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Wanda’s Visit

A staged reading of the one-act play by Christopher Durang

Darcy Dunn • Dayna Kurtz • John McCaffrey • Mark Singer

Directed by Mark Singer

Saturday, June 12, 2021
@ 7:30pm

Jim and Marsha have been married for thirteen years and are feeling a little bored and unhappy. When Wanda, Jim’s high school girlfriend, shows up for a visit, she becomes the guest from hell. When the three go out to dinner, all hell actually breaks loose in the restaurant.

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WANDA’S VISIT: Christopher Durang’s classic one-act farce takes on new life in a production presented by the Catskill Mountain Foundation

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In the mood for a laugh? Have you binge-watched everything Netflix and Hulu have to offer? We have a treat for you!

On Saturday, June 12 at 7:30 pm, the Catskill Mountain Foundation will live stream a pre-taped staged reading of the hilarious one-act play, *Wanda’s Visit* by Christopher Durang. Starring Darcy Dunn, Dayna Kurtz, John McCaffrey, and Mark Singer (who also directed the production), the reading was filmed by videographer David Katzive earlier this year at the Doctorow Center for the Arts in Hunter. This presentation will be shown on the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s YouTube and Facebook channels for FREE!

Originally presented on PBS, *Wanda’s Visit* tells the story of Jim (Mark Singer) and Marsha (Darcy Dunn), who have been married for 13 years. They seem comfortable in their suburban Connecticut lives … a little bored and restless, perhaps, but reasonably content. Each person has their role to play in the marriage, and they perform the roles well, day after day after day … you get the picture. Attempts to shake things up a little bit fall flat: they tried to get drunk to celebrate their wedding anniversary, but just wound up falling asleep. So when Jim receives a letter from an old girlfriend, Wanda (Dayna Kurtz), announcing she’s “up in their neck of the woods,” and wonders if she could pop in for a visit, Jim leaps at the opportunity to relive his youth. Marsha is clearly unhappy about the visit, but nevertheless relents. Wanda becomes the guest from hell. When they decide to go out to dinner, all hell breaks loose in the restaurant, witnessed by a waiter (John McCaffrey), just trying to get through his first day.

Even though *Wanda’s Visit* was originally set in the 1990s, Mark realized that the play was perfect for 2021, but needed to be updated a bit to reflect current realities. “What was particularly interesting about the play,” he says, “is that it’s about a visitor who intrudes on the humdrum existence of a somewhat dissatisfied married couple. That seemed an interesting topic to explore during COVID when so many couples who are used to living together—but not 100% of the time—suddenly found themselves together 24/7. I think moving the play’s action into our current environment and acknowledging the unique challenges of COVID made for a more interesting production and a new, unusual take on what has been a frequently produced short play.”

**The Director**

Mark Singer is a singer, actor, and writer who has performed extensively in opera, musicals, cabaret, and dramatic theater. He has appeared in many productions of the Catskill Mountain Foundation, and created and appeared in its musical revue series the Mountaintop Celebration of Song. Mark has written several plays with his friend (and co-star in *Wanda’s Visit*) John McCaffrey, including *Books That Did Not Help Me Pick Up Women*, and *A Milonga for Gabriel Isaacs*, and is currently developing *All Mankind Has Lost its Reason*, his play about the Weimar period in Germany and the rise of fascism, which features the music of that era. He is currently a Managing Partner at Finn Partners, a global Public Relations company. In this production, Mark also takes on the role of Jim.
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The Cast
To bring this production to life, Mark called upon people he knows well and was certain would bring these characters to life. He knew John McCaffrey through a club in New York, where they bonded over playing basketball and their mutual love of writing. It was through John that Mark met Dayna. And, of course, he and Darcy have been married for many years.

“It’s nice to work with friends,” says Mark. “We like to work with people we know and we’re comfortable with.”

Darcy Dunn (Marsha)
Darcy Dunn sings chamber opera, classical music and new works in NYC and is a founding member and featured performer of the Magic Circle Opera. She has performed leading roles with Chelsea Opera, Bronx Opera, Encompass Opera, Theater for the New City, and Downtown Music Productions, and has been a featured soloist at the Windham Chamber Music Festival. With her husband Mark Singer, Darcy was part of the first Catskill Mountain Foundation live performance in 1998, and performed in and helped create CMF’s Mountaintop Celebration of Song, which included original musical productions A Little Bit in Love, Headliners and One-Liners, Weill’d About You, They’re Playing Your Song, and Ain’t We Got Fun.

As a performer who has primarily worked in opera and musical theater, this was one of the few instances in which Darcy got the opportunity to play straight theater. She absolutely nails the role of the uptight Connecticut housewife Marsha, who is horrified by the chaos created in her home, but still tries to be a good hostess.

The biggest challenge for Darcy, though, was the lack of a live audience. “Filming was an interesting experience,” she laughs. “As stage actors, so much what we do is feeding off of live audiences. We’re not people who are used to being taped.”

Dayna Kurtz (Wanda)
Dayna Kurtz is a mental health therapist in Manhattan and welcomes the opportunity to play Wanda, a truly pathological character. Dayna holds a BA in theater arts from Brandeis University and a Masters of Science in Social Work from Columbia. Select Off-Broadway credits include Juliet in Romeo and Juliet, Quince in A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and Opal in the world premiere of Gloria, at Theater for the New City. She can also be seen (sort of) behind a variety of celebrity guest hosts during her three seasons of background work on Saturday Night Live. She dedicates this performance to her family who always support her in all her roles.

Mark says, “the first play John and I did together, Dayna was in that, and she was a very funny character. I thought Dayna would be perfect for this.”

“It was a joy to get out of the city and flex my acting muscles for this performance,” says Dayna. “I fell in love with the character of Wanda from the moment I read the script. She’s a big personality. As an actor, she’s kind of a dream … playing her provides an allowance to behave in such a way that you couldn’t in real life.

She affords an opportunity to really stretch and go over the top.”

Dayna also resonated with the role of Wanda in a different way: “the role was originated by Swoosie Kurtz, who is slender and fair. But a number of different actors have portrayed Wanda successfully … she can be played by so many different body types and looks. Few roles really can be open for interpretation this way. I think that’s part of what makes this character so special.”

You can find more information about Dayna at daynakkurtz.com.

John McCaffrey (narrator, waiter)
John McCaffrey is the author of a novel, two short story collections, several plays (several co-written with Mark Singer), and is a creative writing teacher and a director of development for a nonprofit organization in New York City.

John doesn’t consider himself an actor, but does have an artistic background: “Growing up in Rochester, I was a trumpeter in the band. I thought it would be fun to be an actor, but I was inhibited. I tried stand up comedy for a while for fun, but I found I was more comfortable as a writer.”

Despite his lack of stage experience, Mark was convinced that John would be a good fit for the role of narrator and waiter: “We’ve seen him in action, hosting fundraising events for his job in the City, and he knows how to hold an audience. That definitely translates to the stage.”

“I approached the role as someone who knew nothing about acting,” says John. “I just didn’t want to be in the way, so I did the least as I could to get my point across and get out of the way of the other actors. I think I’m naturally funny, so I knew I could pull off the role of the waiter. Being the narrator, though, was a little more challenging to me.

“As a writer, the role of the waiter was really interesting to me. When I saw the character, I wondered, ‘why did he put that charac-
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What was his importance to the play? He’s an outlier, but he delivers the last monologue the next day that brings it all together. I think ultimately the role is about Durang giving a message that it’s not about him, it’s about the characters and the situation.”

**Bringing Wanda’s Visit to the Stage in Hunter**

The seeds of this performance were sown through Darcy’s volunteer work with a group called Markers For Democracy. “I have worked with Markers, a voter advocacy and registration organization, since before COVID,” she says. “In the intense environment of the pandemic and the election the group was working incredibly hard and I wanted to explore ways to contribute to the organization as a performer. So I put together a show, as a break and encouragement. COVID has been such an adjustment for everybody. What has helped me, in addition to the activist work with Markers and my performance work, is my reconnection to my martial arts practice, which involves a system of thinking and being, and connection to a worldwide community. All three are about connection to a broad community during a time when connecting has been difficult.”

