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# RAAC Newsletter Dec 2014/Jan 2015

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**Hello everyone,**

The holidays are upon us, and there are plenty of RAAC events lined up to add fun and interest over this festive season and well into Spring.

The sold-out play, "The Wizard of Oz," opens Friday, Dec 5, at the RAAC Theatre.

First Friday at the Movies skips December but resumes in January with the "Hundred Foot Journey." But don't forget that the first Friday comes very early in 2015 - Jan 2.

Our Second Friday at the Library series on Dec 12 features Dennis Brack and Roger Piantadosi, president and editor respectively of the Rappahannock News. On Jan 9 the library series talk will be a round table consisting of three Rappahannock authors. For both library talks, I'll be interested in learning how rural county life shapes, helps, and challenges local reporters and writers.

Finally, starting in January is the ever-popular Soup & Soul - reservations for all three gatherings can be made online. Warning: it sells out quickly, and you may have to put your name on the wait list.

**The big news for next spring** is the RAAC Film Festival, a new event scheduled for Apr 10-12. A call for entries is going out by mid-December that will invite Rappahannock-based filmmakers to participate. I was delighted and surprised to learn how many filmmakers live full or part-time in the county. Details and entry forms will be available on RAAC's website by Dec 15.

Finally, RAAC's Mitchell Arts Fund will be accepting proposals for financial grants from Jan 1 through Mar 15. Did you know that over the last two years, the Mitchell Fund has awarded over \$40,000 in grants to Rappahannock artists and local organizations offering community arts programs?

**Matthew Black, President, RAAC**

# RAAC Newsletter

Vol. 2, #9

December 2014/January 2015

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

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The Rappahannock Association  
for the Arts and the Community



## RAAC Community Theatre "The Wizard of Oz"

**Fridays, Dec 5 & 12 at 7:30pm**

**Saturdays, Dec 6 & 13 at 3pm**

**Sunday, Dec 14 at 3pm**

**310 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747**

**\$15 for adults; \$5 for children under 12**

### *Artistic Director Peter Hornbostel's Notes*

Everyone loves "The Wizard of Oz:" munchkins, older kids, adults, everyone. Last year, as soon as we finished "Alice in Wonderland," the kids in the cast of that play began asking us to take on the Wizard. We did, although we have sometimes believed we had gone completely crazy.

Putting on a play with this many young players and backstage staff is a huge job. The cast totals some 40 actors. The 20 Munchkins vary in age from four to ten. The older actors sing, act, and dance, even if they have never done so before. There are some 40 people in the production crew, including parents and costumers, who have done a fabulous job. So have the designers and painters who created the set for the play.

Take a look in the Program at the huge list of those who worked on the production. We never could have done the play without them. To them and to all the others who worked so hard on this production, and to our tireless director and our stage manager, many, many thanks. This is what community theater is all about.

The Wizard of Oz is both a musical - with famous songs like "Over the Rainbow" and "We're off to See the Wizard" - and a play full of wonderful characters like a brainless Scarecrow, a rusty Tin Man, a Cowardly Lion, and a young girl who yearns to get back home to Kansas. Frankly, I like our own Dorothy even more than I liked Judy Garland in the movie.

The book, originally called "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz," was published as a children's novel by L. Frank Baum in 1900; the famous movie based on the novel came out in 1939, on the eve of the Second World War, and starred Garland, Ray Bolger, Jack Haley, and Bert Lahr. It was filmed in then-new Technicolor. By then, over one million copies of the book had been printed, and many more have been printed since.

Baum told Publisher's Weekly that the name "Oz" came from the label "O-Z" on his filing cabinet. In the introduction to one of his editions Baum wrote that his book "aspires to being a modernized fairytale in which the wonderment and joy are retained and the heartaches and nightmares are left out."

