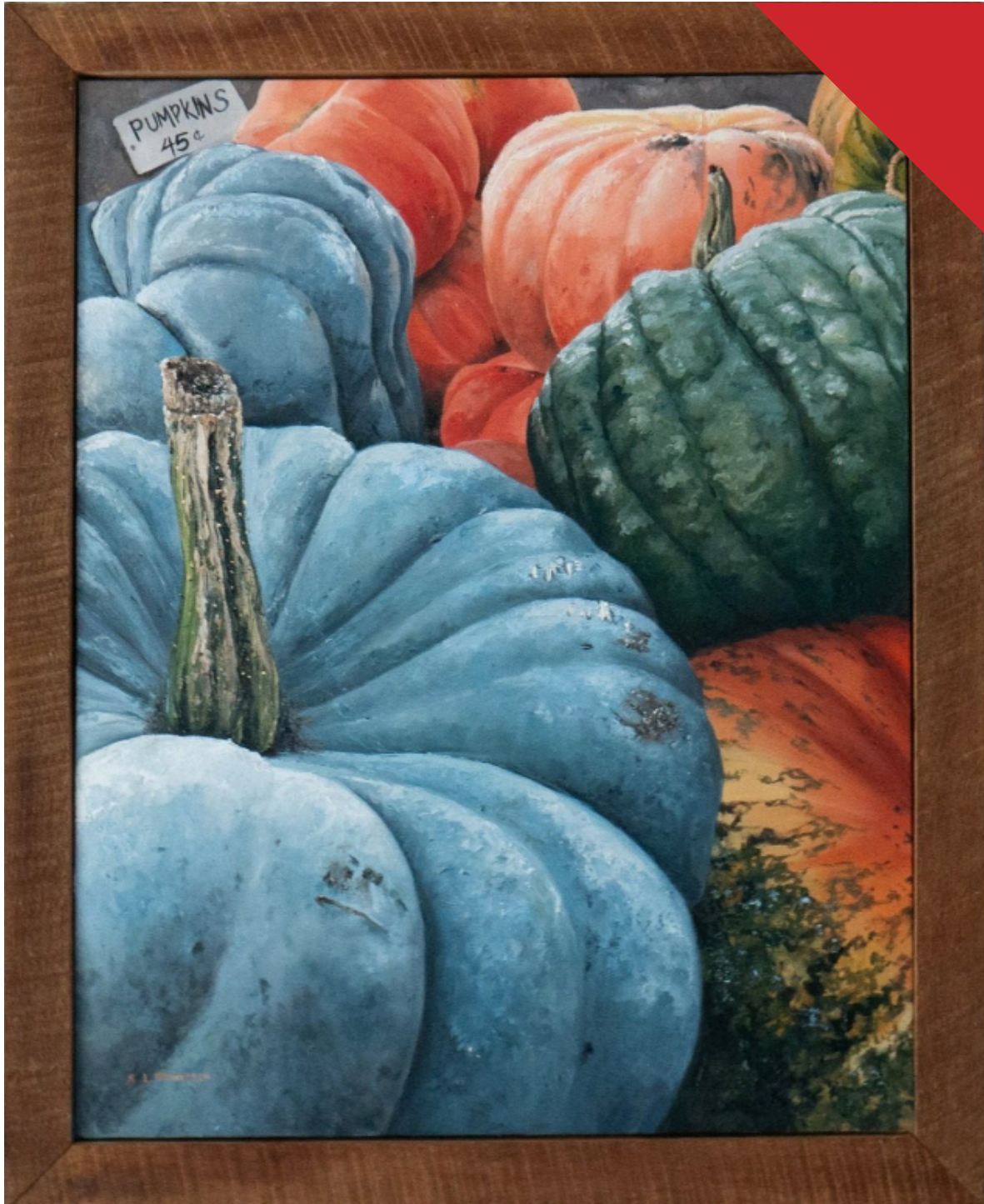


ARTS INSIDER

November 2024

INSIDER

CHARLES COUNTY ARTS ALLIANCE

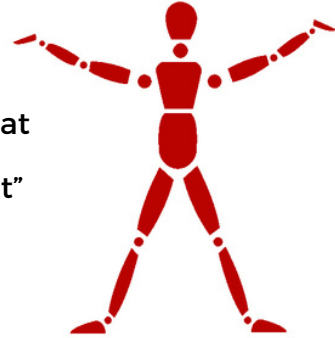


"Pumpkins" by Lauren Brumbach

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Dear Members and Friends,

October 2024 proved to be a busy month for the citizens of Charles County and the Charles County Arts Alliance!

