Joy In The Everyday, a Hopewell Valley Arts Council Exhibit at Capital Health Medical Center - Hopewell

The Hopewell Valley Arts Council and the Arts and Healing Committee at Capital Health are celebrating Joy in the Everyday, an exhibition of works by members of the Hopewell Valley Arts Council at the Investors Bank Art & Healing Gallery at Capital Health, One Capital Way, Pennington. Located on the 2nd floor, this exhibit captures, in visual and written representation, the colorful relationship between joy and art.

The opening reception is on Thursday, January 10, 2019 from 6 to 7:30 pm and the exhibit is on display until March 25, 2019.

The holidays are a magical time of celebration, light, and wishes for peace and good fortune in the coming year. Artists get to wield their own brand of magic by transmitting personal feelings of joy and inspiration to those who view their art.

This diverse portfolio of work was created by supporters of the HV Arts Council and includes both amateur and accomplished artists, and those self-taught and professionally trained.

The Hopewell Valley Arts Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing art awareness and appreciation in the greater Hopewell Valley. We celebrate “art in the everyday” by cultivating all types of creative exploration, artistic expression, and encourage us all to see the beauty inherent in the simple and ordinary parts of day-to-day life. Through community collaborations, events and art-based initiatives, the Arts Council highlights our local talents and enriches the cultural and creative lives of our community. The opening reception will be at the Art & Healing Gallery, on the second floor at Capital Health Medical Center-Hopewell on Thursday, January 10, 2019 from 6 pm-7:30 pm.

Joy in the Everyday – Art is joy! Joy to the world! Celebrating the holiday season, this exhibit will feature art that exudes joy, color, and happiness. Artists have the ability to inspire, encourage, and motivate. Where does your joy come from? Each artist shares how they create art that brings them joy in the everyday or to the world as a whole.

The exhibit will be on display from now until March 25, 2019.

For more information about this exhibit or other events visit hvartscouncil.org.
McCarter Theatre Celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On January 18 at 8 pm, McCarter Theatre will present multi-genre recording artist Damien Sneed and his unique blend of classical, jazz, and gospel music with We Shall Overcome: A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Inspired by the words and action of Dr. King, We Shall Overcome features repertoire from across the African-American music traditions that electrified generations of civil rights activists and defenders, interwoven with spoken word from Dr. King’s speeches.

For more on Damien Sneed, visit damiensneed.com. For information about tickets visit mccarter.org / (609) 258-2787.

Philadelphia Orchestra Concertmaster to headline Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey concert

Philadelphia Orchestra Concertmaster David Kim will perform Violin Concerto No. 1 in G Minor by Max Bruch with the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey on Sunday, January 20, at 2:30 pm.

Kim’s performance is the featured event of the annual YOCJ winter concerts, to be held at Kendall Hall, The College of New Jersey. The afternoon concert will also include YOCJ’s Saxophone Choir, which will perform Gran Partita, commissioned by YOCJ and written by noted composer David Noon.

A later concert, at 7:30 pm, will include the String Preparatory Orchestra, Pro Arte Orchestra, and Wind Symphony. All tickets are good for both concerts.

(The snow date for the earlier concert, featuring David Kim, will be 7 pm Tuesday, January 22, 7 pm at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South. The snow date for the later concert will be 3 pm. Sunday, January 27, also at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South.)

Tickets will be available starting on January 4 at tcnj.edu/boxoffice or the Kendall Hall box office on the day of the concert.

Kendall Hall is located behind Park Drive on the TCNJ campus, 2000 Pennington Road in Ewing, NJ.

The YOCJ Symphonic Orchestra, conducted by John Enz, will accompany Mr. Kim at the 2:30 pm concert. Mr. Kim has been concertmaster at the Philadelphia Orchestra since 1999, and appears as a soloist each season. He received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the Juilliard School in New York City.

The Saxophone Choir, a rare group for any youth orchestra, is led by Dr. Jordan Smith. YOCJ has performed since 1978. New student auditions are planned for Tuesday, January 29. See YOCJ.org for details.

