The "Letter E Leaves the Alphabet" Premiers This Saturday!

The Play Competes in the Watermelon One-Act Festival

Based on the book by the same name, the play “The Letter E leaves the Alphabet” by La Plata resident and author Martha Lane, debuts this Saturday, June 3, at 10:00 am, at St. Mary’s College of Maryland. The production is sponsored by the Charles County Arts Alliance, Old Waldorf School Foundation, Vintage Treasures and Nused Furniture and Life Journeys Writer’s Guild.

One of 15 entries in the Watermelon One Act Festival (WOAF) competition, “The Letter E Leaves the Alphabet” is the first children’s play ever to be performed at the festival, which will be judged by: Lisa Gregory, M.S., Ph.D. the founder and producer of WOAF; Brent Englar, a playwright and the Baltimore Regional Representative for the Dramatists Guild of America; and Mark Rhoda, Ph.D. a visiting associate professor of theater, film and media studies at St. Mary’s College of Maryland.

The "Letter E Leaves the Alphabet" is a story about the “Letter E” who runs away from home because he can’t be the first letter in the alphabet. “E” has "one whole night and one whole day" to change his mind and return to the alphabet. If he does not make his decision in time, "every E in every word will fly away like a bird.”

The story’s themes are endless. Through the letter E’s adventures, the fun of learning about vowels and consonants, and the rules for the road of life are made evident. These rules range from understanding how to deal with anger, family birth order, not being listened to, getting help in the right place with the right person, the desire and need to be first, forgiveness and loyalty, and, most importantly, it is the knowledge that every person is an irreplaceable treasure with a wonderful mission and purpose no one else can accomplish.

The author, Martha Lane, was born in Washington, D.C., in 1934, and has spent her adult life in the State of Maryland, enjoying three careers: A pastor’s wife for 44 years; a mother of seven, with 32 grandchildren and great grandchildren; and as Director in the Before-and-After School Care Program and a substitute teacher for 21 years for Prince George’s County.

The book, The Letter E Leaves the Alphabet, was published in March of 2012. Martha believes, “this was the window God opened following the death of my husband, Rev. John F. Lane, December 20, 2011.”

Watermelon One-Act Festival Information Continues on Page 2
WOAF is an excellent opportunity to showcase an original one-act play in a competitive environment and to receive instructional feedback that will help to further develop the play for future productions. Cash prizes totaling more than $1,000 will be given to the best overall script, audience choice, production/director, ensemble, and performers.

Tickets:

- $12 per adjudication session ($10 students/seniors)
- $20 for finals (includes food/beverages; $15 students/seniors)
- $55 festival pass for both days ($50 students/seniors)

Each Saturday session will include performances of three to four plays and the adjudication period after the conclusion of the plays. Audience members with tickets may vote in the Saturday sessions for their favorite play. The data will be used to determine the "Wild Card" finalist - a play that received high audience votes but did not get selected by the judges for the finals.

Sunday finals will include performances from four to six finalists (including the "Wild Card") followed by a 30-minute break where food and beverages will be served as the judges determine the winners. Audience members with tickets may vote in the Sunday finals for their favorite play, which will determine the Audience Choice Award independent from the judges’ selections.

A short awards ceremony will follow where winners of the best overall script (determined before the festival), production/director, ensemble, and performance awards along with the audience choice award will be presented.

Tickets can be purchased at the door with cash or check (no credit cards; show driver's license with check) up to 30 minutes before each adjudication session and the finals. No reservations are necessary.

Watermelon Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to support the theater arts in the local community, promote original works written by both students and adults, and provide a nurturing and educational environment for the development of theatrical and technical skills. For more information, visit http://www.watermeloninc.org/home.html.
Come Join Us for ArtsFest 2017!

Saturday, June 10
11:00 am to 5:00 pm
La Plata Town Hall
305 Queen Anne Street
La Plata, MD
FREE ADMISSION!
Art ~ Music ~ Food ~
Children’s Activities

The 25th annual ArtsFest will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2017, from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm, on the beautiful grounds of the La Plata Town Hall, in La Plata, Maryland. ArtsFest is the largest arts festival in Charles County, and one of the largest in Southern Maryland. This is our sixth year to present the festival in partnership with the Town of La Plata.

Over 60 booths will be filled with oil and acrylic artworks, crafts, jewelry, sculpture, baskets, quilts, stained glass art, Native American instruments, photography, home decor, hand-sewn accessories, comics, children’s and adult books, scarves, ornaments and much, much more. All items are original, hand-made and available for purchase!

