

NEWSLETTER

all events to take place at the Highland Center in Monterey, VA

February 22

The Judy Chops
After the Maple Queen Pageant,
about 9pm, stay tuned for updates



Join us after the Maple Queen Pageant for a party co-hosted with the Highland County Recreation Commission! Dust off your party pants for light refreshments, and a live performance by the genre-defying Judy Chops, who will rock your socks off with a blend from blues & swing to funk & rockabilly.



March 8, 5 pm

Furnace Mountain Band

Hailed as “the area’s premier acoustic band” by The Washingtonian, Furnace Mountain Band plays music from the American Appalachian traditions and original compositions that run the spectrum from lively and raucous to poignant and poetic. They have performed throughout the world, from the Yangtze River in China to the banks of the Shenandoah River, where they are the host band of the Watermelon Pickers’ Festival.



April 12, 7 pm

Scuffletown



Scuffletown is an acoustic high energy duo consisting of Marc Carraway on guitar and vocals and John Whitlow on harmonica, accordion, flute and vocals. The band has performed a unique blend of original music and acoustic roots, blues, jazz, bluegrass, country at wineries, marinas, concert shows, pubs and boat docks for over 25 years, recording 4 acclaimed albums along the way.

May 10, 7 pm

Wren Masters

The Wren Masters specialize in the historical performance of 17th and 18th century music on period instruments: baroque violin, viola da gamba and harpsichord. Hailed by the Washington Post for their “crisp ensemble, mellowness, and stylistic awareness,” the musicians of this baroque ensemble are members of the W&M Applied Music Faculty, and the Governor’s Musik of Colonial Williamsburg. Originally formed in 2005, the Wrens are named after their favorite performance space, William & Mary’s Christopher Wren Chapel, circa 1693.



Welcome new board members!

Katherine (Kate) MacKenzie

Kate's resume includes a list of skills that will be very important for the Arts Council. She has experience in graphic design, events planning, marketing, and website development. She personally expressed her desire to academically and professionally pursue creative and educational project development. She is passionate and committed to forwarding artistic opportunity and involvement within Highland County by connecting musicians and artists she has met to the Highland County network.



John Wade Meyers

Wade is the new Music teacher for Highland County Public Schools. He has over six years of management experience in nonprofit arts organizations, leading teams of up to 70 individuals. He has successfully implemented strategic plans to revitalize arts programs and enhance community cultural engagement. Passionate about promoting the arts as a means to foster community development and enrichment. His skills also include social media development and implementation. As the Arts Council moves toward more performance workshops and continues a strong music presence in Highland County, Wade will be a great asset to the Board of Directors.



Wendy Jaccard

Wendy has over 25 years of professional experience in the nonprofit sector, including institutions of higher education, health care providers and hospitals, and both large, national and small nonprofits. Her organizational skills and strong background in fundraising, project management and technology and operations will be beneficial to the future development and growth of the Highland County Arts Council.



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Arts Council
events at
highlandcountyartscouncil.org

Our email address is
[highlandcoarts@
gmail.com](mailto:highlandcoarts@gmail.com)

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Creativity Corner

Jane Rackley

Jane Rackley's mother taught her to knit when she was a child, and she has been knitting since she was young.

She enjoys challenging Norwegian patterns. The challenge is translating instructions correctly.

She learned to knit gnomes when her husband, HC, was working in Norway. She bought two gnomes at a craft fair in their tiny town. HC's housemate, Bob, wanted one too. When he returned the next day, all had sold, and no one knew who had knit them. HC told Bob not to worry, Jane would knit him one, and she did. It became a hobby, and the Norwegians in town would walk by to see new creations displayed in windows. Jane has knit and given away hundreds of gnomes over the years.

Jane loves thinking about the person she is knitting for as she works, imagining them wearing the sweater, cap, socks, mittens. She enjoys knitting with real wool, it is so versatile and warm.

Her ancestors have lived in Highland County since 1744. She and her husband moved here in 2013. As a native West Virginian, born in Morgantown, there is a pride that runs in her veins of the mountain history, beauty, stubbornness, get-it-done attitude, folklore, strength, resiliency.

When people started asking if she would knit them a gnome, she thought this could be a fundraiser for our library. Jane loves the local library, saying "all the folks who work there are so intelligent and helpful." She instructed HC to hide the first one in the library after Pamm McDowell had shoulder surgery recently, hoping it would help her recover and give her a chuckle. Then she got inspired to knit a gnome for each of the librarians. Jane's intricate knitted gnomes have brought a smile to many!



THANK YOU

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ENDOWMENT
for the **ARTS**
arts.gov

Without the support of the following organizations, the Highland County Arts Council would not be able to provide the programming that is its hallmark.

The Virginia Commission for the Arts The National Endowment for the Arts
The Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge
The Little Swiss Fund The Charles Pinckney Jones Foundation

