

# ArtsPaper

Spring 2022

News &  
Information on  
the Arts from the  
Huntingdon County  
Arts Council

## A Grand New Home for the Arts Council

### Huntingdon County Arts Center

The Arts Council has purchased the former Methodist Church at 313 12th Street in Huntingdon.

Although we have a 50-year history of engaging the public, space limitations have restricted the scope and range of activities we can offer. By providing a permanent home for the Arts Council, this property—now known as the **Huntingdon County Arts Center**—will make it possible to expand our programming and provide more artistic and cultural opportunities to the people of Huntingdon County.

Our new home is part of Huntingdon's history. In 1870, the Reverend Joseph Medsger founded the Huntingdon Class or



The new home of the Huntingdon County Arts Council is the **Huntingdon County Arts Center** at 313 12th Street, the former 12th Street Methodist Church

Congregation of the United Brethren in Christ Church. The original wood-frame structure was built at the corner of 12th and Mifflin Street in 1871, making it 151 years old this year. The church was expanded with an auditorium in 1902, and a basement was completed in 1910. New additions, including a Sunday school and "social rooms," were dedicated in 1927.

The **Huntingdon County Arts Center** is a large, two-level building (over 7,000 square feet), with multiple rooms and spaces that can be used for a variety of purposes. We will convert the nave of the former church (where the pews and former altar are located) into a theater for musical concerts, plays, poetry readings, and other

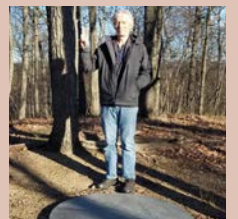
*continued on Page 3*



**Artist Spotlight**  
Page 5



**Classical Concert**  
Page 6



**A Peaceful Place**  
Page 9

#### PLUS

Executive Director

Page 2

Art Shoppe Opens

Page 3

Event Updates

Page 4

Concerts

Page 6

Folk College is Back

Page 7

Upcoming Workshops

Page 8

Arts Calendar

Page 10

Grand Opening Schedule

Page 11

## SATURDAY, MAY 21 GRAND OPENING

Huntingdon County Arts Center

### Celebrate With Us at Our Grand Opening on May 21

Are you curious to see the new **Huntingdon County Arts Center**? If yes, then come to our Grand Opening on Saturday, May 21.

We will have live music throughout the day, along with a variety of arts-related demonstrations and activities.

*continued on Page 12*

### Capital Campaign Announced

The new **Huntingdon County Arts Center** will make an important contribution to the quality of life in our area. But buildings cost money, and the purchase price and closing costs are just the beginning. The 150-year old church needs to be brought into compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), and this will require major renovations, including ramps, an elevator, and new bathrooms. Moreover, the roof of the building will need to be replaced within the next few years, and this will be eye-wateringly expensive.

To meet these and other building costs, we have initiated a community capital campaign. Our goal is to raise \$250,000. Early donations from benevolent patrons have taken us about two-thirds of the way there. This is an important start, but we need to raise the full amount if we are to keep the **Arts Center** operational over the long haul. At this time, we are asking members of the Huntingdon community to help us meet this challenge.

*continued on Page 9*



The ArtsPaper is a publication of The Huntingdon County Arts Council. We are funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, local government contributions and your membership.

Memberships and contributions help us fulfill our mission to provide opportunities to experience the arts in Huntingdon County.



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**Dear Member:**

What an exciting time to be the Executive Director of your Huntingdon County Arts Council. As we celebrate the 50th year of the Arts Council, we have found a permanent home in uptown Huntingdon. The former 12th Street Methodist Church is now the **Huntingdon County Arts Center**.

The beautiful church was incredibly well maintained, and we were able to close on April 1 and moved right in on April 2. We did not waste any time—accepting entries for Spring Thaw on April 4 & 5, and turning around and opening Spring Thaw on April 8.

This new home gives us so much room. For a long time the Arts Council has had a vision for doing a whole scope of expanded arts and music activities, and now we can work to make those plans a reality.

So much so, that as you read *this 50% larger newsletter* you will see first hand evidence we are doing so much more—we just have so much more to share with you.

First off is our Grand Opening on Saturday, May 21 from 9 am to 4 p.m. We wanted to find a way to showcase this new home, and our artist community has a day full of demos and hands-on art activities for you to partake in. Plus we have a day full of music to enjoy in our great concert hall. So please mark your calendar and plan to spend the day with us.

A full slate of workshops and classes has always been part of our vision. We have already had not one, but three sessions of the Psyanky Ukrainian Egg Decorating workshop. Thanks to Ginny & Larry Mutti for stepping up to meet the demand. We have more workshops & classes on tap (see page 8) and expect a lot more in the near future.

We are excited to start a concert series, another part of our vision, and bring music to the area that is not often available (see page 6). We also will open year round Art Shoppe that will complement our series of art exhibits.

