

HILL COUNTRY

# observer

The independent newspaper of eastern New York, southwestern Vermont and the Berkshires

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## High culture, low pay



Susan Sabino photos

In push for change, local arts groups shine light on their own workplaces

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# High culture, low pay

## Local arts groups shine light on their own workplaces in push for change

By **KATE ABBOTT**  
Contributing writer

GREAT BARRINGTON, Mass.

Guitars strum and fireflies gleam in the meadow. Actors are falling in love every night, and stages large and small are alive with dance and music. It's summer in the Berkshires.

But behind these scenes that define the region's image as a hub of culture, many of the people who keep the local creative economy humming are struggling.

Entry- and mid-level workers in the arts are logging long hours for low pay, and some who have long experience in the local arts scene are leaving for new places or new careers, deciding they can no longer afford this line of work.

Over the past year or so, a group of arts organizations in Berkshire and Columbia counties has begun working to change this. Their leaders have been talking with the people who make the shows and exhibits happen.

And as they look to the future, these leaders are recognizing larger systematic challenges in the field. They're exploring the need for diversity, equity, fair pay — and for understanding the experiences of their workers and investing in their futures.

In June, a coalition of eight arts groups on both sides of the state line announced the findings of the Berkshire/Columbia Counties Pay Equity Project, a yearlong effort in which they surveyed about 200 entry- and mid-level employees at 43 local arts and cultural organizations. The project also collected anonymized data on pay and benefits from 38 arts employers with nearly 1,000 workers in the region.

The study concluded that local arts and culture workers are "undercompensated, struggling to meet basic needs, and considering imminent moves" out of the area — or out of arts-related professions.

"Many of us are working in organizations small enough that we've witnessed on a day-to-day basis the struggles that our employees are having," said Janis Martinson, executive director of the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, in an interview over Zoom with Kristen van Ginhoven, executive director of WAM Theatre in Lenox, and Aron Goldman, a consultant who guided the project.

Figuring out how to improve pay and working conditions in the arts, they contend, will strengthen creative nonprofits and the diversity of their staffs, the beauty and power of their work, and the local economy as a whole.

### After crises, rethinking the arts

This is a vulnerable time for the region's creative places. Arts and cultural organizations are trying to rebuild after three years of lockdown and upheaval. In the wake of the pandemic and a global racial reckoning, equity movements in the arts have emerged across the country in theater and dance and other sectors.

Through social-media-based efforts such as Change the Museum and We See You White

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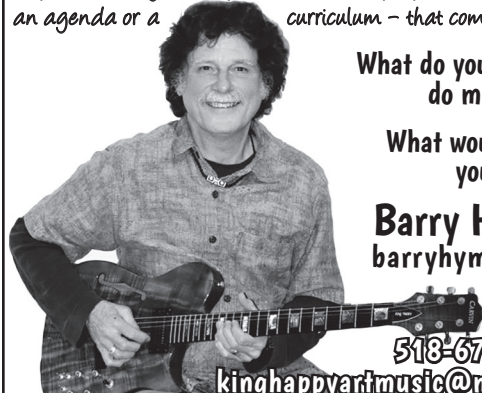
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American Theater, people working inside arts organizations have highlighted cases of racial bias, pay disparity and other inequities. Local conversations like Change Berkshire Culture have brought these questions home.

Some see this moment as an opportunity for real change.

“I feel a certain sense of urgency,” Goldman said. “We don’t know how long we’re going to have people’s attention for transformative change. So now is the time.”

Martinson said the local pay equity project began with arts leaders who took part in a year-long inclusive leadership program organized by the local nonprofit Multicultural BRIDGE. As the program sparked conversations, more organizations joined in: The Pay Equity Project now includes the Mahaiwe and WAM, Art Omi, Berkshire Art Center, Community Access to the Arts, Flying Cloud Institute, Jacob’s Pillow Dance Theater and the Williamstown Theatre Festival. The Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation provided the bulk of the project’s funding.

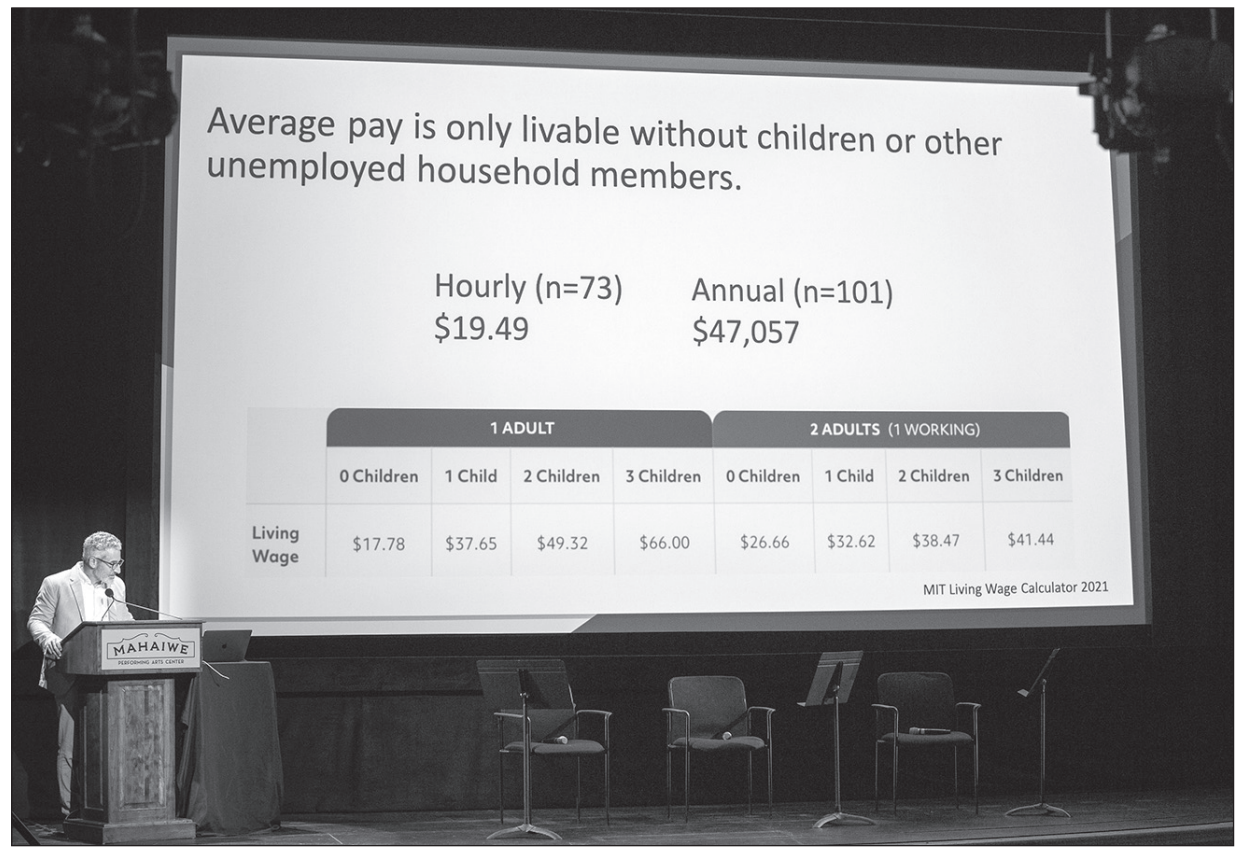
From the data and survey responses the study collected from local arts and cultural workers and their employers, the coalition found that:

- More than half of local arts workers are paid at a full-time equivalent rate of less than \$50,000 annually, and many earn far less than that. The sector’s average hourly wage of \$19.49 barely exceeds the local livable wage rate for a single person.

- 56 percent of employees said they needed to work additional jobs to support themselves.

- 75 percent reported working unpaid overtime; and

*continued on next page*



A survey of pay and benefits at 38 local arts and cultural organizations found that the average wage was not enough to support a family – and that more than half of employees had second jobs.

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• between 25 percent and 48 percent lack benefits such as health insurance, retirement plans or paid time off.

The emotional responses of arts workers who took part in the survey came across to Martinson very vividly.

People love working in the arts, Martinson said. They want to do this work. They respect the creative places and the people they work with and for. And they are exhausted.

One study respondent who left a position at a local arts organization told of taking a new job in a different field at slightly lower pay.

“But this one does not require unpaid overtime or a passionate sacrifice of my time, energy and mental health,” the person wrote.

Martinson, van Ginhoven and their colleagues say they recognize the challenge posed by low salaries that persist even for mid-level workers with years of experience.

And they say they’ve come to understand that limited resources affect equity and diversity across their organizations. Many potential job seekers are excluded from applying, because very few people can afford to work for the pay local arts groups are offering. The burden can be greater for those from communities that historically have faced higher barriers with fewer resources.

Conversations about fair compensation have

a new urgency for organizations that want to attract and keep diverse work forces in terms of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic background, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability and more.

“You’ve had a long history, in the decades that I’ve been in nonprofit organizations and around arts and education, of ‘do more with less’ – which means less for the people doing the work,” Martinson explained. “And we’ve hit a wall where there are so many reasons why that’s no longer defensible.”

#### ‘Further and further behind’

Goldman said the project set out to gather detailed information by surveying arts workers and employers, following up with focus groups and some long-form interviews. The study quotes many arts workers describing their experiences and working conditions, but to protect them, it does not reveal their identities.

The findings are sobering, Goldman said.

People outside the field may have an impression that working in the arts is a privilege. Goldman said he might agree, not because people in the arts are making money – but because they make so little that very few people can afford to work such long hours for such low pay.

Many of the survey respondents described living precariously with no change in sight.

“My life isn’t sustainable,” one respondent wrote. “The cost of living for [my family] is approximately 40 percent higher than my salary. I get further and further behind in all ways: financial, social fabric, health, education.”

“Even after more than 10 years in the sector,” another respondent said, “I have no retirement savings and am still paying off college debt.”

Another wrote: “My supervisor lowered his own salary in order to increase mine.”

Data from the study show nearly 30 percent of local arts workers are full-time employees earning less than \$50,000 annually, many of them far less than that, and another 25 percent are part-timers with hourly wages of less than a \$50,000 full-time annual equivalent. The average hourly wage of \$19.49 barely exceeds the livable wage rate for the region, which the MIT living wage calculator pegs at \$17.78 for a single adult.

And for anyone with children or a family, or with student loans or any other ordinary debt, Goldman said, the pay “becomes severely insufficient.”

When employers in the survey discussed compensation, several reported amounts barely above the minimum wage of \$15 an hour in Massachusetts and \$14.20 an hour in New York.

“We raised salaries to \$15 an hour and are planning another increase,” one organization

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See map on page 13

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wrote.

