

# RAAC Newsletter Dec 2016 - Jan 2017



## Hello friends!

Welcome to our combined December-January newsletter featuring an array of arts events and news for your early winter pleasure.

First of all, congratulations to Heather Wicke and her committee for an extraordinary Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour. We set records across the board - attendance up 20%, sponsor contributions up 25%, many more artists, and a beautiful gallery installation at the historic Washington School. Even the weather was beaming. Many thanks to the hard-working volunteers, generous sponsors, and participating artists who made the Art Tour such a success!

Coming up quickly is our holiday theater extravaganza, "The 12 Days of Christmas." It opens December 2 and runs through the 11th with evening and matinee performances. Tickets will go fast, so [reserve here](#) soon.

The Second Friday at the Library series features Michael Sands on December 9. He will share his insights and experience with making sustainable farming/ranching viable. Please note that there is no First Friday at the Movies in December.

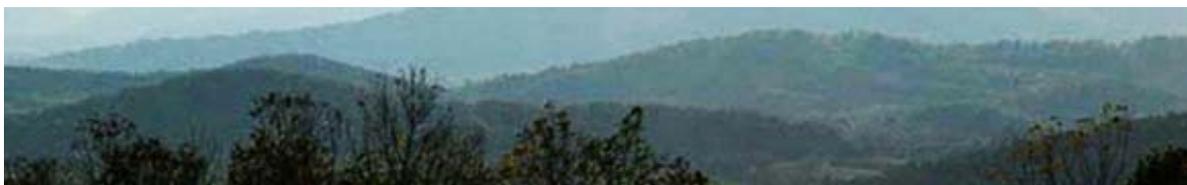
Our ever-popular winter Soup & Soul gatherings begin in January and will run through March on the third Saturday evening of each month. RAAC-member-only reservation dates will be available before the events are opened to the general public. Members will be notified by email and given instructions for signing up. RAAC is also looking for host homes; contact [Sallie Morgan](#) if you are interested.

RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund is now inviting local artists and organizations to apply by January 15 for 2017 arts grants. Applications and guidelines will be available on our [website](#) after December 1. If interested, attend our grants workshop at the library on December 10.

Looking ahead to spring, our Film Festival committee has released a call for entries to Virginia filmmakers for the third annual Film Festival, April 7-9. See below for details.

I hope to see you at an upcoming arts event, perhaps a play, library talk, or Soup & Soul.

**Matthew Black, President, RAAC**



## RAAC Newsletter

Vol 4, #10

Dec 2016/Jan 2017

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*Call for 2017 entries now open!*
- Feature** Art Beat Rappahannock  
*December 2016*



**RAAC Community Theatre  
"The Twelve Days of Christmas"**

**Fri, Dec 2, 8pm  
Sat, Dec 3, 3pm  
Fri, Dec 9, 8pm  
Sat, Dec 10, 3pm  
Sun, Dec 11, 3pm**

**310 Gay St  
Washington, VA 22747**

Don't miss this playful, modern interpretation of the classic Christmas song with fresh dialogue and vivid characters!

In "The 12 Days of Christmas" by DC playwright Renee Calarco, Christmas is just around the corner, and Shirley the Partridge is a bit nervous. It's her very first time organizing everyone for the official singing of The Song. But there are some bumps in the road that Shirley must overcome. This production features a cast of about 30 actors, including many familiar faces as well as newcomers. Patty Hardee directs.

**Special Event:** Talk-back with the playwright. Stay after the December 3 performance to meet playwright Renee Calarco, hear her talk about her inspiration for the script and take questions from the audience.

*Photos: In a recent rehearsal, Maeve Ciuba as Shirley Partridge (at left in top photo), tries to get the attention of the four Calling Birds, played by Lilie Halko and McKenna Torosian (top) and Isaac Plaksin and Elena Corum (bottom). (Photos by Ray Boc)*

*Tickets for all performances are on sale by clicking [here](#).*

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



**Second Friday at the Library  
Michael Sands**

**Fri, Dec 9, 8pm**

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

December's speaker is Mike Sands, who lives and farms in Flint Hill. Sands has decades of experience working to show that conservation and development can not only co-exist but can enhance one another. He will tell us about his ongoing work with a large and thriving program called Prairie Crossing, in Illinois, which involves hundreds of homes, an organic farm, and large expanses of preserved woods and wetlands.