Folk College is back “live” with a terrific lineup of musicians including John McCutcheon, world-famous folk singer, songwriter, storyteller, and multi-instrumentalist; two-time Grammy Award winners Cathy

Fink and Marcy Marxer; the amazing string band The Appleseed Collective; Nordic fiddle & guitar masters Vidar Skrede & Patrik Ahlberg; host band Simple Gifts; and many more. There is a new Beginner’s Sampler option for neophytes who just want to get their hands on an instrument (see page 7).



*You are the reason we are here—to entertain, challenge, teach, and inspire you.*

Our Summer Solstice Party at the Gage Mansion returns on Tuesday, June 21 for a fun evening of great food & music (see page 8). And then the Concerts on the Quad returns this summer (yeah!) with four concerts (see page 7).

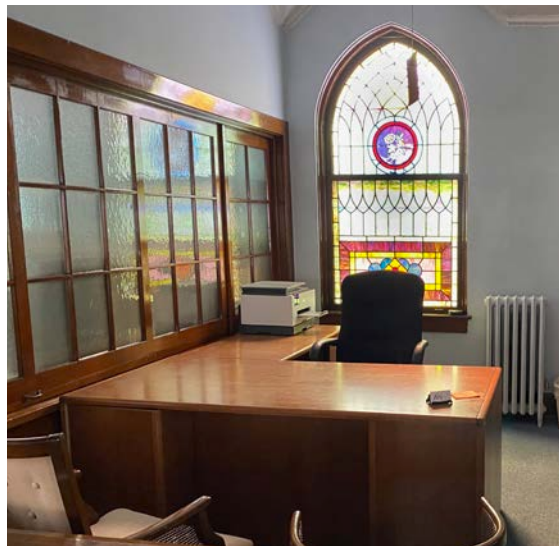
Thanks again to The Playhouse at McConnellstown for giving us a home when we needed it most. We are not sure if we would have survived without them, and we are eternally grateful for their support.

We were able to pay for the church through donations from some very generous benefactors. And while the church was ready to move in on day one, there are some challenges ahead—a very expensive roof replacement as the current roof comes to the end of its life, and dealing with a number of accessibility issues. Please consider a donation to our separate Capital Campaign fund to help meet these challenges.

As always, thank you for your support. You are the reason we are here—to entertain, challenge, teach, and inspire you. We hope you are as excited as we are by the new opportunities that the **Huntingdon County Arts Center** provides us, and that you will avail yourselves of the great opportunities that we can now offer the Huntingdon County community. Hope to see you soon!

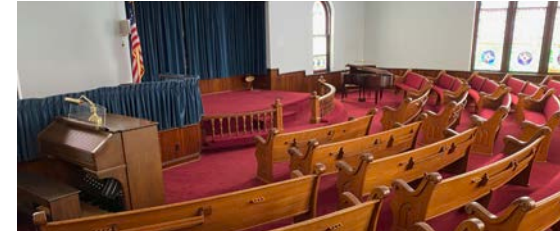
provides us, and that you will avail yourselves of the great opportunities that we can now offer the Huntingdon County community. Hope to see you soon!

John Kearns  
Executive Director



*My new office at the Huntingdon County Arts Center, with its own stained glass window. What a treat!*

Council Notes



**A New Home for the Arts Council**  
continued from page 1

performances. We will use other rooms for art classes and workshops, studio space for artists, and after-school and summer activities for students. The building also has ample room for staging rotating exhibits from local and regional artists. And we will have a year-round shop where people can purchase products from local artists and craftspeople.

The arts are fundamental to a vibrant community life. Participating together in cultural activities strengthens families and connects people with their fellow citizens. The arts are especially needed at the present moment, as we emerge from a period of social distancing and shuttered venues. Surveys show that the large majority of Americans have positive views of the arts and see them as uplifting experiences that help people get through hard times.

Despite the value of the arts to community life, many people in rural areas have few opportunities to engage with the arts, unless they are willing to drive to the nearest large city. By providing a central venue for homegrown cultural activities, the **Huntingdon County Arts Center** will bring art right to people’s doorsteps.

As we get the **Huntingdon County Arts Center** up and running, we look forward to working with other arts-related groups and organizations in our area—and of course, with you, our members and supporters. Together we can make our county a more colorful, enlightened,

**Teachers Wanted**

We are currently looking for individuals who can run workshops or classes at our new **Arts Center**. Topics can span the full range of arts and crafts, including painting, drawing, jewelry design, knitting, spinning and weaving, flower arranging, photography and photo editing, framing, origami, playing a musical instrument, jamming, creative writing, cooking, and so on.

Workshops can be a single session on one day, whereas classes can run for more extended periods. Sessions can be aimed at beginners or more advanced learners.

If you have an idea for a workshop or class you would like to teach, contact Executive Director John Kearns at 814-643-6220.

and interesting place to live in, as well as a more attractive destination for visitors.

**Volunteers Needed**

Would you like to be more involved with the Huntingdon County Arts Council? We are looking for volunteers to assist with a variety of activities. Whether you want to volunteer for a few hours on a single occasion or make an ongoing time commitment, we have a role for you.