“The starting wage, including our tipped employees, is \$15 an hour,” another noted.

The study found that benefits for part-time workers are inconsistent, insufficient or nonexistent, and 75 percent of the workers reported they are regularly expected to work unpaid overtime adding up to 70 hours a week or more.

**Wider economic effects**

These patterns can have effects well beyond individual employees and arts organizations — and can ripple through downtowns.

“Arts and culture is a big part of the economy of the Berkshires and Columbia County,” Martinson said. “It’s also a very visible part of the economy.”

So if employees of local cultural organizations are struggling, that can affect the health of the organizations themselves and the health of the local economy more broadly.

“If you want our community to continue thriving, these places need to succeed,” van Ginhoven said.

The economy of the Berkshires has shifted and is shifting, they said, toward what Williams College economics professor Stephen Sheppard has called an economy of making experiences.

They are intertwined experiences, Martinson said. People who come to a museum or a

play go out to local restaurants and shops, and people who visit for a hike or bike ride may also go to a concert or a farmers market. Arts and culture cross paths economically with local food and the outdoors, local businesses and entrepreneurs.

To give an overview of the local economy, the Pay Equity Project’s study includes figures from the local economic development group I Berkshire. These figures separate out creative organizations from food and tourism, but when combined these fields total more than \$1.2 billion in economic activity and become the largest economic element — bigger than health care, manufacturing or government.

**Calling for a cultural shift**

Beyond the numbers, a broader current emerges in the study and responses: Over and over again, questions arise about how an organization values the people who work for it.

Martinson said she was struck forcibly by how much she has heard about the emotional burdens of being undercompensated.

“I do not feel valued (monetarily or otherwise) for my contributions to the organization,” one of the workers surveyed wrote.

“Even more than compensation, the workplace culture needs to change,” another said.

Not making enough to live on is exhausting

in itself, many of the respondents said. But they expressed as deep a frustration, or more, in feeling that their workplaces did not seem to see, hear or invest in them. They called for ways to learn, to grow, to do their work better, to have the time and energy to be creative, and to grow relationships.

“I don’t need verbal pats on the head to affirm the importance of my work for this community,” one respondent wrote. “I need salary and advancement that adequately values my time so that I can properly care for my family, friends, colleagues and community.”

For Goldman, as for Martinson and van Ginhoven, hearing from so many voices had an impact. He said this study is important — and rare — because they have gathered as much information as they can from a diverse group of people on the ground and directly affected.

“Paying someone so little puts them into a perpetual state of worry, unease and hopelessness,” one respondent wrote.

Another described “nights working until 2 a.m.”

“One thing that doesn’t always get considered is how much time it takes to navigate living on a lower-income / being resourceful / maintaining public benefits / participating in mutual ways in community care / working other gigs,”

*continued on page 12*

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# NEWS & ISSUES

## Region's power grids face new stresses

### Shift to clean energy means more demand, changing supplies

By MAURY THOMPSON  
Contributing writer

In the race to ensure a reliable electricity supply as the region evolves to a zero-emissions grid, the approach of a slow and steady tortoise may not be sufficient.

Demand for electricity will increase significantly in the years ahead as gas and oil heating and hot

water systems, gas stoves, and gasoline vehicles are replaced with electric versions. At the same time, the electrical grids in both New York and New England are shifting away from generating facilities that burn fossil fuels and instead relying more on renewable energy sources.

The prospect of rapid changes in both demand and supply has raised questions about whether the electrical grids in the Northeast and elsewhere will be up to the task of meeting the power needs of the future.

New York reached a critical crossroads this year as the retirement of fossil-fuel-based energy resources began outpacing the development of new renewable resources, according to the New York Independent System Operator, which manages the state's power grid.

"The effect is that reliability margins will thin to concerning levels beginning in 2025, highlighting the need for a careful transition that maintains grid reliability and resilience," the NYISO said in its recent annual report.

Andrew Gregory, a spokesman for NYISO, emphasized that the grid currently has sufficient energy to meet demand.

"New York's public policies are increasingly prioritizing clean energy production and a rapid transition away from fossil fuels," Gregory said in a written statement. "As articulated in our annual Power Trends report, it is imperative that during this time of rapid change, we maintain adequate supply necessary to meet the growing demand for electricity. Currently, there is adequate supply to meet demand on the grid. Maintaining this balance will be the central challenge to the industry and New York state in the coming years."

The situation is similar in Vermont. In its most recent three-year analysis, conducted in 2021, Vermont Electric Power Co. forecast that there will be a need for increased supply over the next 20 years, said Shana Louiselle, a spokeswoman for the electric transmission company commonly known as VELCO.

"If we do nothing and just continue the status quo, we will run into some issues," she said.

Vermont may be a bit ahead of the curve, though, as more than 50,000 homeowners

have already converted to electric heat pump systems, and about 9,000 Vermont drivers now own electric vehicles, which adds up to more per capita than in many other states, said Steph Crocker-Ross, a data scientist with EnergyHub, a Brooklyn-based company with a Burlington satellite office. EnergyHub develops "virtual power plant" software systems that utilities use to monitor and adjust to demand. The company's clients include National Grid.

#### Building a better grid

Various projects are under way in both New York and New England to fortify grid infrastructure in anticipation of stepped-up demand over the next decade.

In New York, for example, New York Transco of Schodack announced the completion in mid-August, six months ahead of schedule, of the New York Energy Solutions project. The company refurbished 55 miles of nearly century-old transmission lines in Rensselaer, Columbia and Dutchess counties to transmit "clean energy."

"The NYES project plays a critical role in bolstering the reliability of the electric grid while helping New York state meet the nation-leading climate energy goals," the company said in a news release.

In Vermont, "there's a lot of planning going on to ensure grid resiliency," said Crocker-Ross, who previously was a grid power strategist for Green Mountain Power.

Many experts say it's clear the current grid is inadequate to support the long-range evolution away from fossil fuels.

"The grid, in general, it's positively challenged," said Karen Kellogg, chairwoman of the Environmental Studies and Sciences Department at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs.

But for now, it's difficult to say just how much additional capacity will be needed, and in what geographic areas it is lacking.

"It's difficult because we really don't have what the new demand is," said Patrick Stella, a spokesman for National Grid, which serves much of upstate eastern New York with electricity and natural gas.

Stella said National Grid is in the early stages of working with state officials to plan expansion

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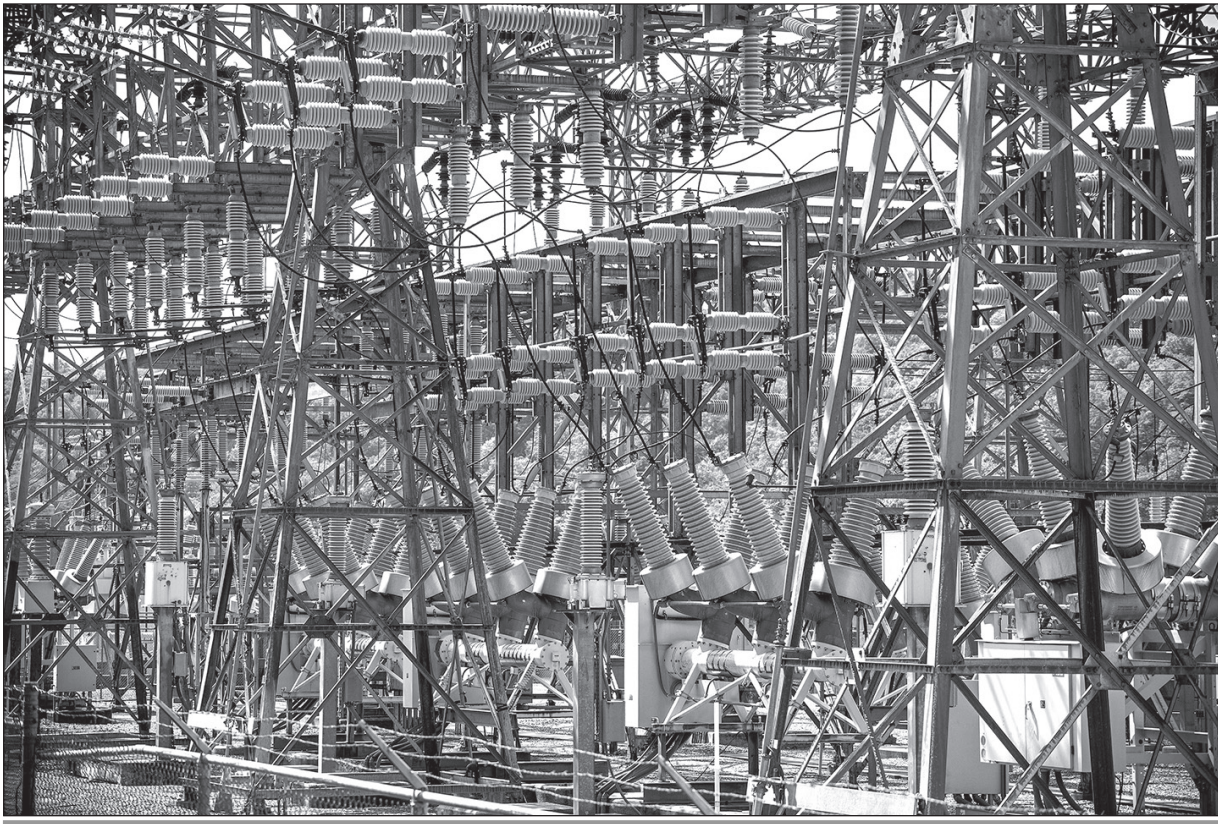
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Many experts say the current power grids in New York and New England are inadequate to support the region's planned shift away from fossil fuels. But for now it's hard to predict exactly where additional capacity will be needed.

of the grid. Part of that planning will involve evaluating the capacity of existing transmission lines to handle increased electrical loads.

"We're also looking at usage to learn the gas systems that we do have" — and to what extent they will no longer be utilized, Stella said.

Experts on both sides of the New York-New England border agreed that it's too soon to put a price tag on necessary improvements to the electrical grids in each region.

"That's probably one of the biggest question marks at this time," Stella said.

"Do we have the answer in our pocket right now? I would say that the plan is being formulated," said Louiselle, the VELCO spokeswoman.

Kellogg, the Skidmore professor, said government and industry officials can't wait to have all of the answers before starting to plan. Doing nothing is not an option, she explained.

"This is the direction we need to go," Kellogg said. "We cannot continue to have 80 percent of our grid use be from fossil fuels. It's not to say that there won't be some hurdles to our system along the way."

As of last year, only 10 percent of homes in New York had electric heat, according to NYISO. But the large-scale conversion to electric heat-pump technology is expected to change the traditional peak demand period for electricity from summer to winter.