**To reserve and pay for tickets online, [click here](#).** Online pre-payment 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, call 1-800-695-6075. **RAAC maintains a wait list for sold-out performances.**

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

### **From the top:**

1. Dorothy & Tin Man (Wynnie Thompson & Bob Hurley)
  2. Scarecrow (Brendan Martyn)
  3. Munchkins
  4. More Munchkins
- Photos by Ray Boc.*

## Second Friday at the Library

**Dec 12, 8pm, Dennis Brack, president, Rappahannock Media; Roger Piantadosi, editor, Rappahannock News**

**Jan 9, 8pm, Pete Pazmino, Penny Pennington, and Sheila Lamb, authors**

Mark your calendars for the Second Friday at the Library series for December 2014 and January 2015.

On December 12, Rappahannock News owner Dennis Brack and editor Roger Piantadosi will give us an inside look at the business of putting out a newspaper in a small community. They will discuss how stories are chosen and reported, their plans for future coverage, and the problems and opportunities that come with covering the news in a rural area.

On January 9, Second Friday will try something new - a panel discussion featuring three local fiction writers. Authors Pete Pazmino, Penny Pennington, and Sheila Lamb will tell us about a writer's life - where do ideas come from, how do you start out, how do you keep at it, how do you win an audience? Edward Dolnick, who is also a Rappahannock writer, will moderate this dive into the world of story-telling.

*The talks are free. All are welcome.*

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



**Dennis Brack (top) & Roger Piantadosi (bottom)**



## Mitchell Fund applications accepted starting January 1, 2015

### *Call for proposals for 2105 Mitchell Fund Arts Grants*

Do you know an emerging or established artist, or an arts or community organization that deserves or needs support?

Check out our new application, guidelines, and detailed information by clicking the link below.

Deadline is March 15.

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

**First Friday at the Movies**  
**"The Hundred Foot Journey"**

**Fri, Jan 2, 8pm, \$6**  
**The Theatre At Washington**  
**291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747**

**Starring Helen Mirren, Om Puri,**  
**Manish Daval**  
**Written by Steven Knight (screenplay)**  
**and Richard C. Morais (book)**  
**Directed by Lasse Hallstrom**  
**Rated PG for thematic elements, some violence,**  
**language, and brief sensuality;**  
**122 minutes, comedy/drama**

"The Hundred-Foot Journey" is about an Indian family that relocates to Europe with the intention of opening an Indian restaurant. Their car breaks down in rural France, and the patriarch decides to locate his new restaurant just one hundred feet away from a Michelin-starred restaurant, putting him into direct contact with the restaurant's stiff-backed owner.

A lot happens in the film, but because none of it is earth-shattering, there's a temptation to reveal too much of the story. This is a temptation best avoided, because much of the appeal of the film is in the way it meanders and grows and breaks out of the usual confines. There's nothing corny about "The Hundred-Foot Journey," nothing quaint or false. It could have been all those things, given the slightest wrong push, but this is a Lasse Hallstrom film, and he doesn't push. The result is that this is one of those rare movies that gets better as it goes along.

*[Derived from a review by Mick LaSalle in the San Francisco Chronicle.]*

***Volunteer, and the movie's on us!***

The Movie Committee is seeking additional volunteers for the 2015 season. Come and meet fellow movie buffs at the Friday night movies, and in return for helping out at the theater, the movie's on us! We need a 'director' to coordinate volunteers, and a few 'supporting actors' to help out behind the scenes selling tickets and popcorn and candy, and tidying up. It's a fun evening watching great films with friends, so please come join us! *For more information, email Karen Crow at [crowk262@gmail.com](mailto:crowk262@gmail.com).*

**The Spring film line-up also includes "Boyhood" (February), "Gone Girl" (March), "Trip to Italy" (April), and "Bird Man" (May).**

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



*Click on the arrow above to view the video*





## **Soup & Soul**

**Jan 17, Haitian art collector Beverly Sullivan**

**Feb 21, Filmmaker Nina May**

**Mar 21, Writer Ed Dolnick**

RAAC's 2015 Soup & Soul season features three Rappahannock residents working in three different artistic realms: visual arts, film, and non-fiction writing.

