

RAAC Newsletter September 2018

Hello all,

As summer draws to a close, RAAC is putting the final touches on an exciting mix of fall programs. You'll learn more about them in the articles below. Be sure to save these dates for some of the best entertainment in the county that's guaranteed to energize you, stretch you, entertain you.

September 7 - First Friday at the Movies: *Won't You Be My Neighbor?* It's a documentary that explores the life, lessons, and legacy of the iconic children's television host, Mr. Rogers.

September 14 - Second Friday RAAC Talk: Jack Ford, an award-winning CBS and PBS news veteran, talks about a new novel set in Rappahannock. *Chariot on the Mountain*, based on an 1840s courtroom case, is about a young slave named Kitty, who won her freedom fourteen years before the Civil War.

September 28 & 29 - Two Film Talk-Back Evenings: In conjunction with the annual Farm Tour, RAAC is partnering with the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute and the American Conservation Film Festival to screen terrific farm and conservation-related films, followed by after-movie discussions with leading experts courtesy of SCBI.

October 5 & 6 - The ever-popular No Ordinary Person comes early this year and will feature autobiographical storytellers: Betsy Dietel, Michael Sands, Joyce Wenger, Bud Meyer, and Jim Northup.

Looking further ahead, RAAC's membership party will be held on Sunday, October 14 (12:00-3:00) at the public park across from Washington. There'll be great music, BBQ, and an opportunity to chat with neighbors and friends. Save the date!

You'll also read below about what some 2018 grant recipients of RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund have been doing this summer and their upcoming events open to the public.

Finally, if you haven't already, I encourage you to be a sponsor of this year's Fall Art Tour. This is our 14th Art Tour! Held every year during the first weekend in November, the Tour showcases our talented artists while also supporting local businesses. It may be Rappahannock's largest annual event; last year we had 1,300 visitors. Details about the Fall Art Tour are in the letter you received a few weeks ago. You can also find the letter and sponsor reply form by clicking [HERE](#). By the way, net proceeds from the Tour are channeled back into the community through our Mitchell Arts Fund. Thanks!

See you in September!

Matthew Black, President, RAAC



RAAC Newsletter

Vol 6, #7

September 2018

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*Click on the photo below
to play the movie trailer*



First Friday Movie

"Won't You Be My Neighbor?"

Friday, Sep 7, 7pm

(Popcorn, candy, and water available for purchase)

Little Washington Theatre

291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747

**Starring: Joanne Rogers, Betty Aberlin,
David Bianculli**

Director: Morgan Neville

Awards: 4 wins and 4 nominations;

**Genre: Documentary, biography;
94 minutes; Rated PG13
for some thematic
elements & language**

Charmingly soft-spoken and yet powerfully incisive expressing his profound ideals, Fred Rogers was a unique presence on television for generations.

Through interviews of Rogers' family and colleagues, the life of this would-be pastor is explored as a man who found a more important calling to provide an oasis for children in a video sea of violent bombardment. That proved to be his landmark series, Mister Rogers' Neighborhood (1968), a show that could gently delve into important subjects no other children's show would have dared for that time. In doing so, Rogers experienced a career where his sweet-tempered idealism charmed and influenced the world.

*-Written by Kenneth Chisholm,
Internet Movie Database*

"Gorgeously made film" (LA Times)

"Rare documentary...a wonder" (Village Voice)

[*Click to visit RAAC's First Friday Movie webpage.*](#)



Second Friday RAAC Talk

Jack Ford

New novel set in Rappahannock

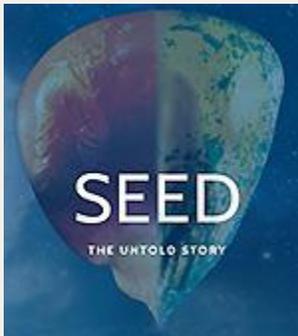
Friday, Sep 14, 8pm

**Rappahannock County Library
4 Library Lane, Washington, VA 22747**

Jack Ford, a CBS and PBS news veteran, will talk about a new novel set in Rappahannock. *Chariot on the Mountain* is based on a true courtroom case from the 1840s about a young slave named Kitty who won her freedom fourteen years before the Civil War.

Ford is an award-winning journalist and a former trial attorney with a particular interest in court cases where slaves argued that they had a legal right to freedom.