YOCJ is composed of about 230 student players who seek to improve and play at a higher level. Players must be privately taught, and must continue to work with their school orchestras and bands.

If These Stones Could Talk: Author Talk and Book Signing

Join the Hopewell Branch of the Mercer County Library on January 15 at 6 pm and hear local authors Elaine Buck and Beverly Mills, former board members of the Stoutzburg Cemetery Association, speak about their new book “If These Stones Could Talk.” Based on decades of research, oral histories, land deeds, church records and preserved plots, Buck and Mills accumulated stories that consecrate the collected lives of a minority Black community in a predominantly white region of the Sourland Mountains of New Jersey. The book provides a unique window to African-Americans in New Jersey previously missing from the historical record.

Registration is requested for this lecture. Please call the Hopewell Branch at (609) 737-2610 or email hope-progs@mcl.org.
Dear Friends,

Winter is upon us, and here in Mercer County we have an exciting array of cultural experiences to carry us through the season.

In this edition of our Culture & Heritage newsletter, you’ll find a rich assortment of cultural events, displays, tours and crafts happening across the County this winter. Among them are a Hopewell Valley Arts Council exhibit, “Joy in the Everyday,” at Capital Health Medical Center; a musical and spoken-word celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at McCarter Theatre in Princeton; and a performance by the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey at The College of New Jersey in Ewing. Also featured is a story about the Enoch Middleton House in Hamilton, which served as a safe house along the Underground Railroad prior to the Civil War.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and for a winter filled with new experiences.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

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**Trenton Artists Workshop Presents the Traveling Exhibition “Persistence”**

The Trenton Artists Workshop Association (TAWA) presents the traveling exhibition “Persistence” at the Plainsboro Public Library from January 4 to January 31. A reception and artist talk is set for Sunday, January 20 from 1 to 4 pm.

“Persistence” features work by regional artists who demonstrate persistence despite what are commonly perceived as obstacle: age, illness, and physical and neurological problems.

In addition to providing a venue for artists to come together and share work, “Persistence” is designed to encourage others by showing how these artists use art to enhance their lives and continue their pursuit of art.

Exhibiting artists will be Priscilla Snow Algava, a Princeton-based artist who works mainly in monoprints and painting and is inspired by nature and the human spirit and figure. She has exhibited in various galleries in New York City, Philadelphia, and New Jersey as well as internationally. Algava has been receiving treatment for cancer over the past two years.

Justin Jedrzejczyk is a Trenton area artist and has shown his work locally and in New York City. He mainly does portraits, using friends as models in everyday settings and paints in acrylic on canvas. Over the past several years he has been dealing with a neurological problem that has affected his eyesight.

Ken Alexander is a self-taught Trenton-based painter. His work focuses on the human experience in various settings. Despite being visually impaired, he uses vivid colors in his work and tends to use abstraction in representing his figures.

Mark Wilkie is a Hamilton native who uses various detailed shapes and works in pen and pencil and has a neurological classification.

Mel Leipzig is an award-winning artist. He is a painter who dedicates his career to painting people in their own environments. His painting of Michael Austin shows the human spirit and represents how an artist can use art to overcome obstacles to strengthen their lives. The 83-year-old Leipzig shows that age is no obstacle to new work.

Karey Maurice is a Princeton-based artist who works in multiple mediums and works in the style of neo pop and suffers from a spinal cord degeneration. He studied visual arts at Mercer County Community College and also mentored under New York based pop artist Keith Haring.

And curator Byron Aubrey is a Trenton-born Hamilton resident who is active in drawing, photography, and painting and who studies visual arts at Mercer County Community College. He studied and was mentored under Priscilla Algava and Mel Leipzig and has a neurological classification. This is the first show he has curated.

The Plainsboro Library is located at 9 Van Doren Street, Plainsboro. Hours are Mondays through Thursdays, 10 am to 8:30 pm, and Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am to 5 pm. For more information on the library, call 609-275-2897.

