HAPPY NEW YEAR!

HAPPY NEW LOGO AND NEW MASCOT!

The Charles County Arts Alliance is ringing in the New Year with a new look! Out with the old, and in with the new!

During our 25th Anniversary Year in 2012, the CCAA Board of Directors decided to officially “retire” our current CCAA logo and mascot, and replace both with a new, more contemporary, and brighter look for our organization. Our current logo has been great, and it has stood the test of time — we’ve enjoyed using it since the 1990’s. But time marches on and we decided that a new, fresher, a wonderful way yearlong celebration and kick-off the organization!

Just for fun, we launched our new logo and new mascot ceremonies at two locations in Charles County during 2012: at the Charles County Fair in September, and at our CCAA 25th Anniversary Gala in November. We received a warm response from the public and our members at each location, and we decided to make the transition official on January 1, 2013 — today!

Our new CCAA logo features a new look for “Artsy,” our nickname for the central figurine that creates the letter “A” in the words “Arts” and “Alliance.” The prior logo depicted Artsy as a “stick” figure representing the five areas of the arts: music, visual art, dance, drama and literature. The new logo depicts Artsy as an artist’s figurine used in drawing classes to teach art students basic human anatomy and form. We believe this logo clearly communicates the “arts” focus of our nonprofit organization.

Our new CCAA mascot features Artsy in 3-D form. No longer a cloth puppet, he is now made of solid wood. You will see our new Artsy mascot on display around the county in the coming year at our various CCAA sponsored events — please be on the lookout! Both our new logo and new mascot are bright red in color to increase our marketing potential. We hope you like our new logo and new mascot for the Charles County Arts Alliance!
Dear Members and Friends,

Happy New Year to you and yours!

As I write this letter, the year 2012 is drawing to a close. What a wild, wonderful, and rewarding year for the Charles County Arts Alliance! We celebrated our 25th Anniversary Year in grand style and continued to promote all the arts in Charles County: performing, visual, and literary. It’s time for one final look backwards, and then it’s “forward march” to another new terrific year of the arts! So many solid accomplishments and fond memories... here are some of my favorite highlights of 2012:

- First statewide juried arts show at the Thomas Stone National Historic Site in Port Tobacco
- First partnership with Federal Government (National Park Service)
- First partnership with Town of La Plata for ArtsFest 2012 countywide arts festival
- First partnership with Charles County Public Library in sponsoring three galleries at new Waldorf West Library
- Long-term partnership with the Charles County Fair (Fine Arts Building)
- Public participation in “Hands Across the Fair” at the Charles County Fair
- Maryland Arts Day in Annapolis
- Public participation in autographing our CCAA 25th Birthday Banner
- Our CCAA 25th Anniversary Gala and Dance at the Old Waldorf School
- Our very successful Gala Silent Auction fundraising blitz
- Awarding $37,000 in CCAA Arts Grants to local nonprofit organizations
- Awarding $7,000 in CCAA Arts Scholarships at county high schools and CSM
- Establishing our new “Silver” membership category
- Launching our new contemporary CCAA logo and mascot

WOW, and this is the tip of the iceberg! It has truly been a fantastic year — the best year yet for our organization. Thanks again to our 11-member CCAA Board of Directors for their spirit of volunteerism and leadership that makes it all possible. Thanks to our CCAA Office Manager, Wendy Fuller, for her dedicated service and professionalism. And most importantly, thanks to you, our CCAA Members and friends. It is for you that we exist, and without you, we would not survive and thrive.

Looking ahead, there is so much to do! On the horizon are so many programs, activities and actions: Board Weekend Retreat, County and State Grants applications, mid-year reports and final reports, Maryland Arts Day, Membership Receptions, La Plata Day, Arts Scholarships, ArtsFest 2013, Board Summer Retreat, Arts Grants, Charles County Fair, CCAA Gala, etc. Not to mention, of course, our nonstop marketing efforts to promote the arts: our weekly Arts Newsflash, monthly Arts Insider newsletters, and 24/7 online website and arts calendar.

Hope your Holiday Season was joyous and restful, and that you are now rejuvenated and ready to roll in the New Year! I look forward to another successful and productive year working with you, in a spirit of cooperation, mutual support, and mutual benefit. Enhanced quality of life in Charles County through the arts is our top priority, and each of you, in your own way, is making that happen every day. Thanks again for your continued support, and best wishes for a happy, healthy, arts-filled 2013!

