



MAPPING THE FUTURE  
OF THE ARTS IN FAIRFAX

The background of the page is a vibrant, abstract composition of colors and shapes. It features splatters of red, green, and blue paint, along with thick, flowing lines in white, blue, and green. The overall effect is dynamic and artistic, suggesting movement and creativity.

## ARTS UPDATE: **HUNTER MILL DISTRICT**



## ARTS GRANTS

# BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES IN HUNTER MILL DISTRICT

**Ten Hunter Mill District-based nonprofit arts organizations received FY16 Operating Support Grants totaling \$57,424.**

**The FY16 recipients are: Greater Reston Arts Center, Initiative for Public Art - Reston, Reston Community Orchestra, The Hub Theatre, The Reston Chorale, The Vienna Jammers Percussion Ensemble, Inc., Vienna Arts Society, Vienna Choral Society, Voce Inc., and Washington West International Film Festival.**

Operating Support Grants were awarded to both emerging and established arts organizations this year.

The Washington West International Film Festival



Washington West celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Back to the Future* with a screening of the trilogy of the films, a star-studded Red Carpet event that included Christopher Lloyd, and a parade of 16 DeLorean cars through Reston Town Center.

The Fairfax Board of Supervisors agreed to change the name of Reston, Virginia to *Hill Valley* for the festival week generating local, national and international attention.

was founded in 2011 to showcase a curated festival of exciting new films and filmmakers from around the world to Fairfax County and Northern Virginia audiences.

According to Founder and President Brad Russell, the organization’s core belief is that story can change the world, and they have built a film festival around it.

**“We are thrilled to have received funding from the Arts Council. It will enable our organization to continue to grow to one of the premier film festivals in the region and provide Fairfax County audiences with an exceptional cinematic experience.”**

— Brad Russell  
Founder and President  
Washington West  
International Film Festival



## ARTS GRANTS (CONTINUED)

### FY16 Operating Support Grants to Arts Organizations in Hunter Mill District

Total \$ amount awarded	\$57,424
Total \$ amount requested	\$141,922
Total # of awardees	10
Total # of active nonprofit arts organizations by district	39

The Arts Council of Fairfax County awarded \$379,000 in FY16 Operating Support Grants to 44 nonprofit arts organizations.

Funded organizations offer a variety of arts disciplines including, dance, film, instrumental music, opera, theatre, visual art, and vocal music.

The Operating Support Grants program is one of five Arts Council grant programs.

To learn more about all of our grant programs, visit <http://artsfairfax.org/grants>.

**“Arts funding strengthens local arts organizations and supports artists as they contribute to the vibrancy of our communities providing opportunities for residents and visitors to participate in the arts.”**

— *Linda S. Sullivan,*  
*President & CEO*  
*Arts Council of Fairfax County*

## CULTURAL DIVERSITY

# INVESTING IN CREATIVE AND ETHNICALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITIES IN HUNTER MILL DISTRICT



The Senior Choir of the historic Shiloh Baptist Church (DC) and Mosaic Harmony joined The Reston Chorale for *Wade in the Water: Songs of Freedom, Faith and Friendship*. The October 10th performance was dedicated to the memory of Robert E. Simon, Jr., whose commitment to creating Reston as an integrated community in the early 1960s was the inspiration behind the concert. A founding member and longtime friend of The Reston Chorale, Bob Simon passed away in his home in Reston on September 21, 2015, at the age of 101.

The Arts Council launched the **Global Arts Initiative** in FY15 to identify ethnic and culturally diverse arts organizations in the County and encourage more diverse programming and participation in the arts.

**More than 60 for-profit and nonprofit arts organizations were identified and invited to participate in a cultural diversity forum, attend a grants workshop, and apply for funding.**

The effort was funded in part by a one-year grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Nine organizations received funding for diversity initiatives reaching all districts. The Arts Council will continue to expand its outreach to ethnically diverse communities in the coming years.

**Two Hunter Mill arts organizations received Project Support Grant funding for diversity programming.**

The **Reston Chorale** presented the *Wade in the Water: Songs of Freedom, Faith and Friendship* concert series, partnering with Mosaic Harmony and the Gospel Choir of Shiloh Baptist Church, celebrating and sharing inspirational African-American music.