Community service organizations will be on hand with information about preserving land, wildlife and water resources; helping the hungry and homeless; settling mediation issues; and tutoring opportunities. Plus, there are several commercial vendors with information on remodeling your bathroom, the proposed arts district in Benedict, and some cool designs in legwear available for purchase.

Get your picture taken with "Lord Baltimore," the hand-carved carousel horse owned by the Arts Alliance. There’s a children’s art tent, face painting, and non-stop music and dancing performances on two stages beginning at noon. And, be sure to catch the performance of "The Letter E Leaves the Alphabet" at 2:00 and 2:30 pm on the East Lawn Stage. Also on hand, are five vendors with delicious food for purchase to satisfy every palate.

"Andy," the Texas Roadhouse armadillo will be there to wave "Howdy" to everyone! And, Radio Station WMDM 97.7 is broadcasting live at ArtsFest from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm!

There's something for the whole family! So, please plan to come to ArtsFest 2017 to kick off your summer fun!

For more information, call the CCAA office at 301-392-5900, or email at info@charlescountyarts.org.
# ArtsFest 2017 Vendors and Exhibitors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site #</th>
<th>ARTISTS AND EXHIBITORS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>East Lawn</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Faces by Miss Busy Bee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Josh Conn Exclusives</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Rebecca Caudill</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Port Tobacco River Conservancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>e.c. ornaments</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Nad's Art Gallery</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mattawoman Watershed Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Joanne Yates</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>John Barton Custom Crafts</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Art by Sonia</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Grace at Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Charles County Literacy Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Great Noble Enterprises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Conservancy for Charles County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Inner Visions Art Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Teachers with Cameras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Charles County Community Mediation Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Southern Maryland Carousel Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Dr. Theresa Alo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>David Zippi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Pop's Jewelry Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Mattawoman Creek Art Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Lawrence Digital Photography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>The Arnold House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Aaron and Matthew Gentry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>VelaRae Designs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>James Mascia</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Life Journeys Writers Guild</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Life Journeys Writers Guild</td>
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</tbody>
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**West Lawn**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site #</th>
<th>ARTISTS AND EXHIBITORS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Unique &amp; Just Right for You</td>
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<tr>
<th>Site #</th>
<th>ARTISTS AND EXHIBITORS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Action for Peace through Prayer and Aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>John's Bowls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>CynSational Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Joyfully Sewn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Bleecker &amp; Pacific Designs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Charles County Freedom Landing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Sandra Santana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Beverly Adams Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Van Brunt Imaginative Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Southern Maryland Audubon Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Addison Likins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>njb Basket of Jewels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Handcrafted Designs by Deborah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Faine Books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Becky's Baskets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Shop 53 Tattoo &amp; Art Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Chez Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Adina Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Wood Sand Paint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Moss &amp; Mist Jewelry and The Indigo Dragonfly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Alice Ferguson Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Long Nose Designs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**COMMERCIAL**

| C1 | RAR Associates Development Corp. |
| C2 | Mid Atlantic Bath Solutions (Bath Fitters) |
| C3 | Texas Roadhouse |
| C4 | LuLaRoe |

**FOOD VENDORS**

| F1 | LifeStyles of Maryland |
| F2 | Urban Bar-B-Que |
| F3 | County Manners |
| F4 | Hell Bent on BBQ |
| F5 | John's Ice Cream |
Special Events

ArtsFest 2017 Featured Artists:

Radio Station WMDM 97.7 Classic Rock, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

“Kids Art Tent and Big Art Cube,” East Lawn

West Lawn Stage

12:00 pm - Harmonie N Bleu - Rhythm & Blues
1:00 pm - Higher Standards - Jazz Trio
2:00 pm - Steve Potter Blues Band - Blues
3:00 pm - Sonrise - Gospel Bluegrass
4:00 pm - Korean American Cultural Foundation - Dance

East Lawn Stage

12:00 pm - CrossRoads - Bluegrass
1:00 pm - Charles County Youth Orchestra - Popular Selections
2:00 pm - “The Letter E Leaves the Alphabet” - Children's Play
2:30 pm - “The Letter E Leaves the Alphabet” - Children's Play
3:00 pm - Encore Band - Classic and Popular Selections
4:00 pm - Judy Dalton and Students in Recital - Music Selections
In Memoriam
Mary Ellen Wilmoth

Mary was a former member of the Charles County Arts Alliance and the originator of "Paint Brushes," the design that has become the ArtsFest logo. Mary will be greatly missed!

Below is her obituary from the Maryland Independent, May 17, 2017:

Mary Ellen Wilmoth, 81, passed peacefully on May 1, 2017 to be with her Lord and Savior. She was born in New Hamilton, PA, to Beryl and Martin Cressman. Mary Ellen was preceded in death by her parents; son-in-law, Leonard Redner; grandson, Joshua Wilmoth; and daughter, Amie Redner.

