

FALL 2020

WEST VIRGINIA ArtWorks



**Rhea Ming, West Virginia's
Poetry Out Loud Champion**

ArtWorks WEST VIRGINIA

FEATURES

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- More than \$1.5 Million in FY21 Grants Awarded**
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Rhéa Ming, champion of the West Virginia Poetry Out Loud State Finals in May. Portrait by Melissa C. Ming.

FALL 2020



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Jack O'Hearn, Community Arts Coordinator
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and Budget Manager
Jim Wolfe, Arts in Education Coordinator
and Poetry Out Loud Coordinator
Elizabeth Yeager,
Individual Artist Coordinator

Editor: Elizabeth Yeager
Distribution Manager: Jack O'Hearn
Contributing Photographer: Steve
Brightwell
Designer: Colleen Anderson
Cover Image: Melissa C. Ming
Proofreaders: John Kesler, Andrea Nelson

STORY IDEAS AND QUESTIONS:

ArtWorks West Virginia
West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture
and History
Attn: Elizabeth Yeager
1900 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV
25305
Email: Elizabeth.A.Yeager@wv.gov

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Poetry Out Loud 2020 State Champion Named

By Paul Neil



Rh ea Ming with poets and judges for Spring Mills High School Poetry Out Loud competition, Keegan Lester and Jose Olivarez.

In 1785, Scottish poet Robert Burns penned the classic line, “The best laid schemes o’ Mice an’ Men Gang aft agley.” For more than two centuries, his words have been used to affirm that things don’t always go according to plan.

For instance, the West Virginia State Poetry Out Loud Finals were scheduled for Friday, March 13 and Saturday, March 14, 2020. March 12th was a flurry of last-minute activity. The finishing touches were being put on programs. Gift bags for champions and teachers were being

assembled. In the State Theater, tech crews made sure everything was in place for performances and judging. Around the state, hundreds of folks – including high school Poetry Out Loud champs, parents, teachers, judges, and guest performers – prepared to descend on the Culture Center for this well-loved annual event.

Then, it seemed, the world came to a standstill. The rising spread of COVID-19 led to a decision to cancel large events due to the risk of infection at an event with



Rhéa Ming with Spring Mills High School teachers and Poetry Out Loud coordinators, Karla Hilliard and Jessica Salfia.

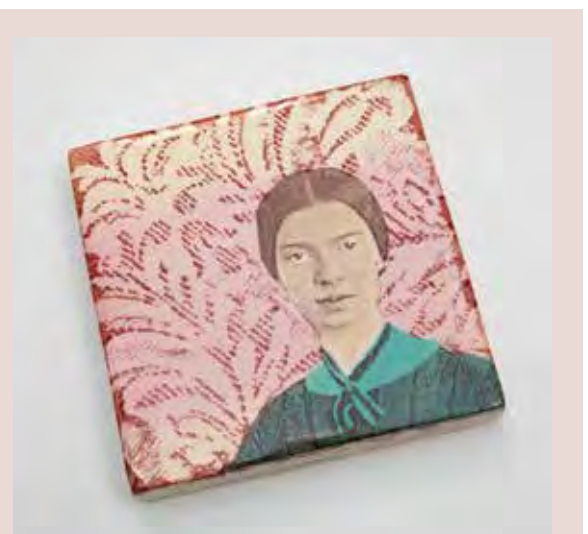
many people in close proximity, like the Poetry Out Loud finals. Understandably, participants were disappointed. But despite the lack of an in-person state final, 2020 has been a stellar year for Poetry Out Loud.

Poetry Out Loud (POL) is a national competition in which high school students memorize and perform classical and contemporary poetry selected from the POL Anthology. The process begins at the high school

level with students participating in classroom and school-wide contests. The winners of those competitions are eligible to compete in the state finals.

In the 2019-2020 school year, 131 educators led poetry competitions in 50 high schools. Nearly five thousand West Virginia students participated in these competitions. Buffalo, Elkins, Scott, and Spring Valley High Schools were new or rejoining participants this year, along with the St. James

Every high school winner received mementos of the statewide competition.



Homeschoolers.

In order to honor the skill and talent of those students who excelled in their high school competitions, West Virginia's POL coordinator, Jim Wolfe, and the State Arts Office staff rallied to create a video-based state final. Twenty-eight high school champions submitted recitation videos of their three selected poems, which were sorted into online playlists for each round. All students' video performances were judged by a panel of five judges, using the standard Poetry Out Loud evaluation criteria. An accuracy score was also given, as usual. This online format also allowed judges to provide written feedback for students and teachers for the first time.

Judges for the 2020 State Final included writer, songwriter and performer Colleen Anderson; Amy Alvarez, poet and professor at West Virginia University; Marc Harshman, the state's poet laureate; novelist and educator Rajia Hassib; and Dr. Joel Peckham, poet and professor at Marshall University.