For more information on the Trenton Artists Workshop Association, contact tawaexhibits@aol.com.
Auditions

January 29, New Student Auditions, Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey. Students MUST study privately and be enrolled in either their school band or orchestra (if there is a band or orchestra in your school) in order to become and remain a member of the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey. Recommendation by the student’s private teacher is required. Homeschoolers are also invited to audition! For more information visit youj.org

Concerts

January 7-9, Maestro Gustavo Dudamel’s residency at Princeton University Concerts. 68 Nassau St, Princeton, princetonuniversityconcerts.org

January 11-12, Die Gärtnerin aus Liebe, Princeton University, Richardson Auditorium, Alexander Hall, 7:30pm. Sung in German with English dialogue, the production offers a modern setting of the comic tale, as directed by Princeton University Performance Faculty member David Kellett. Ruth Ochs conducts the Princeton University Sinfonia, and Sarah Pelletier has provided vocal coaching.

January 11, Winter Songs XII - Songs of the Season, Capital Singers of Trenton, 7:30pm. Saint Paul Roman Catholic Church, 16 Nassau Street, Princeton. For more information visit capitalsingers.org

January 19, Vitaldi!, Central Jersey Choral Society, 7pm. Princeton Meadow Event Center, 545 Meadow Rd, Princeton. Antonio Vitaldi was one of the great composers of the Baroque era. He spent his most productive years as the music director of an orphanage in Venice. From there, he would compose music for strings and chorus that would inspire a generation of composers, most notably Johann Sebastian Bach. For more information visit cjchorsociety.org

January 20, II Queen Christina Goes to Rome, Dryden Ensemble, 7:30pm. Located at Miller Chapel, Princeton Theological Seminary, 64 Mercer St, Princeton. For more information visit the drydenensemble.org / 609-466-8541.

January 20, Winter 2019 Large Ensemble Concert, Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, 7:30pm. Kendall Hall, The College of New Jersey. For more information visit youj.org

January 26, Capital Philharmonic of NJ Youth Orchestra Festival, Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, 7:30pm. Located at Patriots’ Theatre, 1 Memorial Dr, Trenton. For more information visit youj.org

February 2, 8pm; February 3, 4pm. Beethoven’s Fifth - Edward T. Cone Concert, Princeton Symphony Orchestra, 4pm. Located in Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall, Princeton. For more information visit princetonsymphony.org

February 3, Messiah “Quartet for the End of Time,” Princeton University Concerts, 6pm & 9pm. Richard Auditorium, 68 Nassau St, Princeton, (609) 258-9220, $30, princetonuniversityconcerts.org

February 9, Performance with Jubilee Singers, Trenton Children’s Chorus. The Performance takes place at Westminster Choir College, Princeton. For more information visit trentonchildrenschorus.org

February 23, Trenton Children’s Chorus Black History Month Celebration, 11am. For more information visit trentonchildrenschorus.org

March 12, Master Class with David Kim, Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, 7pm. Located at West Windsor Plainsboro High School South. For more information visit yocj.org

March 23 & 24, 8pm; Deoruk / Liebermann/Mazzoli, Princeton Symphony Orchestra, 8pm. Located in Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall, Princeton. For more information visit princesymphony.org

March 24, Spring Into Song, Trenton Children’s Chorus 2pm. Central Church, Ewing. For more information visit trentonchildrenschorus.org

March 31, Requiem For the Living, Capital Singers of Trenton, 4pm. Sacred Heart Church, 343 S. Broad Street, Trenton. For more information visit capitalsingers.org

Dance

Every Tuesday night, International Folk Dance, Princeton Folk Dance, 7:30pm. Kristina Johnson Pop-Up Studio, Princeton Shopping Center, (609)921-9340 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, Viataango, 8pm. Suzanne Patterson Center, Princeton. (609) 948-4448, $15. For more information visit vivatango.com

Every Friday night, Friday Night Social, American Ballroom Company, 7:30pm. Located at 1525 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 Country Dance, Princeton Country Dancers, 8pm. Suzanne Patterson Center, Princeton. $11. For more information visit princeontcountrydancers.org

Exhibitions

Now - 20, Garden State Watercolor Society Juried Show, Trenton City Museum. For more information visit effarslie.org.

