

Arts Matters



SHOWCASING THE ARTS IN THE MORRIS AREA

Arts Council *of the* Morris Area

2010

Arts Council of the Morris Area Announces 2010 Local Arts Grants

The Arts Council of the Morris Area is pleased to announce that 22 Morris County arts organizations received Local Arts Grants funding for 2010. These grants help support visual arts, orchestral music, theatre, a children's museum, arts experiences for young people who have suffered loss or trauma, an opera chorus, folk/acoustic music, classical choral music, historical museums, a grassroots arts/cultural organization, a barbershop chorus, two local concert series, women's theatre, arts accessibility for the disabled community, jazz, a teen arts festival and more. Thanks to these groups, thousands of people have the opportunity to experience the arts in a multitude of ways. Funding is made possible through the Local Arts Program of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.



Clockwise: Work by Grantees: First Night® Morris, Dec. 31, 2009 included a performance by Tim Latta as "The Mask Messenger"; The Community Children's Museum exhibit "Nancy's Lake House;" invites young people to test the waters; Art in the Atrium's January-March 2009 exhibit, *Artistic Vistas*, included "Woman in Interior" by featured artist David Driskell; Blackwell Street Center for the Arts' Annual Juried Student show featured this striking Jester Head and ceramic sculptures.

This year's awardees include: Art in the Atrium (Morristown), Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey (Madison), Blackwell Street Center for the Arts, Inc. (Denville), Chatham Community Players (Chatham), Community Children's Museum (Dover), Coro Lirico (Morristown), Creative Heartwork, Inc. (Mendham), First Night® Morris County (Morristown), The Folk Project (Morristown), Harmonium Choral Society (Morristown), The Jumpstart Fund (Morristown), Macculloch Hall (Morristown), Madison Arts and Culture Alliance, Inc. (Madison), Masterwork Chorus (Morristown), Morris Music Men (Morristown), Morris County Teen Arts Festival-County College of Morris (Randolph), Morristown Neighborhood House (Morristown), Museum of Early Trades & Crafts (Madison), Music at Morristown United Methodist Church (Morristown), New Jersey Foundation for the Blind (Denville), New Jersey Jazz Society (Chatham), and Women's Theater Company (Parsippany).

great conversations
"bringing the art of conversation to life"

Tired of electronic media experiences? Rediscover the vanishing art of live conversation at the Arts Council of the Morris Area's unique evening of dinner and engaging dialogue with celebrated hosts from the arts, education, food, medicine, entertainment, sports, industry and more. Mingle with host conversationalists during the cocktail hour and then dine with a university president, an author and comic actress, the director of a major performing arts venue, a major sports figure, the chair of cardiovascular medicine at a major hospital, executive editor of a well-known TV "magazine," a CEO, a retired superior court judge, a restaurant reviewer or a similarly fascinating and accomplished individual. Each dinner table will feature a "host conversationalist" whose unique experiences, life story or achievements will catalyze intriguing conversations. Don't miss this truly memorable and unique experience!

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss this unique Arts Council benefit! Experience a one-of-a-kind evening while helping a wonderful organization continue its valuable work in the community!

Date: March 25, 2010

Time: 6:00pm – Reception
7:30pm – Dinner

Place: The Madison Hotel
1 Convent Road,
Morristown

Tickets: \$175

Contact: (973) 285-5115, x 11 or
aaronovitch@morrisarts.org



FIRST NIGHT[®] MORRIS: World Talent on New Year's Eve

On December 31st, 2009, thousands of people attended this year's exciting First Night[®] Morris County. Since its inception 18 years ago, the Arts Council of the Morris Area has been the event's artistic programmer, selecting and scheduling the rich variety of artistic talent for New Jersey's biggest alcohol-free New Year's Eve celebration. The 90 events featured more than 200 artists in 26 venues in and around Morristown. Attendees came in from all over NJ and beyond to enjoy the evening's offerings.