Here are some of the activities you can help with:

- Staffing an exhibition at our new location
- Serving customers at our new art shoppe
- Organizing an Art Walk activity
- Running a workshop or teaching a class
- Helping with web design or social media
- Serving on one of our committees, such as fund-raising or concessions

Volunteering can be an opportunity to give something back to the community, develop skills and knowledge, and meet new people. When you volunteer, you are making a statement about the kind of community you want to live in. If you are interested in helping, contact Executive Director John Kearns at (814) 643-6220.

**Support Us with Amazon Smile**

The Arts Council does not endorse shopping with any particular online company. But if you use Amazon, you can arrange for small donation to be made to the Arts Council every time you make a purchase. Just go to Smile.Amazon.Com, click on “Get Started,” and designate the Huntingdon County Arts Council as your preferred charity. There is no fee to set up an account. Then, whenever you purchase an item, we will receive a small donation at no cost to you. Just remember to start future online purchases at Smile.Amazon.

**Art Shoppe Opens**

Are you looking for a gift for a family member or friend? Do you like to support local artists by purchasing handcrafted items? You can accomplish both goals by shopping at the Arts Council’s new Art Shoppe.

The Art Shoppe is located in the new **Huntingdon County Arts Center** and is open during regular exhibition hours. Here you will find a variety of goods including paintings, prints, photographs, pottery, jewelry, textiles, and other one-of-a-kind items—all created by artists and craftspeople living in our very own region. And remember that Arts Council members receive a discount on all items.

Instead of buying mass produced items from stores with corporate headquarters in other states, consider spending your money where 100% of it will stay in the local economy. So drop by and browse our collection of hand-made items and take home a unique gift for a special person. Or treat yourself to something special. You deserve it.



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*The Huntingdon County Arts Council is supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

*The Huntingdon County Arts Council receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.*







## Spring Thaw Exhibit in April

Our annual Spring Thaw exhibit of student art was held at the new Huntingdon County Arts Center in April—the first exhibit in our new building. The show attracted 224 entries from students in 15 area schools, including several from home-schooled children. Entries included paintings, drawings, photography, sculpture, poetry, and prose. This is a juried show, and awards were given in various categories within age groups.

Norm and Cathy Wilson judged the 2- and 3-dimensional art and photography, and Pam Kavanaugh judged the writing entries. Students in four different age groups received ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. The show was well attended and demonstrated that our new building is a great place to view art.

Spring Thaw ran from April 8 to May 1.



Chris Shook, *Finding the Sun*, from the Equinox Exhibit

## Equinox Exhibit in March

Spring was in the air at our recent Equinox exhibit. A total of 20 artists exhibited 45 diverse art works, including paintings, photography, ceramics, wood carving, jewelry, textiles, and poetry. Although flowers were a common theme, the subject matter ranged broadly from celestial alignments to frog ponds! It was our final art exhibit at The Playhouse, our temporary home for the last two years. Future exhibits will be held at our new home, the Huntingdon County Arts Center.

The show ran from March 11 to 27.

## Egg Decorating Workshops Held

Huntingdon County Arts Council board members Ginny and Larry Mutti led a workshop on Pysanky Ukrainian Egg Decorating. At least it was supposed to be one workshop. However, the demand was so high that they ended up teaching three different sessions. Workshop sessions were held on April 4, 11, and 13.

Several participants took the workshop a couple of times because they enjoyed it so much. The artwork was amazing as each participant learned the craft of selective and progressive dying in darker colors that resulted in new pieces of art.

We thank Ginny and Larry for all of the eggs they ate to make the workshops happen.



Ada Stapleton, *Huntingdon Area High School, Blonde* (1st place 2-D art, grades 10-12)



Zoey Teeters, *Standing Stone Elementary, Tucan Sam* (1st place, 2-D art, grades K-3)

## Evgeny Krayushkin: The Artist as Storyteller

For Evgeny Krayushkin, art involves more than seeing an attractive painting hanging on a wall. For the artist as well as the viewer, art involves a personal exploration that can lead to greater self-knowledge and psychological growth. And for those who are in mental or physical pain, it can be a form of healing.



Geny (as he likes to be called) lives near Cassville in Trough Creek Valley. After studying psychology at Juniata College, he worked for a number of years as a mental health counselor before devoting himself full-time to making art.

Although Huntingdon County has many artists, few make their livings entirely from art. According to Geny, that's because "there's not enough crazy people who can't imagine doing anything else." He went on to say, "I don't

need an expensive car. Artists are happy doing something they love. You don't need a lot of money because you are surrounded by beauty."

Geny works as a teaching artist through the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. In preparation for this role, he spent a year studying at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. He has been a teaching artist for the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art since 2013 and for the Perry County Council for the Arts since 2018.

As a teaching artist, Geny works with various audiences, including high school students as well as older adults in the community. Two years ago, he led a series of plein air (outdoor) painting workshops in five different locations in the Huntingdon area. He currently is running an online "Arts in Healing" program for people suffering from chronic pain and neurological disorders.