Rhéa Ming from Spring Mills High School in Martinsburg (Berkeley County) was declared champion for her recitations of "For the Dogs Who Barked at Me on the Sidewalks in Connecticut" by Hanif Abdurraqib, "A Thank-You Note" by Michael

Ryan, and "Sonnet 29: When, in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes" by William Shakespeare. Rhéa received \$200 and the state champion trophy, plus an additional prize of \$1000 being awarded by the Poetry Foundation this year due to the cancellation of the national Poetry Out Loud Finals. Spring Mills High School received \$500 for the purchase of poetry books and materials.

Roy Williams from Wheeling Park High School (Ohio County) was runner-up and received \$100 and a handmade trophy, and Wheeling Park High School received \$200 for the purchase of poetry materials. Roy's chosen poems were "The Idler" by Alice Moore Dunbar-Nelson, "Self-Portrait as So Much Potential" by Chen Chen, and "Analysis of Baseball" by May Swenson.

All students and teachers who were to have participated in the in-person event received works created by West Virginia artists. Base Camp Printing Company, located in Charleston, was commissioned to create handmade letterpress posters. Ceramic artist G.W. Lanham, a museum educator at the Huntington Museum of Art, made 6-inch by 6-inch "clay canvases" featuring an image of Emily Dickinson and a quote from her poetry. Matt Thomas of ThomasWork Studios in Gilmer County created the handmade trophies received by the champion and the runner up. By incorporating the work of West Virginia artisans and performing artists, the department seeks to nurture in each student a life-long appreciation for the arts.

Partnering with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History sponsors POL to encourage young people to learn about great poetry and explore their literary heritage while mastering public-speaking skills and building self-confidence.

Schools and Champions

Berkeley Springs High School – Benjamin Rogers
Buckhannon-Upshur High School – Katie Pearson
Cabell Midland High School – KT Terry
Capital High School – Israel Wright
East Hardy High School – Madison Barton
Elkins High School – Clare Talbott
George Washington High School – Charlie Long
Grafton High School – Brooke Hodges
Greenbrier East High School – Callie McFerrin
Greenbrier West High School – Ariana Mooney
Huntington High School – Alexandra Biddle
Hurricane High School – Melia Beckford
Lewis County High School – Brooklyn Golden
Lincoln High School – Louis Rodina
Logan High School – Brooke Ooten
Magnolia High School – Bri Goddard
Meadow Bridge High School – Holly Johnson
Moorefield High School – Julie Bowen
Morgantown High School – Ayah Aldebyan
Nicholas County High School – Galilea Villasenor
Notre Dame High School – Nicole Schumacher
Oak Glen High School – Alissa McGaffick
Oak Hill High School – Kaylin Burdette
Paden City High School – Serenity Strother
Parkersburg High School – Isobella Marteney
Paw Paw High School – Billy Bowers
Philip Barbour High School – Isabella McNaboe
PikeView High School – Kayli Mann
Ripley High School – Leo Mollohan
Roane County High School – Mikayla Steele
Scott High School – Cadee Mae Green
Shady Spring High School – Makayla Schrader
South Charleston High School – Kayden Upton
Spring Mills High School – Rhéa Ming
Spring Valley High School – Emily Hall
St. James Homeschoolers – Camille Mooney
St. Marys High School – Mattelyn Lamp
Tyler Consolidated High School – Katelyn Stillwagoner
Valley High School – Shyanne Moore
Webster County High School – Allison Blankenship
Weir High School – Olivia Dowler
Wheeling Park High School – Roy Williams
Wirt County High School – Brooklyn Rood
Woodrow Wilson High School – Ethan Lilly
Wyoming East High School – Kalli Stewart

More than \$1.5 Million in FY21 Grants Awarded to WV Artists, Organizations

The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History, along with the West Virginia Commission on the Arts, approved and awarded \$1,566,903.36 in the first cycle of grant funding for Fiscal Year 2021. Individual artists, nonprofit arts and community organizations, public educational institutions, school boards, local and county government agencies, and colleges and universities are eligible for these funds, which are approved by the West Virginia Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. The first round of FY21 recipients are listed below.

Arts in Education

Provides support for curriculum-based, hands-on projects that involve K-12 students and teachers in the arts during daily instruction or outside of regular school hours.

Total: \$111,389

Charles T. "Chuck" Mathena II Foundation

Princeton, Mercer County
\$4,959 for contracted artist/professional fees.

Greenbrier County Schools

Lewisburg, Greenbrier County
\$14,075 for contracted artist/professional fees, art supplies, and project materials.

Harrison County Board of Education

Clarksburg, Harrison County
\$7,500 for contracted artist/professional fees, and travel costs.



High Rocks Educational Corporation

Hillsboro, Pocahontas County
\$9,253 for contracted artist/professional fees, travel costs, and project supplies.

Kanawha County Schools

Charleston, Kanawha County
\$14,250 for contracted artist/professional fees.

Marshall County Schools

Moundsville, Marshall County
\$11,000 for contracted artist/professional fees.

Mid-Ohio Valley Symphony Society, dba WVSO-Parkersburg

Parkersburg, Wood County
\$7,700 for contracted artist/professional fees and travel costs.

Notre Dame High School

Clarksburg, Harrison County
\$2,500 for contracted artist/professional fees.

