Grantee Spotlight: Who is the Trenton Circus Squad and what do they do?

Who is the Trenton Circus Squad and what do they do? The Trenton Circus Squad brings together teenagers from different backgrounds to work shoulder to shoulder, supporting each other in the difficult and exacting process of learning to perform in a circus. In turn, the Squad Members discover their own power, to delight an audience, or to inspire younger children. Families in the community who come to see the Trenton Circus Squad perform leave the show delighted, inspired and itching to participate. The Squad puts on workshops to welcome younger children, and their grownups, into the ring. At heart, circus means family and fun, a safe place to dream big and take risks, yet feel safe. Trenton Circus Squad brings that feeling wherever they go.

The Squad helps develop self-reliant, empowered, inspirational, community-minded teen and young adult leaders and role models in the City of Trenton and provides engaging, artistic, community-building activities for underserved families. Teens make big leaps in their ability to make positive choices in their own lives and to take actions that benefit others. At the same time, they are helping to challenge assumptions about the relationship between Trenton and its surrounding suburbs.

The Trenton Circus Squad works with many organizations around the city to recruit squad members, provide enrichment for city youth and support community events. Partners include Homefront, Catholic Youth Organization, Boys and Girls Club, Urban Promise, Every Child Valued, Mercer House Youth Shelter and Anchor House Youth Shelter, as well as Water’s Edge Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, Greenwood House and the Children’s Specialized Hospital. Trenton Circus Squad after-school and summer programs are free of charge for youth, about half of whom come

Continued on Page 3
Registration is Open For Tomato Patch Workshops

Tomato Patch Visual and Performing Arts Workshops, held annually on the West Windsor Campus of Mercer County Community College, is one of the longest-running and most successful multi-disciplinary summer arts programs in central New Jersey. Since 1973, over 7,300 junior and senior high school students have spent several weeks of their summer exploring the visual arts, dance, theater, and vocal music under the guidance of highly qualified professional artists.

Many Tomato Patchers are now professional artists, and have appeared on Broadway, or have decided to teach the arts as they were taught in Tomato Patch.

How does Tomato Patch work? Students select a major concentration in either the theater, dance, vocal music, or visual arts, and spend two morning classes in these areas. After lunch, they are free to choose electives in other areas. Afternoon course offerings for 2018 include children's theatre, "Who's line is it anyhow?", painting, drawing, jazz dance, musical theater, children's theater, a cappella singing, hip hop, vocal ensemble, comedy, music video or web video.

There are two sessions a season. Session I is a 4-week session designed for students entering grades 8-12 in the fall. Classes will meet Mondays through Fridays, June 25 to July 19, from 8:45 am to 4:15 pm. The camp will conclude with a Festival of The Arts on Wednesday, July 18, at 7 pm and Thursday, July 19, at 7 pm.

Session II is a 3-week session designed for students entering grades 4-7 in the fall. Classes will meet Mondays through Fridays, July 23 to August 9, from 8:45 am to 4:15 pm. The camp will conclude with a Festival of The Arts on Wednesday, August 8, at 7 pm and Thursday, August 9, at 7 pm.

A Master Class is also offered for students entering grades 8-12 in the fall who have attended Tomato Patch Session I, TP Session II or had other formal theater training. This special 3-week Master Class in Theater, offered July 23 to August 10, Monday through Thursday, 9 am-4 pm, will focus on preparing a polished audition piece for each student, as well as scene work. Students will learn all the ins and outs of show business; how to find jobs and how to audition for theater, television, and movies. A final performance will feature their work on Friday, August 10, at 7 pm.

For more information or to receive a registration packet visit kelseyatmccc.org/tomato_patch.shtml, call (609) 570-3566 or email projects@mccc.edu.

Masayuki Koorida Exhibits at Grounds for Sculpture

This spring, Grounds For Sculpture (GFS) will feature an extensive survey of the works of Masayuki Koorida, his first major exhibition in the United States. The exhibition, on display in GFS's Museum Building and outdoors, will feature 26 of the artist's sculptures, including four carved granite works each weighing multiple tons.