Mark continues: “Peter Finn was kind enough to lend us the use of Evelyn Weisberg Hall (in the Doctorow Center for the Arts) and the video and editing skills of David Katzie, videographer for Finn Partners. Peter and I both liked the end result and we both had the same response, which was along the lines of, “with the pandemic shutting down live performance for the foreseeable future was there something more the CMF could do with its performance resources given they were not being used much. Years ago the CMF had hosted a series of play readings by Ensemble Studio Theater and Peter thought it would be great if we could do something similar. He was particularly interested in short comic plays. I started a search for candidates and in a book called *Laugh Lines* I came upon *Wanda’s Visit* by Christopher Durang. I thought it was just the kind of piece we were looking for, and Peter and his wife, Sarah, liked the script as well.”

“Given the logistical challenges we couldn’t do a fully staged off book performance,” he continues, “because COVID made extensive rehearsal time impossible. And as we thought about doing even a staged reading we knew there would be challenges concerning physicality between the actors. There were moments in the script that called for physical contact between the actors. How could we manage those without making the actors and even the audience uncomfortable? We had the actors wear masks part of the time. We couldn’t have them wear them all the time because of what it would do to the sound quality. We had a narrator read stage directions and added some of our own: whenever the character Wanda, who is very physically expressive, wants to be physical with Jim, we had the narrator express her desires and frustrations, giving an implicit nod to the challenges of the pandemic.”

Communicating with the entire cast was essential, and it helped that they were all friends. “We talked it through with the rest of the cast, and discussed how we were going to adapt it so that everyone felt safe during filming,” says Mark.

Dayna adds, “Moving into any collaborative project, you have to establish a culture of safety and trust. I know everyone in the cast very well, so there’s already a deep trust there.”

**Future Performances**

Plans are in the works for more performances to be taped in the Doctorow Center and presented to the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s online audiences. Visit catskillmtn.org for details as they become available.

**The Live Stream**

*Wanda’s Visit* will premiere as a free live stream on the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Facebook (facebook.com/catskillmtn) and YouTube (youtube.com/CatskillMountainFoundation) pages on Saturday, June 12 at 7:30 pm.

More information, including direct links to the stream, can be found at catskillmtn.org.
Last month we looked at how to track our carbon footprint. This month, we’ll look at recycling—one of the most effective ways you can, by your own individual actions, reduce your carbon footprint and help to reduce the global warming of our planet.

First, please understand that what you recycle must be clean … not spotless but at least thoroughly rinsed out.

**Here’s a list of what can usually be recycled:**

- Plastic bottles, jars, jugs and tubs.
- Empty steel, aluminum and tin cans, along with aerosol cans *(take away the plastic top if it has one).*
- Paper, newspaper and magazines.
- Flattened cardboard and paperboard along with pizza boxes *(without liners or leftovers).*

It’s helpful if you remove all plastic and paper labels from your recyclables!

Check with your town’s rules on milk, juice and food cartons as well as glass bottles and jars.

**Here’s a list of what usually cannot be recycled:**

- No plastic wrap, bubble wrap and sandwich Ziploc bags.
- No chip bags and juice pouches.
- No paper products with wax or plastic coatings.
- No polystyrene and plastic “to-go” containers as well as packing peanuts.

Much of this article is inspired by / borrowed from Aliaja Bothwell an ambassador for 8 Billion Trees To Go. She and I implore you to stop using (and throwing away) plastic bags and to explore the myriad of new products which are made to be highly functional and earth friendly!
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For the past 30-plus years, Kerns Nursery has been a premiere garden center and landscape service provider in Greene County, a trusted resource for both new and skilled horticulturists alike. “When we started the nursery we were so small it was ridiculously funny, and being off the main roads didn’t help, but as word of mouth spread our business has continually gotten bigger and bigger,” says Pat Kerns. “In 2021, we now have a large and very unique nursery, where the environment you shop in is like a well cared for garden—not a supermarket or a big-box store. More than that, we are a nursery for gardeners because the plant selection we offer makes it worth coming from a good distance away.”

Kerns Landscapes and Nursery is a family affair, and to tell their story properly, you have to tell the story of Pat and Bob Kerns. Pat is originally from New York City, Bob is from Florida; they met and fell in love working at a Catskill Mountain resort through college summers. They eventually married and had twins a few years later. “We liked country living,” Pat says, “so we made our home here.”

“Our nursery happened almost inadvertently,” she continues. “Bob started landscaping in 1981, I was at home with my kids and I decided to start a small-scale perennial nursery at our home with my one small greenhouse. I was already tending landscape plants for Bob’s business. Time passed and we grew year by year as word of mouth spread and we kept up with our customers’ demands expanding to where we are today.”

And where they are today is impressive: Kerns is a full scale nursery and landscape business that employees about 20 full- and part-time employees. “We have a great staff,” Pat says with a smile. “We’re particular with who we hire, they’re loyal and they know how to treat people. Our staff can help anyone create their dream garden, and we’re really proud of them.”

The educated and friendly staff is part of what sets Kerns apart from the big box stores. “We grow everything on site,” says Pat. “Our staff know everything about the plants they’re selling because they have been growing the plants in our eight greenhouses from plugs, seeds and bareroot plants.”

“All of that experience means that we can help people with their specific needs,” says Pat. Kerns offers a personalized service that the big box stores don’t provide. “We know what to plant, how to plant it, and what works and what doesn’t work in this climate,” says Pat. And, contrary to popular opinion, the big box stores aren’t necessarily cheaper, either: “I’ve done some price comparisons with the big box stores,” Pat says. “And what I’ve found is that they’re not really less expensive than we are.”

The peaceful setting and extensive gardens also makes Kerns Nursery one of the prettiest nurseries you will ever find. “Our grounds are covered with various gardens which are open to the public from Mother’s Day through the fall, and exhibits plants we sell in the nursery,” says Pat. “It’s an inspiration and just a nice diversion for our guests, many of whom bring visiting friends here for a walk through. We have had groups of garden enthusiasts come for lunch and tours. We have had people come from far afield to find perennials that few nurseries carry. We invited local kids to get free sunflowers and learn to pot flowers.”

The gardens are a great way for customers to see the mature versions of the plants Kerns sells, all of which are displayed in the greenhouses with a card of Pat’s own design, filled with clear, concise information on every plant.
And they grow and sell a LOT of plants: in 2021, they have 623 annuals and 711 perennials, both record numbers. Many of these plants cannot be found elsewhere. They also have 155 vegetables (including lots of tomatoes) and 41 herb plants, more than any other year.

Kerns’ landscape services also remain at the heart of their business. Bob’s aesthetic skills, knowledge of trees and shrubs, landscape design and business acumen has grown steadily over the years. He has completed almost every aspect of home and business landscape projects, including a recent make-over of the landscaping at the historic Deer Mountain Inn in Tannersville. Bob also serves as president of the board for the Mountain Top Arboretum, a public garden in Tannersville dedicated to displaying and managing native plant communities and trees of the northeastern U.S.

Bob has an instinctive sense of space and material, taking into consideration that the landscape must hold with time and weather and be appropriate to the environment. From installing paths through woodland, to working with extreme plant enthusiasts, to installing patios, to multilevel excavating jobs using stone walls and on and on, Bob has developed design skills that can compete with most professional landscape architects.

The staff at Kerns is also happy to provide advice for customers who want to tackle their landscaping and gardening on their own. “For someone just starting out,” says Pat, “my biggest piece of advice would be to be prepared and read so you know what you want to do before you go shopping. You want to get the basics down before you start anything. A lot of people want an instant garden. There’s a lot more to it than that.”

“Of course no matter where you are, the soil needs to be amended,” adds Pat, “but on the mountaintop, you also have to contend with the weather. We have a really short growing period, and you can’t start things too early, with the ever-loomiing possibility of a late frost. And, of course, there’s the animals. But there are ways to deal with those challenges.”

It takes a lot of experience to learn how to deal with those challenges, and Pat, Bob and their staff are happy to pass along the knowledge that they’ve gained to a new generation that is becoming interested in gardening. “When we first started, it was mostly just older people who were interested,” she said. “But over the past 10 years, we’ve seen a steady growth of people in their 20s and 30s coming in, wanting to get back into the garden. It makes me really happy to see that.”

“Though we control two different ends of the business landscape/nursery, we have the same integrity to do the best we can and work hard together and apart. When you feel the magic of getting your hands in the soil, the enthusiasm that comes from forming something personal and unique and inviting from nature—there—that’s Kerns Nursery.”

The staff at Kerns have instituted several COVID protocols to keep their staff and customers safe: almost everything is located outside, there are separate checkout tables with plexiglass, and hand washing stations are placed at several locations around the nursery.