Now, peak usage is typically about 6 p.m. on an August night when people are home from work and running air conditioners, said Kellogg, the Skidmore professor.

Vermont already is seeing the beginnings of a shift to peak usage in winter months, said Louiselle, the VELCO spokeswoman.

"Vermont is gradually shifting to a winter peak," she said.

Crocker-Ross said there is no need to worry that winter power interruptions will become routine because of increased demand.

"It's not something that isn't being addressed," she said.

Extreme weather patterns associated with climate change also must be factored into planning for a reliable grid, according to NYISO.

*continued on next page*

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See map on page 13

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**Technological innovations**

Expanding the grid is only one component of the equation. Others include developing technology for storing electricity and making the grid more flexible and more efficient, said Kellogg, the Skidmore professor.

"We need to think about all of this holistically," she said.

Monitoring demand and responding appropriately, in order to use existing electricity more efficiently, is as important as generating more electricity, said Crocker-Ross of EnergyHub.

One emerging technology is to install computer software in homes to adjust thermostats automatically when the grid is reaching peak capacity. Temporarily reducing the demand slightly, when multiplied across hundreds of thousands of homes, can have huge impact, she said.

Another example is software that shuts off the charging system once an electric vehicle is fully charged. Electric vehicle owners that have home charging systems often plug in their vehicles overnight while they sleep, but it may take only a few hours for the vehicle to be fully charged, Crocker-Ross explained.

All of these steps amount to "measuring the

efficiency of the grid and leveraging it out," Kellogg said.

In the push to shift to energy sources that don't contribute to climate change, efforts have focused on expanding production of wind and solar power. But those sources have limitations in that they are weather dependent and also cannot be adjusted to meet spikes in demand.

"They cannot produce energy when the sun is not shining or the wind is not blowing," the NYSIO report explained.

So having a dependable supply of wind and solar power necessitates developing a system of storing the renewable energy that is generated.

"We're used to, as a society, to get constant flows of electricity," explained Kellogg, the Skidmore professor.

Technology is already developed in which homeowners with solar systems can store excess power in batteries to use for their own homes as needed, Crocker-Ross said.

Being able to respond to the ebb and flow of demand is important, experts said.

VELCO has invested in a system that constantly monitors usage and sends data in real time to distributors via fiber-optic lines installed alongside transmission lines so that distributors

can instantaneously respond to changing demand, Louiselle said.

"It really is, kind of, orchestrating the system," she said.

Another emerging technology is "two-way flow," a concept through which electric vehicles can send unneeded power back onto the grid.

A vehicle owner, for example, could charge the vehicle overnight, drive it to work at 9 a.m., and then plug it back in at work to send unneeded electricity back into the system, Kellogg explained.

"We are close, but it is not standardized yet," Crocker-Ross said.

Some vehicle manufacturers are already selling electric vehicles that can return excess power back to a home system, she said.

Renewable natural gas, a low-carbon fuel that is generated from food waste and methane emitted by livestock, shows promise of becoming part of the long-range energy picture, said Stella, of National Grid.

The advantage of renewable natural gas is that it prevents livestock emissions from going into the atmosphere at the same time as it reduces carbon emissions from vehicle fuel, Kellogg said.

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Abby Melfi welcomes guests at the entrance to Sacred Spa, a luxury wellness center she created in a converted horse barn.

# At a farm for horses, a spa for people

## Luxury wellness center shares address with equine rehabilitation facility

By **STACEY MORRIS**  
Contributing writer

NORTHUMBERLAND, N.Y.

Abby Melfi was in her element as she strode through the quiet hallways of her rural spa and wellness center and ceremoniously slid open the knotty pine door to a treatment room.

“This is our soaking room,” she explained to a first-time visitor who peered into the softly lit room with a copper bathtub and a massage table.

“The copper infuses minerals into the bath water,” she explained. “It’s a nice complement to a body treatment.”

The room is accessorized with an antique mirror and dresser set – and above the tub, a framed portrait of a sinewy thoroughbred horse, a nod to the spa’s roots.

Sacred Spa and Wellness sits on 100 acres of rolling green hills about 10 miles east of Saratoga Springs and is part of GMP Farm, an equine rehabilitation and

training facility owned by her husband, Anthony Melfi, and business partner Gary Gullo.

GMP, which opened last year, offers an array of therapeutic equine services for racehorses. Some are nursing injuries, but the point of the facility, Melfi said, is to optimize the horses’ function and stamina.

“We believe in preventive medicine with horses and not waiting until they’re injured,” she explained. “We get them at the front end and focus on prevention.”

Equine treatments include cold salt hydrotherapy (to treat afflictions such as sore shins, bursitis and hoof injuries), laser therapy for inflammation and fractures, vibrational floors for hoof growth, and cryotherapy, which is said to encourage the horse’s natural healing process. The thoroughbreds live in temperature-controlled barns and are exercised on a Tapeta training track that stretches out in front of the spa.

Melfi smiled at the irony of an equine *continued on next page*

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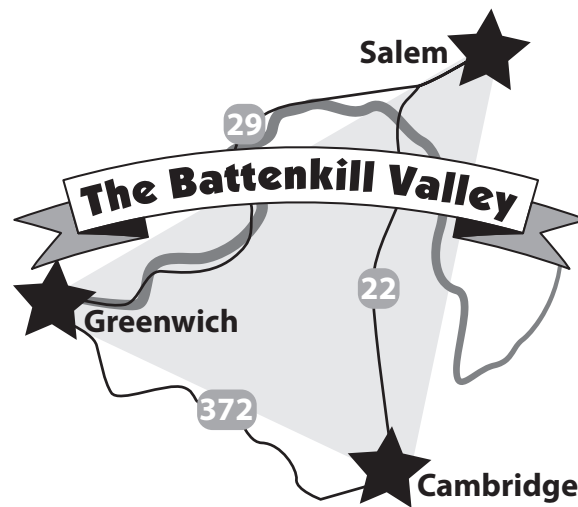
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rehabilitation center giving birth to a wellness spa for people. But she said this setting for a spa and events center couldn't be more perfect.

The idea for it, she added, began with a chance encounter two years ago in Hot Springs, Ark., that led to her marriage.

**Healer meets horseman**

Abby, a native of Kansas City, Mo., visited Hot Springs in 2021 to avail herself of the spa experience for which the town is renowned. Anthony, an avid racing aficionado and thoroughbred owner, was in town for races at Oaklawn, Hot Springs' casino resort. They met serendipitously at a popular local restaurant, and sparks flew.

Anthony, a native of Syracuse, was based largely out of Saratoga Springs, while Abby ran a thriving chiropractic and acupuncture practice in Kansas City.

"I couldn't just leave that, so we did long distance for a while," she recalled.

On her visits to Saratoga Springs, Abby familiarized herself with the region as well as Anthony's plans to open an equine wellness center with Gullo.

"I saw potential for a spa there," she recalled. "The property was an open palette."

Melfi traces her interest in wellness back to her college days. She had been contemplating law school but opted instead to enroll in massage school after seeing firsthand the benefits of holistic medicine. She said she was inspired by a couple she knew who treated their autistic child with holistic therapies.

At the time, she also worked as a Social Security disability advocate and was shocked at the fallout for clients with chronic pain who became addicted to opioids.

"Seeing that inspired me to explore options other than big pharma," Melfi said. "Massage school was the best thing I ever did."

Along the way, Melfi said she noticed many of her massage clients' ailments were improving

markedly through chiropractic treatments, so she studied to become a doctor of chiropractic medicine.

"Chiropractic medicine works with the body's innate intelligence, especially the nervous system, which is the master controller of all systems in the body," she explained. "It's like a power line: If it's out, all systems are affected."

Rounding out her wheelhouse of healing arts practices, Melfi became an acupuncturist after breaking her arm in 2017.

"The doctors wanted to do surgery, but that meant I couldn't practice chiropractic medicine for six months," she recalled.

When she underwent acupuncture and cold laser therapy treatments in lieu of surgery, and with favorable results, Melfi knew acupuncture was something she wanted to offer at her practice.

After becoming certified, she began offering mobile acupuncture clinics and acupuncture parties at parks, boutiques and breweries.

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In 2020, Melfi opened Sacred Chiropractic and Acupuncture in Kansas City. A resident chiropractor and acupuncturist now runs the clinic, with Melfi overseeing operations from a distance.

**Converted horse barn**

After a whirlwind courtship, Abby and Anthony married last year at Sacred Spa's 15,000-square-foot event space. Abby relocated permanently to Saratoga County and began putting her vision for a spa in motion.

The to-do list for transforming a massive horse barn into a luxury spa was daunting, but Melfi was as enthused and she was determined. Renovations began in earnest in February 2022, and by August, the spa was ready to open.

The spa's decor is a mix of simplicity and opulence, from the blonde knotty pine walls to the ornate, multi-tiered chandeliers. Melfi furnished the common areas as well as treatment rooms with antiques from Sumptuous Settings in

Bolton Landing, N.Y.

To retain the integrity of the barn's original purpose, she kept the horse stalls and their sliding doors intact, turning each into a particular treatment room.

"This room is where the hydrafacials are done," she said. "They're plant-based, organic and clinical-grade medical facials that feature skin boosters, LED light and lymphatic drainage.

There's a larger room for couples massage, as well as treatment rooms for laser treatments, facials of all kinds, Swedish and deep-tissue massage, cupping and acupuncture — both the traditional Chinese medicine variety and cosmetic acupuncture, which Melfi describes as a "botox alternative."

Med spa services include various laser therapies for skin resurfacing, acne and pigmentation issues, micro-needling for collagen production stimulation, and heated body sculpting to remove fat. There are also infrared sauna cabins as well as table saunas, which can be

experienced in a supine position.

Services begin at \$60 for saunas. Group "happy hour" acupuncture gatherings are \$75 per person. Hydrafacials begin at \$199, and massages start at \$150. Melfi said the spa offers monthly specials for different services.

Between treatments, guests can sip infused water in the relaxation room in reclining chairs under dim lighting. It is in the relaxation room that NuCalm audio treatments for anxiety and PTSD are administered, complete with sleep masks, weighted blankets and noise-cancelling headphones.

The spa also has an apothecary with skincare products from Paris as well as Melfi's own Sacred line of products, made stateside. And many visitors opt for a coffee or tea break at the coffee bar before heading back out into the world.

**Event space, offsite lodging**

At one end of the spa sits an enclosed

*continued on page 14*

**The Battenkill Valley CAMBRIDGE, NY**

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**Arts** *continued from page 5*

another wrote. “These all take time and energy, and so I feel like I’m working full time, even though I am at half time with my organization.”

Any real impact must come from a process that is equitable in itself, Goldman said, and the group can only come up with effective ideas when they engage the people who are closest to the challenges themselves.

