

# RAAC Newsletter April 2016



**Hello friends!**

True to form, April is bursting with arts events and flowers!

April 1 is opening night for "The Odd Couple," which runs Fri-Sun, Apr 1-3. This hilarious Neil Simon play offers a window into the transformative power of friendship. I've heard the cast is terrific; don't miss it! FYI, tickets sell out quickly; they can be [reserved here](#).

We offer another not-to-miss event on Fri, Apr 1 - the compelling movie, "Testament of Youth," that chronicles the effects of World War I on a generation of youth from a woman's perspective.

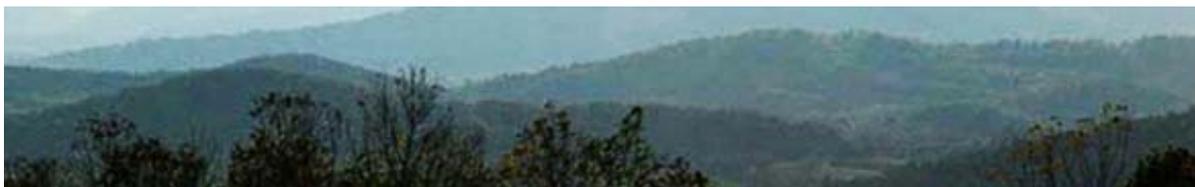
Excitement crescendos with our second annual Film Festival. Throughout the weekend of Apr 8-10, over 30 films will be screened - selected from over 100 entries submitted by talented Virginia-based filmmakers. Join us at the opening reception at Tula's on Friday, pick up a daily or weekend pass, or buy tickets separately - all [available here](#). There will be opportunities to meet fascinating filmmakers, see movies created by Rapp youth, and places to gather and celebrate with friends. See below for more information.

Operating in the background is RAAC's annual membership drive, and I'm delighted by the surge in renewals and new memberships. If you haven't already, please join us and your neighbors supporting the arts in Rappahannock. [Click here](#) to join/renew online or to download a copy of our letter and a membership form.

Finally, our Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund received a record number of grant requests by the Mar 15 due date. It's wonderful to see the different aspects of RAAC coming together in building community through the arts. Our programming, which you support as participants, volunteers, and donors, is blossoming. Net proceeds from these events, combined with membership contributions, are going right back into the community through grants that will be announced later this spring. It's a great circle of creating, supporting, participating, and sharing.

Thank you!

**Matthew Black, President, RAAC**



## *RAAC Newsletter*

Vol 4, #4

April 2016

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*April 2016*





Movie trailer  
Click on the lower photo  
to play the video

**First Friday at the Movies**  
**"Testament of Youth"**

**Fri, Apr 1, 8pm, \$6**  
**The Theatre At Washington**  
**291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747**

**Starring Alicia Vikander, Colin Morgan,**  
**Dominic West, Emily Watson,**  
**Kit Harrington, Taron Egerton**

**Director James Kent**

**Biography, drama, war; 129 minutes**

**Rated PG-13 for thematic material including**  
**disturbing war-related images**

A British woman recalls coming of age during World War I - a story of young love, the futility of war, and how to make sense of the darkest times.

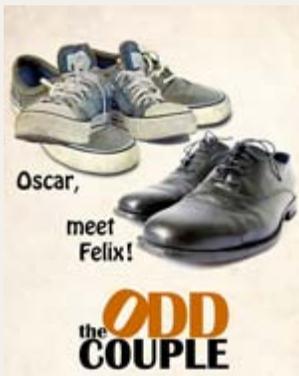
*From a review by Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times:*

Based on Vera Brittain's deeply felt 1933 memoir of her World War I experiences . . ."Testament of Youth" is an attempt to write history in terms of personal life that is wrenched out of its author's very soul.

Unapologetically emotional and impeccably made in the classic manner, it tells the kind of potent, many-sided story whose unforeseen complexities can come only courtesy of a life that lived them all. Brittain's trademark fiery intensity and passionate attitude have been transferred intact to this film . . . which seems to breathe with the writer's internal essence. Key to that success is the all-out performance by Sweden's Alicia Vikander, very much the actress of the moment after her charismatic work as the enigmatic Ava in "Ex Machina."