Read all about it and more in this issue of the Arts Insider.

Diane

Diane Rausch
President, Charles County Arts Alliance
CHESAPEAKE CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY and COSMIC SYMPHONY COLLABORATE in HOLIDAY CONCERTS

A major collaboration between two Southern Maryland nonprofit music organizations took place for the first time this holiday season. As a result of the newly formed Southern Maryland Performing Arts Consortium — a small group of Southern Maryland performing arts organizations that meets to brainstorm ideas on marketing the performing arts and building larger audiences in Southern Maryland — the Chesapeake Choral Arts Society and COSMIC Symphony decided to join forces for two concerts this holiday season. The concerts were performed in two different venues located in two different Southern Maryland counties, St. Mary’s and Charles. Audience members, many of whom had never heard one or the other of the organizations in performance, have raved about the results of this partnership.

Collaborations like this don’t happen easily. It was through the efforts of the Board of Directors of each organization and the respective Music Directors that these concerts came to fruition. It was also through the assistance of other nonprofit organizations, churches, and educational institutions that these groups were able to find rehearsal spaces large enough to accommodate their combined large numbers of musicians. Above all, it is through the support of their audiences and sponsors that collaborations such as this can exist at all. Truly this was a community effort.

Asked for feedback regarding the collaboration, Board presidents of each organization had this to say:

“This was a much needed collaboration. It’s wonderful to have two groups (choral and orchestral) in such close proximity that can get together to perform the great works that would not be possible otherwise. It gave the audiences a chance to see the amazing talent that exists in the Southern Maryland area. I’m look forward to our spring concert with the COSMIC Symphony performing great opera choruses.” - Carol Charnock, president, Chesapeake Choral Arts Society

“I was very pleased with the turnout, both in St Mary’s and Charles Counties. I think we did much to consolidate our audiences in showcasing two high quality local arts organizations for the price of one. Hopefully our May project will be just as successful.” - Jackie Hahn, president, COSMIC Symphony

If you missed these concerts, both groups invite you to experience their second collaboration May 18 (St. Mary's County) and May 19 (Charles County) when they’ll perform “A Night at the Opera” featuring great opera choruses. For more information about joining or following either of these groups, please visit their respective websites: www.chesapeakechoral.com and www.cosmicmusic.org.
CHARLES COUNTY ARTS ALLIANCE CALL FOR ENTRIES!

Waldorf West Library Multi-Media Exhibit

The Charles County Arts Alliance, in partnership with the Charles County Public Library, presents its second exhibit of local artists for the new gallery in Waldorf West Library in St. Charles. The exhibit will be held from February 9 - June 30, 2013. Visual artists throughout Charles County are invited to submit artworks for consideration. The deadline for submission is January 25, 2013.

The Charles County Arts Alliance invites Charles County artists to propose artworks for the show which takes place in their new gallery space at the recently opened Waldorf West Library.

Due to space limitations, only 25-35 total artworks can be displayed. Charles County artists are invited to submit a maximum of two (2) artworks electronically (.jpg file) to the Arts Alliance at WaldorfWestGallery@gmail.com for consideration. The deadline for submission of proposed artwork entries is January 25, 2013. The show is open to all Charles County residents. Artwork must be original, two-dimensional, properly wired, and ready to hang. There are no size restrictions. Only digital (.jpg) submissions will be accepted. For more information and complete submission guidelines, visit the website, www.charlescountyarts.org or call 301-392-5900.
Performing Arts

Encore Kids 2013 Auditions

January 3, 7:00 pm  
January 5, 1:00 pm

Port Tobacco Theatre, La Plata

Do you like singing and acting? Well... if you do, then come out and audition for the Encore Kids. The Encore Kids group consists of children ages 6-12. Their mission is to serve as a community outreach program of the Port Tobacco Players (PTP) by providing year-round onstage opportunities for kids with an interest in and a flair for theatre. Auditions will take place on Thursday, January 3, 7:00 pm and Saturday, January 5, 1:00 pm at the Port Tobacco Theater. Kids should come prepared to sing a memorized (Broadway-Style) song and bring a CD or tape, without vocals, for accompaniment. They will also need to recite a short, memorized monologue (a poem or short nursery rhyme is fine.) For more information, visit www.ptplayers.com.