Kerns Nursery is located at 4899 Route 23C in Jewett. They are open daily through October 30 from 9 am to 5 pm, and 10 am to 4 pm on Sundays. There are extended hours on Memorial Day weekend and the first weekend in June. For more information, visit their website at kernsnursery.com or call 518 734 3543.
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At the Garden of Stone you can find an eclectic selection of hand-cast, hand finished and, if you like, hand-painted garden ornament for your garden and home. We make animal statuary, birdbaths, angels, gnomes and more. We offer fresh-cut flowers by the stem or bouquet and can help with your special event. Shop for houseplants, unusual items, vintage and new. Browsing is encouraged!

Gardens by Bella was founded in 2019 by owners Steve and Diane Lewis. In classic fashion, Steve and Diane Left the merry-go-round of city living (so many cities over many years) to find sanctuary in the country. Gardens by Bella is infused with their wellness and design principles: purposeful living, quality construction and organic materials.
Gardens by Trista
176 Polen Hill Road
Gilboa, NY 12076
gardensbytrista.com
607 588 6762
Gardens by Trista is a full service landscape company focused on providing each client with the individualized landscape or garden of their dreams. We know each property and client holds their own unique essence which we use to transform the land and its elements into their personalized landscape. We strive to fulfill the needs of each and every customer. Whether it be a complete design/build for new construction or help with an existing garden that needs a rejuvenation. We also have an extensive garden maintenance division to help keep your landscape and garden in pristine condition.

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Woodstock, NY 12498
gildedcarriage.com
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Gordon Hunter Mountain Realty
6528 Route 23A
Hunter, NY 12442
gordonrealty.com
518 589 9000
Gordon Hunter Mountain Realty is dedicated to serving you when you’re looking for property in Upstate New York and Northern Catskill Mountains. Our professional staff specializes in properties near Hunter Mountain and Windham Mountain ski resorts, including Hunter, Tannersville, Jewett, Lexington, Prattsville, Windham, and Ashland. We know the Catskill Mountains and look forward to showing you all that is available to see, do and live in our wonderful world.

Greene Bee Greenhouse, Ltd.
2744 County Route 20
Cornwallville, NY 12418
greenebeegreenhouse.com
518 429 9606
Greene Bee is a gardener’s destination! This family-owned nursery offers an incredibly wide range of beautifully and responsibly grown plants—everything from vegetable seedlings (40 varieties of tomatoes alone!) to perennials, shrubs, fruits, and specimen trees. Owners Briana and Eli are passionate horticulturalists who not only grow quality plants, but are also an excellent resource for all of your gardening queries. Make sure to leave time to explore their display gardens.
Grist Mill Real Estate
265 Main Street
Saugerties, NY 12442
gristmillrealestate.com
845 246 3200
Our real estate office in the heart of the historic village of Saugerties is highly regarded by clients and customers alike, known for their strong market expertise, exemplary individual service, and an enviable familiarity with what makes Saugerties and the surrounding area such a desirable place to live. Although we serve our local community, our largest sales market is NYC, and more recently primary homes for residents from Orange, Westchester, Rockland, and Dutchess Counties. Established in 1974 Grist Mill Real Estate is proud to provide experienced service to our buyers and sellers. Knowledge of the Saugerties market in particular is the most important service we offer our customers.

Helsmoortel Realty
148 Burt Street
Saugerties, NY 12477
helsmoortel.com
845 246 9555
Helsmoortel Realty has been offering professional and friendly service for over 20 years. We are perennial "Top Producers" and also have earned the "5 Star Professional Award." We care very much about our buyers and sellers and work towards seamless transactions. Our business has been primarily based on referrals, which we feel is the biggest compliment of all. Owner and Broker, Thomasine Helsmoortel ABR, GRI, SRES, SRS, has served clients in Ulster County and the Hudson Valley for over 20 years.

Hops Petunia Floral & Gifts
1 West Strand
Kingston, NY 12401
hopspetunia.com
845 481 4292
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Kerns Nursery
4899 Route 23C
Jewett, NY 12444
kernsnursery.com
518 734 3543

The Nursery started in 1987, but the Kerns’ have been involved in landscaping for over 30 years. Owner Pat Kerns says “When we started the nursery we were so small it was ridiculously funny, and being off the main roads didn’t help, but as word of mouth spread our business has continually gotten bigger and bigger. We now have a large and very unique nursery, where the environment you shop in is like a well cared for garden—not a supermarket. More than that, we are a nursery for gardeners because the plant selection we offer makes it worth coming from a good distance away.
Lake and Mountain Realty was founded in 1999, first serving Sleepy Hollow Lake in Athens, NY. Since then, our real estate listings have grown and our reach has expanded throughout Greene County and the Hudson Valley. Lake and Mountain Realty, LLC's mission is to embrace our customers’ needs and wants by providing residential, commercial, lakefront property and acreage in a simple way. We foster a culture of partnership in which all clients are given the highest standard of commitment.

Lisa Jaeger, Associate Broker
Coldwell Banker Village Green Realty
5383 Main Street
Windham, NY 12496
windhamnewyorkskihomes.com

518 755 2573 (cell)
Coldwell Banker’s 2020 International President’s Circle Luxury Property Specialist
I have been a real estate broker listing and selling properties in the Greater Windham area for over 20 years! Windham is my home where I am raising my family of avid ski racers, golfers, and outdoor lovers. I am very active in my community,
serving as the Windham Chamber of Commerce President. I also serve on the Town Planning Board. I’m passionate about our town’s heritage and recreational opportunities. I am consistently a top producer because my philosophy is simple: treat others as you want to be treated.

Maverick Road
54A Tinker St.
Woodstock, NY 12498
maverickroad.com
845 202 1103

Maverick Road celebrates the artistic & maverick spirit of Woodstock, with curated items from small makers and fair trade merchants. Our mission is to create a space that celebrates beauty, humor and the natural world. We offer a selection of local pottery, prints, housewares, greeting cards & gifts, while creating an uplifting, cheerful & inspiring experience. Located in the heart of Woodstock, next to Tinker Taco & Tannery Brook. We look forward to meeting you.
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designed and manufactured to meet your needs and lifestyle. Contact us today and learn more about how we can provide the best solutions for you. Or, visit us at one of our full-service locations or showrooms throughout the Hudson Valley and CT.

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Working on home improvements this Spring? Landscaping projects or renovations? National Bank of Coxsackie has the products to help you finance all the projects on your to-do list! Our knowledgeable staff are willing and eager to help you find the type of product that will best suit your specific needs! Visit us in branch today! Prefer contactless interaction? Everything can also be done directly through our website at nbcoxsackie.com Member FDIC.

Nicole Polito,
NYS Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
Murphy Realty Group
304 Wall St.
Kingston, NY 12401
MurphyRealtyGrp.com
845 338 5252
Nicole is a lifelong Hudson Valley resident bringing years of experience in working with both buyers and sellers, in every level and aspect of real-estate transactions. Nicole has been a consistent Top-Producer in Ulster County. Helping first-time home buyers, weekenders and sec-

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ond home buyers, and the investor looking to expand their portfolio. For sellers, Nicole helps get the most out of their sale, and have a smooth stress-free transaction. Nicole has an understanding that each homebuyer and seller have a different set of needs and is there every step of the way from first meeting, to closing and beyond.

Shaw Country Realty
5359 State Route 23
Windham, NY 12496
518 734 3500
With offices in Windham and Hunter, NY, Shaw Country Realty has been your Mountain Top experts since 1985. Let Shaw Country Realty sell your property or find your weekend escape: land, townhouses, condos, homes, commercial property and seasonal rentals. If you are looking to sell your home, please let us know. We can accommodate your needs and walk you right through the process. Local Counts! We use a wide network of local attorneys, banks, contractors, and other services. Why is local better? It’s simple.. the personal touch from people know know the mountaintop area and its uniqueness. Keeping it personal and friendly is the Shaw way!

The Sheep’s Nest
45 West Main St.
Hobart, NY 13788
thesheepsnest.com
607 214 0050
The Sheep’s Nest is an English Cottage that was inspired by a trip to England. The visible upstairs floor system, exposed beams are all reclaimed wood, some from a local barn. The bathroom door is an old barn door complete with rolling hardware. There is a custom crafted wine cellar room and various other touches that showcase the work that my husband John does. The contents of the shop are varied. We have items to both decorate your home as well as yourself. Most items are new, some handcrafted by locals and myself and there is a splattering of vintage accent pieces. All natural body and home products, jewelry, custom crafted lighting, beautiful gift cards, local cheese, yarn and roving from our own Shetland Sheep, and so much more. While customers are here at the shop they are welcome to visit with the chickens and the sheep, walk up to the pond and just enjoy the beautiful Catskill Mountain scenery.