Sands and his wife Betsy Dietel moved to Rappahannock in 2011, and they own and operate Bean Hollow Grassfed. In 2016 they received a Clean Water Farm Award from the state of Virginia. Sands will tell us what he has learned about how farming and rural communities can best weather the pressures they face.

*The talk is free. All are welcome.*

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



**Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund  
Grant workshop**

**Sat, Dec 10, 10am - noon**

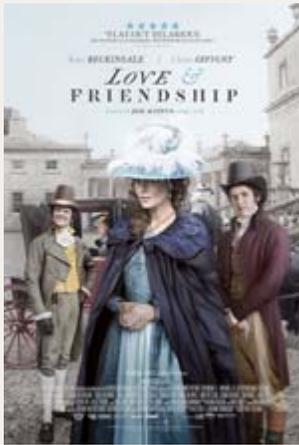
**Rappahannock County Public Library  
4 Library Lane  
Washington, VA 22747**

RAAC's Mitchell Arts Fund is holding its first-ever grant workshop. Members of the Mitchell Arts Fund committee will go over the 2017 grant application and new guidelines, and will answer your questions about submitting a proposal. All potential and past applicants are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Can't attend the December 10 workshop, but still interested in applying? The Application and Guidelines for 2017 grants will be available on December 1 [here](#). A summary of questions and answers from the workshop will be posted on RAAC.org later in December.

Since 2012, RAAC has awarded more than \$110,000 to 42 Rappahannock artists and organizations - inspiring art, building community.

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



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



**First Friday at the Movies**  
**"Love and Friendship" (adaptation of  
Jane Austen's novella "Lady Susan")**

**Fri, Jan 6, 8pm, \$6**

**Little Washington Theatre**  
**291 Gay Street, Washington, VA 22747**

**Starring Kate Beckinsale, Chloë Sevigny,  
Xavier Samuel, Emma Greenwell**  
**Director & writer Whit Stillman**  
**Comedy, drama, romance; 92 minutes, Rated PG**

A narrative of duplicity, desire, and fortune-hunting zips along, propelled by Lady Susan Vernon, a charmer and schemer played with verve and precision by Kate Beckinsale. When she is not keeping illicit company with the handsome, silent, and emphatically married Lord Manwaring, the nearly penniless Susan is looking for a pair of husbands, one for herself and one for her daughter, Frederica.

As it must in any decent Austen adaptation, the story more or less takes care of itself, as the action shuttles between London and various country houses. The real interest lies in the interplay of the characters, and in the shadings Ms. Beckinsale gives to Susan, who is at once heroine and villainess. At times, "Love & Friendship" is howlingly funny, and as a whole it feels less like a romance than like a caper, an unabashedly contrived and effortlessly inventive heist movie with a pretty good payoff.

*Adapted from a review by A.O. Scott, New York Times,  
May 12 2016.*

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



## **Soup & Soul**

**Peter Kramer**

**Sat, Jan 21**

**Virginia Rood Pates & Clive Pates**

**Sat, Feb 18**

**Ruthie Windsor-Mann**

**Sat, Mar 18**

RAAC's annual Soup & Soul series offers an opportunity to hear from local artists about their work and their creative process. The events are held in host homes in the county and include a potluck dinner along with soup provided by the hosts.

The 2017 Soup & Soul series will feature furniture maker and woodworker **Peter Kramer** (January 21), ceramic artist **Virginia Rood Pates** and painter **Clive Pates** (February 18) and painter **Ruthie Windsor-Mann** (March 18). All four of this year's featured artists are veterans of RAAC's annual Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour.