We were excited to participate in Halloween festivities last month. Our talented CCAA Staff created a spooky "Bob Ross" display for the La Plata Scarecrow Festival. CCAA Board Director Joselle Gilpin took part in the 301 Derby Dames' "Trunk or Treat" event at the Charles County Fairgrounds on October 20.

The Arts Alliance is committed to providing opportunities to engage with the arts. We were very pleased to receive 15 grant applications from local arts organizations and schools for partial funding under our CCAA Arts Grant Program for FY 2025. Our Grant Review Committee met last week, carefully evaluated these applications, and made final recommendations which were subsequently approved by the Board of Directors. The "winners" of this annual grant round are currently being notified. Later this month, we will celebrate these grant recipients at our annual CCAA Grant and Membership Reception, to be held at the Old Waldorf School on Saturday, November 16, from 2:00 - 5:00 pm. Please mark your calendars, and RSVP by November 13 to our CCAA Office.

Our Charles County local artists responded enthusiastically to our call for participation in the U.S. District Courthouse Art Exhibition in Greenbelt. This event is an honor for all of us. Running from late November 2024 to January 2025, this exhibition offers a great opportunity for our very talented visual artists to showcase their two-dimensional works to a broader audience beyond Charles County.

Looking ahead, our annual CCAA Arts Scholarship Program will open this month. We provide \$2,000 scholarships for up to eight seniors from the Charles County public and private schools, and homeschool organizations, who plan to major in the performing, visual or literary arts at a four-year college or university. For updates on these initiatives and more, stay connected through our CCAA Arts Insider monthly newsletter, Arts Newsflash weekly email, website, and social media. Please continue to support the CCAA through your donations and memberships. As you know, we are a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, and as such, your donations and memberships are tax-deductible.

Hope to see many of you at our upcoming November 16 reception!



RON BROWN

PRESIDENT, CHARLES COUNTY ARTS ALLIANCE

CCAA at the La Plata Scarecrow Festival

CCAA at the La Plata Scarecrow Festival

We had a fantastic time participating in this year's La Plata Scarecrow Festival! The idea began during a Marketing Committee meeting as we brainstormed creative ways to engage more with the community. Alexandria Gonzalez suggested we take part in the Scarecrow Festival, and our Board member Clarissa Stroud proposed that we create a "Bob Ross" scarecrow—an idea that instantly sparked excitement among us!

Alexandria took the lead in gathering materials and assembling the Bob Ross scarecrow, showcasing her creativity and resourcefulness. She crafted his head from a pumpkin, capturing his iconic look by adding a curly wig and beard. To give him a true Bob Ross flair, she borrowed a blue dress shirt from her husband's closet. Completing the ensemble, she found a pair of black pants and crafted a palette adorned with colorful paper circles to mimic paint. In his other hand, he holds paintbrushes, all while sitting comfortably in a lawn chair, perfectly positioned to "paint" a masterpiece.

He was located at the corner of La Grange Avenue and Centennial Street, welcoming everyone with his cheerful demeanor. We hope you had time to drive by to check him out, and appreciated the creativity and community spirit that went into his creation! We hope he brought a smile to your face, just like the real Bob Ross would. Thank you for supporting our community initiatives!



CCAA at the County Arts Agencies of Maryland Retreat

CCAA at the County Arts Agencies of Maryland Retreat

The County Arts Agencies of Maryland (CAAM) hosted its biannual retreat in Garrett County, MD, on October 10-11, where representatives from the Charles County Arts Alliance (CCAA) joined to discuss state strategic planning, visit Arts & Entertainment districts, and celebrate the rededication of the "Buckwheat Harvest" mural. Held during the Autumn Glory Festival, the event brought together Maryland's county arts agencies to share best practices, network, and strengthen arts advocacy.

Attendees stayed at the historic Casselman Inn & Motel, and sessions included a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility and Belonging (DEIAB) workshop by Kalyn Obiozor-Dorey, an MSAC strategic planning presentation, and a trolley tour of Garrett County's Arts & Entertainment Districts. The tour concluded with a rededication of the WWII-era mural, "Buckwheat Harvest," restored with MSAC's support, followed by a reception at the \$MART ARTspace.