“At every step,” he said, the project’s organizers were “thinking very conscientiously about how to reverse traditional power dynamics and make change in a holistic and durable way.”

**Leading a push for change**

As the study presents employees’ thoughts, some employers report specific and substantial changes designed to increase compensation equity. But nearly two-thirds of the employers who responded said they have no plans to increase pay equity or aren’t sure what steps to take.

So the organizations behind the study are offering concrete suggestions.

Through this year of conversations, van Ginhoven said, she and all of the creative nonprofits involved found changes they could make now, without great effort, just by making pay equity a priority.

Showing an interest in their staff’s lives can matter, she said, quickly and tangibly — by thinking about how the board talks with staff, acting with greater transparency and flexibility, issuing paychecks on a flexible day.

“Relatively easy lifts for us may make a big difference in the lives of our staff,” she said, and Martinson agreed.

Providing paid vacation days for part-time employees can make a difference, they said, as can settling out health-care insurance or stipends, offering a babysitter or caregiver or paying gas money when artists are driving from venue to venue.

Leaders in the arts act as a bridge between their staff and their audiences, on the one hand, and their boards and funders, van Ginhoven said. It took courage, she said, for employees to share their experiences, and she wants to reinforce that their stories have not fallen on deaf ears.

She and Martinson say they want to amplify the voices of their employees and make sure people are hearing them — to raise awareness and to act together as allies.

The eight organizations behind the Pay Equity Project have been talking with their boards and funders since the project began. In the coming year, with the weight of documentation in the study, they hope to make the case to individual donors, leaders within their own organizations, and to the broader public with a united voice.

“It’s a systemic issue,” Martinson said. “It’s a national issue. It’s an arts issue.”

And it’s part of a larger story that can engender real response and empathy.

Goldman said they aim to challenge common assumptions among nonprofit organizations — for one, that they can more readily find fund-

ing for programs and performances than for people. In fact, funding already exists to support employees and operating expenses, he said, and since Covid he sees this shift intensifying.

Investing in people also can help creative nonprofits to grow over time. Those that give resources to “technology, equipment, staff training, program development and fund raising” are often more successful, the study says, citing the Chronicle of Philanthropy and a recent in-depth study of more than 4,000 nonprofits across 10 years.

“We need trust-based philanthropy, capacity-building philanthropy,” van Ginhoven said, “understanding that we need to spend less time applying for grants and reporting on grants and less time building programs that fit the grants and more time ... delivering on our mission and taking care of our teams and our artists and our cultural workers.”

Goldman speaks with respect of the local employers that have supported the Pay Equity Project, and he says they want to be champions for their staffs.

“I got so much robust team work and partnership from every single member of this group,” he said, adding that as a consultant, he has not always found that kind of energy. He said is optimistic for the future of the region’s creative organizations and their employees.

“My experience consistently is,” he said, “that once you present the facts and the stories to decision makers, they are often motivated to make change.”

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See map on page 13



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# New library found a village of avid readers

The four most popular book titles in the first year of operation of Crandall Free Library can still be checked out at the Glens Falls library today, albeit in newer editions.

But these classic works of fiction have only a fraction of the circulation they had in 1892 and 1893.

“The demand for certain books has been very marked,” Sherman Williams, the library’s co-founder, wrote in the library’s first annual report, a segment of which was published in *The Morning Star* of Glens Falls on Nov. 23, 1893. “We have about 25 copies each of ‘Uncle Tom’s Cabin,’ ‘Ben-Hur,’ ‘The Scarlet Letter,’ and ‘The Last of the Mohicans,’ and often not one of them is in.”

Crandall Public Library, as it is now known, currently has three copies of “Uncle Tom’s Cabin,” which, combined, have been checked out 166 times since 1996, library Director Kathy Naftaly said.

The library has one copy of “Ben-Hur,” which has been checked out 10 times since 2015, three copies of “The Scarlet Letter,” which have been checked out a combined total of 57 times since 2011, and two copies of ‘The Last of the Mohicans,’ which combined have been checked out 45 times since 1999.

In its first fiscal year, the library had 4,540 cardholders who checked out 47,280 books.

“This is the equivalent of issuing each book in the library 10 times, something without precedent, so far as I know,” Williams wrote. “The Utica Free Library, with more than twice as many books in the library as we have, and

## Maury Thompson

several times as many people to use them, has issued only 8,872 books more than we.”

In 2022, the library had 31,868 cardholders who checked out 301,075 physical items and 136,451 digital items, Naftaly said.

When Williams was looking ahead to the library’s second year of operation, the major challenge was to establish more reading-room space.

“During the past winter, it was no unusual thing to find from 10 to 15 more persons in the reading room than there were seats,” wrote Williams, who also was the Glens Falls superintendent of schools.

“It seems that no other agency will so effectively prevent the bad use of idle hours,” he wrote. “It would be a good thing if there were two reading rooms, one for young people and one for adults.”

The library had recently raised \$431.56 — the equivalent of \$14,658 in today’s dollars — through the production of a kirmess, an elaborate weeklong series of performances of international folk music and dance at the Glens Falls Opera House, with about 300 local residents of all ages taking part. The money was to be used to buy new books and periodicals.

Williams touted the kirmess as an opportunity for the community to build upon the legacy Henry Crandall, the local businessman and philanthropist, had established by funding the library’s creation.

“Mr. Crandall has provided for what he set out to do,” Williams wrote. “Because one man has done well is no reason for others to do nothing, but rather a reason for greater effort on their part.”

Capt. Charles W. Eddy of Hoosick Falls, commander of the Thirty-Second Separate Company, was hired to direct the extravaganza.

“The gentleman who has the management of the affair has had a wide experience in similar exhibitions in other places, and the highest praise has always greeted his productions,” *The Morning Star* reported on Aug. 30. “It is no easy task to take 300 people entirely unfamiliar with such things and drill them to march, dance and perform intricate exhibitions.”

The event became the talk of the town.

“The kirmess is a prolific theme for discussion,” the *Star* reported on Sept. 27. “It is talked about in the home, in the office, in the store, and on the street.”

About 600 people attended the opening night.

“The initial presentation of the kirmess was an unqualified success,” the newspaper reported on Sept. 25. “The kirmess is a new experience for most of the performers, and the entire absence of stage fright and awkwardness speaks volumes for the methods of Capt. Eddy.”

Rave reviews continued with each performance.

*continued on page 14*

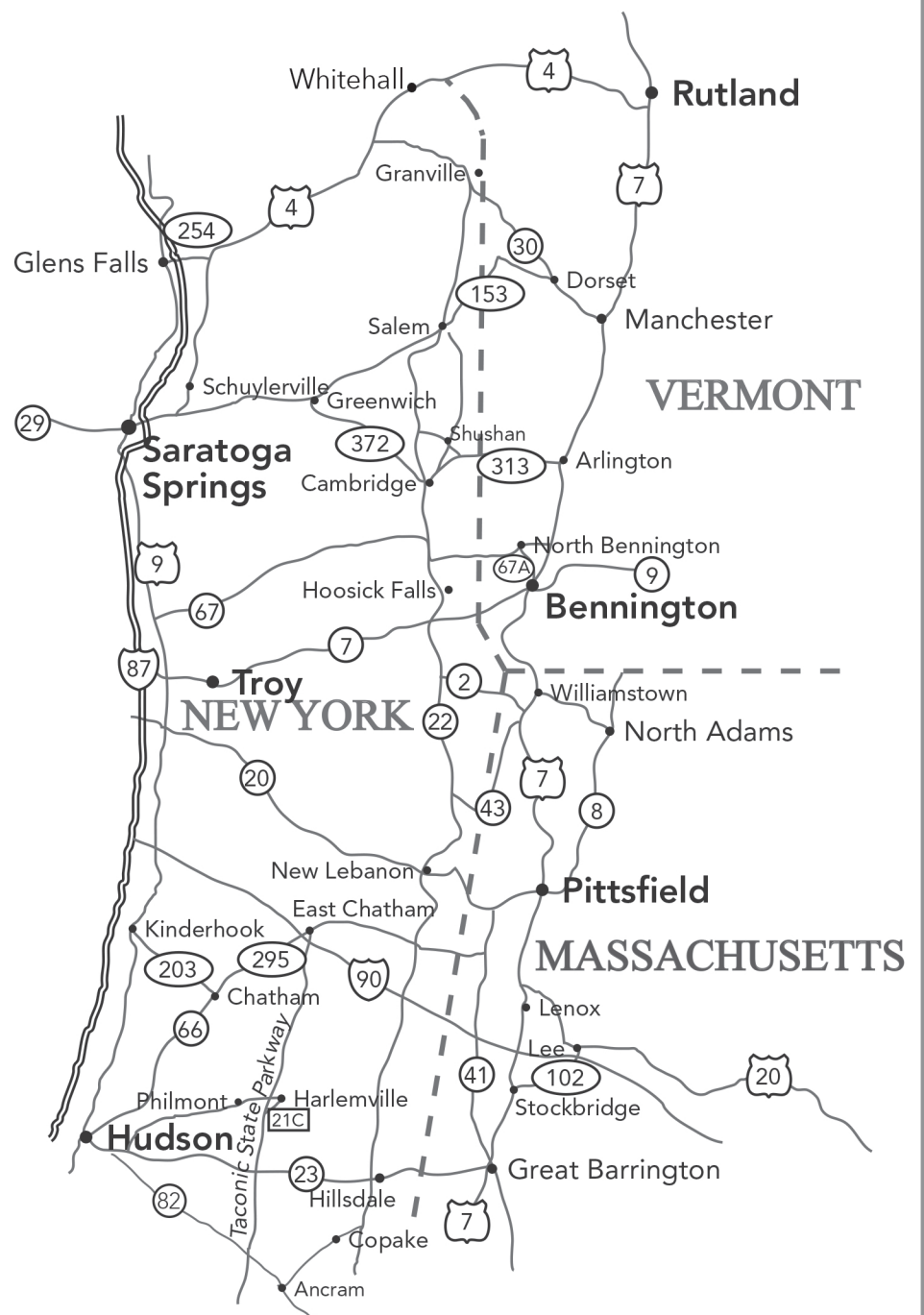
## News that’s slow-brewed for a high-speed age

We’re told we live in an information age, yet the traditional gathering of news is in decline.

Conventional news organizations are scaling back their efforts to ferret out the facts, even as they spread each factoid ever more widely via 24-hour broadcasts and the Internet. Is this the best way to keep you informed?

At the *Hill Country Observer*, we still take time to connect the dots, to put the news and issues of our region into a broader perspective. We only publish once a month, but we shine a light on stories and trends that aren’t getting much attention elsewhere.

