



# The Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council

# Creative We Stand

*June 2019*

## **A Note from our Executive Director:**

Prince George's County's Gateway Arts District is the first and largest arts district in the State of Maryland. This year's Gateway Open Studio Tour (OST), an annual event where local artists open their studios for visitors and gallerists, celebrated a record number of artists and attendees from across the DMV and beyond. In a May 8, 2019 article *Washington Post* so aptly described, "Maryland's Gateway Arts District Swelled into Cultural Destination. Here are 4 Places to Visit While You're There". We thank our media supporters for validating what we know to be true; *Art Lives Here!*

We invite you to continue to experience the mosaic of arts and cultural events the county has to offer throughout the summer; Lake Arbor Jazz Festival, Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center workshops and exhibits, and theatre performances at Joe's Movement Emporium just to name a few. If you missed this year's OST, mark your calendar for 2020!

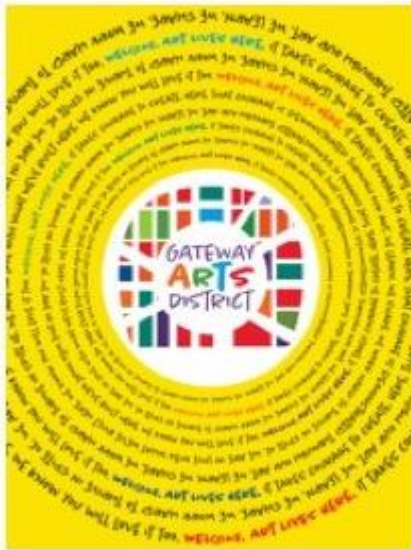
Creative We Stand,

Rhonda Dallas - Executive Director  
Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council

---







## Gateway Arts District Embarks on New Marketing Strategy

PGAHC facilitated, in tandem with the 2019 Open Studio Tour, a new marketing strategy initiative for the Gateway Arts District. The strategy will include an overarching statement of visual identity and destination branding. Consultant Dionne Clemons and Gateway graphic designer Justin Bost provided initial support throughout several open sessions. Strategy work, and concept development is ongoing and invites continued participation by artists, arts and cultural organizations, governing municipalities, residents, and business related stakeholders. The Office of Council Member Deni Taveras and a Maryland State Arts Council A&E Districts technical assistance grant both support this initiative.

For more information please contact [rjreynolds@pgahc.org](mailto:rjreynolds@pgahc.org).



## PGAHC Launches '4 Star Arts for Veterans' Program

The Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council (PGAHC) has announced the launch of its "4 Star Arts for Veterans" program. This multidisciplinary arts program for veterans and their families will feature visual arts, music, dance, and poetry. Artistic workshops will provide veterans the space to tell their stories and seek healing through the arts. The kick-off event for the '4 Star Arts for Veterans' program will take place on Saturday June 22, 2019 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm at the Overdue Recognition Art Gallery in Bowie, MD. Upcoming interactive workshops will include a "Paint Party" on Saturday June 29th, "Poetry Workshop" in July 6th, and a "Newspaper Workshop" Saturday July 13th and 14th. For event details, please visit [www.pgahc.org](http://www.pgahc.org). All of the workshops are scheduled to take place at Creative Suitland located at 4719 Silver Hill Road in Suitland, MD.

---



## May Poet Laureate Reading and Open Mic: Springtime Memories

The Prince George's County Office of the Poet Laureate partnered with Creative Suitland on Saturday, May 25th, to present "*Springtime Memories: A Poetry Affair*". The free family-friendly afternoon affair was the 5th in a series of 9 arts-based events being presented throughout the county during 2019 to engage Prince Georgians in poetry as well as cultural and literary expression. 'Springtime Memories' featured poetry by Prince George's Poet

Laureate Sistah Joy Sylvia Dianne "Ladi Di" Beverly, and Youth Poetry Ambassador Khalil Dorsey. Musical selections were rendered by Djembe drummer, Doc Powell, and vocalist Nicole McFadden. Karen Beverly provided visual art for the audience to enjoy.

Please visit [www.pgahc.org/poet-laureate](http://www.pgahc.org/poet-laureate) to learn about future events!

---



### **P.A.I.N.T. Prince George's Pop-Up: Food Truck Days**

On Friday, June 7th, the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council participated in a 'Food Truck Days' event in Upper Marlboro. PGAHC's hosted a PAINT Prince George's Pop-up at the event which is a series that attracts 'foodies' from around the County. This event was hosted in partnership with the Town of Upper Marlboro as planning is underway to create a community based public art strategy.

