



The Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council

Creative We Stand

March 2019

A Note from our Executive Director

This month marks my seventh year serving as executive director for the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council. As seven-year cycles have been my orbit of personal and professional growth, I also feel an exciting new trajectory for PGAHC. We have taken an approach of encouraging bold ideas and impactful collaborations that accelerate the phenomenal talent within our local arts community. We are amplifying our efforts in building a thriving regional arts destination that embraces our county's diverse culture and creative practices. Aspirations from our youth can be elevated through the power of spoken word, neighborhood re-development can be prompted by public art, and the treasured stories of our residents can be celebrated through film.



The Maryland State Arts Council has contracted with Wide Angle Youth Media (WAYM) to create several videos that shows the impact of the arts on Marylanders across the state highlighting each county/jurisdiction (24) and each Arts & Entertainment District (26). It is another opportunity for us to spread the word about our collective work and promote the value of the arts in Prince George's County.

Creative We Stand,

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



Miss America Gives Master Class at Suitland High School

The Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council Artist in Residence Program joined the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts (CAAPA) at Suitland High School to co-host a Master Class facilitated by Miss America 2019, Nia Franklin. During the Master Class, several students presented music that they were currently working on. They received guidance on vocal and breathing technique, interpretation, musicality and presentation. The class was the first of two events in January featuring Ms. Franklin. She went on to emcee and participate in the third annual Sopranos Slay concert.



Sopranos Slay Concert

On January 12th, the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts (CAAPA) in partnership with the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council hosted its third annual 'Sopranos Slay' concert featuring eight classically trained sopranos who performed Arias,

Negro Spirituals, Jazz, Pop, and Broadway classics. Accompanied by Dr. Lester Green, Nicole Butler, Anamer Castrello, Karla Rivera, Monique Holmes-Spells, Pamela Simonson, Dara Rahming, Jayna Brown, and Miss America 2019 Nia Franklin wowed the audience with their renditions of pieces that have defined musical genres spanning hundreds of years.

Click [here](#) to learn more about CAAPA.



This January, PGAHC welcomed R. Joshua Reynolds as the new Marketing and Communications Manager. Reynolds, who holds degrees in Vocal Performance and Arts Administration from Boston University, is excited to promote the arts around Prince George's County in his new role.

Want to get the word out about your arts initiatives and programs to stakeholders from around the County? Connect with Mr. Reynolds at rjreynolds@pgahc.org today!



Office of the Poet Laureate Reading Series Kickoff

J. Joy 'Sistah Joy' Alford, Prince George's County's first appointed Poet Laureate kicked off the 2019 Reading Series by honoring Dr. Martin Luther King at the Bowie Branch Library on January 26th. Included in the event were features by Drummer Doc Powell, Prince George's County Youth Poet Laureate Mi'Jan Credle, and classically trained soprano Karen Wiggs-Wilbanks. January's event focused on honoring Dr. King's contributions to civil rights in the

United States. The Poet Laureate Reading series will travel to each councilmanic district in Prince George's County and feature local artists as well as open-mic portions. Click [here](#) to learn more about the Prince George's County Poet Laureate!



P.A.I.N.T. Prince George's Pop Up 'I HEART YOU' Card Making!

In preparation for Valentine's Day, PGAHC's Producing Art In Neighborhoods Together (P.A.I.N.T.) Prince George's program hosted its first 2019 Pop-Up Art event at the Center Court at the Shops at Iverson. Entitled 'I HEART YOU', the event was facilitated by local artist Lindsay Vance and resulted in hundreds of cards being created: one to keep and one to give away to those in need.

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



PGAHC Website Re-Design!

On February 14th, the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council launched its new website design! The highly anticipated re-design project now allows viewers to easily navigate the many resources available to the arts community in Prince George's County. Want to promote your event or initiative on the PGAHC website? Contact Marketing and Communications Manager, R. Joshua Reynolds at rjreynolds@pgahc.org today to learn how!



Prince George's County is Well Represented at Maryland Arts Day!

On February 14th, the arts community of Prince George's County joined artists and arts administrators from around the State for Maryland Arts Day in Annapolis. Throughout the day, representatives of over 300 arts organizations spoke to state and county legislators to advocate for the arts to be a legislative priority. Among major points made as to why the arts are integral to Maryland's success were: arts organizations generate over 17,600 jobs, 8.7 million people attend art events in Maryland each year, \$59.6M yearly in state and local tax revenue from arts events, \$1.4B annual economic impact of arts in Maryland, and a 4:1 return on investment for economic activity generated by the arts.

Learn more about the impact of the arts by visiting the Maryland Citizens for the Arts at www.mdarts.org.



Demystifying Public Art Symposium

The Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council partnered with the M-NCPPC Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation-Arts and Cultural Heritage Division and the University of Maryland University College to host a two-day symposium entitled, 'Demystifying Public Art'. Taking place Feb. 15th and 16th, the symposium hosted over 100 attendees. Workshop topics included: *Sponsors of Public Art, Access and Entry Points-My Introduction to Public Art, What Every Public Artist Needs to Know, and many others*. Each day concluded with receptions and tours of the ongoing *Public Art Collection* at The Hotel at the University of Maryland and the *Maryland High School Juried Art Exhibition* at the University of Maryland University College, which is open until April 28th. Event sponsors included Council Member Dannielle Glaros, District 4.

Contact Rhonda Dallas at rdallas@pgahc.org to learn more about future workshops and Public Art in Prince George's County.



February Poet Laureate Reading Visits District 2!

On February 23rd, Prince George's County Poet Laureate Sistah Joy hosted the second Poetry Reading at the Prince George's African-American Museum and Cultural Center in North Brentwood, MD. After welcoming remarks from PGAAMCC Executive Director Monica Montgomery and District 2 Council Member Deni Taveras, audience members were treated to performances by Sistah Joy, Drummer Doc Powell, Bro. Yao, Youth Poetry Ambassador

Zainab Ahmed, and singer Christine Jenkins. The second reading and open mic in the year-long series focused on Black Migration. Click [here](#) to learn more about upcoming Prince George's County Poet Laureate events!



Save the Date: Gateway Open Studio Tour - May 11, 2019

The Gateway Open Studio Tour is now in its 15th year! It's a one-day FREE event that celebrates the rich visual arts scene in the Gateway Arts District. On May 11th, over 100 artists and organizations will open their doors to the public to share what they've been working on and talk about their processes. This is the only event in the County in which there are coordinated common public hours for art studios. It's a really unique opportunity for people to explore the Gateway Arts District!

There is still an opportunity for artists to participate in the Open Studio Tour. Interested persons should contact gateway.artist.studios@gmail.com by Monday, March 11th to learn how to participate.



ONE TO WATCH - Harold Jackson, III

Harold Jackson, III is an EMMY Nominated Producer and recent winner of the Emerging Filmmaker award at NCBFF. He has written, produced and directed several feature films: "Last Night", "Seamless", "The Gift", and "Under the Bourbon Moon." He also produced a myriad of other productions that includes short films, TV pilots, web series, and a feature length documentary – "Burn: the Evolution Of An American City." "Burn" won Best Documentary at the Hollywood Black Film Festival and the Arizona Black Film Showcase. Jackson has been voted Best Director three times. He has also won Best Screenplay, Best Documentary and Audience Choice at multiple film festivals.

(Click the image below to view the trailer for Jackson's film, "Unarmed Man")



Click [here](#) to learn more about the Prince George's Film Office



// CONNECT WITH US //