Geny describes his art as a form of expressionism or magic realism, akin in many ways to literature. "I basically see myself as a storyteller," he said, and the stories im-



Evgeny Krayushkin, *Snowangel*

plicit in his art are meant to take viewers to unexpected places. "Every journey has some conflict as well as some growth. I want each piece to be meaningful. It can be universally meaningful, something that everyone can connect with. Or it can be more complex, and only some people will connect with it." He added, "Some of my pieces have darkness, but there's also a little bit of light that can get you out of it."

With respect to media, Geny works with acrylics, oils, and colored pencils, and he makes sculpture from wood, clay, stone, concrete, string, wire, and fiber. He often paints on wood, rather than canvas, and adds more layers or carves into it to create a three-dimensional surface. The uneven surface adds complexity to the piece and contributes to the story it tells.

Geny has exhibited his work in museums and galleries across Pennsylvania and has shows scheduled later this year in Johnstown and Lebanon. His art is currently for sale in various locations, including galleries in Altoona, Hollidaysburg, and State College. He also sells his creations online.

The term "art" often refers to the creations of renowned artist—works shown in prestigious galleries and museums in large cities. But Geny strongly believes that true art is not reserved for urban elites. "Art should come from the grassroots. Working in a small community can be inspiring. You get to work with beautiful people. That's why the Arts Council is important, because it helps to get people in the local community

continued on Page 12



Evgeny Krayushkin, *The Unravelling*



# Upcoming Events

## Concerts at the New Huntingdon County Arts Center

Our new, spacious **Arts Center** makes it possible to stage public concerts—something we have wanted to do for many years but lacked a suitable space. We currently have concerts scheduled for May and June, and we plan to have one or two concerts per month after that. These concerts will focus on all types of music, including classical, folk, jazz, and ragtime. Some concerts will occur in the

evening, whereas others will be scheduled for Sunday afternoons. All concerts will take place in the former church sanctuary, which is now our concert hall.

Check out the concerts in the articles below. We know these performers will get our program off to a great start.



### Appleseed Collective to Perform Monday, May 23

The Appleseed Collective—a unique group of progressive acoustic musicians—will be performing on Monday evening, May 23 at the new **Huntingdon County Arts Center**. Their eclectic sound incorporates elements from swing, bluegrass, Dixieland, ragtime, gypsy-folk, and other musical traditions. The group hails from Detroit, has been together since 2010, and has released four CDs.

Group members write much of their own material and back up their vocal harmonies with guitar, fiddle, mandolin, standup bass, and washboard. Reviewers describe them as “young, talented, and full of energy,” and say they perform with “breathless theatricality” and “infectious musicianship.” It’s fair to say that you never have heard anything like The Appleseed Collective, but once you do, you will be hooked.

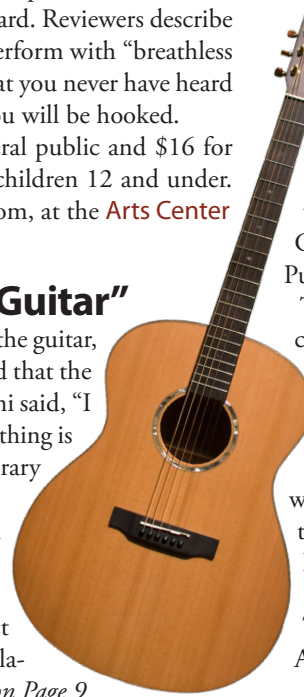
The concert starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for the general public and \$16 for Arts Council members and students. Admission is free for children 12 and under. You can purchase tickets online at [huntingdoncountryarts.com](http://huntingdoncountryarts.com), at the **Arts Center** during exhibition hours, or at the door.

### “Nothing is More Beautiful Than a Guitar”

Although few of the great classical composers wrote for the guitar, many held it in high esteem. Beethoven once observed that the instrument “is a miniature orchestra in itself.” Paganini said, “I love the guitar for its harmony.” And Chopin proclaimed, “Nothing is more beautiful than a guitar, except possibly two.” Contemporary fans of this instrument couldn’t agree more.

The classical guitar, sometimes referred to as a Spanish guitar, is distinguished from other types of guitars because its six strings are made of nylon (formerly gut) rather than metal. Although some folk musicians play nylon string guitars, most prefer guitars with steel strings. Like the classical guitar, the Fla-

*continued on Page 9*



### Classical Guitar Concert Sunday, June 26

Why is the classical guitar considered to be one of the most beautiful of all instruments? Join us for a concert with guitarist Jonathan Gangi and see for yourself.

Jonathan is an Associate Professor of Music (Guitar) in the College of Arts and Architecture at Penn State University. He holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in classical guitar performance from the University of Akron and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of South Carolina. He was guest soloist with the Raleigh Civic Chamber Orchestra and has performed at the Rantucci International Guitar Festival, at the Classical *Minds Guitar* Festival, and on National Public Radio’s *The Front Row*.

The program will include popular pieces from the classical guitar repertoire, as well as several jazz-infused works by Mario Gangi—one of Italy’s most important composers for guitar and a distant relative of Jonathan’s. Following his performance in Huntingdon, Jonathan is traveling to Tuscany, Italy, where he will be performing at a guitar festival. Come to our show and get a preview of what audiences in Italy soon will be enjoying.