Mary Ellen was very active volunteering in her community; with Lutheran Brotherhood; Eastern Star; the Largo Landing House; the IIB-Washington D.C. Chapter, and at the Clark Center in La Plata, just to name a few.

Her love was truly helping others and in genealogy. She helped numerous friends learn about their families. Mary Ellen will be remembered as a caring, shining light in her community, for her relentless volunteerism, and for her service to her church.

Mary Ellen leaves behind a loving husband, Angus; eight children and their spouses; 16 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

The Wilmoth family would like to extend our gratitude to all of the staff at the UMD Charles Regional Medical Center and to the staff at the Fresenius Dialysis Center in Waldorf. Memorials may be made in Mary Ellen's name to the Peace Lutheran Church.

Mary Wilmoth at the War of 1812 Celebration, Serenity Farm, 2014

"Paint Brushes" by Mary Ellen Wilmoth
Society for the Restoration of Port Tobacco

First Friday and Wine Tasting

June 2, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Port Tobacco Courthouse
8430 Commerce Street, Port Tobacco, MD

Friday Tickets: $40 for Wine Tasting;
$30 for Designated Drivers

Exhibit is Open to the Public for Free on Saturday and Sunday, June 3 and 4, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm;
and Monday, June 5, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

View 41 works of art by 19 local artists, plus floral arrangements created by the Charles County Garden Club. Listen to music by John Lusky and the Port Tobacco Pickers, and sample wine provided by Port of Leonardtown and a charcuterie board by Rucci’s Italian Deli. Friday's admission is by ticket only; the art exhibit is open to the public at no charge on Saturday through Monday.

Most of the art is available for purchase with works by: Dr. Theresa Alo, Sar'där Aziz, Patricia Biles, Suzanne Cassidy, William Cassidy, Dorothy Crown, Cecelia Marie Dunay, Ralph "Andy" Dixon, Renée Fuqua, Sally Goldsmith, Roxana Gonzales, Mark T. Hayes, Addison Likins, Susannah Lynch, Vicki Marckel, Nadire Nunez, Josh Owen, Nancy Owens and Dianne Shisler.

Tickets can be ordered through their website at https://restoreporttobacco.wordpress.com/societys-calendar/events. For more information, contact Mary Fenton at 301-375-7892 or email marysfenton@yahoo.com.
Maryland State Arts Council

2018 Maryland Individual Artist Award
Applications Available Now!
Apply Online by 4:30 pm, July 21, 2017

Each year, the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) recognizes outstanding artistic achievement through the Individual Artist Awards (IAA) program. Grants of $1,000-$6,000 honor the unique contributions of Maryland artists to the state’s creative economy and help support artists to advance their craft.

The 2018 IAA application is now open to Maryland artists in the following categories:

- Non-Classical Music: Composition
- Non-Classical Music: Solo Performance
- Playwriting
- Visual Arts: Crafts
- Visual Arts: Photography

Applicants can access IAA guidelines, application, and application assistance resources by clicking the "Maryland" tab on MAAF’s website at http://www.midatlanticarts.org/grants-programs/grants-for-artists/#state-fellowships.

A series of online videos that assist applicants in determining eligibility and preparing and submitting applications are available. In addition, MSAC and MAAF are offering a webinar to guide IAA applicants through the application process and answer questions about the program and application. Individuals who register for the webinar will receive the connection information and instructions via email.

Webinar information:

July 8, 2017, 10:00 – 11:30 am. Advanced registration is required, register Online at https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1416282409160363267.

Questions about applying? Contact Kimberly Steinle-Super at kimberly@midatlanticarts.org or call 410-539-6656, ext. 101.
Thanks CCAA Members for Your Support!

Platinum Circle
La Plata Lions Club
Charlotte & Abbott Martin
Diane Raush
Robert K. Raush
Rotary La Plata
Walmart

Gold Circle
Bert & Emily Ferren
Renee Fuqua
Roy & Kathy Jenkins
David & Nikole Smith

Silver Circle
Ronald G. Brown
Andy & Jessica Dixon
Gale Kladitis
Port Tobacco Players

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Stephen Mitchell
Moore Admin Help
Peter F. Murphy
Elizabeth Redding
Wayne Russell
Don & Dianne Shisler
Lucretia Dewey Tanner
Chris & Kate Zabriskie