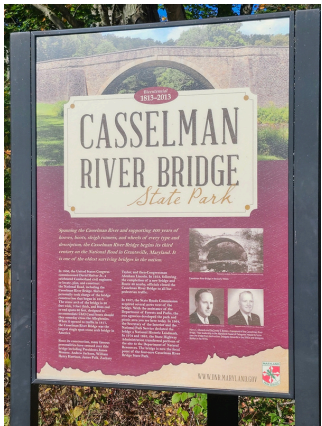
On the second day, after breakfast at the Cornucopia Café, the group toured the Spruce Forest Artisan Village and met artisans like acclaimed bird carver Gary Yoder. The retreat wrapped up with discussions on public art's role in community storytelling and MCA legislative updates to guide future planning.

The CCAA looks forward to using these insights to further enrich the arts community in Charles County and continue working with County Arts Agencies of Maryland.

Alexandria Gonzalez
CCAA Administrative Director



CCAA at the County Arts Agencies of Maryland Retreat



CCAA at 301 Derby Dames' Annual "Trunk or Treat"

CCAA Director Joselle Gilpin at the 301 Derby Dames' "Trunk or Treat"

I had the pleasure of participating in the 301 Derby Dames' annual Trunk or Treat at the Fairgrounds, and what a lovely day it turned out to be! The atmosphere was vibrant, filled with families and the spirit of Halloween.

We put signs for Frankenstein to showcase that CCAA was part of this fun event. It was a hit! I even had a gentleman approach me in search of Diane, which was a nice reminder of our community connections. Many attendees took the time to inquire about our organization, expressing genuine interest in what we do.

One particularly exciting interaction was with a coach from the 301 Junior Derby squad named Angel. She mentioned that her daughter had won some prizes at the fair, which added to the festive spirit. Angel is keen to explore membership options with us and plans to call the office soon—what a fantastic potential opportunity!

The event attracted several hundred families, providing us with great exposure. Overall, I truly believe it was a worthwhile investment of our time and resources. Events like these not only help us connect with the community but also open doors for future collaborations and growth.

Joselle Gilpin
CCAA Board Director



CCAA Launches "Arts Vision 2028"

"Arts Vision 2028" has been officially launched!

During our CCAA Board of Directors meeting on October 26, 2024, we launched the initial steps of our "Three-Year Strategic Plan" for the arts in Charles County. A key highlight of the meeting was the introduction of the Arts Vision 2028 poster board, presented by CCAA Past President and Board member Diane Rausch. This initiative aims to engage the community by gathering insights on the future needs of the arts in Charles County. Diane emphasized the importance of full community involvement, not just the arts community, setting the stage for a collaborative approach to arts development in our county.

To encourage participation, the CCAA plans to showcase the Arts Vision 2028 poster board at various local events, inviting residents to share their thoughts in person on their top priority needs for the arts in Charles County by the year 2028. Attendees will be able to write their ideas on sticky notes and attach them to the poster board, fostering a dynamic and interactive dialogue. During the meeting, CCAA Board members were the first to contribute their suggestions to the poster board, highlighting their commitment to this initiative. The Arts Vision 2028 poster board serves not only as a tool for collecting ideas but also as a symbol of the CCAA's dedication to enhancing the artistic landscape in Charles County.

Also on October 26, Diane led the Board of Directors in conducting a "SWOT analysis" (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) of the CCAA as a nonprofit organization. The Board took the time to thoughtfully consider each category, creating a detailed list of how our organization can grow and improve. They identified potential internal weaknesses that could hinder growth, and discussed external factors that might pose threats to their objectives. This comprehensive analysis is intended to guide the CCAA in navigating challenges and seizing opportunities as we move forward into the future.

In parallel, the CCAA staff is finalizing our upcoming Charles County Arts Survey 2024. It is a "needs assessment" to broaden outreach and gather input from a wider audience. This online survey will ensure that all community members can share their perspectives on the future of the arts, regardless of their ability to contribute ideas in person. The CCAA is enthusiastic about this initiative, a continuation of our previous Charles County Arts Survey 2021, believing that continued Charles County feedback will play a crucial role in shaping our arts scene in the coming years. Through these efforts, the CCAA aims to build a vibrant and inclusive arts community that reflects the needs and aspirations of all Charles County residents.