You didn't need to travel to Bali, Scotland, Russia, Ireland or India since First Night brought dance and music from those countries right to Morristown. Some traveled back in time to hear music of different centuries or experienced the fun of interactive theatre, magic, music, puppetry, science, circus and children's tales with a host of performers geared to family audiences. A wide assortment of classical music options, from phenomenal soloists to choral, orchestral and chamber music filled the air that night. And, the club scene was well represented with master performers of Dixieland, Swing, funk, zydeco, blues, bluegrass, acoustic folk, rock and classic jazz. Those with eclectic tastes enjoyed electro-acoustic oboe music, theatrical horror stories, The Mask Messenger or some basketball magic with The Harlem Wizards. A Teen Coffeehouse, middle school mask exhibit, double feature films, two visual arts exhibits and double fireworks displays rounded out the evening's offerings.

Many of the artists have performed at such venues as The White House, Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, or with such top talents as Madonna, Ringo Starr, Les Paul, the Pizzarellis, with Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus as well as on Broadway, national TV/radio, in Hollywood films, top jazz and folk festivals, famous clubs, and/or have won international recognition for their work. The Arts Council proudly brought these extraordinary performers to Morristown on New Year's Eve for the public to enjoy – and to herald the New Year through a truly life-affirming celebration of the arts. (For videos and photos from the event, check www.nj.com/morristown/firstnight as well as www.firstnightmorris.com.)

Reactions from performers and attendees:

...Thanks for a wonderful First Night. We loved all the performances we saw: Irish Dancers, The New Philharmonic of NJ and especially Frank Vignola and Aaron Weinstein. The light snowfall added to the ambience during the fireworks....Meryl

The performances we saw were great...the organist, the trumpets/trombones, the bluegrass group and the pianist (with the opera singer and the clarinetist)...Colleen

...We love the alcohol free alternative that First Night gives to so many families...I enjoy First Night because of all the creative talent there. Keep up the good work!...

...we wouldn't change a thing about our location or its setup. It provided ample space both for those who wanted to listen and those who wanted to dance. ...Hope your attendees enjoyed it as much as we did!...Andy (The VooDUDES)

...just wanted to thank you for having us for your First Night celebration. We thought it ran like a clock & the audiences were fantastic....Adrian & David (BEAUCOUP BLUE)

I had a WONDERFUL experience at First Night Morris. Thank you for all YOU and everyone did to make it happen. We attended the Harlem Wizards (Wonderful!), the storytellers...the Blaire Reinhard Band ... (FANTASTIC! I bought a CD), and the women's singing group (a chapter of the Sweet Adelines...so ENERGETIC). ..They were all REALLY good. I enjoyed seeing the love of their craft that all of the entertainers exuded. ... My friend... (from CT) had never been to any First Night before. He was also very impressed...Gail

We wanted to thank you for inviting A Meeting of the Macabre to your wonderful lineup on 12/31/09. Jim Dyne (Bram Stoker) said it was the best New Year's Eve he's ever had. I loved hearing this and hope you do too! It was beautifully organized and beautifully presented....Maggie (MEETING OF THE MACABRE)

I want to thank you for inviting us to perform at this year's First Night Morris....we enjoyed large, enthusiastic and supportive crowds and the Assumption Church was a beautiful venue with fabulous acoustics...Dana (HICKORY TREE CHORUS)



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- 1) The Dixie Rascals
- 2) The Niall O'Leary Irish Dance Troupe
- 3) First Nighters Beth Shaw, Melissa Wood, John Broda and Bud Knudsen ring in the New Year with style
- 4) BALAM Balinese Dance Theatre ("Hip Hop Hanuman")
- 5) Sadecky's Puppets perform *Castlemania*
- 6) Frank Vignola, jazz guitar virtuoso
- 7) Aaron Weinstein, jazz violinist
- 8) Stiltwalker at Children's Fun Festival
- 9) Duo Cantiga (soprano Katherine Harris and guitarist Christopher Kenniff)
- 10) The Blaire Reinhard Band
- 11) The Pipes and Drums of the Atlantic Watch



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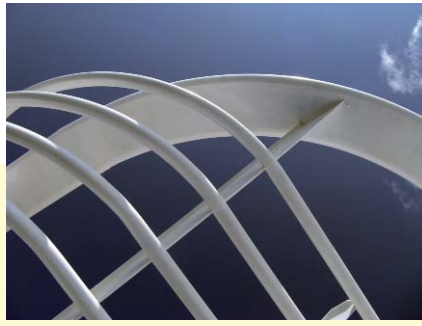
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New Juried Exhibit opens at the 14 Maple Gallery:
Emerging Patterns