Auditions for Chesapeake Choral Arts Society

January 7 & 14, 6:30 pm

Peace Lutheran Church, Waldorf

The Chesapeake Choral Arts Society (CCAS), under the direction of Michael K. Santana, will be conducting auditions on January 7 & 14, beginning at 6:30 pm by appointment. Alternate dates may be arranged. All auditions will take place at Peace Lutheran Church, 401 E. Smallwood Dr., Waldorf. Auditions will consist of vocal warm-ups, pitch matching, and vocal exercises to determine the singer’s vocal range. No prepared piece is necessary! High School age singers and older are welcome!

The choir meets regularly from September - June, rehearsing at Peace Lutheran Church on Monday evenings from 7:00 - 9:00 pm, and produces three different concerts throughout the season. The remaining concerts this season are ‘Shamrock Shenanigans — The Sequel,’ March 16 - 17, and ‘Great Opera Choruses’ in collaboration with COSMIC, on May 18 - 19. For more information about CCAS, visit www.chesapeakechoral.com. Please call Carol at 301-642-0594 to set up an audition appointment.

A Night of Ryans at CSM

January 7, 7:00 pm

CSM La Plata Campus

The College of Southern Maryland presents ‘A Night of Ryans’ on Monday, January 7, 7:00 pm in the theatre on the La Plata Campus. The following actors have been nominated to compete for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarships as a result of their outstanding performances in Our Town: Rami Essa; Red Herring: Jamie Burroughs and Charles Watley; and Urinetown: Aimee Bonnet and Jeremy Hunter. Come out to see their competition-ready performance scenes! (Sponsored by Delta Psi Omega).

Admission: Free but donations to help fund their trip to the competition venue are welcome and encouraged. For more information, visit www.csmd.edu.

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January 2013
Performing Arts

Chesapeake Wind Symphony — the "Teacher Band" Chamber Music Concert

January 10, 7:00 pm
North Point High School, Waldorf

Chesapeake Wind Symphony — the ‘Teacher Band’ Chamber Music Concert will be presented on Thursday, January 10, 7:00 pm, at North Point High School, 2500 Davis Road, Waldorf. The concert will be conducted by Marvin Van Dyke and will include works by Stravinsky, Jacob, Strauss, Mendelssohn, Vaughn Williams, and Persichetti.

Open Auditions at CSM

January 22 - 23, 6:00 pm
CSM La Plata Campus

Open auditions for the productions Stop Kiss and Rent will take place on Tuesday, January 22, and Wednesday, January 23, 6:00 pm in the Fine Arts Center Theatre on the La Plata Campus. Prepare a one-minute monologue. No children’s roles. For more information, visit www.csmd.edu.

Purdue University's Varsity Glee Club in Concert

January 19, 7:00 pm
CSM La Plata Campus

The highly acclaimed Purdue Varsity Glee Club will present a local 90-minute concert. This dynamic musical troupe (60-men strong) employs a versatile repertoire, including gospel, vocal jazz, swing, contemporary hits, romantic ballads, classical choral selections, barbershop, folk melodies, patriotic standards, familiar opera choruses, country and novelty tunes, and utilizes small groups and outstanding soloists to further enhance each show. Sponsored by the Chesapeake Choral Arts Society and the CSM Theatre Club. Purchase tickets ($15 plus surcharge) online at www.chesapeakechoral.com. Purchase tickets ($20 all ages) at door (cash and checks only). Call 301-642-0594 for more information.

Brighton Beach Memoirs

January 25 - February 10
Friday-Saturday, 8:00 pm
Sunday, 3:00 pm
Port Tobacco Players Theater

Part of Neil Simon’s autobiographical trilogy, Brighton Beach Memoirs provides a portrait of the writer as a young teen in 1937 living with his family in a crowded, lower middle-class Brooklyn walk-up. Eugene Jerome, a Polish-Jewish American teenager, is going through puberty, a sexual awakening, and search for identity all while dealing with his intense family. Eugene’s formidable mother, overworked father, and his worldly older brother Stanley create a unique living environment. This bittersweet memoir evocatively captures the life of a struggling Jewish household where, as his father states ‘if you didn’t have a problem, you wouldn’t be living here.’ One dollar from each ticket sold will go to The United Way. For more information, visit www.ptplayers.com.
CSM Cause Theater: An Empty Chair