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845 679 8384
Ulster Savings Bank is a locally focused and operated mutual savings bank with locations throughout the Hudson Valley. As a bank with no stockholders, our profits are reinvested back into the communities we serve. We are proud to be the recipient of numerous community awards reflecting our belief that helping community changes lives. We invite you to stop by our location in historic Woodstock and experience the local difference with us.

Welch Realty
7770 Main Street
Hunter, NY 12442
welchrealtyny.com
518 263 5161
Full service realtors serving northwest Greene County including Hunter, Haines Falls, Tannersville, Lanesville, Windham, Jewett, Lexington, Westkill, Spruceton, Hensonville, Maplecrest, Prattsville, and Palenville. They also serve locations in Albany, Ulster and Columbia counties. Welch Realty’s experienced professionals are a trusted source for residential and commercial listings, including vacation homes and cabins.

Win Morrison Realty
5 Tinker Street, Woodstock
845 679 9444
63 John Street, Kingston
845 339 1144
winmorrisonrealty.com
At Win Morrison Realty we listen to your wants and needs while assisting you to make them a reality. We pride our- selves on being the largest and most respected real estate company in the Hudson Valley. Whether it is a weekend re- treat, mansion, land, com- mercial property or business, our experienced agents will assist you every step of the way. We have seven offices located throughout the Hudson Valley and a team of over 100 real estate professionals. We are members of numerous MLS (Multiple Listing Services) to serve you, from New York City to the Adirondacks. Please stop in or call any of our offices ... we are here to serve you.

Woodstock Art Exchange & Pablo Glass Studio
1396 State Route 28
West Hurley, NY 12491
woodstockartexchange.com
646 256 9688
Come and be blown away by the Pablo Glass Studio and Woodstock Art Exchange, right on Route 28 in West Hurley! Glassblowing (open to the public) and our gallery and giftshop make us a unique and entertaining weekend destination. Hours: Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11 to 6. Call 646 256 9688 for more information.
Located in Cornwallville, NY, Greene Bee Greenhouse, Ltd. is a family-owned nursery that offers a wide range of beautifully and responsibly grown plants—everything from vegetable seedlings (40 varieties of tomatoes alone!) to a rotating list of perennials, shrubs, fruits, and specimen trees. Owners Briana and Eli are passionate horticulturalists who not only grow quality plants, but are also an excellent resource for all of your gardening queries.

Originally from Florida, Iowa, and Syracuse, NY, Briana and Eli have called the Catskills home for over 20 years. They met while attending Bard College, and have been interested in horticulture and growing plants for a very long time.

“I got my first nursery job when I was 14,” said Eli. “And I spent my first paycheck on a pair of pruners. I loved it from the start, and I knew that this is what I wanted to do.”

“I come from a food growing background,” adds Briana. “I started a farm in Tivoli, a CSA, many years ago, and then I came here with Eli.”

Basically, we’re just a couple of horticulture nerds,” laughs Eli. “We love talking about plants.”

Eli started planting trees on the property 20 years ago, with plans to start an arboretum. At its start, Greene Bee was a wholesale-only nursery, but they opened their doors to all garden enthusiasts in 2010. Their plants include those that are native to the northeast, and also introductions that are not native but are still important in the landscape in a multitude of ways. They strive to grow and plant only those species that complement rather than compete with the region’s native flora. “We have a real passion for plants,” says Briana, “especially interesting and under-used ones.”

“Everyone is welcome to come and explore our gardens,” says Eli. “A lot of what we have planted there is also what we sell in our nursery, and you can see what a mature size plant looks like.”

A stroll through the gardens can be an extraordinary help for the homeowner planning a new garden or landscape. The gardens also serve as teachers to Briana and Eli, a place where they learn about what works and what doesn’t work: “We don’t like to sell plants that don’t work,” says Briana. “We really hold onto the ones that are great growers.”

At the heart of Eli and Briana’s approach to gardening is their passion for growing responsibly and for being stewards of this land that they love. “We wouldn’t want to be anywhere else,” says Eli. “Certainly there are challenges—it gets cold enough here that there are certain things that can’t be done—but the diversity of plants that this ecosystem will support is extraordinary. There are so many interesting and phenomenal plants that grow in this area, native or not.”

Greene Bee is primarily a nursery, but they do offer landscape services for a select clientele. Following their goal of land stewardship first, their approach to landscaping is “to mix native plants that support the local biodiversity with interesting cultivars and introduced species that aren’t going to destroy the landscape and also have four season interest,” says Eli. “As collectors, we like to plant things that have relationships. Plants have communities, things that not only thrive together but are cohesive aesthetically.

“I would say that ‘barely tamed wildness’ is our aesthetic, but we do have clients who want to have a more cultivated look. Ultimately we want our relationship with our clients to be a collaborative means to an end.”

Greene Bee is a small, family-run operation—just Briana and Eli—so their landscape clientele is small and select, but “we love talking about plants, and we love to be a resource for people. We encourage everyone to stop by and we’ll do what we can to help you out.”

“Horticulture really is exciting, if you look closely,” adds Eli. “Before you get started, I would encourage you to read as much as you can about it. There’s a lot of wonderful information out there that will help you get started.”

Armed with that book knowledge, “you really should plan, and choose the right plan for the right site. After that, have fun, be adventurous, and leave room for success and failure. Pay a lot of attention to the successes and forgive yourself for the failures. When things are successful and beautiful, that gives you the freedom to step outside the box a little bit,” says Briana.

To learn more, visit Briana and Eli at Greene Bee Greenhouse. They would love to meet you.

Greene Bee Greenhouse is located at 2744 Route 20 in Cornwallville, NY. They are open Thursday through Sunday from 9 am to 4 pm, through early July, after which they are open by appointment. For more information, call them at 518 429 9606 or visit greenebeegreenhouse.com.
A Greene County Garden in May

By Margaret Donsbach Tomlinson

Columbines are an old-fashioned garden favorite, as much loved by hummingbirds as by humans. Their long, gracefully curved spurs hold nectar that hummingbirds are well adapted to reach. In fact, the spurs of wild columbines have evolved to lengths matching the tongues of their pollinators, whether bumblebees, hummingbirds, butterflies or hawkmoths. Like “Goldilocks and the Three Bears,” the spur length must be just right to suit both pollinators and flowers. Spurs that are too short let pollinators reach the nectar without brushing against the flower’s anthers, which hold the pollen. Spurs that are too long don’t let pollinators reach the nectar, so they have no incentive to visit the plant.

Columbines are native in much of the world. Their spurs, resembling an eagle’s claws, inspired their Latin name, *Aquilegia*, which comes from the Latin word *aquila*, meaning eagle. *Aquilegia canadensis* has an orange-red flower with yellow edges, and is native to Canada and the eastern half of the United States. *Aquilegia formosa*, with similar coloring, is native in Western North America. *Aquilegia caerulea*, with large, blue and white flowers, is native to the Rocky Mountains, as is *Aquilegia chrysantha* with its daffodil-yellow flowers. Native to Europe is the short-spurred *Aquilegia vulgaris*, typically blue, though it appears in colors ranging from purple to pink or white.

Different species of *Aquilegia* cross readily, and many beautiful hybrids have been developed. The McKanas have large, bi-colored flowers in many beautiful colors. Biedermeiers are free-flowering dwarf plants just 8 to 10 inches high. Intricate double varieties have been created, such as the Winky series, whose flowers look like two columbine flowers nested together. The Barlow series have fluffy-petaled spurless flowers. Double columbines can look spectacular in photos or to gardeners kneeling close to the ground, but they are small, generally less than an inch across, so may disappoint gardeners expecting larger flowers.

Columbines are perennials that will grow and flower well in dappled shade and the dry conditions under trees. Swampy soil is about the only type they won’t thrive in. To germinate, the seeds need a period of winter cold, known as “stratification.” This can be simulated in a refrigerator, but it’s easier to sow the seeds outdoors in the fall and let them stratify naturally. Perhaps the easiest way to grow columbines is to buy one or more plants you like and let them self-seed in the garden, which they will do enthusiastically. Plants seeded from hybrids will not come true to their parents, but it’s fun to see the different colors and forms of the children.
Serving clients throughout Greene, Delaware and Schoharie counties, Gardens by Trista is a full service landscape company started by Gilboa resident, Trista Shultes. “I was born and raised in Gilboa, and my entire family is from the area,” she says proudly. “My father grew up on dairy farm just a few miles from my house.”