On View Objects Count: A Decade of Collecting, New Jersey State Museum, 205 West State Street, Trenton. People love to collect objects. Some seek items of aesthetic beauty. Others, the motivation is to gather hundreds of examples of one particular type of object. For still others, the need to collect goes hand-in-hand with scientific categorization and wonder about the natural world. The New Jersey State Museum also collects objects. In this exciting new exhibition, visitors will experience an eclectic selection of artifacts and specimens collected over the past ten years. See a caribou antler from Ice Age New Jersey, a painting by artist Ben Shahn, a 1930s flight suit from a South Pacific pilot, Native American projectile points and much more. For more information visit state.nj.us/museum.

Now - February 24, Picturing Place in Japan, Princeton University Art Museum. The exhibition centers on a set of exceptional loans from the renowned Manyo’an Collection, supplemented by paintings from the Princeton University Art Museum, and features some twenty works of varying scale, none of which subject that together showcase the distinguished tradition of depicting place in Japanese painting. For more information visit artmuseum.princeton.edu

Farmers Markets

January 5 & 19; February 2 & 16; March 2 & 16, West Windsor Farmers’ Market, 10am. Windsor Athletic Club Clarksville Rd, West Windsor. Produce, meats, woven fibers, honey, wine, flowers, baked goods, and prepared foods. For more information visit westwindsorfarmersmarket.org

Festivals/Holiday

January 6, Arts Council of Princeton’s Three Kings’ Day Event, 2pm. Join the Arts Council of Princeton in our Solley Theater for a special dance performance! Fiesta del Día de Los Reyes Magos, or Three Kings Day, is the last day of the Christmas season and is celebrated throughout the world by several different cultures. Enjoy a live Flamenco dance performance by Lisa Botalico’s Fiesta Flamencas and rosca de reyes (Three Kings cake). Learn about Spanish culture and end the holiday season in celebration! Paul Robeson Center for the Arts, 102 Witherspoon Street, Princeton. For more information, please visit artsCouncilofprinceton.org or call 609.924.8777.

January 21, Dr Martin Luther King Jr Day Event, 9am.

1. Mercer County Cultural & Heritage Commission cannot be responsible for errors or omissions. Please call ahead to confirm times and prices. Deadline of March 1, 2019 for the April, May and June - Spring 2019 Newsletter.
Join the Arts Council of Princeton as we celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a day of live music, interactive workshops, and discussions as they relate to Dr. King’s life, teachings and civic engagement. The celebratory day will begin with a Community Breakfast at 9am, followed by hands-on activities for all ages. For more information, please visit artscouncilofprinceton.org or call 609.924-8777.

February 24 - February 26, Oscar Shorts Weekend, Trenton Film Society. For more information visit trentonfilmsociety.org

March 28 - March 31, 2019 Trenton Film Festival, Trenton Film Society. For more information visit trentonfilmsociety.org

Historical Activities

Every Third Tuesday of each month, Stamp Collecting, Hamilton Philatelic Society, 7:15pm, Hamilton Library, 239 S. Alito Way, Hamilton, (609) 751-4642. For more information hamiltonphilatelic.org

February 5, Every Second Tuesday, Central Jersey Genealogical Club, Hamilton Library, 7 p.m. For more information visit cjcnnj.com

January 7, The Mercer & Somerset Railroad Story, Mercer County Library, Ewing Branch, 7pm. Join us for a presentation on the history and legacy of the Mercer & Somerset Railroad, an obscure Old New Jersey line that became famous not for the trains it ran, but for its fate as a proxy in the 1876 “frog war”. Learn the history of the line, its role in the (Hopewell) skirmish, its post war decline emotionally by each visit. Join historical lecturer and tour guide Michael Jesberger for a lecture on the president’s time in Philadelphia. Registration is required. Call 609-883-8294 or e-mail lawprogs@mcl.org. For more information visit mcl.org