Mackenzie Coulby
CCAA Program Specialist



Diane Rausch leading the poster board discussion on CCAA Arts Vision 2028

The SWOT analysis that the Board members thoughtfully filled out for the continued development of the CCAA

SWOT ANALYSIS



Children's Aid Society and Department of Social Services Present "Christmas Toy Connection"

The Children's Aid Society and the Department of Social Services have officially begun their preparations for the highly anticipated annual Christmas Toy Connection! The Arts Alliance received a letter requesting volunteers and/or donors to support this wonderful program. For over 25 years, the Children's Aid Society and the Department of Social Services have provided assistance to approximately 2,000 children, ranging from infants to 18 years old, each year through this initiative. The CCAA also supports the Children's Aid Society by donating our "back to school" art boxes each year.

There are several ways you can contribute to the Christmas Toy Connection this year: you can donate funds directly to the program, organize a toy drive (an excellent option for businesses, groups and organizations), or volunteer during the general distribution at New Life Church in La Plata.

Scheduled times for volunteering at New Life Church:

- Monday, December 16: 3 - 8 pm
- Tuesday, December 17: 8 am - 12 noon, 1 - 5 pm , 6 - 8 pm
- Wednesday, December 18: 8 am - 12 noon, 1 - 5 pm
- Thursday, December 19: 8 am - 12 noon

If you would like to get involved, please visit Children's Aid Society website at www.childrens-aid-society.org to submit a participation form. Be sure to specify how you would like to contribute!

For additional information, feel free to reach out:

- Email: warehouse@childrens-aid-society.org
- Phone: 301-645-1561
- Address: 3000 Huntington Circle, Waldorf, MD 20602

Your support can make a meaningful difference in the lives of many children this holiday season!

Meet Monique Walker: Maryland State Arts Council's Newest Councilor

Monique Walker is a dance artist and educator who has traveled the world as a performer, educator, and choreographer. Based in Waldorf, MD, Monique holds a Bachelor of Arts in Arts Administration, is an adjunct dance faculty member at the College of Southern Maryland and Bowie State University, and the Executive Director of the National Association of American African Dance Teachers (NAAADT). She is a Master Teacher of the Umfundalai contemporary African dance technique and teaches Umfundalai at CityDance (MD) and The Viva School of Dance (DC). Monique has served as a guest lecturer at several universities and on the dance faculties at North Carolina State University and The School at Jacob's Pillow.

She is the former Administrative Director of the Charles County Arts Alliance, Assistant to the Artistic Director of Chuck Davis' African American Dance Ensemble (NC) and former principal dancer with Kariamu & Company: Traditions (PA). Her choreography has been presented at the North Carolina Dance Festival, the Philadelphia Fringe Festival (PA), Dance Place (DC), and the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center (MD).

Monique is committed to using the art of collaboration to advance all the arts in the private and public sectors. This commitment has drawn her to serve as the Vice President on the Board of Trustees for the Phoenix International School of the Arts (Charles County); the Southern Maryland Regional Representative for the Maryland Dance Educators Association, on several grant panels with the Maryland State Arts Council, and provide consulting services to non-profit organizations in Charles County. As the Executive Director of NAAADT, she works with a team of dance educators and scholars from across the country to heighten the quality of contemporary, neo-traditional, and Diasporan African dance teaching in North America through teacher training, performance opportunities, professional development, and certification in the Umfundalai contemporary African dance technique.



THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS!

PLATINUM CIRCLE

- Diane Rausch
- Lorretta J. Hopkins
- Clarissa Stroud

GOLD CIRCLE

- Keith Linville

SILVER CIRCLE

- Roy & Kathy Jenkins

CORPORATE

- dbF, a Media Company

ARTS PATRON

- Ann E. Benbow
- Linda & Stephen Dent Mitchell

ARTS SPONSOR

- Nancy Owens
- Edward L. Sanders Insurance Agency, Inc.
- William & Dianne Shisler

BUSINESS

- Business Training Works, Inc.

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.

- African American Heritage Society of Charles County
- Charles County Board of Education
- Charles County Public Library
- Charles County Public Schools
- Charles County Youth Orchestra
- Charles County Fair
- Friends of Old Waldorf School
- Lew & Karen McIntyre, Authors
- Life Journeys Writers' Guild
- Maryland Writers Association
- Mattawoman Creek Art Center
- Music Teachers Association of Charles County
- National Association of American African Dance Teachers
- Neighborhood Creative Arts Center
- Opening Night Productions
- Phoenix International School
- Port Tobacco Players
- Southern Maryland Concert Band
- Southern Maryland Decorative Painters

FAMILY

- Michael & Marcela Cacace
- Richard & Margery Coppola
- Ricky & Ellen Flowers-Fields
- Cindy Johnson
- Gale Kladitis
- John & Mary Lou Rutherford
- John & Lucy Snell
- Chancy & Sandra Wood

INDIVIDUAL

- Monika Barilla
- Stephanie Berry
- Mary Evelyn Dashiell
- Alexandria Gonzalez
- Alicia Hancock
- Jaden Hendricks
- Barbara Hufford
- Kenneth Jameson
- Beverly Taylor
- Cathy Thompson



THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS!