Judging from our growing circulation, readers like the results. Tell us what you think.



**Spa** *continued from page 11*

15,000-square-foot horse arena that doubles as event space for concerts, theatrical productions, and weddings.

“My husband and I were married here,” Melfi said with a smile. “We can host parties of all size, from big weddings to elopement parties to baby showers.”

The events-planning branch of the business, Sacred Saratoga, books special events year-round.

The spa features an array of salon offerings for big days and special pampering parties ranging from hairstyling to pedicures.

Although larger events are held in the arena, more intimate events take place in a wing known as The Divine, which features a long wooden dining table as its centerpiece as well as a gathering area with chairs, couches and a bar.

Although there are no onsite guest accommodations, Melfi considers Sacred Spa and Wellness a destination spa because the couple own two bed-and-breakfast inns in Saratoga Springs: Union Gables and The Brunswick, both

on Union Avenue. Guests there can be shuttled to and from the spa and can also opt for in-room treatments.

Linda Elovich, founder and owner of the Saratoga Springs-based One With Life Tequila, recently collaborated with Melfi for a sunset yoga event on the spa’s lawn featuring Elovich’s signature tequila-infused lavender lemonade, a stimulating round of asanas, and Vitamin B12 shots administered by Upstate Drip Bar, owned by Tika Shuttleworth.

“It was great to support another woman-owned business whose mission is similar in terms of helping people enjoy a balanced lifestyle,” said Elovich, whose tequilas are certified organic, sustainable and crafted in clay ovens. “Plus the views are magnificent, and the energy at the spa is so tranquil.”

Tranquility is a word her clients often use when discussing the spa, Melfi agreed.

“There’s actual silence, and it’s healing,” she said. “The spa gets a lot of tourists visiting the area, but this place is also a perfect stay-cation for those who live locally.”

**Thompson** *continued from page 13*

“The Star has almost exhausted its stock of adjectives in its commendation of the kirmess,” *The Morning Star* reported on Sept. 28. “The entertainment was even better last night than on the previous nights.”

There seemed to be a letdown in emotion once the series was over.

“The kirmess is over,” *The Morning Star* reported on Oct. 2. “The entertainment that has marked an epoch on the social history of this village is now a thing of the past, with nothing remaining but pleasant memories of a week of rather hard work for the benefit of a worthy cause.”

*Maury Thompson was a reporter for The Post-Star of Glens Falls for 21 years before retiring in 2017. He now is a freelance writer focusing on the history of politics, labor and media in the region.*

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\*Map not to scale

# Arts & Culture

## AREA EXHIBITIONS

**ArtOmi.org** • 518-392-4747 • Sculpture & Architecture Park • outdoor, self-guided tour, multiple artists  
 • through Oct. 29: Pippa Garner: \$ELL Your \$ELF; "Haulin' Ass!" (2023) performances: Aug. 12, 3:30-4 pm and Sep. 16, 3:30-4 pm

**BenningtonMuseum.org** • 75 Main St., Bennington, VT • 802-447-1571 • Online, too  
 • through Oct. 9 (Indigenous People's Day): 1863 Jane Stickle Quilt  
 • through Nov. 5: For the Love of Vermont: The Lyman Orton Collection  
 • through Nov. 12: 26th Annual North Bennington Outdoor Sculpture Show: "NBOSS 2023"  
 • through Dec. 31: A History of Bennington AND "Haunted Vermont"

**BerkshireBotanical.org** • 5 W. Stockbridge Rd., Stockbridge, MA • 413-298-3926  
 • Sep. 1-Nov. 19: Ann Getsinger's "The Garden of Curiosity"

**BerkshireHistory.org/InvisibleCommunity/** • Home of Herman Melville from 1850-1863 •  
 • The Invisible Community: African Americans in Berkshire County (1830-2012) • Recordings at URL AND Berkshire County Historical Society YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpvu1J8etvdgSsr2bmDeSEuuzV2DNIFMu>)

**BerkshireMuseum.org** • 39 South St., Pittsfield, MA • 413-443-7171 • On-going exhibits, plus • Objects and Their Stories  
 • Sep. 2-Oct. 1: "Insight Out," visual art created by present and formerly incarcerated individuals in Berkshire Co.  
 • through Oct. 1: "Romance & Nature: Art of the Hudson Valley School" AND "Cabinet of Curiosities: 1903-1939"

**CarrieHaddadGallery.com** • 622 Warren St., Hudson, NY • 518-828-1915  
 • through Oct. 1: "Equipoise: Stasis and The Power of Suggestion in Still Life," feat. David Drew Burner, David Halliday, David Konigsberg, David Sokosh & Paul Katz

**CarvingStudio.org** • 636 Marble St. W. Rutland, VT  
 • Sep. 9-Oct. 22: SculptFest23: Communing With Nature

**ChapmanMuseum.org** • 348 Glens St., Glens Falls, NY • 518-793-2826  
 • Sep. 12-Dec. 31: "Taking a Picture: Techniques in Early Photography (1880-1930)"  
 • Oct. 7-Jan. 7, 2024: "Perfect Gems of Photography: Adirondack Landscapes by Seneca Ray Stoddard & Jesse Sumner Wooley"  
 • through Sep. 7: "Broncho Charlie, Unbridled"  
 • through Sep. 10: "Views from the Water's Edge"  
 • through Oct. 1: Romance and Nature: Art of the Hudson Valley School  
 • Ongoing: "Hands-On History: Experiences of Hometown Life"

**ClarkArt.edu** • 225 South St., Williamstown, MA  
 • through Oct. 15: Edvard Munch: Trembling Earth  
 • through Oct. 22: Printed Renaissance  
 • through Oct. 29: Humane Ecology: Eight

Positions  
 • through Jan. 21, 2024: "Elizabeth Atterbury: Oracle Bones"

**CollarWorks.org** • 621 River St., Troy, NY  
 • through Oct. 7: Pioneers Go East Collective: "Announcing Art Like Love! (ALL!)" art exhibition and media installation

**Courthouse Gallery** • 1 Amherst St., Lake George, NY • [www.lakegeorgearts.org](http://www.lakegeorgearts.org) • Masks  
 • through Sep. 23: "Jazz at the Lake" - a graphic design retrospective

**Folklife Gallery** • [www.CrandallLibrary.org/Folklife-Center](http://www.CrandallLibrary.org/Folklife-Center) • 251 Glen St., Glens Falls, NY  
 • Folk Arts All Around Us AND On View: Selections from the Special Collections  
 • through Dec. 31: "Champlain Canal Stories - 200 Years from Waterford to Whitehall"

**HudsonHall.org** • 327 Warren St., Hudson, NY • 518-822-1438  
 • through Oct. 8: David McIntyre "Walking"

**HydeCollection.org** • 518-792-1761  
 • through Sept. 17: "Celebrating 60 Years: Charlotte Prun Hyde" • "Songs of the Horizon: David Smith, Music, and Dance" • "The 1960s: Beyond Op and Pop" • "Recent Acquisitions"  
 • through Dec. 31: "Artists of the Mohawk-Hudson Region"  
 • Oct. 7-Dec. 31: Edgar Degas, Private Impressionist: Works on Paper by Artist & His Circle AND Ron Jude: 12 Hz AND Degas at The Hyde: A Master of Form AND Illustrations: Honoré Daumier, Winslow Homer, & Anthony Saris

**Image Photos Gallery** • 413-298-5500  
 • photography of Clemens Kalischer

**JacobsPillow.org** • Browse on demand at <https://watch.jacobspillow.org>

**JackShainman.com Gallery** • 25 Broad St., Kinderhook, NY • 518-758-1628  
 • through Dec. 16: Michael Snow: A Life Survey (1955-2020)

**LABspace** • 2642 NY Rte. 23, Hillsdale, NY • [julielabspace@gmail.com](mailto:julielabspace@gmail.com) • Sat.-Sun. 1-5 pm  
 • through Sep. 10: Elisa Soliven: "Infinity Weight"

LARAC.org • Glens Falls, NY • 518-798-1144  
 --Lapham Gallery • 7 Lapham Pl.  
 • through Sep. 20: "Running Towards a Place," feat. Gary Zack  
 • Oct. 6-Nov. 1: Juried Show: "For Reasons Unknown"  
 --Mountain Gallery • 21 Bay St.  
 • through Sep. 20: "Oakroom Artists," feat. works from Members of Oakroom Artists  
 • Oct. 6-Nov. 8: Northeast Feltmakers Guild

**NationalBottleMuseum.org** • 76 Milton Ave., Ballston Spa, NY • 518-885-7589  
 • Permanent: Glass Factory Mountain: Making Bottles Making History (history of Mt. Pleasant community north of Greenfield, NY, 1844 to 1865)

**Norman Rockwell Museum** • 9 Glendale Rd, Stockbridge, MA • [nrm.org](http://nrm.org) • 413-298-4100

• through Nov. 5: Tony Sarge: Genius at Play  
 • "Norman Rockwell: The Business of Illustrating the American Dream"  
 • Nov. 18-May 27, 2024: "Between Worlds: The Art and Design of Leo Lionni"

**NorthCountryArts.org**  
 --The Shirt Factory • Suite 120, 71 Lawrence St., Glens Falls, NY  
 • through Sep. 24: Small Works Show  
 • Oct. 7-Nov. 11: "Bounty"  
 --2nd Floor Gallery at City Hall • 42 Ridge St., Glens Falls, NY • 518-222-1471  
 • through Sep. 24: Shayna DeRusso  
 • Sep. 18-Oct. 27: Jack Montoya  
 --Mezzanine Gallery, Queensbury Hotel  
 • through Sep. 30: 20 Works by NCA's members

**NorthLoop.art** • 112 Water St., Williamstown, MA  
 • through Sep. 17: Beverly Acha, Annie Bielski, & Odessa Straub in collab. with September AND "At Finger's End: Michael Cuadrado and Rina Goldfield"

**Olana State Park** • Hudson, NY • [olana.org](http://olana.org)  
 • through Oct. 29: "Terraforming: Olana's Historic Photography Collection Unearthed"

**PamelaSalisburyGallery.com** • 362 1/2 Warren St., Hudson, NY  
 • Sep. 2-Oct. 1: Lisa Corinne Davis; Scott Brodie; Michael Meehan; Brian Rego & Pierce Scantlin; Phoebe Helander  
 • through Oct. 1: Carl D'Alvia

**PoultneyMuseum.org** • 168 York St., Poultney, VT • 802-884-8269  
 • Welsh-American Gene. Society rotating exhibits

**Saratoga-Arts.org** • 320 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY • 518-584-4132  
 • Sep. 2-Oct. 7: Juried Exhibition Series 4  
 • through Sep. 27: Art in Public Places, venues at URL (Glen Feulner; Susan Meyer; Brianna Guerra; Aaron Decker; Jane Agee; Elizabeth Knapp; Jill Murphy)