Other sculptures in carved stone, milled stainless steel, and cast acrylic will round out Koorida's oeuvres on view. A collection of nine of Koorida's new graphite drawings will accompany the gallery installation.

Masayuki Koorida was born in Kyoto, Japan in 1960 and grew up in the post World War II environment that formed his world. Koorida's love of his culture and of art and nature led to his decision to become an artist. He attended Musashino Art University in Tokyo and in 1999 he left Japan on a special residency grant in the Netherlands. In 2006, Koorida moved to Shanghai and became the resident sculptor at the Shanghai Sculpture Park. For the past 12 years, his studio and the vast grounds of the sculpture park have provided him with the opportunity to make some of the most stunning stone sculptures the western world has yet to see and experience.

Koorida's sculptures are as much serious works as they are engaging and inviting of viewer interaction. The seductive surfaces and colors of the stone compel viewers to want to experience the tactile surfaces and to feel the compacted mass of the stone and its variant temperatures. Inspired by nature, the works and their titles reflect basic concepts of the natural forms that inspired the artist. Black Flower, Black Seed, and Tentacle are some examples.

A 150-page exhibition catalogue will be produced featuring brilliant photography and installation shots. It will include an interview with Koorida as well as three essays about Koorida's art and its context in Japanese and world culture as the artist reaches the midpoint of his career.

The exhibition is on view May 6, 2018 to March 17, 2019.

For more information about Grounds For Sculpture, this exhibition or other GFS events, please visit groundsforsculpture.org or call (609) 586-0616.
Dear Friends,

With winter behind us, it’s time to start looking forward to the wealth of cultural activities the spring season brings to Mercer County.

This edition of our Culture & Heritage newsletter takes a look at some exciting events taking place during the coming months, including the first major exhibition in the United States of the works of Japanese artist Masayuki Koorida, being held at the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton; and the eighth annual Mercer County Cultural Festival, which celebrates our region’s diverse cultures through traditional art demonstrations, live cultural music, dance performances and more. Also featured is a story about the Trenton Circus Squad, an organization that helps local youth learn how to cooperate, push themselves and serve their community through circus arts.

Abundant opportunities to enrich our lives through history, arts and culture can be found in this newsletter, from choral concerts to theatrical productions to art exhibits and more. I encourage you to explore all that Mercer County has to offer this season.

Sincerely,
Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

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Trenton Circus Squad (continued)

from Trenton, and half from surrounding towns like Hopewell, Princeton, Ewing, Hamilton and Lawrenceville. The program runs every day after school, and for three two-week sessions in the summer. Youth aged 12-18 may enroll as Squad members, while younger children may visit for workshops. Dates and show times at the Roebling Wire Works Factory:

• June 5 & June 7 at 6 pm
• July 6, 13, 20, 27 at 12:30 pm
• August 3 & 10 at 12:30 pm

All performances are free and open to the public.

For more information visit trentoncircussquad.org

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Local Arts and History Grant Deadline Approaches

Don’t forget the FY19 application deadline to submit either the Local Arts Program (LAP) or History Grant is July 13. For more information about the application process, guidelines or questions visit, nj.gov/counties/mercer/commissions/cultural/grants. The commission’s Program Development Specialist, Tricia Fagan, is also available to assist potential grant applicants with questions or concerns, (609) 989-6418.

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Mark Your Calendar: June 16 — The 8th Annual Mercer County Cultural Festival

Mercer County Executive Brian M. Hughes and the Board of Chosen Freeholders present the 8th annual Mercer County Cultural Festival, Saturday, June 16, rain or shine, from 11 am to 7 pm at the Mercer County Park Festival Grounds, West Windsor.

This one-day festival will celebrate the many diverse cultures of Mercer County through traditional art demonstrations, live cultural music, dance performances, kids activities and more!

2018 brings back the popular international food trucks in the region as well as the popular biergarten! Admission and parking are free.

