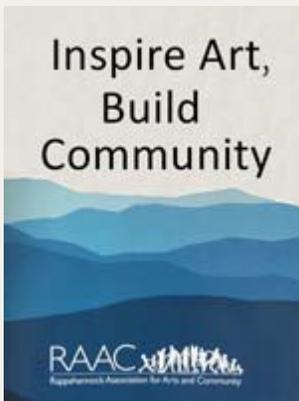
After previewing over 100 shorts, features, documentaries, animations, and web videos (and in the process consuming far too much popcorn), the screening panel has identified a remarkable selection of films to present in April!

Viewers will once again be entertained, challenged, and impressed by the depth of talent exhibited by Virginia filmmakers. Special guest, Academy Award-winning filmmaker Paul Wagner, will be on hand to help us launch this year's Festival.

Festival highlights include Q&As with filmmakers after screenings and at local gatherings; filmmaker roundtables and workshops; and a special Young Filmmakers' Hour on Sunday, featuring works by Rappahannock student filmmakers. Also, watch for Griffin Tavern's special Film Festival Trivia Night prior to the Festival!

***Tickets will go on sale in early March on RAAC's Film Festival webpage (link below).** Festival details, including volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, are also available by clicking the link below.*

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



RAAC membership drive Now under way!

RAAC is in the midst of our annual membership campaign. You can renew or join by [clicking here](#) or by mail to RAAC, PO Box 24, Washington, VA 22747.

Your membership allows RAAC to inspire the arts and build community in Rappahannock County through programs like First Friday at the Movies, RAAC Community Theatre, Second Friday at the Library, the Film Festival at Little Washington, and the Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour.

Please renew or join now and help us build community through the arts.

**We look forward to your membership support -
*thank you!***

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



Art Beat Rappahannock March 2016

Featuring non-RAAC arts events in Rappahannock County

Theater performances

- Mar 12, 8pm, **The Theatre at Washington, Virginia**, Folk guitarist Jacob Johnson with storyteller Antsy McClain. [DETAILS](#)
- Mar 20, 4pm, **Castleton Festival**, Wayne Henderson & Helen White, traditional Appalachian music [DETAILS](#)

Arts & music

- Mar 1-Mar 21, Wed-Mon, 10am-5pm, Tues by appt, **Gay Street Gallery**, Winter Exhibition [DETAILS](#)
- Mar 1-Mar 27, 11am-5pm, **Middle Street Gallery**, New Member Mini-shows [DETAILS](#)
- Mar 5, 8pm, **Griffin Tavern**, The Rogue Farmers, music
Mar 11, 8pm, Dubious Brothers, music
Mar 12, 8:30pm, Andre Fox Band, music
Mar 18, 8pm, Bryan Elijah Smith & Jay Austin, music
Mar 19, 8:30pm, Hypnotic Willies, music
Mar 25, 8pm, Madonnas in a Field, music
Mar 26, 8:30pm, The Muddy Crows, music [DETAILS](#)
- Mar 5, 8pm, **Headmaster's Pub**, Gold Top Country Ramblers, music
Mar 19, 8pm, No More Chili, music
Mar 26, Dubious Brothers, music [DETAILS](#)
- Mar 5-Jun 3, **Narmada Winery**, opening for artist Thomas Fernandez [DETAILS](#)

RappU arts courses, Spring 2016 semester starts Mar 31

- Acting and Theatre, with Peter Hornbostel [DETAILS](#)
- Armchair Art Tour, with Susan Schiffman [DETAILS](#)
- Short Story Writing, with Pete Pazmino [DETAILS](#)
- How To Get Your Book Published, with Al Regnery [DETAILS](#)
- Mosaics for Beginners, with Patricia Brennan [DETAILS](#)
- **REGISTRATION REQUIRED. FOR THE FULL LIST OF CLASSES, [CLICK HERE](#).**

Check the event sponsor's website for schedule changes.

To submit an event, [email artbeat@raac.org](mailto: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

PO Box 24
Washington, VA 22747

1-800-695-6075

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