

**Hello friends!**

RAAC's big news this month is the announcement of our 2019 Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund grants - 16 awards to Rappahannock artists and organizations totaling \$51,128! These artists and organizations align beautifully with our goal of inspiring art and building community.

It was a very competitive process again this year, and I'm thrilled at the diversity and quality of the proposals. See below for a list of this year's grantees and a description of their funded projects. Special note for parents and grandparents: three awardees are offering summer art programs for our children (some with financial assistance).

Since 2012, RAAC has given away \$260,000 to more than 60 different artists and organizations in the community - a 26-fold increase over the initial bequest from Claudia Mitchell. Net proceeds from RAAC programs and especially the Fall Art Tour, combined with contributions from our generous donors, have made this ongoing support possible - thank you!

RAAC is taking its usual summer recess to recharge and plan. There will be no First Friday Movies or Second Friday RAAC Talks until September. In the meantime, we're busy getting ready for our fall events: "Waiting for Godot" and No Ordinary Person at the RAAC Theatre, a second community square dance with Rapp-at-Home, another film-talkback event, RAAC's fall picnic, and our annual Fall Art Tour on November 2-3.

Please let us know if you'd like to join others in helping with RAAC programs and events - email us at [info@raac.org](mailto:info@raac.org). We're an all-volunteer organization and rely heavily on the energy and kindness of folks like you. Please stay in touch by going to RAAC's website at [www.raac.org](http://www.raac.org).

Finally, **thanks again** to all who joined and supported RAAC during our winter/spring membership drive and through the May 7 Give Local Piedmont campaign. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and underlies RAAC's success in building community through the arts.

**Matthew Black, President, RAAC**



## RAAC Newsletter

Vol 7, #6

June 2019

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Patric Stewart, left, and Ian McKellen in Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" at New York City's Cort Theatre, in 2013.

*Photo by Sara Krulwich, The New York Times/Redux.*

## RAAC Community Theatre "Waiting for Godot"

**Friday, Sep 13**  
**Saturday, Sep 14**  
**Friday, Sep 20**  
**Sunday, Sep 22**

RAAC Theatre will kick off its 2019/2020 season with a production of Samuel Beckett's award-winning and challenging play, "Waiting for Godot". Now in rehearsal, the play is being directed by Mike Mahoney, whose previous directing credits include "The Gin Game" and "Arcadia." The actors are well known to the RAAC community and include Andy Platt, Stephanie Mastri, Hugh Hill, Scott McMurtray, and Maeve Ciuba.

Beckett was a Nobel Laureate, and his "Godot" is widely considered to be one of the great plays of the 20th Century. It is regularly performed all over the world, in many different languages, and by many leading actors.

Beckett's literary agent describes the play: "two wandering tramps, Vladimir and Estragon, wait by a lonely tree to meet up with Mr. Godot, an enigmatic figure in a world where time, place and memory are blurred and meaning is where you find it. The tramps hope that Godot will change their lives for the better. Instead, two eccentric travelers arrive, one man on the end of the other's rope. The results are both funny and dangerous in this existential masterpiece." A critic described it as "a witty and poetic conundrum."

### **Theatre marks 10th year aligned with RAAC**

In 2009, with the passing of Ki Theatre founder Julie Portman, Ki aligned with RAAC. Since that time the Theatre's offerings, scope, and audiences have grown. This year marks the 10th anniversary of that successful collaboration. Look for special announcements and events celebrating the legacy of the Theatre and the milestones reached as a part of RAAC.

## **Artists of Rappahannock 15th Annual Fall Art Tour**



## Contact deadline for returning artists Saturday, June 1

If you are a Rappahannock artist interested in joining RAAC's annual Art Tour for the first time, please contact Heather Wicke, Chair, Art Tour Planning Committee, by June 1 at [hwicke2@gmail.com](mailto:hwicke2@gmail.com) or call 540-675-3368.

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 Planning Committee, along with the \$200 registration fee.

Over the past 14 years, the Art Tour has been one of the highlights of RAAC's activities celebrating Rappahannock's vibrant arts community and scenic beauty. We had another record crowd attending last year and hope to continue that trend.

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



## Mitchell Arts Fund

### Grantee awards announcements

RAAC is pleased to announce this year's grants to Rappahannock artists and organizations. In keeping with the vision of the Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund, the grants reward and encourage individual artists of all ages and organizations that are working to foster the arts in Rappahannock. This year's grants include a diversity of educational and performance projects, a variety of media, emerging and established artists, arts programs within community-based organizations, and collaborative projects.

Of the many worthy applications that were received, the following 16 were chosen to be recipients of this year's Mitchell Fund grants, for a total of \$51,128 in grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$6,000.