[Click to visit RAAC's Second Friday Talk webpage.](#)



Film Talk-Back Farm Tour Weekend

Friday & Saturday, Sep 28 & 29
7:30pm-9:30pm both nights

Little Washington Theatre
291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747

Films screening September 28:

"SEED: The Untold Story"
93 minutes

Friday, Sep 28, 7:30 pm
(Popcorn, candy, and water available for purchase)

Little Washington Theatre
291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747

Filmmakers: Taggart Siegel & Jon Betz

Few things on Earth are as miraculous and vital as seeds, worshiped and treasured since the dawn of humankind. This film follows passionate seed keepers protecting our 12,000 year-old food legacy. In the last century, 94% of our seed varieties have disappeared. As biotech chemical companies control the majority of our seeds, farmers, scientists, lawyers, and indigenous seed keepers fight a David and Goliath battle to defend the future of our food.

Winner of 14 major awards, "SEED" has been called "a superb documentary...visually stunning...a model of scientific insight, story-telling, and cinematic panache." One reviewer describes the movie as "a call to arms about the need for seed diversity. It takes audiences on a gorgeously filmed and creatively animated adventure seen through the eyes of a colorful cast of characters.

Following the screening, experts in their fields will lead discussions.

To view the trailer, click [HERE](#).

Films screening September 29:

Short films listed below

Saturday, Sep 29, 7:30 pm
(Popcorn, candy, and water available for purchase)

Little Washington Theatre
291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747

"Soil Carbon Cowboys"



RAAC Community Theatre

"No Ordinary Person"

Friday, Oct 5, 8pm

Saturday, Oct 6, 8pm

This year's "No Ordinary Person" marks a special milestone: it's the 20th anniversary of the perennially popular show devoted to true tales from Rappahannock storytellers.

The performance features five Rappahannock residents telling four stories - one story is a joint affair! The storytellers are Bud Meyer, a newspaper executive and novelist; Joyce Wenger, who spent a career in technology and research; Jim Northup, a park ranger and superintendent for three decades; and Mike Sands and Betsy Dietel, whose areas of expertise stretch from farming to philanthropy.

The stories cover a wide range, both geographically and emotionally. We venture from Hannibal, Missouri, smack in the heartland of America, to South Korea, to the desert corners of the southwest, and we confront strangers as formidable as hard-eyed Mexican federales and as frightening, in a different way, as a large, loud, enthusiastic mother-in-law-to-be clad only in a towel and a diamond ring.

The program comes to the RAAC Community Theatre, 310 Gay Street, Washington, VA on Friday, Oct 5 and Saturday, Oct 6. Showtime is 8pm. Tickets are \$15 each. Reservations may be made through the RAAC website by clicking [HERE](#). Shows often sell out; early reservations are recommended.

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



Fall Art Tour

Artists of Rappahannock 14th Annual Studio & Gallery Tour

Save the dates!

Saturday-Sunday, Nov 3 & 4

The 14th annual Fall Art Tour will have more artists and fine art of all types than ever to enjoy and new studios and galleries to explore. Over 100 artists will be showing in over 40 studios and galleries throughout Rappahannock County.

The Tour begins at Art Tour Headquarters at The Washington School, 567 Mt Salem Ave., Washington, VA. There you will see a visual feast of representative art on display at the Main Gallery. For a \$10 per person admission fee, you will receive a guide and map to direct you to the artists you most want to visit on your self-guided tour through the gorgeous scenery.

The Fall Art Tour is truly a unique experience for art enthusiasts and countryside adventurers from near and far. Don't miss the wonder of this extraordinary community event!

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



Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund Updates on 2018 grantees

Upcoming grantee events - All are welcome!

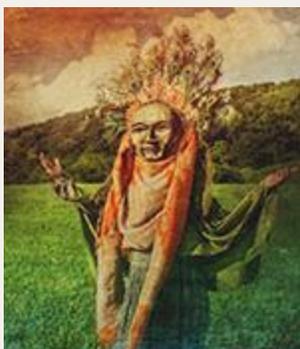
The community is invited to events that have been funded in part by grants from RAAC's Mitchell Arts Fund.



"Luther's Trumpet," a play by James Reston, Jr.

The play is a stage adaptation of Reston's 2015 book "Luther's Fortress: Martin Luther and His Reformation Under Siege." It is performed by community actors in a stone amphitheater and directed by Rick Davis, dean of performing arts at George Mason University, on Sep 22 at 5pm (rain date Sep 29) at Stone Hill Amphitheater, 40 Springwish Lane, Flint Hill. The suggested donation is \$20 per person.