**Saturday, Jan 17, 6:30pm: Haitian art collector Beverly Sullivan.** Beverly Knight Sullivan fell in love with Haiti in the 1970s and has spent a great deal of time in the country since then, working with local organizations as well as seeking out and collecting Haitian art. She and her husband, John Fox Sullivan, now have one of the finest collections in the world. Beverly will share the stories behind her collection, and her perspective on Haitian life and culture.

**Saturday, Feb 21, 6:30pm: Filmmaker Nina May.** Nina's credits as a film producer, director, and writer include "Life Fine Tuned," the story of a spoiled young rock star who realizes how empty her life is when she discovers the harmony of a new beginning. The film features aspiring young actors and musicians, and was filmed entirely in Virginia. She also produced, directed, and wrote "Emancipation, Revelation, Revolution," an award-winning documentary about the history of the civil rights movement in America, the role that both major political parties have played in it, and the voting habits of African Americans in America today.

**Saturday, March 21, 6:30pm: Writer Ed Dolnick.** Formerly a science writer for the Boston Globe, Ed has devoted the last several years to the writing of full-length books on a wide range of subjects. His most recent book is "The Rush," a close-up and fast-paced look at the California Gold Rush. His other non-fiction work includes a critical look at Freud's legacy, an examination of Sir Isaac Newton's world, the story of John Wesley Powell's journey down the Colorado River in row boats, and two books rooted in the art underworld.

The series is hosted in local homes, and the event includes a potluck dinner in addition to the presentation by the featured artist. Patrons are asked to bring a food item to share.

Tickets for Soup & Soul are \$20 per person, per event, and may be purchased through the RAAC website (link below). *RAAC maintains a wait list for sold-out performances.*

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

## **RAAC Film Festival Apr 10-12**

RAAC is gearing up for a new event on April 10-12, with plans to host a film festival in Little Washington. Rappahannock is home to many professional and emerging filmmakers, and the RAAC Film Festival will feature their recent work on feature films, documentaries, animation, web series, and music videos.

Details for entries will be posted on the RAAC website by mid-December.

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



### **Meet Kevin H. Adams, RAAC's secretary**

Kevin has been an active member of RAAC and the RAAC Board for a long time. He has served on various committees within RAAC and Board positions for many years.

Just married on October 12, 2014 to Jay Ward Brown, Kevin and Jay have been together for 16 years. Waiting to wed until they were legally able to do so in the town and state where they live, Kevin and Jay married in the Town of Washington only six days after marriage in Virginia became legal for them.

Kevin and his husband are preparing to open a new gallery in Washington, VA in 2015. He is represented by Gallery Plan B in Washington, DC and Julie Heller Gallery in Provincetown. He always welcomes visitors to his studio.

Kevin trained as an artist at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design and the American Institute in Southern France. He was recognized for his ability as an artist and assigned as a Combat Artist while serving as an Officer in the United States Marine Corps. He continued using that talent during his tenure at the Washington National Opera where he worked as a set designer/painter and props coordinator.

In 1992 and 1994, he was awarded two large commissions with the Department of the Interior, painting the backcountry and remote areas of the Grand Canyon National Park and Glacier National Park for their respective 75th and 85th anniversaries. In 2011, a limited-numbered print was produced of one of Kevin's iconic park paintings to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Shenandoah National Park.

Kevin is actively participating in The Arts for Embassies Program by having several of his paintings travel throughout the world being displayed in various U.S. Embassies. Although he is also a print maker and returns regularly to still-life painting, Kevin's principal medium is oil, and his first love as an artist is representational landscape painting. Recent exhibitions of his work have taken place in Virginia; Washington, DC; Provincetown, MA; and New York City.

[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)

**The Rappahannock Association for the Arts and the Community**

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