Skyview Elementary

Morgantown, Monongalia County
\$6,750 for contracted artist/professional fees, travel, and project supplies.



West Virginia Music Hall of Fame

Charleston, Kanawha County
\$12,912 for contracted artist/professional fees, travel, and project supplies.

West Virginia Professional Dance Company

Beckley, Raleigh County
\$15,000 for contracted artist/professional fees.

West Virginia Youth Symphony

Charleston, Kanawha County
\$5,490 for contracted artist/professional fees.

Arts Partners

Provides general operating support for long-standing, stable arts organizations to further the general purpose or work of an organization rather than for a specific purpose or project.

Total: \$566,545

Unless otherwise noted, all funds awarded under Arts Partners are for general operating support.

Artsbridge

Parkersburg, Wood County
\$21,119

Carnegie Hall

Lewisburg, Greenbrier County
\$53,481

Charleston Ballet

Charleston, Kanawha County
\$36,908

The Clay Center

Charleston, Kanawha County
\$60,884

Greenbrier Repertory Theatre Company

Lewisburg, Greenbrier County
\$44,842

Huntington Museum of Art

Huntington, Cabell County
\$72,360



Morgan Arts Council

Berkeley Springs, Morgan County
\$23,776

Oglebay Institute

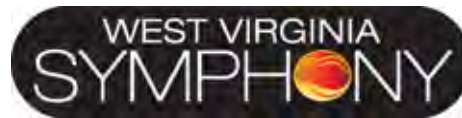
Wheeling, Ohio County
\$73,629

Parkersburg Art Center

Parkersburg, Wood County
\$35,918

Randolph County Community Arts Center

Elkins, Randolph County
\$12,475



West Virginia Symphony Orchestra

Charleston, Kanawha County
\$76,950

Wheeling Symphony Society
Wheeling, Ohio County
\$54,203

Community Arts Project Support

Provides support for projects in all disciplines that offer arts programming to the public. Sub-categories include presenting artists, performing arts, visual arts, media arts, and folk/traditional arts.
Total: \$262,884.00

Appalachian South Folklife Center

Pipestem, Summers County
\$7,800 for Culturefest Virtual Performances.

Arts & Humanities Alliance of Jefferson County/Jefferson Arts Council

Shepherdstown, Jefferson County
\$4,000 for Teaching Arts Creatively regranting program.

Arts Monongahela

Morgantown, Monongalia County
\$10,500 for third-year staffing support for executive director.

Artslink

New Martinsville, Wetzel County
\$15,126 for a regranting program, concert series, and Missoula Children's Theatre.



Children's Theatre of Charleston

Charleston, Kanawha County
\$11,725 for productions of *Sherlock Holmes and the First Baker Street Irregular*, *Mr. Scrooge*, and *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.*

Charles T. "Chuck" Mathena II Foundation

Princeton, Mercer County
\$20,000 for the Arts Alive series and Classic Crooner series.

Charleston Chamber Music Society

Charleston, Kanawha County
\$3,759 for concerts by Ariel String Quartet, Maxwell String Quartet, and The Boston Trio.

Contemporary American Theatre Festival

Shepherdstown, Jefferson County
\$18,191 for creative artists for CATF's 30th season.

Davis & Elkins College, Augusta Heritage Center

Elkins, Randolph County
\$20,000 for artist fees and travel for FY21 programming.

Fairmont Chamber Music Society

Fairmont, Marion County
\$4,298 for performances by Ronn McFarlane and Mindy Rosenfeld, Ensemble Schumann, and Les Delices.

Friends of Music

Shepherdstown, Jefferson County
\$14,632 for the 2020-2021 concert season with Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra.



Friends of Fort Ashby received a grant for further renovation of the museum, signage, and installation of a security system.

Friends of the Alban Arts and Conference Center

St. Albans, Kanawha County
\$13,750 for artist fees for the 2020-2021 season.

Highland Arts Unlimited

Keyser, Mineral County
\$9,315 for performances by WVU Symphony Orchestra, Chi-Town Transit Authority, Hank Williams Tribute, and Bayfield Brass Quintet.

Kanawha Valley FOOTMAD

Charleston, Kanawha County
\$4,100 for the 40th concert season.

Mid-Ohio Valley Symphony Society

Parkersburg, Wood County
\$12,000 for performances of Happy Birthday Beethoven, Music Across the Ages, and Bolero! by West Virginia Symphony Orchestra.

Old Opera House Theatre Company

Charles Town, Jefferson County
\$16,000 for second-year staffing support for production and volunteer manager.

Pocahontas County Opera House Foundation

Marlinton, Pocahontas County
\$22,033 for a 2020-2021 performance

series, Missoula Children’s Theatre, and first-year staffing support for part-time administrative assistant.

The River House

Capon Bridge, Hampshire County
\$4,300 for the summer and fall performing arts series and “Passages” storytelling event.

Trillium Collective

Lewisburg, Greenbrier County
\$15,355 for dance and movement Theatre Educational Concert Series; and Trillium Performing Youth program.



WV Dance Company

Beckley, Raleigh County
\$16,000 for development of “Exploration Earth: Your World Through STEAM” and the development and presentation of virtual programming.