January 24, Abraham Lincoln Visits the Philadelphia County Library, Lawrence Branch, 7:30pm. Register required. Lincoln first saw Independence Hall during his 1848 visit to Philadelphia. He visited Philadelphia four times and moved emotionally by each visit. Join historical lecturer and tour guide Michael Jesberger for a lecture on the president’s time in Philadelphia. Registration is required. Call 609-883-8294 or e-mail lawprogs@mcl.org. For more information visit mcl.org

February 21, Jack Sherrod Lives! The Life and Legacy of Jack Sherrod, Mercer County Library, Lawrence Headquarters Branch, 2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrence Township. Registration is suggested. Call 609-989-6920 or email lawprogs@mcl.org. For more information visit mcl.org

February 4, The Empire Strikes Back! The Philadelphia Campaign of 1777, Mercer County Library, Ewing Branch, 61 Scotch Road, 7pm. Learn how Washington’s army was overwhelmed in a series of battles and skirmishes, including Brandywine Creek and Germantown, leading to the evacuation of the Continental Army to Brune, north of Philadelphia, and ultimately driving the Continental Army into the hills for a bitter winter encampment at Valley Forge. Presented by Roger S. Williams, public historian, a member of the Society of Military History, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic and the Organization of American History. He is a founding member of TenCruicialDays.org and a trustee at the Princeton Battlefield Society. Registration is required. Call 609-882-3148.

February 6, American First World War and Post War Memories in France 1917-1929, Mercer County Library, Lawrence Branch, 7pm. Paris-based travel writer and a native of Mercer County, NJ, travel writer Gary Lee-Kraut will talk about the American war sights of the Paris region and of northeast France, and the role America played in France during the post-war reconstruction. Registration is suggested. Call 609-883-8294 or e-mail lawprogs@mcl.org. For more information visit mcl.org

Thursday, February 20, Three Centuries of African-American History in Trenton: Significant People and Places, Mercer County Library, Ewing Branch, 7pm. Learn about the people and places associated with Trenton’s African-American community from its founding to the mid-twentieth century. Presented by Jennifer B. Leynes, author of Three Centuries of African-American History in Trenton: Significant People and Places, which was published by the Trenton Historical Society with support from the New Jersey Historical Commission. She serves on the Trenton Landmarks Commission and is employed as a Historic Preservation Specialist by the New Jersey Historic Preservation Office. Registration is required. Call 609-882-3148. For more information visit mcl.org

March 13, The Flyboys of Princeton, Mercer County Library, Lawrence Branch, 6:30pm. Join historian and photographer Erik L. Bruno in this presentation on the role of the Princeton University military flying school during World War I, supplemented by information on the Doughboys memorial exhibit featured in the library during the month of March. This program is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Lawrence Library and the Lawrence Historical Society. Registration is suggested. Call 609-883-8294 or e-mail lawprogs@mcl.org. Register required. For more information visit mcl.org

March 28, The Delaware Bridges of Mercer County: A History, Mercer County Library, Lawrence Branch, 7pm. Speaker Joe Donnelly, of the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission, will discuss the history of the Delaware River bridges, illustrated with historic photographs, news items, documents, and maps. Registration is suggested. Call 609-883-8294 or e-mail lawprogs@mcl.org. For more information visit mcl.org

Photography

February 13, Getting To Know Your Digital Camera, Princeton Photo Workshop, 11am. For more information visit princetondigitalphotoworkshop.com

February 26, Taking Better Pictures with Your Digital Camera, Princeton Photo Workshop, 1pm. For more information visit princetondigitalphotoworkshop.com

January 27, The Fine Art of Photographing People, with Professional Model, Princeton Photo Workshop, 10am. For more information visit princetondigitalphotoworkshop.com
Theatre
Kelsey Theatre
January 11 & 18 at 8pm; January 12 & 19, 8pm; January 13 & 20 at 2pm. Noises Off. Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, (609) 570-3333. $18 adults, $16 seniors, $14 students/children. For more information visit kelseytheatre.net (W)