January 25, 8:00 pm
CSM Prince Frederick Campus

January 31 - February 2, 8:00 pm
CSM Leonardtown Campus

February 7 - 9, 8:00 pm
CSM La Plata Campus

Social Issue: The Effect of Suicide. The setting is a counseling center for teenagers recovering from substance abuse. One of their peers, Robert, has just died of an overdose. Accident or suicide? The atmosphere is tense and uneasy. Finally, each young person speaks about his or her memory of Robert. The dramatic monologues tell us a great deal about each speaker and the terrors of drug abuse. Although Robert remains something of a mystery, his impact on the others is undeniable. Tickets: $5 all ages (in advance or at the door). Production may not be suitable for younger audiences. For more information, visit www.csmd.edu.

Book Discussion Groups

Every month Charles County Public Libraries offer book discussions for adults. Anyone interested in joining may call 301-934-9001.

Clark Center Book Discussion Group meets at 1:00 pm on the first Thursday of every month at the Clark Center.

January 3 - The Paris Wife by Paula McLain. A deeply evocative story of ambition and betrayal, the story captures a remarkable period of time and a love affair between two unforgettable people: Ernest Hemingway and his wife Hadley.

Waldorf Book Discussion Group meets on the first Saturday of every month from 9:30-10:30 am at the P.D. Brown Library.

January 5 - Self-Selected Poetry

La Plata Book Discussion Group meets at 7:00 pm on the second Thursday of every month.

January 10 - A Trick of the Light by Louise Penny. Artist Clara Morrow is about to have a prestigious show of her paintings when her childhood friend is found murdered, and the finger of suspicion points to Clara. Chief Inspector Gamache is called to investigate, and using his trademark powers of deduction, he exposes the darkness that underlies Montreal’s art world, where competition between friends, and even between husband and wife, can turn lethal.
Indian Head Senior Center Book Discussion Group meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month from 11:00 am-12:00 pm.

January 23 - *The Boy in the Suitcase* by Lee Kaaberbol. Nina Borg, a Red Cross nurse, wife, and mother of two, is a compulsive do-gooder who can't say no when someone asks for help — even when she knows better. When her estranged friend Karin leaves her a key to a public locker in the Copenhagen train station, Nina gets sucked into her most dangerous project yet. Inside the locker is a suitcase, and inside the suitcase is a three-year-old boy — naked and drugged, but alive.

### Saturday Concert with Local Musicians

January 12, 3:30 pm  
La Plata Library  
The Southern Maryland members of Archie Edwards Blues Heritage Foundation will be performing a blues concert. Archie Edwards was a Washington DC bluesman and barber known for performing country or Piedmont blues. He had regular Saturday afternoon jam sessions at his barbershop in northeast Washington DC. The concert will feature country, delta, and Chicago blues. Performers will explain the composition and history of the blues and share stories of the old local bluesmen. A 'barbershop' style jam session will follow the concert. Musicians welcome. Free. For more information, visit www.ccplonline.org.

### Write on Wednesdays — with a Twist!

January 16 - 30, 5:00 - 8:00 pm  
Waldorf West Library  
Ready to take your writing to the next level? Register for an intense study that's fun, productive, and informative. It includes private consults with a professional editor. Write on Wednesdays — with a Twist is a three-session series held at the Waldorf West Library, January 16, 23, 30, 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Registration ends January 6! Contact Yvonne Medley, 301-705-8972, for more information and registration details.

### Life Journeys Creative Writing Workshop

January 19, 3:00 pm  
Waldorf West Library  
The Life Journeys Writers Club is launching its second workshop series and is entering its 5th year of serving writers and the community! Writers of all levels are invited to test out their body of work with seasoned writers. Bring at least two pages (12 pt., Arial or Times New Roman) of your project, or just an idea/synopsis/query letter. We'll talk about story/character development, dialogue, and how to season your work with unapologetic edge. Adults. For more information, visit www.csmd.edu.
BACH 2 ROCK

January 26, 2:00 pm
Potomac Library
This concert is sure to amaze! Sharing stories and music, Caryn Lin, a world renowned violinist, creates a program that is part concert, part self-esteem builder and part interactive music education. She makes her electric violin sound like an orchestra through the magic of ‘looping.’ Three-dimensional sound magic is performed right before your eyes! This program captures the imagination of the computer generation. A powerful and entertaining event for your K-12 child. Free. For more information, visit www.ccplonline.org.