To learn more about this event, visit www.mercercounty.org/departments/culture-and-heritage/cultural-festival, find us on Facebook at facebook.com/mercercountyulturalheritagecommission or call (609) 274-2712.
Calendar of Events

Art Happenings
June 16 - 17, Art All Night, Historic Roebling Machine Shop, 675 South Clinton Ave, Trenton, 609-635-6736. Free. For more information visit artallnight.trenton.org.

Auditions
June 12, Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, New Student Auditions for YOCJ at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North. Visit YOCJ.org for requirements and to register.

Concerts
April 15, Spring Small Ensemble Concert, Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, 3pm, Plainsboro Recreational Center, 641 Plainsboro Rd, Plainsboro. For more information visit YOCJ.org.

April 15, Spring Into Song Concert, The Hopewell Valley Chorus, 2pm, Central Church, 2015 Pennington Rd, Pennington. For more information visit hopewellvalleychorus.org.

April 15, Spring Into Song, Trenton Children’s Chorus, 2pm. Central Church, Ewing. For more information call 609.278.0822 or trentonchildrenscorus.org.

April 15, Spring Into Song, Princeton Children’s Chorus, 7pm. Covenant Presbyterian Church, 471 Parkway Ave, Trenton. The concert is free and open to the public. Ample parking is available. For more information call 609.278.0822 or trentonchildrenscorus.org.

May 20, Spring Large Ensemble Concert, Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, 3pm & 7pm, West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North. For more information visit YOCJ.org.

May 2, Princeton Festival Lecture: Puccini’s Madama Butterfly, Mercer County Library, West Windsor Branch, 2pm. Professor Timothy Urban will examine Puccini’s heart-felt music as it relates to this intensely moving drama, which is an exquisite masterpiece and a crowd-pleaser. Timothy P. Urban, PhD, is adjunct associate professor in the Department of Music Composition, History and Theory at Westminster Choir College in Princeton.

June 3, Let All The World In Every Corner SING, Capital Singers of Trenton, 4pm. They will perform at Sacred Heart Church, 343 S. Broad Street, Trenton. For more information visit thecapital singers.org.

Dance
Every Tuesday night, International Folk Dance, Princeton Folk Dance, 7:30pm. Kristina Johnson Pop-Up Studio, Princeton Shopping Center, (609) 981-3409. Lesson followed by dance. $5. princetonfolkdance.org

Every Wednesday night, Newcomer Dance, American Ballroom Dance Company, 7pm, $10. (609) 931-0149. For more information visit americanballroomco.com

Every Thursday night, Viva Tango, 8pm, Suzanne Patterson Center, (609) 948-4448, $15. For more information visit vivatango.org

Every Friday night, Friday Night Social, American Ballroom Company, 7:30pm. Located at 1523 Parkway Ave, Ewing (609) 931-0149. For more information visit americanballroomco.com

Every Friday, Friday Dance Social, Jersey Dance, 8:30pm, West Windsor Arts Center, 952 Alexander Rd, West Windsor. For more information visit jerseydance.com

Every Saturday, English Dance, Princeton Country Dancers, 8pm, Suzanne Patterson Center. For more information visit princetoncountrydancers.org

April 19, Classical Indian Dance Demonstration, Lawrence Branch, Mercer County Library, 2pm. 2751 US Highway 1, Lawrenceville. Students from The Shishya School of Performing Arts, Lawrenceville, will perform classical Indian dances. Registration is suggested. Email lawprogs@mcld.org or call 609-989-6920 to register.

Exhibitions
Now - April 18, Sidewalk Sightings: People without Homes, Bernstein Gallery, Robertson Hall, Princeton, 9am. Exhibition in which Fanny Allie tears apart and re-assemble pieces of found fabric, mixed media and newsprint images to create characters of the street she observes on New York City sidewalks. For more information visit princeton.edu.

Now - April 29, The Bigger Picture, Princeton City Museum. For more information visit ellarslie.org.

Now - April 29, Second Life, Trenton City Museum. For more information visit ellarslie.org.