Youth Museum of Southern WV

Beckley, Raleigh County

\$20,000 for Arthur’s World exhibition and Thomas and Friends: Explore the Rails exhibition.

Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources

Provides support for the acquisition, construction and renovation of arts venues, accessibility improvements and capital purchases of durable equipment.

Total: \$616,395.36

Charleston Ballet

Charleston, Kanawha County
Recommended Funding: \$3,750.00 to purchase a portable Marley floor.

Charleston Light Opera Guild

Charleston, Kanawha County
Recommended Funding: \$6,329.25 to replace stage curtains.

City of Morgantown

Morgantown, Monongalia County
\$75,000 to replace the roof at the Metropolitan Theatre.

Friends of Ashby’s Fort

Fort Ashby, Mineral County
\$40,498.15 to further renovate the fort museum, install outdoor signage, and install a security system.



Greenbrier Valley Theatre

Lewisburg, Greenbrier County
\$71,250 to replace HVAC systems throughout the facility.

Huntington Museum of Art

Huntington, Cabell County
\$45,158 to upgrade the clay studios and renovate restrooms.

Morgan Arts Council

Berkeley Springs, Morgan County
\$100,000 to install sprinkler systems

and renovate the upper floors of the Ice House.

Museum of American Glass

Weston, Lewis County
\$5,930.96 to renovate the museum lobby.

Oglebay Institute



Inspiring the Imagination

Oglebay Institute

Wheeling, Ohio County
\$200,000 to replace the roof at the Stifel Fine Arts Center.

Oil & Gas Museum

Parkersburg, Wood County
\$43,500 to refurbish historic windows.

Planet Xtreme Teen Center

Princeton, Mercer County
\$24,979 to replace HVAC system, purchase new video equipment, and install ADA signage.

Professional Development for Artists and Artisans

Provides support for professional and emerging artists to expand or improve their work or share their expertise.
Total: \$9,690

Joy Bridy

Shenandoah Junction, Jefferson County
\$2,453 to complete a studio upgrade including the purchase and



Jennifer Iskow, *Shanghai Mountain*, silk screen print, 24 x 18 inches

installation of equipment to increase the capacity to make and process handmade artist tiles.

Jennifer Iskow

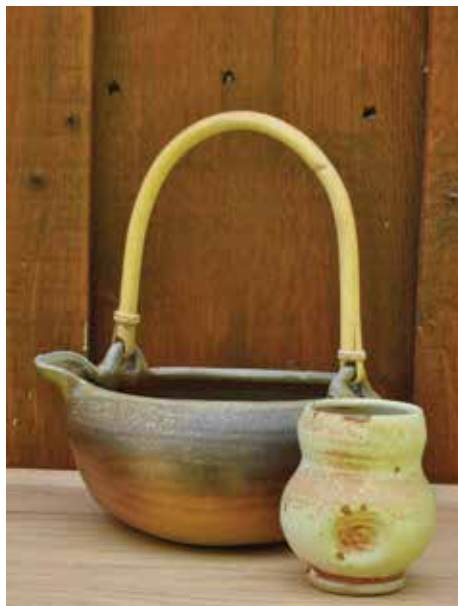
Thomas, Tucker County
\$2,375 to acquire a Risograph Digital Duplicator for the purpose of growing an existing graphic design business and developing the first small-scale, independent art book press in West Virginia.

Justin Litton

Scott Depot, Putnam County
\$2,089 for the purchase of two hard drive RAID arrays to store raw footage and project files for a documentary film project.

Daniele Piasecki-Burnett

Martinsburg, Berkeley County
\$1,730 to help purchase a new mobile workstation.