Arts Activist
Allan Canter, Jr.
Sang Jin Choi
Nancy Hannans

Individual
Beverly Adams
Free Akins
Frederick Allen
Debora Almassy
Dr. Theresa Alo
Sar dar Aziz
Patricia Biles
Amy Blessinger
Justin Bowie
Kim Bowie-Hendricks
Danelle Danzy
Becca Dean
Florence Foster
Roxana Gonzales
Billie L. Harley
Mark T. Hayes
Christine Hill
Kate Kimble
Barbara Hufford
Vicki L. Mareckel
Ivette Marcucci
Lena Masterson
Julie A. Meisel
Sandi Middleton
Kathleen L. Noel
Nadira Nunez
Kathleen Parry
Jennifer Pinto
Allen Price
Tammy Scott
Shane Sereemet
Randall L. Soileau
Suzannah Sulek
Joseph Wimberly

Non-Profit Organization
Charles County Fair, Inc.
Charles County Government - Recreation, Parks & Tourism
Charles County Public Library
Chesapeake Choral Arts Society
Friends of Chapman State Park
Indian Head Center for the Arts
Life Journeys Writers Guild
Mattawoman Creek Art Center
Music Teachers Association of Charles County Inc.
Sagepoint Senior Living Services
Southern Maryland Carousel Group
Southern Maryland Decorative Painters
Town of Indian Head
Town of La Plata

Senior
C. Ruth Bailey
Cindi Barnhart
Susie Bender
John T. Blakeney
Burkey & Margaret Boggs
Lloyd S. Bowling, Sr.
George M. Brooks
Rose Burroughs
Judith E. Cabos
Denise A. Calisti
Suzanne Cassidy
William Cassidy
Carol Charnock
Martha Knight Clements
Ellen Conyers
Kathy Cooke
Joyce S. Cooksey
Carol Corbett
Dorothy Crowne
Frank M. Culhane
Evelyn Dashiell
Cecelia Dunay
Patricia Duncan
Gale Y. Euchner
Donald D. Faust
Gary Fisher
Julia F. Gaff
Sheila L. Geisert
Penelope H. Gold
Richard Gold
Sally Marie Goldsmith
Joyce Williams Graves
Doris J. Hall
Beverly Hardy
Patrice Henkel
Sally Hopp
Charles F.M. Hughes
Nick Hurshy
Renée Jefferson-Copeland
Mary Ann Jenkins
William Jones
Gordon Ray Johnson
Maryann Karimi
Mary Kercher
Charlene Lancaster
Martha Lane
Ellen Lewis
Addison Newton Likins
Jim Long
Beverlie Ludy
Roi M. Maier
Mary Mangino
Jennifer J. McGraw
Henry McPherson
Connie Miller
Constance E. Moore
Bob Navarra
Jan Norton
Nia Olabesi
Mary Jo O’Neil
Nancy Owens
Marie C. Parham
Shirley A. Perez
Sandy Rohde
Peggy Romanoff
Pam Sarvis
Patricia Seacquist
Kay Simkins
Ernest Sinnes
Roger E. Smith
Jill Smithsonian
Doris Terry
Paul Toscano
Carolyn A. Vaughn
Ron Webb
Donna Wilson
David Zippi

Youth
Benjamin Butler
Jaden Hendricks
Joshua Owen
Michelle Young

Charles County Arts Alliance: Promoting ALL the arts in Charles County, MD
CCAA Membership Form

Show Your Support for the Arts by Joining the CCAA!

The benefits of CCAA membership last year-round:
- CCAA Arts Insider monthly E-newsletter
- CCAA Arts Newflash weekly E-update of arts events
- 20% off regular prices on certain items at Hot Licks Guitar Shop in Waldorf
- 10% off custom framing at Bernie’s Frame Shop in La Plata
- $1 discount for each ticket purchased for Port Tobacco Players theatrical productions
- CCAA voting privileges
- And most importantly, the satisfaction that comes from actively supporting the arts in Charles County!

Membership Categories (check one):
- Platinum Circle - $500
- Gold Circle - $250
- Silver Circle - $150
- Arts Patron - $125
- Arts Sponsor - $100
- Arts Activist - $75
- Family - $50
- Individual - $30
- Senior (60+) - $20
- Youth (under 18) - $10

Business & Nonprofit:
- Corporate - $500
- Business - $250
- Nonprofit Organization - $75
- Other (Donations) ___________

The mission of the Charles County Arts Alliance is to stimulate, promote, encourage and provide recognition of the arts and the creative spirit in Charles County, MD.

Charles County Arts Alliance:
P.O. Box 697, White Plains, MD 20695
www.charlescountyarts.org / 301-392-5900
info@charlescountyarts.org
Charles County Arts Alliance: Promoting ALL the arts in Charles County, MD

Note: Dates and times may be subject to change.
Appreciate the little things.
There are so many.
Even the tiniest things can be MIRACLES!