January 25 & February 1, 8pm; January 26 & February 2, 8pm; January 27 & February 3 at 2pm. Zorro, The Musical, Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, (609) 570-3333. $18 adults, $16 seniors, $14 students/children. For more information visit kelseytheatre.net (W)

February 8, 8pm; February 9, 8pm; February 10, 2pm, Love Letters, Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, (609) 570-3333. $18 adults, $16 seniors, $14 students/children. For more information visit kelseytheatre.net (W)

February 15 & 22, pm; February 16 & 23, 8pm; February 17 & 24, 2pm. Four Weddings & a Funeral, Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, (609) 570-3333. $18 adults, $16 seniors, $14 students/children. For more information visit kelseytheatre.net (W)

March 2, at 8pm; March 3 at 2pm. Chicago II - Reech & Roll Revue, The Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, (609) 570-3333. $30 all. For more information visit kelseytheatre.net (W)

March 8 & 15, 8pm; March 9 & 16, 8pm; March 10, 2pm. Peter & The Starcatcher, Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, (609) 570-3333. For more information visit mercerband.org (W)

March 22 & 29, 8pm; March 23 & 30, 2pm and 8pm; March 24 & 31, 2pm. The Sound of Music, Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, (609) 570-3333. For more information visit mercerband.org (W)

McCarter
January 11 - February 10, The Niceties, McCarter Theater. In this riveting two-person drama, a polite clash between black student and white professor explodes into an urgent and dangerous contemporary debate. For more information visit mccarter.org (W,A,S,B,V)


January 26, Potted Potter, McCarter Theater. This gloriously goofy parody takes on the ultimate challenge of condensing (or “potting”) all seven Harry Potter books and a real-life game of Quidditch involving the audience, into 70 hilarious minutes. For more information visit mccarter.org (W,A,S,B,V)

February 9, Pirates of Penzance, McCarter Theater. The New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players and Orchestra return to our stage with an all-time favorite. For more info visit mccarter.org (W,A,S,B,V)

February 15 - 17, Elevator Repair Service: Gatz, McCarter Theater. atz is Elevator Repair Service’s most ambitious and critically-admired theatrical endeavor: an entertaining dramatization of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s masterpiece—word-for-word. For more information visit mccarter.org (W,A,S,B,V)

Passage Theatre
February 8 - 10. To My Unborn Child: A Love Letter From Fred Hampton. Passage Theater, Mill Hill Playhouse, 205 East Front Street, Trenton, 609-392-0766. Murdered by Chicago Police at 21 as he lay by his pregnant lover, visionary Black Panther Fred Hampton preached a humane, compassionate revolution against racist brutality, child hunger, poverty, and capitalism. His critical voice for justice comes alive again in Rich Jones’ play. $10 ($5 for students). For more info visit passage-theatre.org (W,A,S,B,V)

February 15 - 17, Bicycle Face. Passage Theater, Mill Hill Playhouse, 205 East Front Street, Trenton, 609-392-0766. Set in Philadelphia and framed by a feminist theory class taught one hundred and fifty years in the future, Bicycle Face is a multidisciplinary, multimedia theatrical joyride through the feminist movement and its unlikely relationship with the bicycle. The show employs live music, projections, and puppetry as it navigates the ever-changing landscape of feminism, censorship, and cycling. For more information visit passage-theatre.org (W,A,S,B,V)

Workshops
January 12, Frost and Flames, Grounds For Sculpture, 11:00am. Get up close and watch as master carvers turn huge blocks of ice into art using power saws, chisels, and grit, in locations throughout the park. For more information visit groundsforsculpture.org (W,A,S,B,V)

January 15 - February 12, Experimenting in Comic Arts, 9pm. Struggling with background? Can’t make your city or village or deserted wasteland look believable? Come on down and get some tips and tricks to help make your comic pages have lived-in worlds that feel real. For more info visit westwindsorarts.org. (W,A,S,B,V)