Joy Bridy, *Tea*, ceramic teapot and cup



Danielle Piasecki, *Wheel of Miracles*, digital art, 24 x 24 inches

Nicole Yurcaba

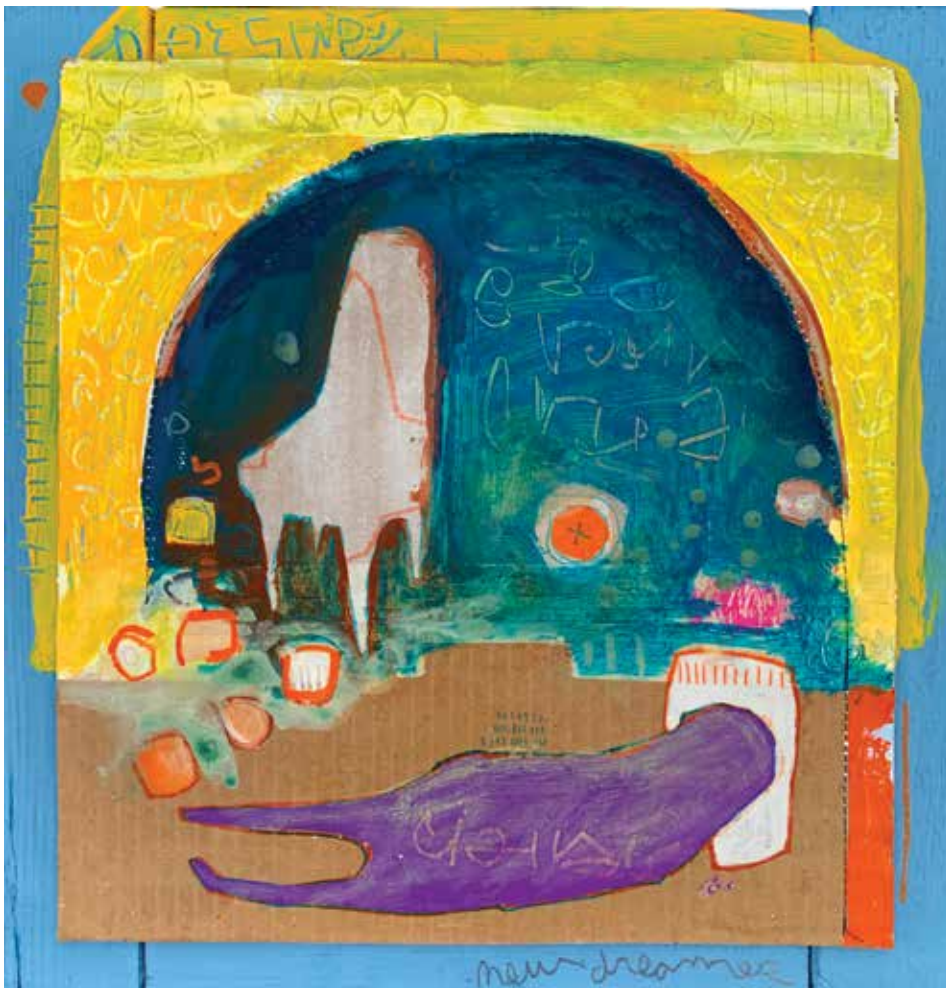
Baker, Hardy County
\$1,043 to partially fund travel, residency, and hotel expenses for a one-month writing and poetry residency in Iceland.

“Innate Curiosity” Leads to New Endeavors for Beckley Artist

Interview by Jack O’Hearn

I first met Robby Moore a few years back when I was co-jurying an art exhibition at Apartment Earth Gallery in Charleston. His mixed-media piece, An Example of a Mouse, received the third-place prize. It was uniquely original, beautifully textural, mysteriously emotive, and quirky (in a good way). A few months later, Robby contacted me about grant opportunities through the State Arts Office. He later invited me to jury The Best of West Virginia exhibition at Tamarack, where he was the visual and performing arts manager at the time. A year later, I had a meeting with a community theatre group from Beckley called WV Collective. That’s when I learned that Robby was also a director, actor, and set designer. He had recently finished directing Little Shop of Horrors with them. Like many people I meet professionally, I got to know Robby little by little over time until we became friends.

Dark Inside, Mixed Media, 2019



Now the executive director for the Beckley Art Center, Robby has been leading the way in virtual exhibition programming since the challenges of crowd gathering restrictions and closures began. A graduate of Concord University, he has exhibited his artwork in numerous solo, group, and juried exhibitions throughout the state. He is the co-founder and board member of Treehouse Arts Ensemble, which has been producing cultural events, exhibitions, workshops, and children’s theatre in the Beckley area since 2004.

To sum up, Robby Moore is a multi-talented, multi-disciplinary, and an admirably modest artist and arts professional who contributes greatly to the arts and culture of his hometown. In this conversation, we discuss his life as an artist, director, set designer, and actor in West Virginia as well as his position at the Beckley Art Center and the virtual programming he has been developing.

Your resume shows a lengthy list of art exhibitions and theatre experience over the past ten years; 99% of this in West Virginia and the majority being local to the Beckley area. How would you describe the support for versatile artists like yourself not only in the

city of Beckley but the entire state as well?

I feel very fortunate to have been received well in the West Virginia arts community. The arts scene in Beckley has grown since I started trying to promote and produce the arts in the area. There are dedicated supporters in Beckley that are always so appreciative, but there are still gaps in support. I'm sure there are some people that love the arts but maybe don't know the level of great work that's being produced here so they don't seek it out. Or maybe they don't know how dire it is to support artists in this area, as we are constantly on the cusp of losing not only artists but momentum. And of course, there are those that are just not interested. I have found most of those who are not interested feel like art is not meant for them. I feel that part of

my job at the Beckley Art Center is to help change these perspectives. I strongly believe that the arts can and do enrich all of us.

Can you talk about some pivotal opportunities throughout your career?

I realized a long time ago that a career in the arts wasn't all receptions and selling work to collectors. There are many roles that need to be filled to keep the arts alive. In college, I became really interested in arts administration. My first job that allowed me to explore that was at the West Virginia Dance Company (WVDC). Working at WVDC opened the door to working with non-profits, grant writing, fundraising, etc. Perhaps the most important thing I've come to realize is the importance of having artists in

leadership positions. As an artist you inherently understand the artist experience and can better navigate their needs. Sometimes artists are not fully equipped or may just not be interested in navigating the business side of a career in the arts. The business side was never a part of my course work as an art major, but luckily, I had an innate curiosity. I am by no means an expert in the field, though I have found that just my interest in the business side has proven helpful in my own career as well as in facilitating other artists. I find working on the administrative side just as fulfilling as creating my own work.