**SeptemberGallery.com** • 4 Hudson St., Kinderhook, NY  
 • Sep. 8-10: Armory Show: Nicole Cherubini, A.K. Burns  
 • through Oct. 15: Laleh Khorramian: "Myth Maker"

**SohnFineArt.com** • 69 Church St., Lenox, MA • 413-551-7353  
 • through Nov. 6: "Someone," feat. Greg Gorman, Shawn Theodore, Bastiaan Woudt

**Southern Vermont Arts Center** • 930 SVAC Dr., Manchester • 802-362-1405 • [www.svac.org](http://www.svac.org)  
 • Sep. 30-Jan. 7: Ashley Bryan: "The Spirit of Joy" AND "The Wee Worlds of Salley Mavor"  
 • through Sep. 24: "The Red Dress"  
 • through Sep. 24: "Frippery, Finery, Frills: Works in Conversation" by Barbara Ishikura and Same Fields  
 • through Nov. 5: "For the Love of Vermont"

**SusanEleyFineArt.com** • 433 Warren St., Hudson, NY

*continued on page 16*

## Arts &amp; Culture

## THE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun

Mon

Tues

Wed

Exhibitions *continued from page 15*

- through Sep. 2: "Polyrhythm"- New Paintings by Andrew Hildenbrand and Carlos Puyol
- through Oct. 14: "fission/fusion"- David L. Bullis & Carole Eisner

**Tang.skidmore.edu**

- through Sep. 9: "Room Mate 2023, Living with Tang Art"
- through Sep. 10: Lauren Kelly: "Location Scouting"
- Sep. 2-Dec. 10: "Elevator Music 47: Xenometok for Mutualism"
- Sep. 2-Dec. 30: "Unset Texts"
- through Dec. 10: "Forms of Awakening: Selections from the Jack Shear Collection of Himalayan Art"
- through Dec. 30: Paula Wilson: "Toward the Sky's Back Door"

**ValleyArtisansMarket.com** • 25 E. Main St., Cambridge, NY

- through Sep. 19: "Fractals . . . and other pleasing patterns," Christine Levy
- Sep. 22-Oct. 17: "True Nature," cut-paper artist Maude White

**WorldChildrensMuseum.org** • 89 Warren St., Glens Falls, NY

- Online: "International Youth Art Collection" • "Art & Artifacts" • "Covid-19 & Me"
- Oct. 7: "Mountaintots"

## Chestnut trees, labor issues are focus of local library talks

The return of chestnut trees and the effects of the pandemic on labor organizing will be the focus of presentations at local libraries this month as part of the Vermont Humanities Council's Snapshot lecture series.

At 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6, at the Rutland Free Library, Thomas Estill will explore the historical uses, economic importance, and demise of the American Chestnut tree – as well as ongoing research to bring the tree back and possibility reintroduce it into the wild in the near future.

The American chestnut, once common across the eastern United States, became all but extinct after a fungal disease, accidentally imported from Asia, decimated the trees in the early 20th century. But researchers have been making strides in recent years toward disease-resistant varieties.

Estill is a board member of the American Chestnut Tree Foundation's chapter for Vermont and New Hampshire. He has been planting chestnut trees in New England since 2014 and currently manages a 60-tree orchard.

At 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27 at the Manchester Community Library, Jamie McCallum will examine the long shadow of labor militancy and workplace organizing that began during the pandemic, building on hundreds of interviews with workers and a mountain of other data to look at the pandemic through the eyes of the American working class.

McCallum is an associate professor of sociology at Middlebury College. His research focuses on labor and work issues around the globe.

3



**ClarkArt.edu** • Family Concert: The Knights Orchestra (18 and under) • 12-12:45 pm

**CaffeLena.org** • Sawyer Fredericks • 7 pm

**BarringtonStageCo.org** • Alan H. Green: "Finally" • 8 pm • 36 Linden St.



- Barrington Stage Co.
- Dorset Theatre Fest.
- Williamstown Theatre Fest.

**CaffeLena.org** • Playwright's Jam • 2-4 pm

**Berkshire Theatre Group** • Circus on Ice • 3 & 5:30 pm



**SusanEleyFineArt.org** • Artist Talk, feat. Carole Eisner, Jeremy Bullis, & Susan Eley

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511  
--Forest Bathing • 9-11 am • Ages 14+  
--Make a Cornhusk Doll • 2 pm

**BerkshireBotanical.org** • See Sep. 2 • 9 am-5 pm

**SaratogaPreservation.org** • Summer Stroll: "Skidmore's 1st Home" • 10:30 am • Spring & Circular Sts.

4

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Beaver Hike • 10 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

5



**LittleTheater27.org** • Trad. Bluegrass Jam • 7 pm • Ft. Edward, NY



**CaffeLena.org** • Storytelling Open Mic, feat. Su Ciampa • 7 pm

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Moreau Lake Kayak • 10 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

**ChapmanMuseum.org** • Painting with Patrice: Night Sky Scene • 6-8 pm • RES. REC'D. • 518-793-2826

6



**TheBluebillies.com** • 2 pm • Granville Center, Granville, NY



- Dorset Theatre Fest.
- Williamstown Theatre Fest.



**CaffeLena.org** • Poetry Open Mic, feat. Rebecca Schumejda • 7 pm

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Baker Trail Hike • 11 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

**ChapmanMuseum.org** • Family Craft: Back to School Bookmarks • 4 pm • Res. REQ'D. • 518-793-2826

10



**BenningtonMuseum.org** • Mae Specker • 3-4:30 pm

**CaffeLena.org** • Stony Creek Band 50th Anniv. Tour • 7-9 pm

**HillviewSounds.com** • Angelina Valente • 6 Broad St., Cambridge, NY • brown-papertickets.com



- Barrington Stage Co.
- Berkshire Theatre Group
- Dorset Theatre Fest.
- Williamstown Theatre Fest.

misc.

**LakeGeorgeArts.org** • "Jazz at the Lake: A Graphic Design Retrospective," tour and art-making opportunity • 1-4 pm

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511  
--Forest Bathing • 9-11 am • Ages 14+  
--Family Hike • 2 pm

**SaratogaPreservation.org** • Autumn Sun. Stroll: "The Gut" • 10:30 am

11



**CaffeLena.org** • Open Mic Night • 7-10 pm

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Lacto-fermenting Tutorial • 10 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

12



**CaffeLena.org** • Chuck Lamb Trio w/ Chad McLoughlin • 7 pm



**CrandallLibrary.org** • "Are You There God, It's Me, Margaret" • 2:30 & 6:30 pm

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Moreau Lake Kayak • 10 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

13



**ChapmanMuseum.org** • Simpson & Ryan: "100th Anniv. of 1st 46 Completion" • 7 pm • Free • Res. REQ'D. • 518-793-2826

**TheBluebillies.com** • 1:30 pm • Washington Ctr., Argyle, NY

**LittleTheater27.org** • Annual 50's & 60's Musical Variety Show • 2 pm • Ft. Edward, NY

**DeweyHall.org** • Drop-In Jazz Jam • 6:30 pm

**CaffeLena.org** • Bluegrass Jam w/Red Spruce • 7 pm



**ClarkArt.edu** • Nature: Granite of the Grounds w/ Bud Wobus • 5:30-7 pm • Free, adv. reg. REQ'D., ltd. cap.

# Arts & Culture

## THE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2023

Thurs

Fri

Sat

### Chapman Museum plans cemetery tours

GLENS FALLS, N.Y.

The Chapman Museum of Glens Falls has announced the return of its popular cemetery tours this month after a three-year hiatus.

The tours will again bring history to life as actors share the stories of local figures. This year's tours will be offered Saturday, Sept. 30, at Pine View Cemetery, at 21 Quaker Road in Queensbury.

Guided tours will depart every 30 minutes from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The duration of each tour is estimated to be 60 to 90 minutes. Golf carts, each accommodating up to 12 guests, will be available for the 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. tours.

Participation in these tours is priced at \$20 per person, with a special rate of \$15 for Chapman Museum members. To take part, please register in advance by contacting the museum at (518) 793-2826.

Early registration is recommended. Payment will be collected at the time of booking to confirm the reservation.

7

 **CaffeLena.org** • Sara Milonovich & Daisy Cutter • 7 pm

**Cantrip-music.com** • Cantrip • 7 pm • Crandall Pub. Lib., Glens Falls, NY



• Barrington Stage Co.  
• Dorset Theatre Fest.  
• Williamstown Theatre Fest.

**WoodTheater.org** • "The NewlyWood Game" • 7:30 pm



**BattenkillBooks.com** • Fict. Bk. Club: Grey Bees • 6:30 pm • Cambridge, NY

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Knee-high Naturalist (2-5 yrs) • 9 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

14

 **ParkTheaterGF.com** • Live & Local: Songwriters' Showcase • 6:30/7 pm

**CaffeLena.org** • The Kennedys Album Release • 7 pm



**CrandallLibrary.org** --"Seed: The Untold Story" • 2:30  
--"Fire & Ice: Standing on Sacred Ground" • 6:30 pm

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Knee-high Naturalist (2-5 yrs) • 9 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

1



**BenningtonMuseum.org** • Courtyard Concert: Bale Kicker • 5-7 pm

**CaffeLena.org** • The Sel-dom Scene • 5 pm & 8 pm

**DeweyHall.org** • Guitarist Richard Smith • workshop 6-7:15 pm; concert 8-9:30 pm



• Barrington Stage Co.  
• Berkshire Theatre Group  
• Dorset Theatre Fest.  
• Williamstown Theatre Fest.



**HudsonHall.org** • Night of Neo-Benshi w/Flow Chart Cabaret Cinema • 7 pm

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Wiggly Wanderers • 9:30 am • Drop-in

**BattenkillBooks.com** • Sidewalk Sale • 10 am • Cambridge, NY

8



**BenningtonMuseum.org** • NBOSS Artist Reception: SIRSY & Circus Fun • 5-7 pm

**TheCarolADK.org** • The Bluebillies • 7 pm • 102 Riverside Dr., Chestertown, NY

**Cantrip-music.com** • Cantrip • 7 pm • Historic Salem Courthouse, Salem, NY

**CaffeLena.org** • Will Evans w/guest Hayley Jane • 8 pm



• Barrington Stage Co.  
• Berkshire Theatre Group  
• Dorset Theatre Fest.  
• Williamstown Theatre Fest.