**Upcoming film:**  
**"Brooklyn," May 6**

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



## "The Odd Couple"

**RAAC Community Theatre**  
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**  
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

See you there!

Fri-Sun, Apr 8-10

The Theatre at Washington, VA

291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747

With the Film Festival right around the corner, Rappahannock County is abuzz with excitement in anticipation of a weekend full of entertaining and thought-provoking documentaries, features, shorts, and music videos by filmmakers in Virginia.

With something for everyone, on Saturday night there's even a Hollywood-style world premiere of "Macbeth Unhinged," directed by and starring Angus Macfadyen of "Braveheart" and "Turn: Washington's Spies" fame.

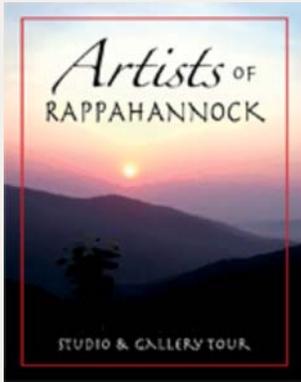
Filmed in Virginia in collaboration with Virginia Commonwealth University's School of the Arts Cinema Program, over 40 film students, along with university artists, fashion designers, and technicians participated in the production. ***Early ticket purchase is advised as seating is limited.***

Be sure to visit the Film Festival webpages (link below) for details on these festival-related events:

- Griffin Tavern has scheduled a movie-themed Trivia Night on Thurs, Mar 31.
- DuCard Vineyards is hosting a wine tasting and screening of the documentary "Somm: Out of the Bottle" at the Theatre at Washington on Sat, Apr 2.
- Pen Druid Brewery is screening The Forge Studios' "The Rangers: A Shadow Rising" on Thurs, Apr 7.
- The Forge Studios is hosting a filmmaker roundtable open to the public on Sat, Apr 9.

**Buy your tickets [here](#).** Festival details are available by clicking the link below.

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



## Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour

**Fri, Apr 15 application deadline for new artists!**

If you are a Rappahannock artist interested in joining RAAC's annual Art Tour for the first time, please email Heather Wicke, Chair, Art Tour Planning Committee, at [hwicke@comcast.net](mailto:hwicke@comcast.net) by Apr 15.

The first step in joining the Art Tour is to schedule an informational visit by several committee members to your studio or gallery. After this meeting, you will receive an application to be returned to the Art Tour committee by May 20, along with the \$200 registration fee.

Over the past 11 years, the Art Tour has been one of the highlights of RAAC's activities celebrating Rappahannock's vibrant arts community and scenic beauty. New local artists are most welcome to join in the fun and satisfaction. This year's Art Tour is scheduled for Nov 5 & 6.

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



**Make a gift to RAAC through Give Local Piedmont**

**Tues, May 3, 12am though 11:59pm**

The Northern Piedmont Community Foundation is joining many communities throughout the United States on May 3 for a national day of local giving named Give Local America. Our regional drive, Give Local Piedmont, makes it fun and easy for individuals to support the many worthy local nonprofits that serve the Piedmont area, including Rappahannock County.

Contributions made online on Tues, May 3, through Give Local Piedmont may become eligible for matching funds and prizes to the organizations you support. **To make a donation to RAAC and other charities of your choice, just [click here](#) any time between 12am and 11:59pm on Tues, May 3.**

Your ongoing and generous donations to Rappahannock Association for Arts & Community enable us to provide dynamic arts programs and grants. Thank you!

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



## RAAC Community Theatre

### "Red"

Fri, May 20, at 8pm

Sat, May 21, at 8pm

Sun, May 22, at 3pm

310 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747

Tickets \$15 each

In "Red" by American playwright John Logan, Mark Rothko, a master abstract expressionist painter, has landed a huge contract for a series of paintings that are intended to hang in the new Four Seasons Restaurant in the Seagrams Building in New York City. As the play opens, Rothko shows a large painting to his young assistant Ken.