The concert will be on Sunday, June 26 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for the general public and \$10 for Arts Council Members and students. Admission is

*continued on Page 7*

# Upcoming Events

## Folk College is Back

Our annual folk music event, Folk College, will be held on May 27–29. Folk College allows people to play music together in a nurturing, non-competitive atmosphere. The staff includes nationally known musicians and teachers who



specialize in a variety of musical instruments and folk music styles.

Our featured artist this year will be John McCutcheon—a world-famous folk singer, songwriter, storyteller, and multi-instrumentalist. A master of the hammered dulcimer, McCutcheon also performs on guitar, banjo, autoharp, and fiddle. Since the 1970s, he

has recorded 40 albums, authored books and instructional materials, and toured extensively in North America as well as Australia and Chile. The Washington Post once described him as a folk music’s “rustic renaissance man.”

Two-time Grammy Award winners Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer also will be teaching classes and performing this year. Acclaimed for their superb harmonies and instrumental virtuosity, Cathy and Marcy have performed in concert halls in numerous countries, including Japan, New Zealand, South



*Featured performers at Folk College: (top) John McCutcheon, (bottom) Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer*

### Try the Beginner’s Sampler

This year Folk College will offer a new option for non-folk musicians: The Beginner’s Sampler. On one day, Saturday, May 28, beginners can attend workshops focused on four different instruments: the ukulele (9:30-10:45 a.m.), banjo (11:00-12:15 p.m.), thumb piano (1:45-3:00 p.m.), and autoharp (3:15-4:45 p.m.). No prior experience is necessary, and all instruments will be provided.

The price of \$60 for the single day includes the four workshops along with attendance at the 7:00 p.m. faculty concert featuring John McCutcheon. Beginners also are welcome to join the contradance after the concert. So if you feel like you have missed out on Folk College in previous years because you aren’t a folk musician, this is your opportunity to pick up some instruments, learn a little, have fun, and find out what the buzz is all about.

ming and simply hanging out with other musicians and folk music fans.

Two evening concerts will be open to the general public on Friday, May 27 and Saturday, May 28. Both concerts will start at 7 p.m. and will be held in the Halbritter Center for Performing Arts on the Juniata College campus. Tickets for the Friday and Saturday evening concerts are \$20 (\$16 for Arts Council members) can be purchased online or at the door. The concerts are free for Folk College participants. To register for Folk College, and to find more information, go to [Folkcollege.com](http://Folkcollege.com). *Please be aware that concerts goers will be required to wear masks for the protection of the performers and the audience members.*



*(Top) The Big Band Sound returns to the Concerts on the Quad on Thursday, June 30, while (Right) The Crooked Line closes out the 4 concert series on Thursday, August 4*



### Concerts on the Quad Return

Our annual series of open-air concerts on the Juniata College campus will be returning this summer. The Big Band Sound will kick off the series on Thursday, June 30. The Big Band Sound is a 20-piece jazz orchestra that recreates swing music from the 1930s and 1940s. Their repertoire includes classics from Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Count Basie, and other artists from the big band era.

Additional performances will take place on July 7 (Urban Fusion), July 14 (Acoustic Express), and August 4 (Crooked Line). Concerts will start at 7 p.m. and will be held on the lawn in front of the Halbritter Center for the Performing Arts. These events are free and open to the general public. So mark your calendars and bring a blanket or a lawn chair and enjoy some music on a lazy summer evening.

### Classical Guitar Concert continued from page 6

free for children 12 and younger. Tickets can be purchased online at [huntingdoncountryarts.com](http://huntingdoncountryarts.com), at the **Arts Center** during exhibition hours, or at the door.

Mark your calendar now. This is an opportunity to hear an outstanding musician in a comfortable local venue. Can you think of a more harmonious way to spend a Sunday afternoon?



# Upcoming Events

## All Fired Up

The Huntingdon County Arts Council's latest exhibit, *Fired Up Around Huntingdon*, features the works of ceramic artists with a connection to Huntingdon County, now and in the past. For many years, our region has had a thriving community of outstanding potters—many with national and international reputations—and the current exhibit showcases their varied achievements.

Juniata College faculty member Rob Boryk organized the show. Rob also sits on the Board of the Arts Council and is an accomplished ceramic artist in his own right. The exhibit runs from May 7 to June 12, Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the [Huntingdon County Arts Center](#).

## Upcoming Workshops

A big advantage of having a building of our own is the ability to offer classes and workshops. We aren't wasting any time and are planning to offer several workshops in the coming months.

On May 24 (6:30-8:30 p.m.), Larry Mutti will lead a *Try an Autoharp* workshop. The autoharp is an ideal instrument to accompany singing, although it also can serve as a solo instrument. Moreover, it's an inexpensive instrument that is relatively easy to learn. The workshop is for complete beginners, and instruments will be provided. The cost is \$20 for the general public and \$16 for current Arts Council members.