Learn more about P.A.I.N.T. Prince George's Pop-Up events by contacting Luther Wright at [lwright@pgahc.org](mailto:lwright@pgahc.org).

---



### Grantee Spotlight: Tamara Wellons' Bare Voices Community Sing

On May 25th, PGAHC Grantee Tamara Wellons' hosted the first Bare Voices Community Sing event at the Gateway Media Arts Lab in Mount Rainier, MD. 20 attendees offered their voices and were accompanied by two musicians and a DJ as Ms. Wellons led them in songs of protest, freedom, and unity. Check out highlights from the community sing by clicking the above image.

Join Ms. Wellons' next Bare Voices Community Sing on June 29th from 1pm-3pm at 3311 Rhode Island Ave in Mt. Rainier, MD!

---



### STARTALK Chinese STEAM & Culture Academy Starts July 8th!

The 2019 STARTALK Chinese STEAM & Culture Summer Academy, presented by PGAHC made possible through a federal grant, is a three-week program integrating STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) into the learning of the Chinese language and culture. The program will offer 60 elementary school students an intense but fun and engaging experience.

The program is comprised of daily language, cultural, STEAM activities, two one-day field trips, and a final performance day. It is open to all students from kindergarten to fifth grade (novice low to novice high/intermediate-low proficiency levels) in Prince George's County, Maryland and its neighboring areas; lessons are taught primarily in Chinese. Our theme this year is "The Chesapeake Bay - A Home for Many," in which students learn about the Chesapeake Bay, the animals, and plants that depend on it, its environmental impact, and pollution solutions they can encourage in their communities.



## One to Watch: Dewey Ortiz- Director, Writer and Founder of DK Filmworks

In 2010, with the goal and vision to change the perception of African Americans in cinema, this month's One to Watch Dewey A. Ortiz, Jr. co-founded DK Filmworks. His series "Survivor Stories", which features four courageous D.C. women who have survived domestic abuse, won Best Web Series at the 2017 D.C. Black Film Festival. In addition to directing our living stories, Mr. Ortiz is also an imaginative writer. He wrote, directed and executive produced his first narrative short, "Comeuppance", which screened at several festivals in 2014. Comeuppance is currently available for streaming on Amazon. In February 2019, Mr. Ortiz completed "The Runaways", a powerful short filmed in Prince George's County, MD and the District of Columbia. This film follows abused and neglected teenagers as they gather the courage to escape their tumultuous lives. "The Runaways" has been accepted into the Roxbury International Film Festival, and is under consideration for festivals throughout 2019 and 2020.



Mr. Ortiz is currently in production on his second documentary, "Higher Power." This documentary will highlight cannabis legalization efforts in the District of Columbia and how it is impacting African Americans in the Washington Metropolitan area.

*Click the image below to view a scene from Ortiz's, "The Runaways".*





---

## Happening in Prince George's County!

*Prince George's* **GOT TALENT**

PRINCE GEORGE'S ARTS & HUMANITIES COUNCIL  
TALENT SHOWCASE BRUNCH

**SAVE THE DATE**

SUNDAY  
**OCT 27**  
2020  
11 am - 3 pm  
CAMELOT BY MARTINS  
13905 CENTRAL AVE  
UPPER MARLBORO, MD

For Tickets, Partnership, and Ad Opportunities contact Brianna Holmes at [events@pgahc.org](mailto:events@pgahc.org)

# Bare Voices Series

A Community Singing for Wellness and Change  
Led and curated by Music Artist, Tamara Wellons

## Dates:

May 25, 2019 Songs for Unity, Protest and Freedom

June 29, 2019 Black American Music

July 20, 2019 International Folk Songs



1pm-3pm

Gateway Media Arts Lab

3311 Rhode Island Avenue | Mount Rainier, MD 20712



## The Community Sing is for ALL!

(singers or non singers)

This is for a community of people who have a desire to:

- Sing for enjoyment and well-being and engage in inspiring and joyful community experiences
- Honor tradition and defend human progress
- Learn songs and use singing as a necessary part of their wellness practice
- Be involved in community activism

Hosted by Gateway Media Arts Lab and support from Creative Edge Collaborative.  
This project was supported by the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council



PGAHC | .ORG  
PRINCE GEORGE'S ARTS & HUMANITIES



// CONNECT WITH US //