"What do you see?" Rothko asks Ken. "Wait. Stand closer. You've got to get closer. Let it work on you. Closer. Too close. There. Let it spread out. Let it wrap its art around you."

That is precisely what RAAC Community Theatre artistic director Peter Hornbostel (and director of "Red") hopes the play will do for the audience in the Theatre's upcoming production starring Howard Coon as Rothko and Brendan Martyn as Ken.

Winning six Tony Awards (including best play) in 2010, the fictional story examines, through Rothko's eyes and oversized ego, the creation of art and color and the work of other modern painters.

*To purchase tickets, click the link below. Prepayment guarantees your seat, regardless of arrival time. Patrons who elect to pay at the door need to arrive no later than 10 minutes before the performance as seats will not be held after that time. 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.](#)



## Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund

### Grants selections in progress

The deadline for grant proposals to RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund was Mar 15, and the Mitchell Fund committee is extremely impressed by the quantity, quality, and diversity of this year's applications. Over the next six weeks, the group of five RAAC Board members and two community members will carefully review each project and make their funding recommendations to the full RAAC Board.

All applicants will be notified by May 31. Watch this space for the announcement of our 2016 Mitchell Arts Fund grantees.

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



## Art Beat Rappahannock April 2016

*Featuring non-RAAC arts events in Rappahannock County*

### **Theater performances**

- Apr 15, 7:30pm, **Castleton Festival**, "A Time to Break Silence" ...shining an artistic spotlight on social issues, Kay Chernush & Gary Bass. [DETAILS](#)
- Apr 23, 8pm, **The Theatre at Washington, Virginia**, Walker's Run, bluegrass & Appalachian Mountain music. [DETAILS](#)

### **Arts & music**

- Apr 1-May 8, 11am-5pm, **Middle Street Gallery**, featuring Joan Wiberg & Barbara Heile  
Apr 9, 3-5pm, group show opening reception  
[DETAILS](#)
- Apr 1, 8pm, **Griffin Tavern**, Masquerade Party with Excellent Adventure, music  
Apr 2, 8pm, Dry Mill Road, music  
Apr 8, 8pm, Marc Allred Solo Looper, music  
Apr 9, 8:30pm, Burnt Orange Band, music  
Apr 16, 8:30pm, Vinyl Tracks, music  
Apr 23, 8pm, Five by Five Band, music  
Apr 29, 8pm, Clay Arthur & The Mystic Pistols, music  
Apr 30, 8:30pm, Andre Fox Band, music  
[DETAILS](#)
- Apr 1, 8-11pm, **Headmaster's Pub**, Jaguar Medicine, music  
Apr 8, 8-11pm, Leon Rector, music  
Apr 9, 8-11pm, Madonnas in a Field!, music  
Apr 15, 8-11pm, Augusta Blue, music  
Apr 16, 8-11pm, Ronnie Johnson, music  
Apr 23, 8-11pm, Sixling Twin, music  
Apr 29, 8-11pm, Bobby G & Friends, music  
Apr 30, 8-11pm, Mark Clay, music. [DETAILS](#)
- Apr 2, 4-7pm, **Gay Street Gallery**, Opening Reception for Spring Exhibition, paintings by Chris Liberti & Kevin H. Adams, glassware by Diana Branscome. [DETAILS](#)
- Apr 2, 6-9pm, **Tula's Off Main**, Josh Lowe, music  
[DETAILS](#)
- Apr 3, 7-9pm, **Central Coffee Roasters**, Kinda Celtic acoustic; Old Irish, Scottish, & Appalachian music; suggested donation \$10  
Apr 10, 7-9 pm, Remington Steel Acoustic Jazz, jazz & blues, suggested donation \$10  
Apr 24, 7-9pm, Dana Lyons, American singer/songwriter; mix of comedy, ballads, & love songs; suggested donation \$10  
[DETAILS](#)

- Apr 16, 8pm, **Heritage Hollow Farms**, Photographing the Essence of Life on the Farm, Molly Peterson, exhibit and workshop [DETAILS](#)

- Apr 23, 2-5:30pm, **Gadino Cellars**, Robbie Limon, Earth Day Celebration. [DETAILS](#)

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

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