#### ***Congratulations to:***

- \* Appalachian Dulcimer Museum - sound system in the new performance space at Estes Mill
- \* Lillian Freeman Aylor - final production & distribution of her memoir "My Rappahannock Journey: The Life of Lillian Freeman Aylor"
- \* Belle Meade Montessori School - student design project, "Open a Door to Rappahannock County"
- \* Child Care & Learning Center - multi-part arts programming for 2019-20 school year including puppet residency, performance, music & movement classes for pre-school children and summer camp for school-age children
- \* Lorraine Duisit - recording & production of an album of original songs, in partnership with bandmate Smiggy Smith

- \* Sue Davis Gabbay - production of a book of original poems focused on her new life in Rappahannock, with illustrations by Kerrie Gabbay Mullany
- \* Headwaters Summer Chorus - summer youth chorus program, with new additions this year of younger students' group & adult participation
- \* Janet Kerig's Arts & Crafts Camp at Hearthstone School - scholarships and art supplies
- \* Kid Pan Alley - songwriting residency-workshops at Hearthstone and Rappahannock Elementary Schools during the 2019-20 school year
- \* Living Sky Foundation - support of Rappahannock Red Tent Sisterhood's two-day Red Tent Festival on March 21-22.
- \* Mountainside Dance Center - scholarships for young & adult dance students, plus a collaborative dance showcase in February 2020 with visiting children's dance company, Hope Garden Ballet Academy
- \* Clayton Pearson - woodworking equipment for young emerging artisan working in deer horn and wood
- \* Piedmont Symphony Orchestra - music mentoring program with band students at RCHS & RCES during the 2019-20 school year
- \* Rappahannock County Elementary School - purchase & installation of a kiln for K-9 art classes
- \* Rappahannock Piedmont Blues Festival - support to the inaugural music and cultural festival honoring Woodville-born Piedmont blues guitarist John Jackson at Eldon Farm on September 28
- \* 1000 Faces Mask Theater - production of Peggy Schadler's new mask performance piece "Another Crack in the Cosmic Egg" on September 28 at Castleton Farm

The 2019 grantees will receive their checks and be celebrated by members of the RAAC Board and Mitchell Fund committee at a Grant Give-Away party in June.

The Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund is RAAC's primary channel for offering financial support to the arts in Rappahannock. The Fund was established with a bequest from the estate of Claudia Mitchell, RAAC's president for many years and a dedicated supporter of the arts and community.

Since 2012, the fund has channeled generous contributions and annual net proceeds from the Fall Art Tour into the community through the Mitchell Arts Fund. Over the past 8 years, the fund has given away \$260,000 to local artists and organizations - 26 times the original bequest!

To learn more or to make a direct contribution to the Fund, go to RAAC's website at [www.raac.org](http://www.raac.org) and click on Mitchell Arts Fund.

## 2019 Summer Grantee Events

There's still space in all three of these Mitchell Fund supported summer camps for children. All are welcome and some scholarship assistance is available.



*Photo by  
Lisa Pendleton*

### CCLC Summer Camp

In addition to an array of nature-based and adventure camps, CCLC offers two arts-focused camps:

- Movement & Performance Camp for children 5-8; July 22-26, 9am to 4pm
- Summer Arts Sampler for children ages 9 and older; includes a ticket to "The Sound of Music" at Shenandoah Summer Music Theater; July 23-August 4; 9am to 4pm

Both camps will be held at CCLC:  
12762 Lee Highway  
Washington, VA

Contact [rappcclc@gmail.com](mailto:rappcclc@gmail.com) or 540-675-3237. Forms and additional information are available at <https://rappcclc.com/>



*Photo by  
Kaitlyn Haney*

### Headwaters Summer Youth Chorus

Children sing and build musicianship with dedicated professionals who love to share choral music with young people. From classic choral repertoire to favorite contemporary songs, the program culminates with a family and community performance at the Castleton Festival Theater on Friday, June 28 at 6pm.

New this year - interested adults are invited to perform a song or two with the ensemble. Contact Headwaters for more information at 540-987-3322 or email Kevin Brandriff, Executive Director at [director@headwatersfdn.org](mailto:director@headwatersfdn.org).

Junior Chorus - Entering grades 2-4  
Senior Chorus - Entering grades 5-12

No prior musical experience required.

June 17-29, noon to 5pm

Location:  
Rappahannock County Public School  
34 Schoolhouse Road  
Washington, VA

Contact: [info@headwatersfnd.org](mailto:info@headwatersfnd.org) or 540-987-3322.

## Arts & Crafts Camp

Kitty Keyser and Janet Kerig present Rappahannock's only all-arts summer camp for kids. This Waldorf-inspired camp includes storytelling, watercolor painting, rhythmic movement & dance, basketry, beadwork, drumming, and plant dyeing.

Ages 3 - 12

Session I July 23 - July 27  
Session II July 30 - August 3

9am - 3pm

Hearthstone School  
11576 Lee Highway  
Sperryville

Contact [artsandcraftscamp@yahoo.com](mailto:artsandcraftscamp@yahoo.com)



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



## RAAC on Social Media

Do you have photographs taken at RAAC or RAAC-sponsored events that we could share on our Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook feeds? We'd love to see them, and if we end up posting your photos, we will give you a shout-out as the photographer!

Be sure to identify the event and where a photo was taken. It would be great if you could let us know who's in the photo as well. Send your submissions to [info@raac.org](mailto:info@raac.org).

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

## Access RAAC's Social Media

Click below on the social media's name to visit RAAC on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#).

## Rappahannock.com Community 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](http://www.raac.org)

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1-800-695-6075

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

