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# RAAC Newsletter March 2015

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**Hello friends,**

We have an exciting lineup of events in March that will stretch your mind and warm your heart. "Gone Girl" is playing Fri, Mar 6; John Henry is at the Library on Mar 13 talking about his stonework; and award-winning Ed Dolnick shares insights into his nonfiction writing at the Mar 21 Soup & Soul.

Don't forget, Mitchell Fund grant applications are due by Mar 15. If you're a visual artist who loves music, check out our new RAAC-Castleton art competition. In addition, Apr 10-12 inaugurates RAAC's first annual Film Festival. The comedy "You Can't Take It With You" is in rehearsal for early May performances. And finally, this is the month for returning and new artists to sign up for the 2015 Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour.

I'm especially excited about the quick response from so many of you to our annual RAAC membership drive. Letters were mailed two weeks ago and scores and scores have already joined RAAC or renewed their memberships! Thanks to all for making Rappahannock a great place to live!

**Matthew Black, President, RAAC**

# RAAC Newsletter

Vol. 3, #2

March 2015

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

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The Rappahannock Association  
for the Arts and the Community



Click on the arrow above  
to view the video.



## First Friday at the Movies "Gone Girl"

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

**Starring Ben Affleck, Rosamund Pike,  
Neil Patrick Harris**  
**Director David Fincher**  
**Writer Gillian Flynn for novel and screenplay**  
**Drama; rated R for a scene of bloody violence,  
some strong sexual content/nudity,  
and language; 149 minutes**  
**Awards: Nominated for 1 Academy Award (for  
best actress) and 4 Golden Globes**

On the occasion of his fifth wedding anniversary, Nick Dunne reports that his wife, Amy, has gone missing. Under pressure from the police and a growing media frenzy, Nick's portrait of a blissful union begins to crumble. Soon his lies, deceits, and strange behavior have everyone asking the same dark question: Did Nick Dunne kill his wife?

*-From Twentieth Century Fox*

**Critics' consensus:** Dark, intelligent, and stylish to a fault, "Gone Girl" plays to director David Fincher's sick strengths while bringing the best out of stars Ben Affleck and Academy Award Nominee for Best Actress Rosamund Pike.

*-From Rotten Tomatoes*

**Please note** that there will again be no captioning for this show. As part of a larger examination of hearing-assisted options, we are testing our improved sound system for the second time to assess how it performs for those of us with hearing difficulties. Let us know!

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

**Second Friday at the Library**  
**John Henry**  
**Stonework projects**



**Fri, Mar 13, 8pm, at the Rappahannock County Library**

Flint Hill's own John Henry will be the featured speaker, and he will tell us how (and why) he came to build his own Stonehenge on his rolling property. Henry will also show a new mini-documentary called "John's Follies" that gives more insight into his stonework, and he'll show photographs by Ray Boc that document the construction of his new stone amphitheater.

These are colossal endeavors. Henry's stone circle consists of a dozen stone pillars, the tallest 12 feet high, shipped from Indonesia to Rappahannock. His stone walls take on a variety of designs and snake across hundreds of yards. Henry has unearthed tons of rocks from his own land and imported dozens of tons more from Canada and other locales.

Hundreds of Rappahannock residents have joined in Henry's Halloween spectacles and attended plays in the amphitheater. (The next will be Jim Reston's "Sherman the Peacemaker," on June 6.) Now we will have a chance to hear the story behind these structures that will long outlive us.

*The talk is free. All are welcome.*

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



**Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund**  
**Application deadline**  
**Mar 15**

Rappahannock County is blessed with an abundance of artists, musicians, filmmakers, and community organizations. One way that RAAC nurtures and encourages them is through annual grant awards from the Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund.

The Mitchell Fund committee is eagerly awaiting a fresh crop of applications from Rappahannock artists and organizations. Established and emerging artists are encouraged to apply.

What activity or project might take you to a new level in your work? How might you collaborate with a county organization to encourage and develop creativity across a spectrum of neighbors?

Check out grant guidelines and the application on RAAC's website. ***The deadline is fast approaching!***

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

**Soup & Soul**  
**Writer Ed Dolnick**

**Sat, Mar 21, 6:30pm**

RAAC's 2015 Soup & Soul season ends with a discussion of non-fiction writing.

Formerly a science writer for The Boston Globe, Ed Dolnick 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.

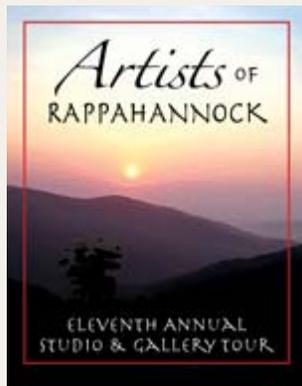
Ed's other non-fiction work includes a critical look at Freud's legacy, an examination of Sir Isaac Newton's world, the story of John Wesley Powell's journey down the Colorado River in row boats, and two books rooted in the art underworld.

**About the series:** Soup & Soul is hosted in local homes, and each 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's website (link below).

**RAAC maintains a wait list via our website for sold-out performances.**

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



**Artists of Rappahannock**  
**Call for artists and galleries**

The 2015 Art Tour planning committee is emailing letters in early March to artists and galleries that have been on the Tour over the past three years asking for confirmation of their interest in participating in the 2015 Art Tour. Previous participants will be asked to send their confirmation to Heather Wicke and Nancy Raines (email link below), and will be sent an application early in April.