Now - April 29, Second Life, Tulpehaking Nature Center, 11am. This art exhibit will display conversations of color and texture expressed through re-purposed objects. For more information visit natureprograms.mercercounty.org. (W,V)

Now - April 29, The Artist Sees Differently: Modern Still Life from the Phillips Collection, Princeton University Art Museum. This exhibition of forty paintings from The Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., offers an analysis of the leaders of still life, including rarely seen works by European and American masters such as Paul Cézanne, Georges Braque, Pablo Picasso, Marsden Hartley, Milton Avery, and Georgia O’Keeffe. For more information visit artmuseum.princeton.edu (W,V)

Now - April 30, Trashed Art, Mercer County Library, Lawrence Branch. The exhibit will be on display throughout the month of April, featuring artwork made from recycled materials by Mercer County artists who contributed to the Eighth Annual Trashed Art Contest (2018). A reception will be held to honor the winners and the participants of the contest on April 21, 2pm. The public is welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served. Call 609-989-6920 or email lawprogs@mcld.org for more information.

May 5 - July 1, Ellarslie Open 35, Trenton City Museum. Gallery talk about exhibition Sunday, May 20, 2pm. For more information visit ellarslie.org.

Now - August 19, Shifting Views: Artists who experienced World War I, NJ State Museum, 205 West State St, Trenton. Peaceful landscapes, busy city streets, linear abstractions, portraits of friends and family - these paintings, drawings, and prints were created by twenty-three artists who experienced the front-lines of WWI. For more information visit state.nj.us/state/museum (W,V)

Now - September 29, Hearth & Home, NJ State Museum, 205 West State St, Trenton. This exhibit features a reflection of ourselves and the environment in which we live. In this fascinating exhibit visitors will learn about the homes and home life of Native Americans in the Eastern Woodlands of North America. For more information visit state.nj.us/state/museum (W,V)

Farmers Markets
Capital City Farmers’ Market, Every Thursday, 11am, beginning May through October, Mill Hill Park, 165 E. Front St, Trenton. The market features Jersey Fresh farm produce, artisanal food, specialty produce, baked goods, handmade crafts, jewelry, all natural body and face care products, entertainment and much more. For more information visit destinationtrenton.com

1. Mercer County Cultural & Heritage Commission cannot be responsible for errors or omissions. Please call ahead to confirm times and prices. Deadline of June 1, 2018 for the July, August and September - Summer 2018 Newsletter.
West Windsor Community Farmers’ Market, Every Saturday, 9am, beginning May through the Saturday before Thanksgiving. WindsorsAthleticClubClarksvilleRd,WestWindsor. Produce, meats, woven fibers, honey, wine, flowers, baked goods, and prepared foods. For more information visit westwindsorfarmersmarket.org

Festivals
April 7 – 8, Pauk Rock Flea Market, Roebling Machine Shop, 10am. 675 S. Clinton Ave, Trenton. For more information visit trentonpunkrockfleamarket.com

April 28, 10th Annual One Act Playfest, Mercer County Library, Lawrence Headquarter Branch, 7pm. Local performers will perform staged readings of six one-act plays by Delaware Valley playwrights. Registration is required. For more information visit mcl.org / (609) 989-6920.

April 29, CommunityUn, Arts Council of Princeton, 1pm. Nassau St, downtown Princeton. For more information visit artsuncouncilofprinceton.org

June 16, Mercer County Cultural Festival, Mercer County Park, West Windsor, 11am to 7pm. Rain or Shine. Free admission & parking. For more information visit us on facebook at Mercer County Cultural & Heritage Commission or call 609-278-2712.

June 30, Mercer County Freedom Fest, Mercer County Park, West Windsor, 5pm. This festival features a wide range of activities for the entire family. Fireworks at 9:30pm. For More info mercercountyparks.org

Historical Activities
Every Third Tuesday of each month, Stamp Collecting, Hamilton Philatelic Society, 7:15pm, Hamilton Library, Justice Samuel Alito Way, Hamilton. (609) 751-4642. For more information hamiltonphilatelic.org

Every Second Tuesday, Central Jersey Genealogical Club, Hamilton Library, 7 pm. For more information visit cjjgcnj.com

April 9, History of the Trenton – Mercer Airport, Mercer County Library, Ewing Branch, 7pm. Presented by Howard Bueschel, long time Ewing resident and former associate professor of aviation history and law at MCCC. Trenton-Mercer Airport (TTN) opened in 1929 in order to better connect Mercer County to the rest of the nation and transported many fliers, including notable aviation and political leaders. Learn all about the fascinating history behind the great airport of our local airport. Registration required. For more information visit mcl.org / (609) 882-3148.