Starting on May 25, Prudence Ingerman will lead a 6-week course on *Creative Writing*. Each session will feature a new technique and include an in-class exercise done by hand. No computers! Classes run from 9-10:30 a.m. on May 25, June 1, June 8, June 15, June 22, and June 29. The classes

are \$70 for the general public and \$60 for Arts Council members. Enrollment is limited to eight adults.

Starting on May 28, Prudence Ingerman will lead a *Beginning Knitting* course for absolute beginners. The class is held from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Participants

will learn to make a pair of one-stitch slippers in the first class and then will choose their second project either a simple unique scarf or a hat. The six classes are \$70 for the general public and \$60 for Arts Council members. Enrollment is limited to six.

For more information on upcoming workshops, and to register, go to [huntingdoncountyarts.com](#) →programs →workshops. All workshops and classes are held at the [Huntingdon County Arts Center](#) at 313 12th Street, Huntingdon.

## A SUMMER MEADOW AT MIDNIGHT

The wind crept softly  
across the meadow  
Like a small child  
playing hide and seek.  
The moon shone on the  
tall grass sprinkling  
It with bits of luminous color.  
The gentle swaying of  
the trees gave way to  
A sweet sounding melody.  
While crickets sang to  
an unknown audience  
Far into the night.

Susan Rumpf

## Arts Center 2022 Exhibits

May 5 - June 12

**Fired Up Around Huntingdon  
Ceramic Artists  
with Huntingdon Connection**

June 17 - July 31

**Paintings - Nostalgia and Dreams  
James Farrah**

August 19 - October 2

**Valleys and Vistas: Fiber Landscape  
Kari Roslund**

October 7 - November 6

**Picture This  
Camera Club**

November 9 - December 28

**Holiday Shoppe**

## Celebrate the Summer Solstice

June 21 is the summer solstice, the longest day of the year, and the date when the sun reaches its highest point in the northern sky. It is also the day of the Arts Council's Summer Solstice Fundraiser.

The event will run from 5 to 9 p.m. on the grounds of the Gage Mansion at 317 Penn Street in Huntingdon. Tickets for the event are \$30 per person. Participants will enjoy a meal catered by Three Twelve Kitchen & Cocktails as well as live music from two bands. Non-alcoholic beverages are included, although a cash bar will be available for wine and beer purchases. Vendors will have art for sale too.

This is an opportunity to celebrate the first day of summer, enjoy good food, hear live music, meet and mingle with interesting people, and support the Arts Council at the same time. So be sure to mark your calendars for June 21.



## Live Theater Returns

After a long Covid-19 induced slumber, The Playhouse at McConnellstown is waking up and preparing for a new season of performances.

Their first production of the year, *Death by Design*, will begin on June 24 and continue for an additional five performances. The play, a comic mystery written by Rob Urbinati, includes a colorful cast of characters trying to solve a murder at an English country manor.

For additional information, go to their website, [littletheater.com](#), or check out their Facebook page.

[www.huntingdoncountyarts.com](#)

# Local Interest

## A Peaceful Place

Have you been to the Juniata College Peace Chapel? Designed by well-known sculptor Maya Lin, the Peace Chapel is an environmental construction located in the rolling hills near Juniata College.

The Peace Chapel was completed in 1989 and consists of two sites. The first (and larger) consists of 53 large, rectangular granite rocks set into the ground in a 40-foot circle. The second, often referred to as Meditation Point, is a 4-foot smooth granite disk located at the top of a nearby hill. The beautiful and quiet natural landscapes surrounding both sites foster contemplative attitudes in the minds of visitors.

Although Maya Lin (born in 1959) has received many awards and honors during her career, she is best known for designing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. Many of her works, like the Peace Chapel, consist of outdoor sculptures and installations with environmental themes. Her recent Ghost Forest installation in Madison Square Park in New York City (which focused on the decline of woodlands due to logging and climate change) received a great deal of media attention during 2021.

If you haven't been to the Peace Chapel, or if it's been a while since you were there, spring is a great time to visit. Wildflowers are blooming now, and the hills around Huntingdon are covered with spring beauties, wild geraniums, violets, dandelions, hepatica, rue anemone, and other vernal delights.

The Peace Chapel can be reached on foot from a parking lot at the end of Peace Chapel Road, just off of Warm Springs Avenue in Huntingdon.

## "Nothing is More Beautiful Than a Guitar"

continued from page 6

menco guitar has nylon strings but is constructed (and played) somewhat differently. Hand-held stringed instruments have appeared throughout history and can be traced to Egyptian, Babylonian, and Sumerian civilizations. The contemporary classical guitar, however, emerged only during the late 1800s. It evolved gradually from the smaller 5-string Baroque guitar and related instruments, such as the vihuela and gittern of the Renaissance era.

Spain was a crucible for the modern classical guitar, with two individuals standing out in particular. Antonio de Torres Jurado (1817-1892) was an instrument maker (luthier) who enlarged the guitar and modified its inner construction. His guitars had such pleasing tonal qualities that almost all subsequent guitar makers emulated his designs. Francisco Tárrega (1852-1909) was a key founder of modern guitar playing methods. He was a virtuoso performer and composer, clarified guitar playing techniques, and raised the status of the guitar in the musical world.