High School Six Picks

January 20 - February 12
Mattawoman Creek Art Center, Marbury

Mattawoman Creek Art Center (MCAC) presents its 15th annual High School Six Picks from January 20 - February 12. Reception takes place Sunday, January 22, 1:00 - 4:00 pm. MCAC is located 35 miles south of Washington, DC, inside Smallwood State Park, in Marbury. Park fee is waived for MCAC visitors. For more information, visit www.mattawomanart.org.

Bonnie Blake Nelson Memorial Art Exhibit

Through February 2013
Civista Hospital Gallery, La Plata (located just off the lobby)

The Charles County Arts Alliance (CCAA) presents a Memorial Exhibit of the work of Bonnie Blake Nelson. A remarkable woman, possessed of a keen intellect and a flair for the dramatic, Nelson spent much of her adult life as the wife of a colonel in the United States Marines and mother to four children while working full time as a civilian legal advisor for the United States Navy. She also served as a Magistrate Judge, appointed by the governor of North Carolina, was a member of the Congressional Advisory Board for the state of Texas, and president of Vista Hills Country Club in El Paso. She was an accomplished pianist and an avid golfer. Upon her retirement in 1962, she indulged a whim to explore the world of visual art and took classes in painting at the University of Texas in El Paso. She produced a portfolio of 127 paintings, a selection of which is currently on display at CCAA’s Civista Hospital Gallery in La Plata. Nelson moved to Charles County after her husband’s death in 1982 to join her daughter, Gale Kladitis, and family in Pomfret. Forty-six artworks were painted in Maryland, before her death in April 1992, and the collection remains with her daughter’s family. Nelson’s grandson, Nicky Kladitis, works in the Engineering department at the hospital. For more information, visit www.charlescountyarts.org.
To Pass Through: An Exploration of Everyday Objects in Ceramics By J.D. Garn

January 28 - March 28

Gallery Talk and Reception: February 12, 12:00 pm noon

Tony Hungerford Gallery, CSM La Plata Campus

The College of Southern Maryland’s Tony Hungerford Memorial Art Gallery presents To Pass Through: An Exploration of Everyday Objects in Ceramics By J.D. Garn. Mr. Jonathan Garn is an Assistant Professor of Art at Spring Arbor University in Michigan. “In my work, I remake common everyday objects in ceramics to explore their symbolic nature in our society.” For more information, visit www.csmd.edu.

Multimedia Exhibit at Waldorf West Gallery

Through January 2013

Waldorf West Gallery, Waldorf

The Charles County Arts Alliance continues its presentation of local Charles County artists with a Multimedia Exhibit in its newly opened Waldorf West Gallery located in the Waldorf West Library. The exhibit, which includes “Daffodil,” by local artist Elizabeth Redding, (above) will be on display through January 2013. For more information, visit www.charlescountyarts.org.

I prefer winter and fall, when you feel the bone structure of the landscape. Something waits beneath it; the whole story doesn’t show.

~ Andrew Wyeth
36th Annual Art on Paper

National Juried Exhibition of works created on or of paper.

Entry Deadline: January 23, 2013


Artists residing in the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada are invited to enter Art on Paper. Any 2D or 3D works on or of paper and following the MFA’s exhibition guidelines will be considered.

The selected works will be on exhibit in the MFA’s Circle Gallery from March 29 through April 28, 2013.

Entries: Seeking any original work created on paper or constructed from paper. All work and entries must comply with MFA Exhibition Guidelines. One-two entries $35 (MFA members $20), additional four entries $5.00 each.

Awards: Cash awards total $1,000. Award contributors and recipients will be listed in the exhibition catalog

For more information, including complete submission guidelines, visit www.mdfedart.com.
The benefits of CCAA membership last year-round:

- CCAA Arts Insider monthly E-newsletter
- CCAA Arts Newsflash weekly E-update of arts events
- 20% off regular prices 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
- $1 discount for tickets to Southern Maryland Concert Band concerts
- CCAA voting privileges

And most importantly, the satisfaction that comes from actively supporting the arts in Charles County!