[Details at stonehilltheatricalfoundation.org](http://stonehilltheatricalfoundation.org)



1000 Faces Mask Theater

A performance of Peggy Schadler's new theater & music piece "Lucid Dreaming"

Bring a chair, blanket and picnic

Sep 22 at 6pm (rain or shine)

Gates open at 4:30pm; music at 5pm

Castleton Farms, 7 Castleton Meadows Lane, Castleton

Suggested donation \$10



Red Tent Sisterhood

The event is a community celebration of the fall equinox with vegetarian potluck.

Sep 22 from 4:30 - 8 pm

Castleton Farms, 7 Castleton Meadows Lane, Castleton

Suggested donation \$10



Rappahannock Writers' Retreat

Expand your writing practice in the supportive company of fellow writers, led by guest poet-teacher Victoria Bosch Murray at this third annual weekend for writers, Oct 5-7, with an open reading on Sunday at Bookworks Studio in Flint Hill. Now accepting applications.

Inquiries and details at kcpoetry@gmail.com

[Click to visit the Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund webpages.](#)



Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund Summer Happenings 2018

The grantees have been busy this summer pursuing and sharing their artistry with the community.



Mountainside Dance Center

In June Mountainside Dance Center performed "Calling All Angels" at the Rappahannock High School auditorium. The program was dedicated to Emily Hilscher, a local student who died in the 2007 Virginia Tech shooting, and to honor the memory of all of the victims of school violence. The performances included Mountainside Dance Center students and others from Rappahannock, with appearances by Miranda Hope, Smiggy Smith, Maddie Mae and Ted Pellegatta Jr. The choreography was provided by Anne Williams, Kitty Keyser and Philip Rosemond.

Photo by Tom Pellagata



Headwaters Summer Chorus

Fifteen students from Rappahannock County and surrounding area spent two weeks making glorious music with their voices and Orff instruments. It was a fun two weeks topped off by an outstanding concert for the community at Castleton Festival's Theatre House. "Summer Chorus singers create something artistically beautiful together that at the end of two weeks enriches both the community and the singers themselves," says Headwaters Executive Director Kevin Brandiff.

Photo by Kaitlin Haney



CCLC Camp

CCLC summer campers spent time with gifted local talent this summer. The second grade and older Drama Camp, led by Trusten Murrah, 2018 RCHS graduate and drama student, studied foundation skills of stage performance. Kitty Keyser led the kindergarten/first grade group in a performance of "Where the Wild Things Are" in the Music/Arts/Drama Camp.

"Experiences such as these help build self esteem and social skills for success in school and in life" offered Lisa Pendleton, CCLC Program Director.

Photos by Cheryl Crews & Anne Archer



Arts & Crafts Camp at Hearthstone

Janet Kerig and Kitty Keyser's Arts & Crafts Camp at Hearthstone School engaged children ages 3-11 in a variety of media over two weeks this summer. Scholarship funding from the Mitchell Fund made it possible for kids to attend who might not have otherwise been able.

Older campers served as counselors in training. "The week long immersion in the arts teaches craft skills, color & form appreciation, rhythm, movement, and free expression can have a lasting effect on children's lives," says camp coordinator Janet Kerig.

Photo by Janet Kerig



Shinola Creek

Members of this collective of nine talented local musicians gathered for 6 days at a private Rappahannock studio to record their debut album of 10 original songs. Visiting Nashville producer Mack Starks Linebaugh joined Shahin Shihada, Robert "Smiggy" Smith, Drew Smith, Miranda Hope, Forrest Marquisee, Vincent Day, Frank Austin, Terry Waggener, and Jonathan Marquisee.

To find out more about the band, the project, the CD release and party, and future gigs, join their Facebook page and visit www.ShinolaCreek.com.

Photo by Miranda Hope



Rappahannock.com Events Calendar

Click [HERE](#) to visit the comprehensive local events calendar hosted by Rappahannock.com.

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

Mark Your Calendar!

For all the details, additions, and schedule changes for RAAC events, visit [RAAC's calendar](#). Our website is updated frequently, so please check often.

www.raac.org

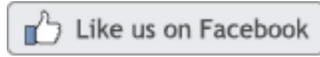
Rappahannock Association for Arts and Community

PO Box 24
Washington, VA 22747

1-800-695-6075

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

Email us at newsletter@raac.org



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RAAC, PO Box 24, Washington, VA 22747