Beginning in the 1920s, Andrés Segovia spread the popularity of the guitar through his brilliant recordings and concert tours. More recent artists like Julian Bream and John Williams have continued to build new audiences for the instrument and its music. Modern composers increasing are writing for the classical guitar, which is helping the instrument to develop a fuller repertoire of varied and beautiful music.

One of the advantages of the classical guitar as an instrument is that, with six strings, it can play many voices at once. An accomplished performer can play a bass part (usually with the thumb) as well as a melody line (with the fingers) and throw in some harmonic elements at the same time. Only a few other instruments, such as the piano, the organ, and the harp, have this multi-voice capability. For this reason,

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Your newsletter editor at Meditation Point



The Peace Chapel circle of granite

it is an ideal solo instrument.

The ability to play multiple voices, although an advantage, also makes the classical guitar an especially difficult instrument to learn. And because a given note can be played at multiple places on the fretboard, guitarists often struggle to find the best fingering for a particular piece. Moreover, buzzing and squeaking strings are a constant challenge, and hand cramps and wrist pain are common hazards for amateurs and professionals alike. If great art is born from suffering, then classical guitarists should produce great art in abundance.

## Capital Campaign Announced

continued from page 1

We will be sending out letters later this month with details on how you can contribute to the capital campaign. All of these contributions will be designated specifically for improving our building. Keep in mind that we will continue to solicit donations in the future, as we have in the past, to fund our day-to-day activities; our ongoing operational costs are distinct from the costs associated with the new building. We will keep you posted about our progress in meeting our capital campaign goal. We thank the individuals and families who have made generous contributions to this fund already. We can't do this without you!

Spring 2022 [ArtsPaper](#) 9



The Huntingdon County Arts Council is the hub for local arts and cultural activities. Check here to see what's coming up. Have an art activity? Send details and we will put it on our website arts calendar. Send to [info@huntingdoncountyarts.com](mailto:info@huntingdoncountyarts.com).  
**Bold = Huntingdon County Arts Council activity**

When	What	Where	Details
Friday, May 8 to Sunday, June 12	<b>Fired Up Around Huntingdon: A Ceramics Exhibit</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Opening reception May 8, 6 to 8; open Wednesday thru Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday, May 19	Art Walk Huntingdon	Various locations in borough	5 to 8 p.m. Art activities
Monday, May 23	<b>The Appleseed Collective</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	7 p.m., see page 6
Thursday, May 26	<b>Camera Club Meeting</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Open to all, 7 p.m.
Friday, May 27 to Sunday, May 29	<b>Folk College: Workshops, Concerts, &amp; Jamming</b>	Juniata College	See page 7 Full details at folkcollege.com
Friday, May 27	<b>Folk College Concert</b>	Halbritter Center, Juniata College	7 p.m., tickets \$20/\$16 HCAC
Saturday, May 28	<b>Folk College Concert John McCutcheon &amp; More</b>	Halbritter Center, Juniata College	7 p.m., tickets \$20/\$16 Arts Council members
Thursday, June 16	Art Walk Huntingdon	Various locations in borough	5 to 8 p.m. Art activities
Friday, June 17 to Sunday, July 31	<b>Paintings - Nostalgia and Dream Exhibits James Farrah</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Open reception June 17, 6 to 8; open Wednesday thru Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday, June 23	<b>Camera Club Meeting</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Open to all, 7 p.m.
Friday, June 24, Saturday, June 25, Friday, July 1 & Saturday, July 2, Sunday matinees June 26 & July 3	<b>Death by Design</b>	The Playhouse at McConnellstown	7 p.m. return of LIVE theatre! Matinees 2 p.m.
Sunday, June 26	<b>Jonathan Gangi Concert</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	2 p.m., see page 6
Thursday, June 30	<b>Concerts on the Quad: Big Band Sound</b>	Juniata College campus quad in front of Halbritter Center	7 p.m., all donations go to the musicians
Thursday, July 7	<b>Concerts on the Quad: Urban Fusion</b>	Juniata College campus quad in front of Halbritter Center	7 p.m., all donations go to the musicians
Tuesday, July 12	Math Art Summer Camp	For grades 6 to 8, Visit local art museum and find out how math can be creative and beautiful	8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Info at <a href="http://juniata.edu/offices/conferences-events/">juniata.edu/offices/conferences-events/</a>
Thursday, July 14	<b>Concerts on the Quad: Acoustic Express</b>	Juniata College campus quad in front of Halbritter Center	7 p.m., all donations go to the musicians
Thursday, July 21	Art Walk Huntingdon	Various locations in borough	5 to 8 p.m. Art activities
Sunday, July 24	<b>Curtin Family Ensemble Concert</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	2 p.m.
Tuesday, July 26	Community Summer Band	Sharrar House, Mt. Union	7 p.m.
Thursday, July 28	Community Summer Band	Blair Park, Huntingdon	7 p.m.
Thursday, July 28	<b>Camera Club Meeting</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Open to all, 7 p.m.
Friday, July 29	Community Summer Band	Memorial Library lawn, Alexandria	7 p.m.
Thursday, August 4	<b>Concerts on the Quad: Crooked Line</b>	Juniata College campus quad in front of Halbritter Center	7 p.m., all donations go to the musicians
Saturday, August 7	Submit entries to Huntingdon County Fair Art & Photography Department	Art Station Huntingdon County Fairgrounds	1 to 7 p.m. Preregister at <a href="http://huntingdoncountyfair.com">huntingdoncountyfair.com</a>
Friday, August 19 to Sunday, October 2	<b>Valleys and Vistas: Fiber Landscape Exhibit Kari Roslund</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Open reception August 19, 6 to 8; open Wednesday thru Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Huntingdon County Arts Center is located at the corner of 12th & Mifflin Streets in Huntingdon