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Wiggly Wanderers • 9:30 am • Drop-in

**ClarkArt.edu** • Drawing Closer: Action! • 10:30 am-12 pm • Free, adv. reg. REQ'D., ltd. cap.

15



**TheBluebillies.com** • The Bluebillies • 6 pm • Raceville UMChurch, Hampton, NY

**CaffeLena.org** • Taylor Ashton Album Release • 8 pm



**WoodTheater.org** • "The Eras Cabaret" • 7/7:30 pm

Pérez of Herban Cura • 5-6:30 pm

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Wiggly Wanderers • 9:30 am • Drop-in

**BrooksideMuseum.org** • Miller's Backyard Barbecue Takeout Dinner • 3-6 pm • Pre-orders REC'D • 518-885-4000



**Olana.org** • Turning to the Plants: Guided Plant Walk Through Olana w/Antonia

2



**CaffeLena.org** • Little Folks Series: Sheridan Rúitín • 3-4:30 pm

**ClarkArt.edu** • Outdoor: The Knights Orchestra • 4-5 pm

**WoodTheater.org** • Summer Forever Bash • 4/5-10 pm

**ParkTheaterGF.com** • Rewind at the Park, feat. Big Eyed Phish • 7:30/8 pm

**BarringtonStageCo.org** • Alan H. Green: "Finally" • 8 pm • 36 Linden St., Pittsfield, MA



• Barrington Stage Co.  
• Berkshire Theatre Group  
• Dorset Theatre Fest.  
• Williamstown Theatre Fest.



**Olana.org** • Bird Walk w/ Alan Devoe Bird Club • 8 am

**Market Block Books** • Robert Ottone & Michael Seidlinger • 12 pm • Troy, NY

misc.

**HousatonicHeritage.org** • Housatonic Heritage Walks • every Sat. & Sun. in Sep., see URL for locations, reg. info.

**BerkshireBotanical.org** • Berkshire Woodworkers Guild Fine Woodwork Show • 9-5 pm

**GarlicTownUSA** • 10 am-5 pm • Downtown Bennington, VT • Events sched. at URL

9



**HillviewSounds.com** • Lower Tolpa • 4 pm • 54 McClay Rd., Greenwich, NY • brownpapertickets.com

**LittleTheater27.org** • Annual 50's & 60's Musical Variety Show • 7 pm • Ft. Edward, NY

**CaffeLena.org** • Old Friends Beckoned/New Sounds Reckoned: Matt Steckler, Lonnie Plaxico, Yayoi Ikawa • 8 pm



• Barrington Stage Co.  
• Berkshire Theatre Group  
• Dorset Theatre Fest.  
• Williamstown Theatre Fest.



**BerkshireBotanical.org** --A Celebration of the Season: Tomatoes • 11 am-1 pm --Overwintering Your Plants • 11 am-1 pm

**Olana.org** • Excavating Art & Empire: An Artist Talk w/ Artist David Hartt • 3 pm

**ArtOmi.org** • Writers-in-Residence Reading Event • 5-6 pm

**GildedAge.org** • Ghost Tour w/ Robert Oakes • 8 pm

16



**LittleTheater27.org** • Tribute to REAL Country w/ WailOn • 7 pm • Ft. Edward

**VtArtXchange.org** • Neil Young Trib. Band • 7-10 pm • 139 Shields Dr., Bennington

**CaffeLena.org** • Michael Jerling • 8 pm

**HillviewSounds.com** • Peter Case • 8 pm • See Sep. 10



**HudsonHall.org** • Celebration of James Ivory --"The Bostonians" • 2 pm --"Call Me by Your Name" • 7 pm



**ClaverackLibrary.org** • Laurie Stone & Richard Toon • Res. 518-851-7120

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/MoreauLake** • Drop-in --See Sep. 1 --Meet Justin, Barred Owl • 11 am

**BerkshireBotanical.org** • Fall Foliage Eco-Printing • 10 am-1 pm

**Olana.org** --Skywalk Arts Fest. • 10 am-4 pm • RVW Bridge Park --"Taste NY 10th Anniv. • 12 pm

**DeweyHall.org** • Floral Design w/Ariella Chezar • 3 pm • \$60

## Arts &amp; Culture

## THE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun

Mon

Tues

Wed

17



**CaffeLena.org**  
--Cap. Reg. Blues Network Solo-Duo Comp. • 12:30-2:30  
--Mary Gauthier w/Jaimee Harris • 7:30 pm

**ClarkArt.edu** • Music on the Moltz: Senseless Optimism & Wendy Eisenberg • 5-6:30 pm



**HudsonHall.org** • A Celebration of James Ivory • 3-7 pm  
--"Shakespeare Wallah" • 3 pm



**ClarkArt.edu** • Artist Talk: In the Garden • 3-4:15 pm • Free

misc.

**HousatonicHeritage.org** • Hike: CCC at Pittsfield State Forest • 9:30-11 am • Reg. rrandoz21@verizon.net

**DeweyHall.org**  
--Dahlia Festival & Contest at Dewey Hall • 12 pm  
--Overwintering Your Dahlia Tubers w/Rebecca Klingebiel • 12:30 pm • \$25  
--Flower Crown Workshop w/ Clara Stickney • 2 pm • \$30

18



**CaffeLena.org** • Open Mic Night • 7-10 pm

19



**CaffeLena.org** • Rochmon Record: Talking Heads "Remain in Light" • 7-9 pm



**CrandallLibrary.org** • "First Cow" • 2:30 & 6:30 pm



**ClarkArt.edu** • Free, adv. reg. req'd, ltd. cap.  
--Reflections: Introspective Gallery Talk • 11 am-12 pm  
--Foraging Walk • 5:30-6:30 pm

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/** MoreauLake • Moreau Lake Kayak • 10 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

20



**CaffeLena.org** • Folk Club Kids • 10:30-11 am • Free

**DeweyHall.org** • Dewey Drop-In Show & Tell Open Mic • 6:30 pm



**CaffeLena.org** • Community Class: "Witness: A Documentary" • 7-9 pm • Free

misc.

**HubbardHall.org** • Breaking Bread • 6:30-8:30 pm • BYOP

24



**CaffeLena.org**  
--Fiddles & Foliage Festival • 12-4 pm  
--Martin Sexton • 4 & 7 pm

**TheFoundryWS.com** • Charming Disaster • 7 pm

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/** MoreauLake • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511  
--Forest Bathing • 9-11 am • Ages 14+

--Beaver Hike • 2 pm

**Gem & Mineral Show & Sale** • 10 am-3 pm • Grace Christian School, 104 Kocher Dr., Bennington, VT • 802-375-6782

25



**CaffeLena.org** • Open Mic Night • 7-10 pm

misc.

**BerkshireBotanical.org** • Mixed Bark Black Ash Basketmaking • 10 am-5 pm

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/** MoreauLake • Moreau Lake Kayak • 10 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

26



**CrandallLibrary.org** • "Some Kind of Heaven" • 2:30 & 6:30 pm

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/** MoreauLake • Moreau Lake Kayak • 10 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

27



**CaffeLena.org** • Folk Club Kids • 10:30-11 am

**TheBluebillies.com** • 2:30 pm • Glens Falls Ctr. for Rehab & Nursing • Glens Falls, NY

**CaffeLena.org** • Cassandra Kubinski in Concert: The Saratoga Sessions EP Release Celebration • 7-9 pm

**LittleTheater27.org** • Red Spruce • 7 pm • Ft. Edward, NY

**ParkTheaterGF.com** • Rochmon Record: Bowie's "Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust & the Spiders from Mars" • 6:30/7 pm



• Barrington Stage Co.

misc.

**DeweyHall.org** • Dewey Drop-In: Game Night • 6:30 pm

## Valley Artisans to show works of cut-paper artist Maude White

CAMBRIDGE, N.Y.

"True Nature," an exhibit by cut-paper artist Maude White, will open Sept. 22 and run through Oct. 17 at the Small Gallery at Valley Artisans Market in Cambridge.

White is a cut-paper artist who recently left

Washington County for the Hudson Valley. Her beautiful and incredibly detailed works are achieved by the completion of thousands of tiny precision incisions made skillfully onto paper using very sharp blades and typically depict images of flora and fauna.

In "True Nature," White explores the secret places where fantasy and reality meet.

White's work has been featured by Orion Magazine, Audubon, The Artist Magazine, Art House Press, Urban Outfitters, and The Public, among others.

## THEATER LISTINGS

**AncramOperaHouse.org** • 1330 Co. Rte. 7, Ancram, NY • 518-329-0114 • info@AncramOperaHouse.org

**BarringtonStageCo.org**

--Boyd-Quinson Stage • 30 Union St., Pittsfield, MA  
• "A New Brain" • Sep. 1-10 • 2, 7, & 8 pm, times vary; check URL.  
• "English" • Sep. 27-Oct. 15 • 2, 7, & 8 pm, times vary; check URL  
--St. Germain Stage • 36 Linden St., Pittsfield, MA  
• "The Happiest Man on Earth" • Sep. 22-Oct. 8 • Sat., 1:30 & 7:30; Sun., 1:30 pm; Wed., 7:30 pm; Thu., 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Fri. 7:30 pm

**BerkshireTheatreGroup.org**

--Colonial Theatre • 111 South St., Pittsfield, MA  
• Berkshire Opera Festival Presents: La Bohème • Sep. 1, 7:30 pm  
• Hershey Felder's "Beethoven: A Play with Music" • Sep. 8-10 • Fri. & Sat., 7 pm; Sat. & Sun., 2 pm  
--Unicorn Theatre • 6 East St., Stockbridge, MA  
• "On Cedar Street" • Ages 10+ • Sep. 1-2 • Fri. & Sat., 2 & 7 pm  
• "Copenhagen" • Ages 12+ • Sep. 28-Oct. 28 • Thu.-Sun. • Thu.-Sat., 7

pm; Sat. &amp; Sun., 2 pm

**DorsetTheatreFestival.org** • Dorset Playhouse, 104 Cheney Rd., Dorset, VT

• "The Thanksgiving Play" • (by Larissa FastHorse; dir. Raz Golden) • A groundbreaking satire straight from Broadway with the American origin story in its comedy crosshairs • Sep. 1-10 • Wed.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Wed., Sat. (9/9), & Sun., 2 pm

**HubbardHall.org** • Main St., Cambridge, NY • 518-677-2595

• "Listening to the Field: Artists and Arts Leaders Discuss What's Happened and What's Next" • Video & panelists' info. online.