“I always loved to be outside,” she says. “My father owns a well-drilling business, my mom worked with him and was also an artist. My grandparents always had a garden, and that inspired me to learn about growing things. I went to SUNY Cobleskill for their landscape and contracting program, and graduated in 2002 with a Bachelor’s degree.”

After broadening her knowledge and experience by working for reputable garden and landscape designers in the area, she started Gardens by Trista in 2006. “It has always been my ultimate goal to start a local woman-owned business.”

Gardens by Trista is focused on providing each client with the individualized landscape or garden of their dreams. “I really try to work with native plants and hardy plants for the Catskills. I use plant material that I know is successful here, benefits the environment and provides berries and habitats for wildlife. Ornamental vision is ultimately the goal, but we also want to celebrate what we have in the Catskills.”

In keeping with that philosophy, “I really like to use native ferns, native sedum, false indigo, lady’s mantle. Those plants seem to work really well here in the Catskills. I also plant a lot of blueberry bushes, apple trees and vegetable gardens … I work with a great guy who helps me out with that.” Trista also gravitates towards hardy trees that work well in the Catskills, “trees like sugar maples, crabapple trees, birches, and hemlock white pines.”

“The fact that we live in a cold region and have a shorter growing season makes choosing hardy plants for a landscape somewhat challenging, but not impossible,” says Trista. “We like our wildlife, but we also don’t want them decimating our landscape, so that’s definitely also a consideration when I create gardens,” she adds.

“When I advise new gardeners, I tell them to really study their property,” says Trista. “Living there a season helps. Give it some time to learn where they find their patterns of being outside and where the sun hits.”

She also advises home gardeners to start small. “You want to make sure you aren’t biting off more than you can chew,” she says.

Trista’s approach is that each property and client holds its own unique essence which she uses to transform the earth and its elements into their personalized landscape. “Our outdoor spaces add to our quality of life,” she says, and “we strive to fulfill the needs of each and every customer. We take our quality and our customer service seriously. My employees also really enjoy their jobs and I’m lucky to have them. They share my same passion for all growing things.”

Perhaps most importantly, Trista and her team strive to fulfill the needs of each and every customer. Whether it be a complete design or build or the small woodland garden you have always desired, they can help you make those dreams a reality.

Gardens by Trista is located in Gilboa, in Schoharie County. Contact them at 607 588 6762 or visit their website at gardensbytrista.com.
Spring always seems to take a while to get started here in the Catskills, but we know that by the end of May we’re coming right into the start of the Catskills summer season!

During May, it’s a busy time for the trails of the Catskill Mountains. Throughout the month, volunteer trail maintainers and trail crews, and staff from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will be out on the trails, clearing them of winter tree falls and brush, freshening up trail markers and getting everything ready for the summer hiking season.

Catskill Center Praises Strong Commitment to the Catskills in the New York State Budget

The Catskill Center praises Senator Michelle Hinchey’s leadership on Catskill Park funding, and Governor Andrew Cuomo, the New York State Assembly, and the New York State Senate for passing a budget with a clear commitment to our environment, and more specifically a strong commitment to the Catskill Park. The final budget includes a $500 million Clean Water Infrastructure Act, $300 million Environmental Protect Fund, and the approval of a $3 billion environmental bond ballot initiative set for the November 2022 ballot.

“The New York State leaders have passed a budget that will directly benefit the protection of the Catskill Park, help communities within the Park, and help to address high-use challenges in the region,” said Catskill Center Executive Director, Jeff Senterman. “We applaud Senator Michelle Hinchey’s leadership for the Catskill Park and are grateful for the support of the Governor, Assembly and Senate in ensuring that the Catskill Park and its communities receive the funding and support that they need to protect wild areas, and help our local economies thrive.”

Catskills Visitor Center Funding

Under the Environmental Protection Fund, this year’s budget includes $150,000 to help fund operations and programs of the Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey Catskills Visitor Center (CVC).

A partnership between the Catskill Center and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS-DEC), the Catskills Visitor Center is the official visitor center for the 700,000-acre Catskill Park. Located in Mt. Tremper, New York on State Rte. 28 near the entrance to the Park, it welcomes thousands of people each year to the region. CVC visitors can experience exhibits, special programs and events, pick up local
The CVC's 60-acre property has accessible nature trails, including a path along the Esopus Creek, and an 80-foot fire tower overlooking the area.

In the short-term, this funding will assist the Catskill Center in continuing to develop online resources, programs and events to allow visitors to virtually visit the Catskill Park or to better plan their next in-person visit. In the longer term, this funding will help support on-site staffing and expanded programming, including new curriculum and activities for visiting school groups.

Environmental Protection Fund

The Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) will be funded at $300 million this year, including $30 million for new open space land protection projects, some of which could be in the Catskill Park.

Funding for “state land stewardship” increased slightly. This funding supports ongoing efforts to care for Catskill Forest Preserve lands and infrastructure, and could support shuttles, education, and other components of a strategic effort to manage visitor traffic to high-use areas in the Catskill Park. The funding could also support the recommendations of the Catskill Strategic Planning Advisory Group, of which the Catskill Center is a member, and who will produce recommendations to help manage areas of high-use by the end of 2021.

$13 million in funding for invasive species controls is available in the EPF. In the Catskills, these funds support efforts like the Catskill Center’s Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) and the Invasive Species Strike Team.

The EPF includes $100,000 for the Catskill Science Collaborative at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, $500,000 for the Hemlock Wooly Adelgid Project at Cornell University, $1 million for Belleayre Mountain, $1,550,000 for Visitor Safety and Wilderness Protection in the
Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves, and $2 million for community Smart Growth Grants in the Catskill and Adirondack Parks.

In addition to these specific categories, the EPF pays for open space, parks, solid waste and recycling facilities, environmental justice programs, and climate change mitigation/adaptation measures throughout the Catskills and across New York State.

Aid to Localities Funding
Thanks to the hard work and leadership of Senator Michelle Hinchey representing the Catskills, $100,000 was secured for Catskill Park Stewardship under the Aid to Localities Funding. This funding is directed to the Catskill Center and to Catskill Mountainkeeper to expand the number of seasonal Catskill Stewards in high-use areas across Catskills.

Environmental Bond Act
Included in the budget is a historic $3 billion Environmental Bond Act, which will provide funding for key investments in local infrastructure and environmental restoration. These investments will help communities across New York prepare for flooding, rising seas, and dangerous extreme heat. The bond act will go to voters for approval on the ballot in November of 2022.

Visit the Catskill Park’s Visitor Center
Located in Mount Tremper, the Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey Catskills Visitor Center (CVC), is the official visitor center for the Catskill Park. Operated and managed by the Catskill Center, staff members are available at the CVC with information, maps and all the advice needed to plan a Catskill adventure. A walk-up service window at the building is open every day except for Wednesdays, from 10 am to 3 pm. Visitors who wear a mask and follow social distancing protocols can get their Catskill questions answered in person, receive tourism literature, and make purchases at the CVC’s shop. The CVC building, including the restrooms inside, are not yet open to the public, but a port-a-john is available in the parking area.

CVC staff are also available to answer questions about the Catskills and the Catskill Park via email at info@catskillcenter.org or phone at 845 688 3369.

#RecreateResponsibly in the Catskills

The #RecreateResponsibly guidelines give some sound advice on how to get outdoors right now. When you choose to recreate responsibly, you are doing your part to keep yourself and others safe and healthy.

Know Before you Go:
Check the status of the place you want to visit. If it is closed, don’t go. If it’s crowded, have a plan B.

Plan Ahead:
Prepare for facilities to be closed, pack lunch and bring essentials like hand sanitizer and a mask.

Stay Close to Home:
This is not the time to travel long distances to recreate. Most places are only open for day use.

Practice Physical Distancing:
Adventure only with your immediate household. Be prepared to cover your nose and mouth and give others space. If you are sick, stay home.

Play It Safe:
Slow down and choose lower-risk activities to reduce your risk of injury. Search and rescue operations and health care resources are both strained.

Leave No Trace:
Respect public lands and communities and take your garbage with you, including disposable gloves, and masks.

We all have a shared responsibility to care for these places and ensure they remain for future generations to enjoy. Lead by example and join the Catskill Center and the Catskills Visitor Center in learning how to #RecreateResponsibly at recreateresponsibly.org.
In addition to the walk-up service window, 1.5 miles of trails on the CVC’s grounds, including the (roughly) 0.5 mile ADA accessible Interpretive Loop Trail, are open to the public daily. The 80-foot tall Upper Esopus Fire Tower, which was constructed and opened last fall, is also open daily to visitors. Picnic tables are available on site for those who wish to enjoy a picnic lunch.