On February 19, 2010, the Arts Council of the Morris Area will host the opening reception of its latest juried exhibition entitled *Emerging Patterns*, featuring 45 works by 39 artists who live or work in New Jersey. Curated by Midori Yoshimoto, Director of the Lemmerman Gallery at New Jersey City University in Jersey City, the exhibit showcases these artists' unique and highly creative interpretations of the thought-provoking theme in a very wide variety of media. The exhibit is open to the public Mondays-Thursdays from 10am to 4pm and on Fridays from 10am to 1pm and will remain on display until August 11, 2010. It is located on the 3rd floor at 14 Maple Ave., Morristown. If you can't stop by to see the exhibit, be sure to take a virtual tour of it by viewing the exhibit catalogue on the Arts Council's website.

Clockwise: Diane Phares' *Macular Vision*; Mike Tesi's *White and Blue*; Jeanne Campbell's *Eye Witness*; Irit Felsen's *Painting 1*; Monica Litvany's *Fungal Stuppa*; Michael Dal Cerro's *Velocity*; So Yoon Lym's *Miguel*.



2010 ARTS EDUCATION
SHOWCASE

On March 16th & 17th, the Arts Council of the Morris Area will hold its 2010 Arts Education Showcase, spotlighting the many exciting programs and artists available for arts education program in the coming school year. Several hundred educators, administrators, cultural arts representatives and PTA members from schools throughout the State will attend this informative event, networking with each other and sampling firsthand the rich variety of programs and top quality teaching artists available through the Arts Council's Arts Education program. The event is graciously hosted by the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey.

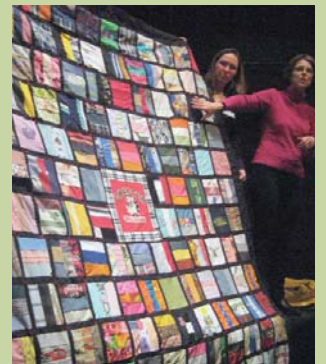
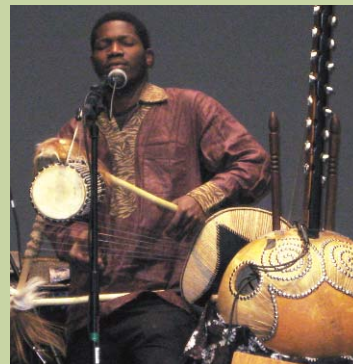
This Showcase is generously sponsored by



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Clockwise: Kinobe and Soul Beat Africa; Fun with Fabric; Shakespeare LIVE! performing *Midsummer Night's Dream*; Freespace Dance.

SPOTLIGHT

The Arts Council of the Morris Area is delighted to announce the addition of four dynamic, talented new board members. **Xiomara Guevera**, an adjunct professor, a NJ Certified Teacher (K-8) with a Masters in Public Administration (non-profit management), is currently the Executive Director of the Morris County Organization for Hispanic Affairs. She has an extensive background in education and social services administration and her global research interests span topics from maternal mortality in Africa to the European Union system. Among her most recent honors are the Hispanic Achievement Award 2008 from the Morris County Prosecutor's Office and the 2007 Alumni of the Year Award from the Center for Hispanic Policy, Research and Development, from the State of New Jersey's Department of Community Affairs. With extensive experience in fundraising, capital campaign management, public/community relations and marketing for nonprofits, **Marcia W. Hunter** has shared her talents with the Morris Museum, Junior League of Morristown and Family Service of Morris County. Currently Development Associate/Campaign Manager of the Community Theatre/Mayo Center for the Performing Arts, she brings valuable knowledge of nonprofit management to our board. With a wealth of leadership experience, **William Neigher, PhD**, is not only a professional psychologist and Director of Strategic Planning for Atlantic Health Systems (which includes both Morristown Memorial and Overlook Hospitals), but also an avid musician (trumpeter with wind bands, brass choirs, musical theatre ensembles, big bands and orchestras), conductor, arranger and sound engineer. His passion for music and promotion of arts participation extends to his family as well. His daughter, Deborah, won the 2005 Arts Council's Ehlers Scholarship and son, Aaron, was a Filene Music Scholar at Skidmore. Both are now performing and recording musicians. As Vice President, Corporate Communications and Chief Communications Office for BASF Corporation, Canadian-born lawyer **Robin C. Rotenberg** directs all media relations, marketing, advertising, internal communications, trades shows, special events and brand management in North America for BASF Corporation. Prior to her current position, she served as President of BASF Canada, with responsibility for communications, legal, insurance and real estate issues. Her work has also made her a recognized speaker on sustainability and climate change. The Arts Council is indeed fortunate to add the skills, talents and insights of such highly accomplished individuals to our Board!

