



March 2020

**Hello friends!**

Before we get to all the wonderful things happening at RAAC this month, I wanted to take a moment for a bit of business — in early March you'll be getting your annual RAAC Membership letter asking for your support for the coming year. Keep an eye out! We do hope you'll consider joining if you've never been a member, and if you are, we hope you'll re-up for the coming year. Thank you! It's only through our supporters that we can bring you the many programs offered by RAAC that enrich our community.

Just a quick reminder of how we use your donations each year:

- Captivating plays at RAAC's Community Theatre
- Entertaining first-run RAAC movies
- Stimulating 2nd Friday Library Talks
- Ever-popular Soup & Soul (membership gives you early access!)
- The renowned Fall Art Tour
- Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund grants to the community (\$50,000 last year; a total of \$250,000 over the past 7 years)

And we're growing new programs such as Film-Talkback events, where immediately after a film there's a discussion with experts in the field. Our semi-annual writers' Reading Series provides an intimate winery venue where authors share their work with us. Along with Rapp at Home we're bringing more Community Square Dances for some good ol'-fashioned fun.

To renew your support of the arts in Rappahannock, please follow [this link](#).

Thank you in advance for your contribution to RAAC,

**Matthew Black, President, RAAC**

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**Please take the survey before March 15**

**RAAC Library Talk Survey**

Would you prefer a 7pm or 8pm start time?  
How about an occasional summer Talk? Any recommendations for future presenters?

**Please, tell us what you'd like.** [Click here](#) to participate in a 4-question, online survey.

It will take you only a minute to be heard.  
Thanks!

## Events

March 7



**Workshop 10–4pm**

Cost: \$25

**Performance 7:30**

**–9pm**

Cost: \$5

### Improv Workshop and Performance

Two members of Charlottesville's Playback Theatre improv troupe will lead a day-long improv workshop. Larry Goldstein directs Playback, and Boomie Pedersen performs with the troupe. They will use the techniques developed by Playback Theatre--an improvisational theatre genre, where actors and musicians bring to the stage true stories and story fragments that come from the audience.

"Playback is a beautiful intersection between theatre, storytelling, and improv," says Boomie. "The technique is easy to learn and appropriate for both new and experienced actors."

And come back that evening for an improv performance by Boomie and other members of the troupe, led by Larry. "We will leave space for workshop attendees to participate in the performance if they want," says Boomie.

The workshop is for teens and adults. Be prepared to laugh, be moved, and to hear and share common stories and experiences. Wear comfortable clothing and bring your own snacks, water, and lunch.

To register for the workshop or get more information, contact RAAC Theatre Artistic Director Patty Hardee at [improv@raac.org](mailto:improv@raac.org) or 540-675-2506

March 13  
7pm



Little Washington

### RAAC Library Talk

**NOTE: NEW PLACE and TIME**

This month's offering is entitled ***Creative to Creative***. The program will be a spontaneous interview exchange between actor Betsy Brantley and painter Ruthie Windsor-Mann, two people who create on a professional basis. They will discuss all aspects of the creative process in their chosen fields. The fields are different, but are there similarities in their paths to create? It will be introduced by Washington, DC Channel 4's anchor and Rappahannock weekender, **Wendy Rieger**.

At the end of the discussion, Wendy Rieger will lead what is likely to be a very lively question and answer period. The goal is for the

**Theatre**  
Free

participants and the audience to have a fun and informative experience.

The Participants:

Native North Carolinian **Betsy Brantley** played many roles in the UK such as the 1982 *Five Days One Summer*, where she starred opposite Sean Connery. In the mid-eighties she starred in London's West End in *Guys and Dolls*, for which she was nominated for a Laurence Olivier award for Best Actress in a Musical. And she's appeared in many films and television shows. Betsy clearly has many stories to tell.

Award-winning painter **Ruthie Windsor-Mann** has painted in countries around the world and more recently, has become enamored of the nature surrounding her studio situated on a knoll in the middle of a hay field. She is inspired to paint anything if the light is intriguing, and lately has become visually drawn to fog. She works primarily in oils, watercolors, and pen & ink. Included in many public and private collections throughout the world, she is a signature member of many art societies, and has received numerous awards in juried exhibitions throughout the US. Ruthie shares her accumulated knowledge and experience through an interactive Q&A series on her blog, "[Celebrating the Process of Creating](#)," on her website. [www.ruthiewindsormann.com](http://www.ruthiewindsormann.com)

**Laurie Holladay**, a creator's creator, of Laurie Holladay Interiors in Gordonsville, VA will be the set designer for this event.