The Catskills Visitor Center is located at 5096 Route 28 in Mount Tremper. Visitors can explore the ever expanding resources available online for the CVC on the web at catskillsvisitorcenter.org and on the CVC’s Facebook page at facebook.com/catskillsvisitorcenter.

Catskill Park Advisory Committee
Consisting of representatives from local governments and organizations, the Catskill Park Advisory Committee (CPAC) was established to facilitate communication within the Park. Chaired by the Catskill Center, it provides a forum for communities, user groups and stakeholders of the Catskill Park and the Catskill Watershed to discuss issues of regional importance. The purpose of the Committee is to provide assistance, advice and guidance to the DEC, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection and other land managers in the management of the New York State Forest Preserve, the Catskill Park and the Catskill Watershed.

Meetings are held quarterly and are open to the public. If you’d like to learn more, join the mailing list or attend the next meeting, please contact the Catskill Center at 845 586 2611 or email them at cccd@catskillcenter.org with CPAC in the subject line, asking to be added to the mailing list. Please note that for the time being CPAC meetings will be held virtually. You must be on the mailing list to receive the email to register for the virtual meeting.

Catskill Park Updates Now Available Online
Local recreational opportunities are always changing, and by visiting the Catskills Visitor Center’s Trail Conditions page you can now see updates related to the Catskill Park, Catskill trails, Catskill campgrounds and camping, Catskill boating, skiing, and more at catskillsvisitorcenter.org.

Give Back to the Catskills
The natural beauty, the majesty of the mountains, the protection of the Catskill Forest Preserve, the region’s natural and cultural resources, all need your help! By supporting the work of the Catskill Center, you support: stewardship of our Catskill Park and its vast natural resources; the Center’s collaborative spirit as we convene, create partnerships and facilitate discussions that benefit the region; and the Center’s work to support education, arts and culture throughout the Catskills.

To support the work of the Catskill Center, become a member online through their website at catskillcenter.org/membership or donate by mail: Checks made out to the “Catskill Center” can be mailed to Catskill Center, PO Box 504, Arkville, NY 12406.

Jeff Senterman is the Executive Director of the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development in Arkville, NY, a member of the Board of Directors for the American Hiking Society, the Catskill Watershed Corporation and the Central Catskills Chamber of Commerce. Jeff graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from Lyndon State College and worked for many years as an Environmental Planner in New England before coming back to New York and the Catskills in the nonprofit sector. To learn more about the work of the Catskill Center in the Catskills, visit catskillcenter.org.
NOW OPEN BY APPOINTMENT!

The Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Piano Performance Museum reopens to the public on Fridays and Saturdays, from 11am to 3pm by appointment only. Please call the CMF Reservation Line at 518 263 2063, to make an appointment to visit the museum. We will return your call as soon as possible to confirm your appointment.

The docent tour is approximately 30 minutes. Appointments are available for a maximum of three people at a time. Masks are required and temperatures will be recorded at the door and visitors will be asked to answer a short questionnaire related to Covid 19. During the pandemic, visitors will be asked not to touch the pianos or other artifacts on display in the museum. CMF staff have established healthful guidelines for your visit to the museum to provide as safe an environment as possible for visitors and staff. We welcome you and look forward to showing you our extraordinary collection of historical pianos from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

Doctorow Center for the Arts
7971 Main Street, Route 23A, Hunter, New York • www.catskillmtn.org

Hours: By Appointment Only, Fridays & Saturdays 11am-3pm.
Please email ppm@catskillmtn.org or call 518 263 2063 to request an appointment

The CMF Piano Performance Museum is funded in part by the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation.
The Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Piano Performance Museum is the home of the Steven E. Greenstein Piano Collection, a one-of-a-kind collection of historic pianos and musical artifacts. A destination unlike any other in the United States, the Piano Performance Museum offers a unique glimpse into the development of pianos in Europe and America over the past four centuries. Open on Fridays and Saturdays by appointment only. Email ppm@catskillmtn.org or call 518 263 2063 to make an appointment for your visit today!

The Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Piano Performance Museum
Doctorow Center for the Arts
7971 Main Street
Hunter, NY 12442
catskillmtn.org
518 263 2063

The Catskills are Open for Business!

ATTRACTIONS & THE ARTS

Delaware & Ulster Rail Road
43510 State Highway 28
Arkville, NY 12406
durr.org
800 225 4132
The Delaware & Ulster Rail Road has big plans to welcome you back in 2021! Even with snow in the air ... we are working on our tracks! Next year we want to be able to announce: “All Aboard ... Next Stop Highmount /Belleayre!” The Delaware & Ulster Railroad is embarking on a major project to restore our tracks to Highmount and Belleayre Ski Resort. What will it take for us to restore our tracks to Highmount? 7,000 environmentally friendly cross ties, treated with “Copper Naphthenate”; 28,000 new rail spikes; 2,000 tons of stone ballast; and lots of hard work and dedication by the team at the Delaware & Ulster Railroad. Join us for our new events season in 2021!

CAR DEALERSHIP

Thorpe’s GMC
5964 Main Street
Tannersville, NY 12485
thorpesgmcinc.com
518 589 7142
Thorpe’s unmatched service and diverse GMC inventory have set them apart as the preferred dealer in Tannersville. With a full-service team of sales and service professionals, visit them today to discover why they have the best reputation in the area. They offer one of the largest GMC inventories in New York, and their trained sales staff will help you every step of the way during your shopping experience.
Catskill Mountain Printing Services

- Brochures
- Rack Cards
- Flyers
- Newsletters
- Catalogs
- Magazines
- Playbills
- Business Cards
- Presentation Folders

- One-Stop Shop
- Fast, Personal Service
- We Can Print Green
- Graphic Design Services Available

Contact: Steve Friedman
518 263 2072
friedmans@catskillmtn.org

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Greater Things Roasters
10 Hope Plaza
Coxsackie, NY 12192
greaterthingsroasters.com
518 428 2970
We are a coffee roastery and cafe based in Coxsackie, NY. We love coffee and people. Since 2014 our family was looking for a way to be more involved in our community, while raising children and pursuing careers. We saw coffee as a way for us to be involved in our community and connect with others who share a mutual affection for a shared familiar pause. We strive to create an experience with our products and spaces, which showcase the beauty of the area and community in which we live.

The Emerson Resort & Spa
5340 Route 28
Mt. Tremper, NY 12457
emersonresort.com
845 688 2828
The Emerson Resort & Spa is a hidden treasure surrounded by the splendor of the Catskill Mountains. With spacious accommodations in the contemporary Inn and Adirondack-style Lodge, Emerson guests enjoy our nature-inspired Spa, Catskill creative cooking in our signature restaurant Woodnotes Grille, shopping in the Country Stores and the World’s Largest Kaleidoscope. The Emerson is an idyllic location for group events and weddings. Dogs are welcome.

Greenville Arms
11135 State Route 32
Greenville, NY 12083
518 966 5219
greenvillearms.com
Originally built in 1889, our historically registered Inn is situated on six acres of gardens, lawns, and woodlands. The Queen Anne Revival-style main house, renovated Carriage House, and recently constructed Cottage building are host to 16 guest rooms open year-round to guests. Every guest room is uniquely decorated with a blend of antiques and modern amenities. A hot, cooked-to-order breakfast is included with each room.

The Mountain Top Arboretum
The Ice Cream Station
76 Main Street
Phoenicia, NY 12464
845 688 3333
Amidst the restaurants and shops crowded along Main Street in Phoenicia, a dessert oasis awaits you inside the Ice Cream Station. The name of the place says it all: a bounty of traditional and unique ice-cream flavors is ready to be scooped into a dish, cone, milkshake, or whatever else strikes your fancy. Open from May through late October, The Ice Cream Station offers hard and soft ice cream, shakes, cones, sundaes, malts, candy, and homemade fudge. The Ice Cream Station is owned by the Kirk Family, who also operate The Nest Egg just up the road.

Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Mountain Cinema
Doctorow Center for the Arts
7971 Main Street
Hunter, NY 12442
catskillmtn.org
518 263 4702
We show top Hollywood, foreign, and independent films at the Doctorow Center for the Arts in Hunter, just a mile west of Hunter Mountain and a short drive from Windham Mountain. Available for rental for private showings: call Steve at 518 263 2072 for rates and more information.