**Williamstown Theatre Festival** • WTFestival.org • wtinfo@wtfestival.org • 413-458-3200

--Boyd-Quinson Stage, 30 Union St., Pittsfield, MA  
• "A New Brain" • Sep. 1-10 • Sep. 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, at 8 pm • Sep. 2, 3, 6, 9, & 10, at 2 pm • Sep. 6 & 10, at 7 pm

# Arts & Culture

## THE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2023

Thurs

Fri

Sat

21



**TheBluebillies.com** • Glen at Hiland Meadows • 2:30 pm • Queensbury, NY

**DeweyHall.org** • TapRoot Square Dance w/Moonshine Holler & caller Sargent SeeDoo • 6:30 pm

**CaffeLena.org** • Los Liminals • 7 pm

**HeronValleyBand.com** • Heron Valley • 7 pm • Crandall Pub. Lib., Glens Falls, NY

**ParkTheaterGF.com** • 3d Thur. Jazz: Matt Niedbalski Trio • 7/7:30 pm



**ClarkArt.edu** • Rap/Clark Film series: "The L.A. Rebellion--Killer of Sheep" • 6-7:30 pm • Free

28



**CaffeLena.org** • Bright Series: Crystal Bowersox • 7 pm



• Barrington Stage Co.  
• Berkshire Theatre Group



**ClarkArt.edu** • Rap/Clark Film series: "Bless Their



**HudsonHall.org** • Meet the Makers: The Foodies • 6 pm

**ChapmanMuseum.org** • Author Talk: Ken Tingley • 7 pm • Free • Res. REQ'D. • 518-793-2826

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/** MoreauLake • Knee-high Naturalist (2-5 yrs) • 9 am • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

Little Hearts" • 6-7:30 pm • Free

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/** MoreauLake • 24 hrs adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511 --Knee-high Naturalist (2-5 yrs) • 9 am --Full Moon Kayak • 6 pm

22



**HeronValleyBand.com** • Heron Valley • 7 pm • Historic Salem Courthouse, Salem, NY

**LittleTheater27.org** • An Evening with the Bluebillies • 7 pm • Ft. Edward, NY

**TheFoundryWS.com** • SONORO • 7 pm

**CaffeLena.org** • Daniel Champagne • 8 pm

**HillviewSounds.com** • Wreckless Eric • 8 pm • 6 Broad St., Cambridge, NY • brownpapertickets.com

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/** MoreauLake • Wiggly Wanderers • 9:30 am • Drop-in

29



**CaffeLena.org** --Captain Fun Lunchtime Hour w/ Stanley & Ian McGaughey • 12-1 pm • Free --Vienna Teng • 8-10 pm



• Barrington Stage Co.  
• Berkshire Theatre Group

misc.

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/** MoreauLake • Wiggly Wanderers • 9:30 am • Drop-in

**ParkTheaterGF.com** • Comedy After dark, feat. Gabe Mollica • 7:30/8 pm

23



**DeweyHall.org** • Young at Heart: Willy Welch • 11 am • Free

**ArtOmi.org** • "Light into Night" Benefit & Performance • 6-11 pm

**WoodTheater.org** • Billy Dean "Close Up" • 7 pm

**TheFoundryWS.com** • Norma Jean Haynes' "Norma Dream" • 7:30 pm

**HillviewSounds.com** • Rees Shad • 6 Broad St., Cambridge, NY • brownpapertickets.com



**AncramOperaHouse.org** • Crystal Radio Sess: Prof. actors read Hudson Valley writers: "Angela Lives" (Arthur Boyle) & "The Tintype of Billy the Kid" (Pamela Ryder) • 7 pm



**GrantCottage.org** • Frank Scaturro: "Grant's Underappreciated Peace Legacy" • 1 pm

**CaffeLena.org** • 20th An-

30



**HillviewSounds.com** • Laura Leigh Band • 4 pm • 54 McClay Rd., Greenwich, NY • brownpapertickets.com

**ClarkArt.edu** • Blackbox Ensemble: The Sound of Space Between Us • 4-5:15 pm • Free

**LittleTheater27.org** • Whiskey River • 7 pm • Ft. Edward, NY

**ParkTheaterGF.com** • The Park Presents: Caleb Caudle w/Sydney Worthley • 7:30/8 pm

**CaffeLena.org** • Vienna Teng • 8-10 pm



• Barrington Stage Co.  
• Berkshire Theatre Group

niv. Poetry Fest. --Open Mic • 2-6 pm, Free --feat. Martin Espada • 8-10 pm

**GildedAge.org** • Ghost Tour w/Robert Oakes • 8 pm

misc.

**BerkshireBotanical.org** --Cyanotype on Paper • 10 am-12 pm --Black Ash Berry Basket • 10 am-5 pm

**Gem & Mineral Show & Sale** • 10 am-4 pm • 104 Kocher Dr., Bennington, VT • 802-375-6782

**HousatonicHeritage.org** • Tours: --Historic Colonial Theatre • 10-11 am • Reg. megan@berkshiretheatre.org --91 Seasons of Jacob's Pillow Dance Fest. • 11 am-12 pm • Reg. https://my.jacobspillow.org/housatonic

**JacobsPillow.org** • Delving into the Archives Wkshp • 10 am-1 pm • ages 16+

**Parks.ny.gov/parks/** MoreauLake • 11 am-2 pm --Friends Native Plant Sale --Friends Craft



**ChapmanMuseum.org** • Pine View Cemetery Tour • 10, 10:30, 11, 11:30 am, 12, 12:30, & 1 pm • \$20/15 Res. REQ'D. by 9/29 • 518-793-2826

misc.

**GrantCottage.org** • Fall for All: A Victorian Sci-Fi Spectacle • 9:30 am-4 pm

**WoodTheater.org** • Adirondacon 6 Tabletop Gaming Convention • 10 am

**BerkshireBotanical.org** • Native Evergreens • 10 am-12 pm

**Poultney Rotary Club** • 33rd Annual Chili Cook Off • 11 am-1:30 pm • Poultney, VT

## In pair of free workshops, WAM offers 'devised theater'

LENOX, Mass.

Artists and community members are invited to join WAM Theatre's experienced teaching artists to experiment with techniques of devised theater at a pair of free workshops this month.

As the phrase suggests, "devised theater" is a performance method where the play is invented by the performers, rather than constructed from a pre-written script. The process is collaborative; participants use a variety of techniques – which might include writing, improvisation, games, movement and brainstorming – to create original work. Unlike purely improvised shows, devised theater uses activities to come up with material that is then shaped into a planned performance.

Each workshop in WAM's fall series offers members the opportunity to engage with theatrical storytelling and community building connections using a variety of devising practices. These special afternoon workshops are free and open to all, regardless of experience level.

"Bringing our community together through devised theater is a natural fit for WAM," said Maizy Scarpa, a WAM Theatre teaching artist who is its new director of community engagement. "Not only is it a fantastic tool for imaginative storytelling, but it's also a communal prac-

tice, which makes it a powerful conduit for activism. Instead of bringing a written script to life, the devising process brings a group's ideas, imaginations, fears, and dreams into three-dimensional space. Once there, the ensemble can choose what to explore, celebrate, question and center."

The first of the two workshops, "Devised Theatre for Strength and Resiliency," with Priscilla Kane Hellweg will take place from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, at the WAM Creative Hub in downtown Lenox. Hellweg will guide the group through devised theater exercises to imagine a better tomorrow.

The second workshop, "Devising Theatre Online," with Nicole Orabona, takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30. Aimed at those wanting to expand their artistic practice and connect digitally with a greater sphere of collaborators, this workshop will be entirely online and facilitated over Zoom. Orabona will lead improvisation and collaboration activities to explore the process of creating art and connecting through digital platforms.

These free workshops are expected to sell out, and registration is now open. Visit [www.wamtheatre.com/workshops/](http://www.wamtheatre.com/workshops/) to reserve a spot or to learn more.

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**Custom**  
WOODCRAFT

5045 State Route 7  
Hoosick Falls, NY  
Phone: 518-686-0934

Hours: Monday - Friday: 10-5,  
Saturday: 10-4, Sunday: Closed



*Dear Friends, Neighbors & Customers,*

This is a personal invitation for you to attend Creative Custom Woodcraft's Fall OPEN HOUSE planned for two days Saturday September 30, 2023 9 am to 5 pm and Monday, October 2, from 9 am to 5 pm *Closed on Sunday*. A tent will be set up with **FREE FOOD**: Hamburgers & Hot Dogs & Homemade Baked Goods (*free food is from 10:00 am till 3:00 pm both days*). **Come rain or shine!** Please forward this invitation to your friends, family & neighbors also.

We recently were able to restock with large quantities of no-maintenance All-Weather Poly Outdoor Furniture. We have approx 3,000 Poly Outdoor Furniture items in stock and ready to go in 25 colors! **Folding Adirondack Chairs, Patio Chairs, Bistro Chairs, Rockers, Gliders, Benches, Dining Tables, and more!!!** All Poly Furniture comes with a 20 year warranty. Choose from our huge selection today and enjoy using the outdoor furniture in your backyard patio yet this fall!

**5% savings on all Indoor Display Model Wood Furniture!**



## OPEN HOUSE SPECIALS!

- SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 & MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023 Free Hamburgers & Hot Dogs along with Homemade Baked Goods (free food is 10:00 am to 3:00 pm).
- 1 FREE Pint of VT Maple Syrup with each outdoor or indoor furniture item purchased  
*No limit on quantities. Example: Buy 6 Adirondack Chairs, Get 6 free pints of VT Maple Syrup.*
- FREE Choice of Cutting Board or Lazy Susan  
*Minimum \$2,000 purchase, limit one per customer*
- Now offering "SNAP Finance Lease-To-Own" on Indoor & Outdoor Furniture purchases  
*Call/Text 802-282-2232 to request instructions to apply. Note: SNAP purchases must be made prior to Open House Days as Open House Days are extra busy*
- \$800 off of any "Acrylic Folk Art Original Painting" by talented local artist Bob Fair of Canaan, NY  
*Minimum \$8,000 purchase of Outdoor and/or Indoor Furniture on Open House Days*
- Special pricing on all in-stock outdoor furniture
- ALSO receive our special in-stock pricing on Outdoor Furniture orders placed for specific colors/items that we do not have in stock
- On both Open House Days there will be a choice of a FREE original Bob Fair Painting or a FREE set of 2 Poly Adirondack Chairs to the customer who purchases the highest dollar amount\* of indoor and/or outdoor furniture each open house day.

*Note: The amount of the current highest dollar order will be publicly posted in our showroom throughout our open house days.*

\* Total dollar amount excluding sales tax and delivery fees.

Looking forward to seeing you at our OPEN HOUSE!!! Jason Reinford, Brian Boll, Jerry Champ, Gardell Boll, Thomas Seagrove III, Carlos Reinford & Andy Reinford. Text requests for photos and info to Jason's cell at 802-282-2232.



**Creative Custom Woodcraft**

5045 State Route 7  
Hoosick Falls, NY 12090  
518-686-0934

Hours: Monday - Friday: 10-5,  
Saturday: 10-4, Sunday: Closed