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**March 20, 5p-9pm**  
**March 21, 11a-8pm**



photo by Dez Bog

**Green Comfort School of Herbal Apothecary**  
**100 Rock Mills Rd,**  
**Castleton**

Suggested donation - \$20.00  
per adult for the weekend

## **A Mitchell Fund Grantee Event**

**Spring Equinox Celebration** - Rappahannock Red Tent Gathering of the Tribe

A weekend of ceremony & workshops including river walk, healing arts, art installation, performance, children's activities, Dance of Universal Peace, drumming, storytelling, sacred fire, vegetarian potluck & trade circle.

Family friendly, all ages & genders welcome.

Sponsored by Living Sky Foundation

For details or to register to participate as an artist, vendor or sponsor contact [redtentsisterhood@livingsky.org](mailto:redtentsisterhood@livingsky.org)

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March 25, 10am



Child Care Learning  
Center  
12763 Lee Hwy,  
Washington, VA

free

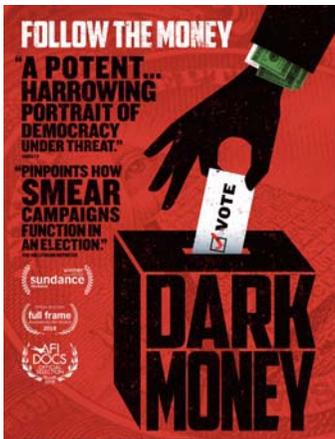
## A Mitchell Fund Grantee Event

Child Care Learning Center presents GoodLife Theater performance of *The Fabulous 5 Senses and Dinosaur Show* with Joe Pipik.

Public invited!

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March 28  
7pm



Little Washington  
Theatre

Free

## RAAC Film-Talkback

This RAAC Film-Talkback event features the Sundance award-winning documentary *Dark Money* followed by a discussion with former Chairman of the U.S. Federal Election Commission and founder of Campaign Legal Center **Trevor Potter**, <https://campaignlegal.org/staff/trevor-potter>, and Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and Knight Chair in Public Affairs Journalism at the University of Maryland **Dana Priest**, <https://knightfoundation.org/employee/dana-priest/>. The Award-winning journalist, formerly with the New York Times, author and local luminary **Ann Crittenden**, <https://www.anncrittenden.com>, will moderate the Talkback.

*Dark Money*, a political thriller, examines one of the greatest present threats to American democracy: the influence of untraceable corporate money on our elections and elected officials. The film takes viewers to Montana—a frontline in the fight to preserve fair elections nationwide—to follow an intrepid local journalist working to expose the real-life impacts of the US Supreme Court's Citizens United decision. Through this gripping story, DARK MONEY uncovers the shocking and vital truth of how American elections are bought and sold. *angeles times*

“As heartening a political story as you are going to get these days.”

—Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times

This screening is made possible by permission from American Documentary POV and PBS.

## Updates

### March 15 Deadline

The deadline is fast approaching for the 2020 **Mitchell Arts Fund grants**. Get your applications in, and spread the word!



The Mitchell Fund gives grants to emerging and established artists of all ages as well as arts organizations, art programs within community-based organizations, collaborative projects, and especially to programs with a community focus.

**Check our [guidelines](#) and [list of past grantees](#) to see if you're eligible.**



### Soup and Soul

All booked, but put your name on the wait list.

RAAC's Soup and Soul evenings continue to be a huge hit. Tickets sold out in less than 24 hours. (These are pot-luck dinners in a host home, along with a presentation by a local artist about their work and creative process). If you're interested, please [get on the wait list](#).

#### Mar. 21 Davette Leonard, painter

Now let's all hope for no snow!

As in the past, one privilege of RAAC membership is early notification when Soup and Soul tickets go on sale. If you'd like to get early notice next year, [join RAAC](#).

## Plan Ahead

**April 8  
10am**



**Child Care Learning  
Center  
12763 Lee Hwy,  
Washington, VA**

free

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## **A Mitchell Fund Grantee Event**

**Child Care Learning Center presents GoodLife Theater**  
performance of "The Recycling Pirates" with Joe Pipik.

Public invited!

**April 25  
7pm**

**Sperryville Firehall**

Suggested \$10 donation  
(students free)

## **Community Square Dance**

Back by popular demand, RAAC and Rapp at Home are teaming up to host another Community Square Dance. We're expecting another packed dance floor. Join neighbors and enjoy great family fun. Kick up your heels to a fabulous caller and Lyt Wood's foot-stomping Mud Larks band. Join us!

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**May, date TBD  
7pm**

## **RAAC Film-Talkback**

Award winning movie **1917**  
Celebrated war-time correspondents, Paul McGeough and Leslie Cockburn, will be post-movie discussants. Stay tuned!

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 **FRIEND ON FACEBOOK**

 **VISIT RAAC WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Our mailing address is:**

PO Box 24

Washington VA 22747

**Questions, thoughts: email** [newsletter@raac.org](mailto:newsletter@raac.org)