When I started working at Tamarack in 2004, I got to meet artists from across the state. It gave me the tools to know how to navigate working as a professional artist, and the confidence I needed. It was good to

Treehouse Arts Ensemble 2018 production of *On Golden Pond*, in Tamarack's Hulett C. Smith Theater. Direction and set design by Robby Moore.





Treehouse Arts Ensemble's 2015 production of *The Glass Menagerie*. From left, George Bickey as Jim O'Connor and Samantha Hight as Laura Wingfield. Direction and set design by Robby Moore.

discoveries will add to our organization and maybe even improve our in-person programming. It will also become part of our grant applications and a key talking point with sponsors.

The biggest lesson I have learned is to just jump in without fear. If your audience can see that you are growing and improving, they will forgive any initial lack of quality. It's similar to live theatre when what you think are shortfalls, the audience likely hasn't/won't notice.

talk to artists and find out how they made their careers successful and to see the process from the gallery's perspective.

At the very first FestivALL in 2005, I happened upon an exhibition hosted by a group of artists in a non-traditional space. I had finally met a group of artists that felt like they were my people. Just becoming their friend opened so many opportunities. Last year, I was invited to exhibit at the Clay Center and it was amazing to be among so many phenomenal WV artists. Working at the Beckley Art Center has allowed me to grow as a leader and has given me the chance to try new things and be creative as an arts administrator.

The Beckley Art Center has been releasing videos online since the start of closures and crowd limitations. They seem to have greatly improved in quality throughout that duration. What have you learned through this process?

I think it is important to pay attention to details and always present a quality, professional product. For me, sometimes that

means proceeding slowly to make sure all the details are perfect and executed at a high standard. One of my priorities upon starting my current position was to set a standard for what was released from the Beckley Art Center. However, during my first year virtual programming was way down on my priority list. When the pandemic hit in March, like most organizations, I was left scrabbling. I knew I had to do something to stay relevant and not lose any of that momentum we gained in my first six months. Like with my creative process in the studio, I just got to work without worrying about the details until later. I used what I had: artwork on an easel, my iPad, and my love for talking about art. I watched YouTube videos, asked friends for advice, and watched how other organizations were creating content. As I created in this new medium, I chose what I wanted to improve and started investing in software, sound, and lighting. It is still not ideal but at least we have a product that is continually improving and has led to many new ideas. Even when things are closer to the normal we once knew, these

How has virtual programming either hindered or enhanced your success during this time?

Creating the virtual programming is time consuming. When we were completely closed, it was great to have something to offer our community because there was nothing available for us to offer in-person. We also had time to learn and develop ideas. Now that we are partially open and offering a few of in-person programs again, it is a challenge fitting the virtual programming into the regular day-to-day duties. On the positive side, I feel like it has given me a new skillset that I can use in various parts of my career and life. For the Beckley Art Center, it has given us new life and added great value to our identity. I think it has also introduced us to many people that either weren't aware of what we offered or may have had the wrong impression of who we are.

To learn more about Robby, visit his website: www.robbymooreart.com. More information about the Beckley Art Center can be found at www.beckleyartcenter.com.



Above: Mixed media collages. Left, *Figure with 5*, 2019. Right, *An Example of a Mouse*, 2017.

Moore in Beckley Art Center's Dan and Cynthia Bickey Art Gallery. Artwork by Susan L. Feller. Photo by Saja Montague.



Thirty-four Arts Organizations in West Virginia Receive CARES Act Grants

The State Arts Office at the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) awarded \$381,976 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act grants for arts organizations. Thirty-four arts organizations across the Mountain State qualified to receive grants for relief towards mortgage, rent, utilities, and staffing costs. Award amounts were based on each organization's monthly expenses. Eligible arts organizations must have received a grant from the WVDACH in the past three years in the areas of Arts in Education, Community Arts, or Arts Partners.

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was awarded a portion of the CARES Act stimulus package passed by the U.S. Congress. Funding was distributed to state arts agencies, including WVDACH, by the NEA to regrant to nonprofit arts organizations to preserve jobs and provide support during closures caused by COVID-19. WVDACH received a total of \$430,000 in CARES Act funding from the Endowment.

The following organizations received funding from this grant program:

Appalachian South Folklife Center
Pipestem, Summers County
\$5,423

Arts Monongahela
Morgantown, Monongalia County
\$3,792

ArtsBank, Inc.
Elkins, Randolph County
\$2,833

Artsbridge, Inc.
Parkersburg, Wood County
\$4,402

Artslink
New Martinsville, Wetzel County
\$1,089

Carnegie Hall, Inc.
Lewisburg, Greenbrier County
\$20,590

Charleston Ballet
Charleston, Kanawha County
\$16,000

Children's Theatre of Charleston
Charleston, Kanawha County
\$3,903



Chuck Mathena Center
Princeton, Mercer County
\$21,340

Clay Center for the Arts & Sciences
Charleston, Kanawha County
\$20,590

Contemporary American Theater Festival, Inc.
Shepherdstown, Jefferson County
\$20,590