February 16, Abstraction with Acrylic and Ink, Grounds For Sculpture, 10:00am. Venture into a world of shape, form, and repetition, and learn how to use non-representational techniques to render interpretive studies using acrylic and ink in this three-part painting workshop. Instructor: Megan Uhaze. For more information visit groundsforsculpture.org (W,A,S,B,V)

February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 12:30pm. Visual Poetry Workshop, Arts Council of Princeton, 102 Witherspoon Street, Princeton. For more information visit arts council of princeton.org (W,A,S,B,V)

March 16, Studio Intense Workshop: Soft Stone, Grounds For Sculpture, 11:00am. Learning techniques for shaping and refining soft stone. No prior experience is necessary, and all required tools and materials will be provided. For more information visit groundsforsculpture.org (W,A,S,B,V)

March 20 & 21, Handmade Fabric Books Workshop, West Windsor Arts Council, 10am. This two-day intensive workshop will introduce the process, the materials, the tools, and the bookbinding structure to create a Hardcover fabric book with fabric pages. In-class discussions will briefly cover the history of textile books and the selection of proper materials and tools. Participants should be at least 15 years old, and should have some experience with sewing. For more info visit westwindsorarts.org. (W,A,S,B,V)

Opportunities
Artist Opportunities
• Mercer Co. Artists: 2019
Eligibility
Mercer County Artists is a juried exhibition open to visual artists ages eighteen or older, who live, work, or attend school in Mercer County, NJ. They are entitled to submit up to two (2) original works in any media except photography. Works must have been executed in the last two years. The Entry fee of ten dollars ($10) for one piece ($15 for two) — cash or check payable to Mercer County Community College or MCCC — must accompany entries. Visit the site below to download a prospectus.

Exhibition Dates
• May 20 - July 8, 2019 Submission, Judging, and Installation
• May 6 - May 19, 2019 MCA Reception
• May 22,2019 www.mccc.edu/gallery

• Playfest 2019
The Lawrence Headquarters Branch Library is hosting PlayFest, its annual one-act play festival, on Saturday, April 27, 2019. The Festival directors are seeking actors to fill a variety of roles in the staged readings from the selected works of local playwrights. The audition consists of a cold reading from selected scripts and will be held at the Lawrence Headquarters Branch Library located at 2751 Brunswick Pike Route One, Lawrenceville, New Jersey on Wednesday, February 27, 6–8 pm, Saturday, March 2, 1-4 pm, and Monday, March 4, 6-8 pm.

To schedule an audition, interested actors should contact Branch Manager James Damron at 609-883-8291 or jdamron@mcl.org.
A Place In Time: Enoch Middleton House

Prior to the Civil War, a sprawling network of individuals, secret routes, and safe houses began to emerge throughout the northern United States.

This network, better known as the Underground Railroad, helped fugitive slaves from the South escape to northern states and Canada, where slavery had already been abolished. Beginning in the early 19th Century and reaching its peak between 1850 and 1860, estimates of fugitives led to safety range from 30,000 to upwards of 100,000.

In the North Crosswicks section of Hamilton Township, New Jersey on the corner of Church Street and Old York Road sits one such safe house. Named the Enoch Middleton House, the home was built in 1836 by Middleton, a retired Quaker merchant and abolitionist from Philadelphia. According to the New Jersey Historical Commission’s A Guide to the Underground Railroad in New Jersey, the house was initially intended as the Middleton family summer home.

Upon his retirement, Middleton chose to move his permanent residence to Mercer County and shortly after began a life as an Underground Railroad stationmaster and conductor. A 1956 issue of the Trenton Sunday Times-Advertiser suggests that Middleton acquired anti-slavery ideas through contacts with leading abolitionists and the Quaker Society of Friends.

Despite the documentation that does exist surrounding Middleton and the property, there are many parts of the story that are still unknown.

For more information or to research the Enoch Middletown house please visit the New Jersey State Archives, 225 West State Street.
Please refer to the icons for ADA accommodations.

To have your events listed in our newsletter and on-line 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.

Brian M. Hughes, County Executive
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Anthony Carabelli, Jr., Director
Office of Economic Development

Cheryl Reed, Newsletter Editor

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