Save the Dates

- **February 19th:** Opening Reception for "Emerging Patterns" exhibit.
- **March 25th:** GREAT CONVERSATIONS, bringing the art of conversation to life.
- **May 13th:** Celebrate the Arts, featuring the Arts Council's Annual Arts Awards and Scholarship Winners
- **June 27th:** Annual Giralda Lawn Concert.

Thanks...

to our very generous funders whose support makes our work possible: the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, The Merrill G. and Erita E. Hastings Foundation, The James J. Gallagher Family Legacy Fund, the F. M. Kirby Foundation, the Seth Sprague Educational and Charitable Foundation, the Verizon Foundation, and Wyeth.

TO SUPPORT THE ARTS COUNCIL: How to Get Involved

- **Consider an in-kind gift.** Now is a great time to share your technical or professional expertise or items that you think might be useful to the Arts Council.
- **Celebrate holidays and milestones with a tribute gift to the Arts Council.** A donation to the Arts Council is the perfect gift to for a loved one committed to creativity.
- **Check to see whether your company has a matching gift program.** Some companies will double the donations or value of volunteer time given by their employees.
- **Send us your e-mail address! We value sustainability and community** — help us communicate with you more effectively as we all work to build a greener, more creative world.

All contributions are tax-deductible. For more information, please contact Anne Aronovitch, Executive Director, at aronovitch@morrisarts.org or (973) 285-5115, ext. 11.

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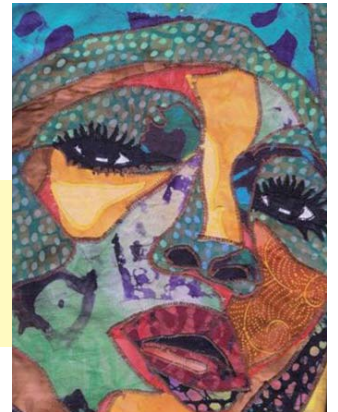
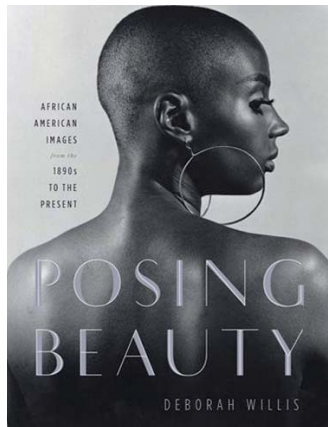
Partial funding for ARTS MATTERS from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/ Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts has awarded the *Arts Council of the Morris Area* a "Citation of Excellence" and designation as a "Major Service Organization" in recognition of the quality of its solid history of "service excellence, substantial activity and broad public service".

This newsletter is available in large print. Please call (973) 285-5115, ext. 10.

Be sure to visit our website www.morrisarts.org

Art in the Atrium: 18th Annual Exhibit and Sale of African American Art, *Wonderfully Made,*



featuring artist **Deborah Willis, Ph.D.**

L-R: *Posing Beauty*, recent book by featured artist Dr. Deborah Willis; Russell Aldo Murray, Art in the Atrium's co-founder; *Natural Woman*, fabric art by Bisa Butler.

Art in the Atrium's annual exhibit has become "must see" event, attracting hundreds of visitors. This year's exhibit, which runs from January 29 – March 19, 2010, features outstanding artist Deborah Willis along with more than 100 works by many of the most exceptional African American artists in the state and beyond. Free and open to the public, the opening reception takes place on Friday, January 29, 2010 from 5:30-9:30pm and the closing reception is on March 18 from 6-8pm. Both will be at the Atrium Gallery, 12 Court Street, Morristown. Free parking is provided during the reception in the garage under the building (accessible from Schuyler Place). There will also be a tribute to Russell Aldo Murray (1950-2009), co-founder of Art in the Atrium and a highly gifted artist/teacher/and arts advocate whose dedication and art contributed significantly to the ongoing excellence of Art in the Atrium.