Davis & Elkins College
Elkins, Randolph County
\$8,997

FestivALL Charleston
Charleston, Kanawha County
\$9,230

Friends of Music
Shepherdstown, Jefferson County
\$1,125

Friends of the Alban Arts and Conference Center, Inc.
St. Albans, Kanawha County
\$1,157

Greenbrier Repertory Theatre, Inc.
Lewisburg, Greenbrier County
\$20,590

High Rocks Educational Corporation
Hillsboro, Pocahontas County
\$21,340

Huntington Museum of Art
Huntington, Cabell County
\$20,590

Huntington Symphony Orchestra
Huntington, Cabell County
\$7,678

Kanawha Valley FOOTMAD
Charleston, Kanawha County
\$718

Morgan Arts Council, Inc.
Berkeley Springs, Morgan County
\$8,704

Oglebay Institute
Wheeling, Ohio County
\$20,590

Old Brick Playhouse
Elkins, Randolph County
\$10,841

Old Opera House Theatre Company, Inc.
Charles Town, Jefferson County
\$11,083



Parkersburg Art Center
Parkersburg, Wood County
\$20,590

Randolph County Community Arts Council, Inc.
Elkins, Randolph County
\$6,354



The River House
Capon Bridge, Hampshire County
\$9,663

Trillium Collective, LTD
Lewisburg, Greenbrier County
\$1,470

Wheeling Symphony Society, Inc.
Wheeling, Ohio County
\$20,590

WV Music Hall of Fame
Charleston, Kanawha County
\$4,038

WV Professional Dance Company
Beckley, Raleigh County
\$14,908

WV Symphony Orchestra
Charleston, Kanawha County
\$20,590

Yew Mountain
Hillsboro, Pocahontas County
\$760

Youth Museum of Southern WV
Beckley, Raleigh County
\$19,818



West Virginia Arts Organizations Received CARES Act Funding Directly from the NEA

Five West Virginia nonprofit arts organizations were awarded funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act grant program from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The \$50,000 grant awards can be used for staff salaries, fees for artists and contractual personnel, and facilities costs.

Over 3,100 arts organizations across the county applied for this funding. Of those applications, 846 received grants. A total of \$44.5 million was awarded to applicants in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Eligible applicants were nonprofit arts organizations that had received grant funding directly from the National Endowment for the Arts in the past 4 years. Applications were accepted throughout the month of April, and grants were awarded on June 30, 2020.

"The National Endowment for the Arts, chaired by Mary Anne Carter, continues to be a constant and consistent partner to our agency. This funding will help these organizations maintain their missions during this uncertain time," said Curator Randall Reid-Smith. "Its great news for West Virginia as these organizations serve residents all over the state. We are very thankful to Chairman Carter, Tom Simplot, and all of the staff at the Endowment."

Here are the organizations in West Virginia that received this funding.

Contemporary American Theater Festival
Shepherdstown, Jefferson County

Greenbrier Repertory Theatre Company
Lewisburg, Greenbrier County

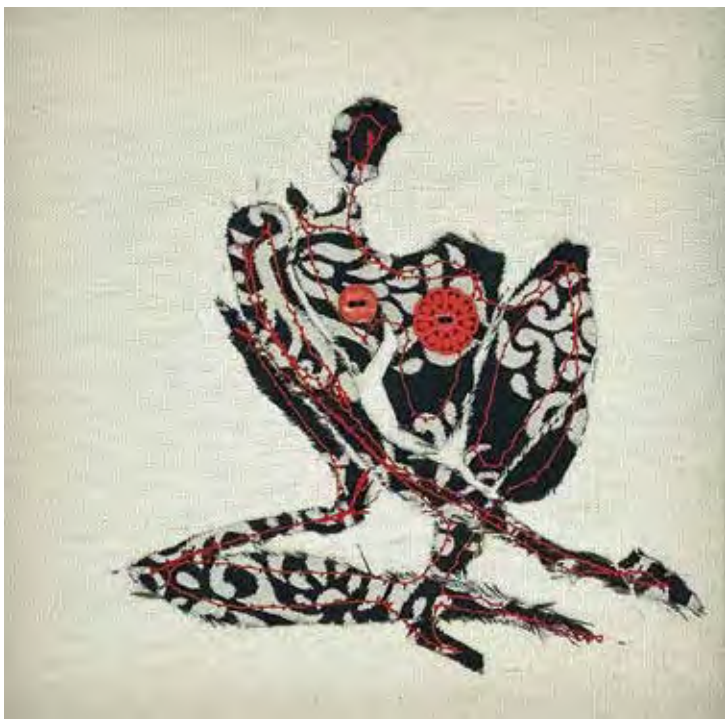
Huntington Museum of Art
Huntington, Cabell County

Oglebay Institute
Wheeling, Ohio County

West Virginia Symphony Orchestra
Charleston, Kanawha County

Gallery 35

Gallery 35: Art from the Mountain State features new work by West Virginia artists in each issue. If you are a West Virginia artist who would like your art shown in an upcoming issue, contact Jack O'Hearn at Jack.J.Ohearn@wv.gov for complete submission guidelines. To ensure the best reproduction, photos of your work should be jpg images that measure 2400 pixels on the longest side, if possible.