April 12, CookTalks: Revolutionary Tea: An 18th Century Tea Experience, Mercer County Library, Hightstown Branch, 11am. Why was tea so important in the lives of 18th-century people? Did Great Britain lose her American Colonies over “the cup that cheers”? Through a discussion and demonstration led by costumed scholar Stacy Roth, participants can learn more about tea’s history, songs, and poetry in this unique session. This program is funded by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities and co-sponsored by the Friends of the Lawrence Township Branch. Registration is suggested. Call 609-989-6920 or email lawprogs@mcl.org.

April 17, AT&T’s Pole Farm and the Transformation of Mercer Meadows, Mercer County Library, Ewing Branch, 7pm. Presented by historian Dennis P. Waters. In 1928 AT&T purchased more than 800 acres of productive farmland in Lawrence and Hopewell Townships to build what would become the world’s largest radiotelephone transmitting station. At its peak in the early 1960s it carried millions of phone calls across the Atlantic Ocean to Europe, Africa, South America, and the Middle East. Join us to learn more about this site and its important role in history. Registration required. For more information visit mcl.org / (609) 882-3148.

April 21, The Magic and History of Marquard Park, 11am. Join Bob Wells, Associate Director of Aboriculture at Morris Arboretum, and Roland Machold, former Marquard Park Foundation board member, as they share the history of the property and highlight the native and exotic trees in the collection. For more information visit princetonhistory.org

April 25, Princeton in the American Revolution, Mercer County Library, Hickory Corner Branch, 7pm. Learn about Princeton’s role in the American Revolution from Christmas 1771 to January 3rd, 1777. Hear the story of the battle, bravery and perseverance of the Continental soldiers through unimaginable difficulties, leading to victory and freedom. Presented by Barry Singer of the Historical Society of Princeton. Call 609 448-0957 or email hcpprogs@mcl.org to register.

May 3, Princeton & the American Revolution, Mercer County Library, West Windsor Branch, 7pm. Learn about Princeton’s role in the American Revolution from Christmas 1771 to January 3rd, 1777. Hear the story of the battle, bravery and perseverance of the Continental soldiers through unimaginable difficulties, leading to victory and freedom. Presented by Barry Singer of the Historical Society of Princeton. Call 609 448-0957 or email hcpprogs@mcl.org to register.

May 5, Beyond The Magic Hour: How to Use Available Light, Princeton Photo Workshop, 1pm. For more information visit princetondigitalphotoworkshop.com

May 12, Composition-on-Location Grounds for Sculpture, Princeton Photo Workshop, 10am. For more information visit princetondigitalphotoworkshop.com

June 16, Private Access: Eastern State Penitentiary with “Hands On History” Areas, Princeton Photo Workshop, 9am at ESP. For more information visit princetondigitalphotoworkshop.com

Theatre
Kelsey Theatre
April 6 & 13, 8pm; April 7 & 14, 8pm; April 8 & 15, 2pm. Spring Awakening, Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, (609) 570-3333. A coming-of-age musical that gives voices to the frustration of a group of adolescents as they seek to escape sexual repression in late 19th century
Germany. This hauntingly beautiful musical examines the journey from adolescence to adulthood with poignancy and passion wrapped in an electrifying fusion of morality, sexuality and rock and roll.

The journey from adolescence to adulthood with poignancy and passion wrapped in an electrifying fusion of morality, sexuality and rock and roll.

This hauntingly beautiful musical examines the journey from adolescence to adulthood with poignancy and passion wrapped in an electrifying fusion of morality, sexuality and rock and roll.