Rustic American style cuisine
Locally sourced ingredients

Jessie’s Harvest House & Lodge
Hours: Wednesday-Saturday: 5pm-9pm
5819 Main Street (Rte 23A), Tannersville, NY • (518) 589-5445 • www.jessiesharvesthouse.com

We now feature Outdoor Igloo Dining. See website for details.

Mother Earth’s
Experience the Hudson Valley’s Premier Natural Food Market
300 Kings Mall CT
Kingston
(845) 336-5541
MOTHEREARTHSTOREHOUSE.COM

249 Main St
Saugerties
(845) 246-9614

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**Francis X. Driscoll Photography**

Images of the Northern Catskills
At Tannersville Art & Antiques
6045 Main Street
Tannersville, NY 12485
francisxdriscoll.com
518 589 5600

A frequent contributor to the Guide magazine, Francis X. Driscoll is an award-winning nature photographer whose work involves total immersion in a setting so that he might capture that rare glimpse and share it with others. His primary subject is the Catskill Forest Preserve. He shares his craft with others by leading hikes, conducting workshops and giving private instruction. The largest selection of his work can now be found at Tannersville Art & Antiques, open Friday through Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm.

**Catskill Mountain Printing Services**

7970 Main Street
Hunter, NY 12442
518 263 2072

Your one-stop shop for fast, personal service for all of your printing needs. Graphic design services are available, and we can print green!

**WRIP 97.9FM**

wrripfm.com
Streaming at rip979.com
RIP 97.9 is the radio voice of the Mountaintop and Valley.

Broadcasting 24/7 with the equivalent of 6,000 Watts of power, we are the only radio station covering the entire region between the Hudson Valley and Oneonta. WRIP is independently owned and operated. WRIP is heard on these FM frequencies: 97.9 in Windham and Hunter, 97.5 in Durham and Greenville, 103.7 in Catskill and Hudson, 104.5 in Stamford and Delaware County, and streaming worldwide at rip979.com.

**Binnekill Tavern**

746 Main St.
Margaretville, NY 12455
845 586 4884
binnekilltavern.com

Binnekill Tavern, located in the center of Margaretville, is a warm, friendly tavern featuring “Mountain Comfort Food”. The dining room provides riverside views and a large copper fireplace. The kitchen expertly cooks modern tavern classics like Lamb Meatloaf, Pork Schnitzel, Shrimp Cocktail, burgers, homemade soups, daily seafood specials and much more. The Tavern serves an extensive list of inventive hand-crafted cocktails, local beers on tap and a well curated wine list. Open for dinner Thursday-Sunday and lunch Saturday and Sunday. Country Casual. Reservations recommended.

**Brandywine**

11157 State Route 23
Windham, NY 12496
brandywinewindham.com
518 734 3838

For the past 35 years, this full-service Italian restaurant has offered great food and impeccable service. Share wonderful memories with your loved ones as we fill your table with delicious Italian cuisine. Born and raised in Southern Italy, owner Louis Caracciolo has mastered the art of Italian cookery. We guarantee that we know the formula to capture the rich flavor of your favorite Italian dishes. Every Wednesday is Pasta Night!

**Casa Vallarta**

1571 Ulster Avenue
Lake Katrine, NY 12449
casavallarta.us
845 481 5318

We take pride in sharing with you our festive heritage and authentic Mexican styled foods from the port of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico on the Pacific ocean coast. All our dishes are prepared with care and our promise of satisfaction. Large menu of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, appetizers, soups & salads, burritos, tacos, enchiladas, chimichangas, and fajitas, as well as beef, pork, chicken, seafood and vegetarian entrees. And don’t forget the daily specials and dessert! All locations of Casa Vallarta are family owned and operated.
Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
Clean the onions and ramps by separating the green tops with from the white bulbs with a knife. Remove the roots. Remove the outer layer of the bulbs. Rinse thoroughly in cold water to remove any dirt and dry. Slice the onions bulbs and ramp bulbs about a ¼” thick. Rough cut the green tops from the ramps and onion as well as the spinach.
In 4 qt. sauce pot on low heat add the butter and melt or oil. Add all the cut white bulbs and a pinch of salt. Sweat on low heat, uncovered until translucent and tender stirring occasionally about 10 minutes. Do not brown. Add the cut onion greens, ramp greens and spinach and continue sweating on low heat for a few more minutes. Add the white wine and cook for a few minutes evaporating out the alcohol. Add the vegetable stock. Bring to a gentle simmer and cook for 10 minutes. While the soup is simmering, cook the bacon by laying the strips flat on a sheet pan. Place another sheet pan on top to keep the bacon flat and pressed while cooking. Cook in a 350 degree oven for about 12 minutes or until crispy. Slightly cool and place on paper towels to remove any excess fat. Cut bacon in half and reserve. When the onion greens are tender remove soup from the stove. Fill half the blender with equal parts liquid and vegetables and cover. Starting the blender on a slow speed and gradually increasing the speed until high, blend until smooth. Repeat until all the soup is pureed. Stir in the lemon zest and taste the soup, season with salt and pepper. Adjust the consistency with veg stock or water if too thick. Place in warm soup bowl, sprinkle with grated cheese and bacon strips and serve.

Spring Onion Soup with Pecorino and Bacon
Chef Bryan Calvert, Binnekill Tavern
binnekilltavern.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredients</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 bunches spring onions with greens (about 5 medium size bulbs with greens)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 ramps or garlic cloves</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 qts. veg stock or water</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 oz butter or olive oil</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4 oz dry white wine</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 cups of cleaned spinach</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 cup Pecorino Foglie di Noce, grated</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8 slices of heritage breed bacon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salt and pepper</td>
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Chef Deanna
1645 County Highway 6
Bovina Center, NY 13740
chefdeanna.com

Now offering catering and take-out, with delivery available for larger events!

Porch pickup for take out orders from 5 to 7 pm on Sunday.

Chef Deanna has been on the cutting edge of the sustainable food industry for over 15 years. Surrounded by farmers and local food makers, Chef Deanna creates beautiful dishes using her Sicilian heritage and her love of everything sweet and savory.

Hunter Mountain Brewery
7267 Route 23A
Hunter, NY 12442
HMBCatskills.com
518 263 3300

Hunter Mountain Brewery has been serving our customers and community for over five years. Our restaurant offers a variety of pub-style food, Indian cuisine and Sushi (Sushi Thursdays). We have different styles of our own Craft Brews on tap, a full bar and gift shop items.

As a family-owned business, Hunter Mountain Brewery strives to provide a great food, service and a safer place to relax during this pandemic period.

We are open for limited capacity dining indoors and outdoor deck dining. We also offer take-out, delivery (via catskillsdelivery.com) and beers to go in four pack cans/growlers. Cheers!

Jessie’s Harvest House
5819 Main Street
Tannersville, NY 12485
jessiesharvesthouse.com
518 589 5445

Jessie’s Harvest House Restaurant and Lodge is a warm and comfy restaurant and lodge that features a delicious menu of rustic American style cuisine with locally sourced ingredients from the beautiful offerings of the Catskills. Call us to inquire about our NEW outdoor igloo dining!
**Pancho Villa’s Mexican Restaurant**
6037 Main Street  
Tannersville, NY 12485  
panchovillamex.com  
518 589 5134  
The Best Mexican Food this side of the Border! Pancho Villa’s is owned and operated by the Oscar and Patricia Azcue family. They have been proudly serving authentic Mexican food in Tannersville since 1992. Rooted in tradition, their passion is sharing great food and good company. All of the traditional Mexican favorites are served here, from enchiladas and burritos to chimichangas and flautas... plus great margaritas and daiquiris! Open every day except Tuesday.

**Pearl Moon**
52 Mill Hill Road  
Woodstock, NY 12498  
pearlmoonwoodstock.com  
845 684 5537  
Located in the heart of historic Woodstock, Pearl Moon offers up American Diner classics with a modern twist. Eat out on our terrace, or dine in our beautifully designed interior and don’t forget to try one of our signature cocktails. Set into the slope of Mill Hill, our space has two levels: dining above and our music venue with a full bar and stage below. Expect live music in our venue and on our terrace this spring. Head Chef: Michael Brooks.
Devin and Marybeth Mills hail from some of New York City’s finest restaurants: The Hudson River Club, Picholine, Le Bernardin, Guastavino’s, Atlantic Grill, Remi Restaurant, and the famed Gramercy Tavern. Seeking to move closer to the farms supplying their menu, they have beautifully restored this country farmhouse set among the bucolic Catskill Mountains. The restaurant supports local growers by changing their menu daily, to represent the freshest ingredients available.