One **benefit of RAAC membership** is early notification of these events. RAAC members will receive an email on December 1 with a specific members' link to purchase tickets (\$20 each). Tickets will then be available to the general public on the [RAAC website](#) as of December 5. Space is limited, so early response is recommended. If an event is full, the RAAC website will also provide a chance to place your name on a wait list. We are often able to accommodate folks on the wait list as we get closer to the event.

Woodworker **Peter Kramer** has lived and worked in Rappahannock for the past four decades. "I have a love affair with wood, all types of wood. I find it captivating; I am enthralled by its appearance, texture, aroma, color, patterns, flexibility, density, figure, and form as it merges with my personality. Designing and making furniture is my occupation, but more than that it is my art form. The majority of my work will exist much longer than me, and speak to more people. This is why I am so careful about what my designs express."

**Virginia Rood Pates** is an American ceramic artist who creates wheel-thrown and altered forms in a wide variety of clay bodies, often including collected materials from the local environment and glazed with unusual colors and surfaces. Currently an Associate Professor in Ceramics at Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Virginia has exhibited nationally and internationally as well as in this region.

**Clive Pates** has spent most of his career working both as a painter and sculptor. As a British national, he spent his early career in the United Kingdom but has since lived and worked in various parts of the United States, where his work has been informed by the landscapes he has inhabited. He and his wife Virginia moved to northern Virginia in 2012.

It's all about the light, and light is abundant in the studio and the paintings of **Ruthie Windsor-Mann's** work in oil, watercolor, and pen & ink. Sometimes her buildings, landscapes, still lifes, bird nests, mountain scenes, and hay bales are created using just one medium, but lately she has been experimenting with all three disciplines in one painting.

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



**Film Festival at Little Washington  
Call for 2017 entries now open!**

The third annual Film Festival's Call for Entries is now open and will close on January 15. Help us spread the word!

Entry categories include features, shorts, documentaries, student, animations, web series or episodes, and music videos. All filmmakers, both professional and amateur, are invited to submit work completed after January 1, 2012.

The Festival will be held April 7-9, 2017. For complete submission information or to volunteer, contact Festival Director Theresa Wood at 817-403-0496.

*[Click to visit RAAC's Film Festival webpages.](#)*



## Art Beat Rappahannock, December 2016

*Featuring non-RAAC arts events in Rappahannock County*

### Theater

- Dec 4, 3pm, **Little Washington Theatre**, Smithsonian Consort of Viols, Kenneth Slowik, Rebekah Ahrendt, Catherine Slowik, Arnie Tanimoto [DETAILS](#)
- Dec 10, 8pm, Frank Vignola Trio. [DETAILS](#)
- Dec 17, 4pm, **Castleton Theatre**, Linn Barnes & Allison Hampton. [DETAILS](#)

### Music

- Dec 2, 8pm, **Griffin Tavern**, Bryan Elijah Smith & Jay Austin
- Dec 3, 8:30pm, Five by Five
- Dec 9, 8pm, Dubious Brothers
- Dec 10, 8:30pm, Hypnotic Willies
- Dec 16, 8pm, Ransom Harmony
- Dec 17, 8:30pm, Low Water Bridge
- Dec 23, 8pm, Vinyl Tracks
- Dec 31, 8:30pm, Elizabeth Lawrence Band. [DETAILS](#)
- Dec 2, 8pm, **Headmaster's Pub**, Davis Bradley Duo
- Dec 3, 8pm, Dubious Brothers
- Dec 10, 8pm, Karen Jones & Tim Bray
- Dec 17, 8pm, Eddie Pickett. [DETAILS](#)

### Art

- Dec 10, **Haley Fine Art**, Chris Stephens exhibit, "Sight Lines." [DETAILS](#)

*To submit an event, email [artbeat@raac.org](mailto:artbeat@raac.org).*

*Please note: For inclusion in Art Beat, event details should be emailed to [artbeat@raac.org](mailto:artbeat@raac.org) by the 15th of the preceding month.*

## 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)

Rappahannock Association for Arts and Community

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1-800-695-6075

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

Email us at [newsletter@raac.org](mailto:newsletter@raac.org)



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