SENIOR

- Susie Bender
- Thea Bradley
- Claire Brooks
- Ron Brown
- Rose Burroughs
- Cheri Burch
- Carol Y. Charnock
- Carol Corbett
- Jerri Corbett
- Joan Creighton
- Dorothy Crown
- Holly Dilatush
- Chris Dudley
- Cecelia Dunay
- Patricia Duncan
- Gwendolyn A. Fleming
- Richard Gilpin
- Joselle Gilpin
- Richard Gold
- Penelope Gold
- Sally Marie Goldsmith
- Doris Hall
- Sharon Hanley
- Billie Harley
- Ruth Hein
- Renee Jefferson-Copeland
- William Jones
- Robert Kyle
- Carlyle Lancaster
- Dorothy Lancaster
- Beverlie J. Ludy
- Mary Mangino
- Ivette Marcucci
- Karen McIntyre
- Lew McIntyre
- Henry McPherson
- Robert Medley
- Julie Anne Meisel
- Connie Miller
- Kathleen Noel
- Marie C. Parham
- Shirley Ann Perez
- Joyce Reid
- Sandy Rohde

SENIOR (cont'd)

- Ann Cameron Siegal
- Dorothea H. Smith
- Jill Smithson
- Southern Maryland Women's League
- Richard Thompson
- Evans Thorne
- Paul Toscano
- Mary Whyte



Thank You

CCAA MEMBERSHIP FORM



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

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 Newsflash weekly E-update of arts events
- CCAA voting privileges
- And most important, the satisfaction that comes from actively supporting the arts in Charles County!

Membership Categories (check one):

- Platinum Circle - \$500 ☐
- Gold Circle - \$300 ☐
- Silver Circle - \$200 ☐
- Arts Patron - \$150 ☐
- Arts Sponsor - \$125 ☐
- Arts Activist - \$80 ☐
- Family - \$50 ☐
- Individual - \$30 ☐
- Senior (+60) - \$20 ☐
- Youth (under 18) - \$10 ☐

Business & Nonprofit:

- Corporate - \$500 ☐
- Business - \$250 ☐
- Nonprofit Organizations - \$75 ☐
- Other (Donations) _____ ☐

☐ Renewal ☐ New Member

Date Submitted:

Full Name:

Organization/
Business:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Want to volunteer? We'd love the help!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ArtsFest | <input type="checkbox"/> Grants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Budget/Finance/Audit | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships | <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach/Marketing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative/Office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Galleries | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical/IT Support |

The CCAA is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization.

All membership dues and donations are 100 percent tax - deductible.

Charles County Arts Alliance, Inc.
P.O. Box 697, White Plains, MD 20695
www.charlescountyarts.org / 301-392-5900
info@charlescountyarts.org

Master Calendar - FY 2025

JULY

1 CCAA FY 2025 Begins

AUGUST

3 CCAA Board of Directors
Summer Retreat

5-9 ArtsCamp at Nanjemoy
Community Center

28 CCAA Grant Season Kickoff -
CAD and AIE Applications on
Website

SEPTEMBER

11-15 CCAA at Charles County Fair

21 CCAA Board Meeting at
United Way Building

OCTOBER

10 CCAA CAD and AIE Grant
Applications Due

20 CCAA at 301 Derby Dames'
"Trunk or Treat"

26 CCAA Board Meeting at
United Way Building

NOVEMBER

16 CCAA Grantee and Membership
Reception - RSVP By Nov 13, 2024

16 CCAA Board Meeting

21 U.S. District Courthouse/Greenbelt
Art Exhibition - Opening Reception
for Charles County Artists

DECEMBER

14 CCAA Board Meeting at
United Way Building

CCAA SPONSORS



Charles County
Legends, Lore and Room to Explore



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Charles County
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE maryland state arts council



[arts.gov](https://www.arts.gov)