New artists will follow a different process and will be asked to submit their requests to participate in April to allow for scheduled studio visits by select committee members to review their artwork.

The planning committee's intention is to continue to build on the sales success of the 2014 Art Tour through close collaboration with participating artists and galleries and the communities of art lovers near and far that have come to view Rappahannock County as a fine arts destination.

*[Click to visit RAAC's website](#) or email [arttour@raac.org](mailto:arttour@raac.org).*

## **The Film Festival at Little Washington**

**Apr 10-12**

Join us at the first Film Festival at Little Washington April 10-12 at the Theatre at Washington.

Meet and mingle with screenwriters, directors, actors, producers, editors, and crew. Thirteen films will be featured including independent features, shorts, independent documentaries, and music videos. All are produced by filmmakers who live in or who have made a film in Rappahannock County.

A moderated Q&A will follow each screening, giving audiences opportunities to talk with the filmmakers and, in many cases, their subjects; to discover more about the making of the film; and to hear fascinating anecdotes that will add personal insights into each film.

On April 11, a very special work-in-progress will run at the RAAC Community Theatre. It will be moderated by the film's director, who will be available to share remarkable stories discovered in the making of this extraordinary documentary.

**Watch for the festival's full schedule on the RAAC website.**

*Festival passes will be available soon through advance sale on the RAAC website, and limited numbers of tickets will be on sale the day of the event at the box office in the Theater at Washington, VA, 291 Gay St, Washington, VA 22747.*

*Full Festival pass: \$30  
Daily pass, \$15  
Individual film, \$5*

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



The Film Festival at Little Washington - Featured Films trailer  
*Click on the logo above to view the trailer.*



### **RAAC-Castleton Festival Art Competition**

We are delighted that entries for the Art Competition are already coming in - and we're eager for more!

Rappahannock visual artists, join others in celebrating music through your art. We're accepting two-dimensional artwork that captures the look, sound, and experience of music through representational or abstract art. Or capture a theme from one of the Festival's operas, such as Romeo & Juliet.

Three esteemed judges will select finalists in separate categories for adults and high school students. The grand winner will be featured on the cover of this year's Castleton Festival program! A reception and exhibit of all finalists at Middle Street Gallery will be held later this spring.

**The submission deadline is Apr 15.**

*For guidelines and application, description of awards, and judges' bios, visit RAAC's website.*

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

### **RAAC Community Theatre "You Can't Take It With You"**

**Fri, May 1 & Sat, May 2 at 8pm  
Sun, May 3 at 3pm  
310 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747  
Tickets \$15**

From the opening lines of "You Can't Take it With You," the Sycamores and their houseful of fellow eccentrics seem mad, but before long we realize that if they are mad, the rest of the world is madder.

Set in the Upper West Side of New York City, this three-act comedy reflects some of the flux in society during the Depression and between the two world wars. The play endures because its themes about individuality, class, global interconnectedness, and the role of government still ring true today.

Written by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, the play premiered on Broadway in 1936 and won the 1937 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. The screen adaptation won Academy Awards for Best Picture and Best Director.

The RAAC Theatre production features a large cast and is directed by Peter Hornbostel.

**For reservation and seating information,** visit RAAC's website. If you don't have Internet access, call 1-800-695-6075.

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





**Meet Barbara Black  
RAAC Board member**

Barbara Black believes passionately in the power of the arts for everyone - to inspire, educate, heal, and to build community. She is honored to chair RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund committee and has enjoyed serving on the Art Tour committee for nine years.

Before moving to Rappahannock full-time two years ago, Barbara was a weekender for 18 years. She lived an urban life on Capitol Hill for 35 years, raising two kids and engaging in the community through St. Mark's Episcopal Church and the Capitol Hill Group Ministry. Barbara attended Vassar College and the University of Michigan, majoring in history of art and doing graduate work in museum studies.

Barbara's earliest professional incarnations include dessert caterer, food columnist, and general contractor. From 1981 until 1998 she served as director of development at Capitol Hill Day School and at the Levine School of Music. After a mid-life career change, she built a private practice in massage therapy, served on retreat staff, taught in wellness programs at Smith Center for Healing and the Arts, and served on the faculty of the Center for Mind-Body Medicine.

Barbara explores her own creativity through making SoulCollages® and delights in introducing others to the practice. Her most recent, and by far biggest creative project, was helping to design and build a house, family apartment, and studio-barn in Woodville. She enjoys curating the studio she shares with her photographer-husband Matthew and artist-sister Darien Reece - hosting movement classes, retreats, and a weekly meditation group there.

Since living full-time in Rappahannock, Barbara has become an avid vegetable gardener, an aspiring thespian, tennis player, and a devoted Food Pantry volunteer. The greatest loves of her life are her four grandchildren, including a baby boy due March 5!

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

**Kid Pan Alley  
Residency & performance  
at local schools in March**

Kid Pan Alley, partly funded by RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund, will conduct an inter-generational song-writing residency at the Rappahannock Elementary and Hearthstone Schools, Mar 16-20.

The songs, written and sung by the children, will be inspired by the stories told by important elders in our community. The children will be accompanied by the Kid Pan Alley Band featuring Paul Reisler, Mary Alouette, Marshall Keys, and Tom Teasley.

***A free public performance of "Across the Ages" will be held on Mar 27 at 7pm at the Rappahannock Elementary School.***

*[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**  
PO Box 24  
Washington, VA 22747

1-800-695-6075

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