Greg: “The dog phase of my life is definitely over.” But life has a way of giving you what you think you don’t want. Greg finds Sylvia, a woman he never thought he would meet again. She promptly becomes a bone of contention between Greg and Kate, testing their relationship to the breaking point.

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The Merry Wives of Windsor
Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, (609) 570-3333. This year Shakespeare ‘70 will present William Shakespeare’s only true farce. In this classic comedy, the rotund and rambling Falstaff decides to seduce both Mistress Page and Mistress Ford, respectable married women of Windsor, in the hopes that he can improve not only his love life, but his wallet. But the ladies see right through his plots, and form a few plots of their own. Mischief and hysteria follow, with lovers and lechers chasing after what they truly desire. $18 adults, $16 seniors, $14 students/children. For more information visit kelseytheatre.net

Pegasus Theatre
April 13 - 22, Bakersfield Mist, Fridays & Saturdays 8pm, Sundays 2pm. 952 Alexander Rd, Princeton Junction, Maude, a fifty-something unemployed bartender living in a trailer park, has bought a painting for a few bucks from a thrift store. Despite almost throwing it away, she’s now convinced it’s a lost masterpiece by Jackson Pollock worth millions. But when world-class art expert Lionel Percy flies over from New York and arrives at her trailer home in Bakersfield to authenticate the painting, he has no idea what he is about to discover. Inspired by true events, this hilarious and thought-provoking new comedy-drama asks vital questions about what makes art and people truly authentic. For more information visit pegasustheatrenj.org or call (609) 759-0045

Passage Theatre
May 3 - 20, “Caged” by the New Jersey Prison Cooperative, Passages Theatre, 205 E Front Street, Trenton. Caged follows a Black family’s struggle to survive the general cycle of mass incarceration. Combining stories, interviews, and writing by current and former inmates, this poignant community-devised play uses gripping truths and soulful dialogue to reveal the human cost of America’s for-profit justice system. For more information visit pasagetheatre.org

The Merry Wives of Windsor
Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, (609) 570-3333. This year Shakespeare ‘70 will present William Shakespeare’s only true farce. In this classic comedy, the rotund and rambling Falstaff decides to seduce both Mistress Page and Mistress Ford, respectable married women of Windsor, in the hopes that he can improve not only his love life, but his wallet. But the ladies see right through his plots, and form a few plots of their own. Mischief and hysteria follow, with lovers and lechers chasing after what they truly desire. $18 adults, $16 seniors, $14 students/children. For more information visit kelseytheatre.net

Mccarter
May 4 - June 3, Turning Off the Morning News, McCarter Theatre; times vary. The smash hit Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike had audiences laughing as they waited on the Tony Award for Best Play on Broadway. Christopher Durang returns to McCarter with his latest cast of eccentric characters, who take us on a wild ride. The play follows the plight of two sets of neighbors—Cliff and Salena have just moved in; and the family across the street is at best peculiar, and at worst, stark raving mad. Turning Off The Morning News is a black comedy crossing today’s absurd and dangerous world. For more information visit mccarter.org

Call for Artist Submissions

Grants to individuals to encourages cultural communities to continue pushing on their valued art forms in traditional settings by providing stipends to master folk artists and craftpersons that can help apprentices develop greater skills. Since 1985 more information contacts Mercer County Culture & Heritage the artsinitiative@mercercounty.org / 609.989.6899

Opportunities

Folk Arts Apprenticeships
Deadline: April 5, 2018

- Folk Arts Apprenticeships
  Grants to individuals to encourage cultural communities to continue pushing on their valued art forms in traditional settings by providing stipends to master folk artists and craftpersons that can help apprentices develop greater skills. Since 1985 more information contact Mercer County Culture & Heritage the artsinitiative@mercercounty.org / 609.989.6899

MCCARTER
Senior Citizen Art Show
Deadline: July 16

Exhibit: July 18 - August 3

For more information contact Mercer County Culture & Heritage the artsinitiative@mercercounty.org / 609.989.6899

TULPAHEKING
Now - April 29, Second Life, Tulpehaking Nature Center, 11am.