The Chorale is offering several concerts this holiday season ranging from sing-alongs at Reston Town Center to performances of beloved carols from around the globe.



## CULTURAL DIVERSITY (CONTINUED)

The **Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE)** will present *Transformations* in 2016, an exhibition by Taiwanese-born artist Shih Chieh Huang, featuring interactive elements created from a variety of materials ranging from LED lights to ordinary household objects.

**“We are delighted to bring Huang’s work to the Reston community and Fairfax County. Inspired in part by phosphorescent deep sea creatures, Huang’s installations are a mesmerizing blend of art, science, and technology.”**

— Holly Koons McCullough  
Executive Director and Curator  
Greater Reston Arts Center



Shih Chieh Huang, *Seductive Evolution of Animated Illumination*, 2013

As part of the Global Arts Initiative, the Arts Council identified more than 60 organizations that provide County residents with diverse programming and participation in the arts.

District/City	Ethnically Diverse Nonprofit Arts Organizations	Ethnically Diverse For-Profit Arts Organizations	Total	Total # of Active Nonprofit Arts Organizations by District/City
Braddock	10	1	11	30
Dranesville	11	1	12	42
Hunter Mill	7	0	7	39
Lee	1	0	1	3
Mason	5	3	8	24
Mount Vernon	2	0	2	12
Providence	5	0	5	21
Springfield	3	1	4	11
Sully	6	3	9	16
City of Fairfax	1	0	1	11
City of Falls Church	5	0	5	7
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>216</b>

An ethnically diverse arts organization promotes and organizes arts activities within particular ethnic communities; works towards cultural exchange and the preservation of ethnic traditions; or educates audiences about cultural heritages.

## ARTS AWARDS

# CELEBRATING VISIONARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

**Hunter Mill District-based Vienna Jammers were honored with the 2015 Emerging Arts Award at the 2015 Arts Awards for providing exemplary outreach to area youth and participating in community building activities in the Town of Vienna and the Washington, DC area.**



Congressman Gerald E. Connolly, Hunter Mill District Supervisor Catherine Hudgins, 2015 Emerging Arts Award Honoree and Artistic Director of the Vienna Jammers David L. Reynolds Jr., Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova, Arts Council President & CEO Linda S. Sullivan, and Arts Awards Event Chair Richard S. Goldberg. Photo Credit: Capitol Media USA

The Jammers have expanded from a small, after-school percussion ensemble to a professional percussion, music education and performing organization for children ages 8 through 16. Their high-quality programs and active community engagement led to their 2012 incorporation as a nonprofit arts organization.

Today, the Jammers is composed of more than 90 members. The Jammers can be seen year-round performing on their signature red Brute trash cans.

Their passion for music, education, and live performances has garnered them community support in Fairfax County and beyond.

**“The Jammers strive to give children a comprehensive musical experience and to share the art with as many people as possible enriching quality of life and building community.”**

— *David L. Reynolds Jr.*  
Artistic Director, Vienna Jammers  
2015 Emerging Arts Awardee



## LEADERSHIP IN THE ARTS

# TWO RESTON RESIDENTS RECEIVE HONORS FOR CIVIC LEADERSHIP AND EXCEPTIONAL ARTS SUPPORT



Leila Gordon



Joe Ritchey

**Two Reston residents received awards for outstanding leadership and exceptional support to the arts.**

**Leila Gordon**, Executive Director of the Reston Community Center, is among the recipients of Leadership Fairfax’s 2015 Northern Virginia Leadership Awards. Gordon was honored on December 3rd with the Regional Leadership Award for her excellent civic leadership and tireless community engagement in the arts.

**Joe Ritchey**, Principal of Prospective Inc., received a national Business Committee for the Arts (BCA) award for being an outstanding arts supporter, having donated more than \$1.1 million to arts-related nonprofit organizations in the County.

Presented every year by Americans for the Arts, the BCA 10 awards honor ten U.S. companies for their exceptional commitment to the arts through grants, local partnerships, volunteer programs, matching gifts, sponsorships, and board membership.

**“I believe that a community’s economic vitality and quality of life are directly proportionate to its commitment to and investment in arts and culture. Pedestrian-friendly and aesthetic public spaces, permanent and temporary public art, galleries, concerts, arts festivals, and theatre all enrich communities. Based on my urban development experience, I know that investment in the arts provides a powerful economic return.”**

— Joe Ritchey  
Principal, Prospective Inc.