# GRAND OPENING

## SATURDAY, MAY 21 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS\*

HUNTINGDON COUNTY ARTS CENTER, 313 12TH STREET, HUNTINGDON 9 AM TO 4 PM

### ART ACTIVITIES & DEMONSTRATIONS

	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4
9 to 10 AM	Rock Painting Tara Thompson	Tie Dye Sugar Cookie Decorating Barbara Sanchez	Refresh Your Knitting Prudence Ingerman	Shifu Paper Yarn Demo Kari Roslund
10 to 11 AM	Make clay sculpture with Evgeny	Origami: Folds to Go Cindy Felisberto	Painting Demo Andrea Darby	Shifu Paper Yarn Demo Kari Roslund
11 AM to 12 PM	Make clay sculpture with Evgeny	Painting Demo Nate Wilson	Ink Tree & Landscape Drawing Demo Brian Ford	Wire Wrapping Demo Teri Smith
12 to 1 PM	Extemporaneous Quilt Blocks Cindy Felisberto	How to Make Backgrounds & Collages, Jake Ricci	Face painting Erin Shaffer	Wire Wrapping Demo Teri Smith
1 to 2 PM	Plein Air Painting Demo Harlan Ritchey	Lego Printmaking Caitlin Woomer	Refresh Your Knitting Prudence Ingerman	
2 to 3 PM	Paper Marbling with Shaving Cream Activity Cass Stapleton	Make Thumbkins Carole Heilig	Tie Dye Sugar Cookie Decorating Barbara Sanchez	
3 to 4 PM	Rock Painting Janis Jones	Origami: Folds to Go Cindy Felisberto		

### All Day

Upstairs Large Room: What To Do With Your Photos, Larry Closz  
 Outside: Blacksmithing Demo, Dave Berger  
 Outside: Pottery Demo, Rob Boryk

\* Schedule subject to change

### MUSIC/CONCERT HALL

9 to 10 AM	Paul Amato, Classical Guitar
10 to 11 AM	Larry Mutti, Folk Autoharp
11 AM to 12 PM	Keith Sutton: Piano Show Tunes
12 to 1 PM	No Filter Jazz, Jazz
1 to 2 PM	Wayne Osgood & Paul Amato, Classical Guitar & Acoustic Rock

2 to 3 PM	Curtis Rockwell, Folk Music
3 to 4 PM	Unusual Suspects, Bluegrass

The Grand Opening is generously sponsored by The Daily News, celebrating their centenary.





313 12th Street  
Huntingdon, PA 16652  
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www.huntingdoncountyarts.com

## GRAND OPENING HUNTINGDON COUNTY ARTS CENTER SATURDAY, MAY 21, 9 AM TO 4 PM



Address Service Requested

### Celebrate With Us at Our Grand Opening continued from page 1

ties. Demonstrations will feature painting, drawing and illustrating, pottery making, wire wrapping, blacksmithing, quilting, knitting, and working with shifu paper yarn. Hands-on activities will include making clay sculpture, paper folding (origami), painting with shaving cream, tie dye sugar cookie decorating, rock painting, and face painting. (A full schedule is on page 11.)

Throughout the day, Larry Closz will focus on working with photos, including how to use them with mugs, quilts, and photo albums. Visitors also can see our current exhibit, *Fired Up Around Huntingdon*, which features ceramic work from multiple artists with a connection to Huntingdon County. Activities will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m. There is no admission fee. The **Arts Center** is at 313 12th Street, Huntingdon.

The Grand Opening is generously sponsored by The Daily News, celebrating their centenary.



### Evgeny Krayushkin continued from page 5 inspired by art."

Life as a professional artist is never tedious. As Geny said, "I work 10 hours a day every day. It's not work for me, just life. I'm a little crazy that way. I always have ongoing projects. I need to decide what pieces will go in my next show, what I will send to the galleries, and what pieces will go online." If our hard-working friend continues to maintain this energetic pace, and if we are lucky, perhaps some of his inspired "craziness" will rub off on the rest of us.

For more information on Evgeny Krayushkin, visit his website at [zheka-art.weebly.com](http://zheka-art.weebly.com) or search for ZheKa Art on Facebook and Instagram.



*Evgeny Krayushkin, Into the Night*



*Evgeny Krayushkin, The Wonderful FAR AWAY*