This art exhibit will display conversations of color and texture expressed through re-purposed objects. For more information visit natureprograms@mercercounty.org

January 25, Your Wild Yard Series: Build Your Own Bluebird Box, Tulpehaking Nature Center, 6:30pm. Located at 157 Westcott Ave, Hamilton. For more information visit natureprograms@mercercounty.org / (609) 888-3218.

May 12, Your Wild Yard Series: Attracting Pollinators to Your Backyard Workshop, Tulpehaking Nature Center, 9am.

Come learn the art of attracting pollinators and beneficial insects to your own wild yard. pre-registration required call (609) 888-3218 / natureprograms@mercercounty.org.

- 6 -
The Hopewell Museum was incorporated in 1922 as the Hopewell Free Public Library and Museum Funding and Building Association. It was formed to raise funds for a building to house a collection of antiques offered to the community by Miss Sarah D. Stout. This collection became the nucleus of the present museum, which bears the much simpler name of The Hopewell Museum.

Originally the museum and public library were housed in a large, brownstone structure that was built by Randolph Stout in 1877. In 1965 the Library moved to its present location and in 1967 a two-story addition was made to the museum building through the generosity of Dr. David H. Hill. The additional space enabled the museum to display its many fine collections to greater advantage as well as house Dr. Hill’s superb collection of Southwestern Native American crafts.

The aim of the museum is to display and preserve what is most typical and interesting of American village life from colonial days to the present. Most of its treasures have been given by residents of the community and surrounding area with many of the items having been used by ancestors of the donors. In 1998, more than 500 children from area schools visited the museum on class trips while studying their town and region. Visitors will often see people engaged in research, quietly poring over the many books in the Museum’s genealogical collection.

Photographs, maps, quilts, furniture, costumes, tools, utensils, toys, signs, weapons, deeds, charters and many other items relating to the history of this quiet, industrious community and its people are presented in the collection.

The museum is governed by a Board of Trustees and staffed by two curators who are present during the time the Museum is open on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 2 to 5 pm. Admission is free and rotating exhibits make repeat visits worthwhile.

The museum is located at 28 East Broad Street in Hopewell Borough. For more information, please call (609) 466-0103.

"Pop," Sam and the Chief, Memories of Pennington at Mid Twentieth Century – Local Author Set to Lecture June 3 at Pennington Public Library

Visit the Pennington Library on Sunday, June 3 at 3 pm and hear local author Mike Thomsen share his story. Mike grew up at 25 East Welling Avenue, Pennington, arriving with his family in 1944, at the age of 4. He has written a book filled with photos and reminiscences about his experiences growing up in Pennington during the 1940s and 1950s.

This event is co-sponsored by the Hopewell Valley Historical Society and the Pennington Public Library. For more information about this event, please visit the library website at https://www.penningtonlibrary.org/ or call (609) 737-0404. To learn more about the Hopewell Valley Historical Society, visit hopewellvalleyhistory.org/
Please refer to the icons for ADA accommodations.

To have your events listed in our newsletter and online calendar, please write or email the following information: type of event, sponsor, location with street address and municipality, fees, phone number for public inquiries, a phone number for the staff to contact for questions, a website and/or email address, funding credit and ADA compliance. Please mail to: Mercer County Division of Culture & Heritage, Box 8068, 640 South Broad Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08650, or email to: c&hnewsletter@mercercounty.org. If you feel your event merits a longer story, please write, email or call (609) 989-6899.

This newsletter is available in large print. To request a copy, please call (609) 989-6899.

Brian M. Hughes, County Executive
The Mercer County Board of Chosen Freeholders
Lucyelle R. S. Walter, Freeholder Chair
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Tricia Fagan • Cheryl Reed • Lisa Tramo

Anthony Carabelli, Jr., Acting Executive Director
Office of Economic Development

Cheryl Reed, Newsletter Editor

This newsletter is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey Historical Commission and New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by funds from the Mercer County Executive and Board of Chosen Freeholders.