## ARTS EDUCATION

# NONPROFIT ARTS INDUSTRY SERVES 93,250 FAIRFAX COUNTY STUDENTS ANNUALLY

It is widely known that K-12 student involvement in the arts is linked to higher academic performance, improved standardized test scores, an increase in community service, and lower dropout rates.

- **1,855 arts education activities reach 93,250 K-12 students annually;**
- **\$1,625,500 is spent annually on arts education services by the nonprofit arts sector;**
- **50% of the arts education programmers have been in business for more than 16 years.**

A 2014 College Board report by Americans for the Arts shows that students who took four years of arts and music classes while in high school scored on average 96 points better on their SAT than students who took only one-half year or less.

The Arts Council of Fairfax County conducted a survey in 2015 on arts education programs and activities for K-12 audiences offered by 34 nonprofit arts organizations in Fairfax County and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.

The goals of the survey were to identify what type and scope of arts education activities are conducted and to what extent the nonprofit arts sector is contributing to arts education.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census data report, there are 212,445 youth ages 5 to 19 in Fairfax County. The 34 nonprofit arts organizations reach 44% of that population. However, the percentage of youth reached is probably lower, as some students may have participated in multiple programs.

A full report will be published on our website by late December 2015.

SOURCES:

**2010 Census Data Report**

<http://www.census.gov/2010census>

**2014 College Board Report**

<http://www.americansforthearts.org>



## 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

# IMPACTING COMMUNITIES AND GROWING THE ARTS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

With 2016 around the corner, the Arts Council wraps up a stellar 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year with many successes and advancements in its mission.

Accomplishments include the creation of new information vehicles, the completion of the 2015-2020 strategic plan, and the initiation of three new service programs.

These new initiatives and ongoing services had a tremendous impact on the growth of the arts in Fairfax County and the communities the Arts Council serves.

Looking ahead to the next 50 years, the Arts Council will continue its efforts to support and showcase the artistic and cultural richness of Fairfax County.

- **Global Arts Initiative** to identify, serve, and support ethnically diverse arts organizations and programming in Fairfax;
- **Artist Residencies in Middle Schools** program training local artists to provide innovative, multi-week residencies in Fairfax County Public Schools;
- **Imagine Art Here: Tysons Tiles**, a community engagement and public art initiative that invited Tysons residents, employees and visitors to contribute to the cultural planning process for the area's redevelopment.



# ARTS DIGEST

## THE ARTS CAN PROVIDE HOPE AND MENTAL SAFE HAVENS

Source: The Guardian; Article by Jonathan Bucks



Image Courtesy of the Guardian

### THE ARTS OFFER HOPE AND PROMOTE HEALING

Musician Davide Martello, who was in a pub in Konstanz, Germany when the Paris attacks began, decided within minutes to put his piano on a trailer and make the 400-mile trip. Martello played John Lennon’s *Imagine* on a grand piano outside the Bataclan theatre, at the scene of one of the deadly attacks.

The 34-year-old, who also performs under the name Klavierkunst, is known for traveling around conflict zones to play the piano. He previously performed at the sites of the Charlie Hebdo attacks in Paris earlier this year. Martello has been recognized by the European parliament for his “outstanding contribution to European cooperation and the promotion of common values.”

<http://www.theguardian.com>

Source: Greatist.com; Article by Martina E. Faulkner



Image Courtesy of the techinsider.io

### FINDING CALM AMID THE CHAOS

Coach Martina E. Faulkner shares with her readers how she picked up coloring from watching *The Osbournes* on TV, and how the arts can be used as a tool for meditation and finding inner peace in the midst of chaos.

Faulkner suggests, “If you haven’t tried coloring yet, take a page out of Ozzy Osbourne’s book and find a little time in your day for this wonderful creative outlet and you’ll get to feel like a kid again, and there’s nothing wrong with that.”

<http://greatist.com>

To receive more information on each of the district reports please contact Henrik Sundqvist, Director of Communications, at [info@artsfairfax.org](mailto:info@artsfairfax.org) or by phone at (703) 642-0862 x3.

The Arts Council of Fairfax County is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in 1964 as Fairfax County’s designated local arts agency and is funded in part by Fairfax County, corporations, foundations, individuals, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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