Opposite page, clockwise from top left:

Sharon Harms, Charleston, Kanawha County
Interdependence, Watercolor

Vernon Howell, Milton, Cabell County
Wonder Cabinet #2, Mixed media

Beth Keener, Pruntytown, Taylor County
Ecclesiastes 3:7, Fabric

Eddie Maier, Morgantown, Monongalia County
Tsuga Canadensis, Woodcut print



This page, clockwise from top left:

Bruce Fransen, Harpers Ferry, Jefferson County
Pirouette No. 2, Cherry wood

Mark Tobin Moore, Charleston, Kanawha County
(Patrious) Save Us From Ourselves, Collage

Jesse Thornton, Huntington, Cabell County
Seneca Rocks Perseids, Photograph



Grant Opportunities for Artists and Organizations

Arts in Education

Deadline: April 1

Provides support for curriculum-based hands-on projects that involve K-12 students and teachers in arts during daily instruction and for arts education programming outside of regular school hours.

Arts Partners

Deadline: March 1

Provides general operating support to long-standing, stable arts organizations to further the general purpose or work of an organization, rather than for a specific purpose or project.

Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources

Letter of intent: February 1

Deadline: April 1

Provides support for acquisition, construction, renovation, accessibility improvements and capital purchases of durable equipment.

Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources - Fast Track

Application Deadline: Rolling

Provides emergency support for the acquisition, construction and renovation of arts venues, accessibility improvements and capital purchases of durable equipment.

Community Arts Project Support

Deadline: March 1

Provides support for projects in all disciplines that offer arts programming to the public and planning and organizational development projects that strengthen West Virginia arts organizations.

Professional Development for Artists


Deadline: February 1/October 1

Provides support for professional artist organizations seeking ways to expand or improve their work or share their experiences.

Training and Travel

Deadline: 6 weeks prior to project date

Provides financial assistance to artists, arts administrators and arts educators to attend seminars, conferences, workshops, and showcases outside of West Virginia.



Community Arts Mini Grants
Deadline: 6 weeks prior to project date
Provides support for projects that present artists in performances, workshops, and other projects with a specific arts focus.

Submit to ArtWorks!

Does your arts organization deserve to be in the spotlight? Are you an artist who attended a good conference or workshop? Do you have an idea for a great story? Whatever it is, email it to elizabeth.a.yeager@wv.gov with the subject "ArtWorks Submission" and your idea could be published in an upcoming issue of *ArtWorks*.

Peer Assistant Networks (PAN)

The West Virginia Commission on the Arts (WVCA) allows arts organizations two PAN sessions per year, free of charge. Sessions last an average of two to four hours and can range anywhere from starting a non-profit and organizational development, to marketing and fundraising strategies, to lighting design and festival planning. Sessions can involve an organization's entire board of directors or only one to two staff members. The WVCA has a designated group of peer advisors that are paired to fit an organization's needs. These advisors have experience in the arts community in West Virginia and expertise in a range of fields. For more information about the Peer Assistance Network, contact Jack O'Hearn at Jack.J.OHearn@wv.gov or (304) 558-0240.

West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History • Arts Section

304.558.0240



Lance Schrader is the Director of Arts for the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History and is responsible for administering the division's art programs, which include arts administration services, as well as state and federal grants for West Virginia's arts organizations, individual artists, schools and communities.

Lance.E.Schrader@wv.gov



Barbie Smoot is the Grants Officer and Budget Manager. She maintains the database and financial records for all grant applications and is responsible for compliance with all state and federal rules, regulations, and policies.

Barbie.J.Smoot@wv.gov



Jenna Green is the Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources Grant Coordinator and Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Coordinator. She administers the Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources Grant and Fast Track Grant programs. She also reviews the accessibility of facilities and programs to ensure inclusion of all people.

Jenna.R.Green@wv.gov



Jim Wolfe is the Arts in Education Coordinator. He administers the Arts in Education grant program and is the state coordinator for Poetry Out Loud, a nation recitation contest for high school students. He is also the host of the monthly television show, ArtWorks.

James.D.Wolfe@wv.gov



Paul Neil is the Secretary for the Arts Office. He assists the Director of the Arts and all the Coordinators with Arts Office grant programs and activities, and he provides creative input and whatever clerical support is needed.

Paul.R.Neil@wv.gov



Elizabeth Yeager is the Individual Artist Coordinator. She provides technical assistance to artists and artists' organizations and administers the division's Professional Development for Artists and Artists' Organization and Training & Travel grant programs. She also is the editor of the agency's quarterly publication ArtWorks West Virginia.

Elizabeth.A.Yeager@wv.gov



Jack O'Hearn is the Community Arts Coordinator. He oversees and provides technical assistance to the Arts Partners, Community Arts Project Support, and Community Arts Mini-Grant programs. He also manages the Peer Assistance Network.

Jack.J.Ohearn@wv.gov



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