The Roost
3542 Main Street
Stone Ridge, NY 12484
845 687 0022
theroostinstoneridge.com
Fresh handmade cooking, served all day. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. For breakfast: eggs & omelets, yogurt, hash and skillet dishes, pancakes, french toast. For lunch and dinner: soups and salads, quiches, sandwiches. Great burgers and fries! Vegetarian and vegan options available. Craft beer on tap. Daily specials.

Tito Bandito’s, located in the center of Pine Hill, is the spot to enjoy modern Mexican cuisine and hand-crafted cocktails. Our menu features traditional and inventive tacos, quesadillas, burritos, and much more. The bar serves local and Mexican beer on tap, specialty margaritas, and an extensive tequila list. Check out our specials and events online. Fun and casual. Indoor and outdoor seating. Take-out. Open Friday through Sunday for dinner, Saturday and Sunday lunch and dinner.

Woodnotes Grille at the Emerson Resort
5340 Route 28
Mt. Tremper, NY 12457
emersonresort.com
845 688 2828, option 6
Woodnotes Grille features food you know done our way with fresh local ingredients, unforgettable flavors that hone in on the local spirit, and handcrafted cocktails that are an experience as well as a drink. We give classic entrees and your favorite drinks a little spin by adding native ingredients & innovative twists.

Roasted Corn and Duck Confit Salad  
Tito Bandito’s Taco & Tequila Bar  
titobanditos.com

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 ears of corn, shucked &amp; kernels removed</td>
<td>4 pieces of duck confit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil</td>
<td>1 tablespoon chopped sweet marjoram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 head of frisée, stems removed and roughly chopped</td>
<td>1 tablespoon parsley ribbon cut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 pint of mixed cherry tomatoes, cut into halves</td>
<td>1 tablespoon chopped chives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>¼ cup sherry vinaigrette</td>
<td>1/4 cup sherry vinaigrette</td>
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Heat up two tablespoons of olive oil in a large sauté pan. Add the corn kernels and cook over medium high heat constantly tossing until the corn browns and pops. Season with salt and pepper. Place in a large bowl. Toss with the frisée, tomatoes, duck confit, herbs, and vinaigrette, season to taste and serve.

Quick Duck Confit
In a bowl whisk together the honey, tamari Chinese five spice. Toss the garlic, thyme and duck legs until evenly coated. Refrigerate skin side up in the marinade in a covered glass dish over night. Remove form the marinade and dry cook in a covered casserole dish covered with thyme and garlic for 2 hours on 300 degrees until the legs meats is tender. Shred the meat by hand for the salad discarding any fat bones or sinew.
Located next door to the Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center, our shoppe features a curated selection of books and gifts from around the Region and around the world. Open Friday through Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm, with special shopping hours for seniors and the immune-compromised from 11 am to noon on Fridays. Check out our NEW website for online shopping!

CVS
60 Mill Hill Road
Woodstock, NY 12498
CVS.com
845 679 3686
Pharmacy, photo finishing, health and beauty products, fragrances, snacks, drinks, newspapers and magazines, and more. Your go-to stop if you’ve forgotten that extra important something on your trip. For any special occasion, they carry cards, candy, decorations, and a wide variety of reasonably-priced gifts for men, women, and children.

Kenco
1000 Hurley Mountain Rd.
Kingston, NY 12401
atkenco.com
845 340 0552
A locally owned and operated family business, Kenco’s doors first opened in 1982, and is committed to the proposition that hard workers need clothing and gear to match their ambition. Since then we have applied the same principle and grown to include clothing and footwear for working, outdoor adventure, and casual Catskill living. Kenco is the place to go to for knowledge and gear for your next outdoor Catskills adventure.

Chris and Kevin Schneider helped start the organic and all-natural food trend in the Hudson Valley. Although it may seem like a recent trend, the organic and sustainable “Buy Local” movement has been around for many decades. Though modest in size, Mother Earth’s Storehouse has always been focused on wholesome, nutritious foods without artificial ingredients. Come experience Mother Earth’s at one of their two convenient Hudson Valley locations in Kingston and Saugerties.

The Nest Egg
84 Main Street
Phoenicia, NY 12464
thenesteggcountrystore.com
nesteggshop.com
845 688 5851
An old-fashioned country store in the heart of the Catskill Mountains, offering relaxed shopping and mountain hospitality. You’ll find a little bit of everything here: Minnetonka Moccasins, t-shirts & sweatshirts, local area books and hiking maps, candles, soaps, incense, jewelry, local maple syrup and honey, nostalgic candies, toys, puzzles, games and souvenirs … and home-made delicious fudge! Owner Robin Kirk’s family has owned The Nest Egg since 1968.

Since 1969, the Catskill Center has led the effort to protect the Catskill Park and Catskill Forest Preserve. Their mission is to protect and foster the environmental, cultural, and economic well-being of the Catskill Region.
The Greene County Economic Development Corporation is your gateway to establishing your business in any of the 14 Catskill Mountain, rural valley, and historic Hudson River towns. Their team connects entrepreneurs, developers, site selectors, and corporate leadership with resources, municipalities, and investment incentives for job-creating businesses.

The Emerson Resort & Spa
5340 Route 28
Mt. Tremper, NY 12457
emersonresort.com
845 688 2828

Welcome to a harmonious blend of nature, balance and restoration. It is our pleasure to introduce you to spa therapies inspired by the earth’s elements and the tranquility of the Catskills. The Emerson Spa provides a serene experience that combines our natural surroundings with the deep relaxation effects of stone therapy and custom design treatments to suit the health, lifestyle and desire of every guest. Please call for a reservation.

Elevated Wine & Spirits
7261 Route 23A
Hunter, NY 12442
518 263 4184

Hunter Village Wines & Liquors has been Elevated! We’re always expanding our selection of traditional, organic, biodynamic, and natural wines, plus bartender-selected spirits including single village mezcals and small batch bourbons. From Barefoot Chardonnay to Cru Beaujolais, from Fireball to Fred #5. A wine & spirits shop for anyone at any budget. Lots of local spirits too.

Town & Country Liquors
330 Route 12
Saugerties, NY 12477
townandcountryliquorstore.com
845 246 8931

Over the years our selection of wines and spirits has developed into the best in the Hudson Valley. Our friendly helpful staff is here to assist you in finding the right beverage: we have a huge selection of wines and spirits from all over the world. In-store service is available, and pre-call curbside service is encouraged. Please see our inventory online.

Windham Wine & Liquors
5448 State Route 23
Windham, NY 12496
518 734 3474

Windham Wine & Liquors is the Mountaintop’s premier destination for the best offerings of wines and spirits since 2003. Our ever-expanding selection is sure to please every palate and price range. Let us help with your special event or gift. Visit us at the west end of town. Open every day of the year except Christmas Day.

Catskill Interpretive Center
5096 State Route 28
Mt. Tremper, NY 12457
CatskillInterpretiveCenter.org
845 688 3369
Catskill Park’s official Visitor Center! The Catskill Interpretive Center is your gateway to Catskills, where you can learn about the vast outdoor recreational opportunities in the area as well as discover Catskills communities and rich cultural and natural history. The Catskill Interpretive Center is now open for phone consultations and for drive-up information.
RESERVE THE THEATER FOR A PRIVATE VIEWING!

Call Steve at 518 263 2072 for more information

www.catskillmtn.org • 518 263 4702
Since its release in 1990, the documentary Paris Is Burning has received critical acclaim for its depiction of the New York drag ball scene and of voguing as a powerful expression of personal pride in the face of racism, homophobia, and the stigma of the AIDS crisis. To honor the film’s thirtieth anniversary, Works & Process commissioned Omari Wiles, founding father of the House of Oricci and a legend within the ballroom community, to produce New York Is Burning. With its premiere at the Guggenheim postponed due to the pandemic, the project was supported with a summer 2020 Works & Process bubble residency at Kaatsbaan Cultural Park, where Wiles continued to develop the commission for his company, Les Ballet Afrik. The residency culminated in a filmed performance at Lincoln Center, serving as an affirmation of love, acceptance, and joy.

Just as Paris Is Burning did for New York in 1980s, New York Is Burning reflects the aspirations, desires, and yearnings of a diverse group of dancers in a city beset by health, race, and financial crises. Wiles’s new work centers on the dancers for whom the dance company serves as a surrogate family including Kya Azeen, Eva Bust A’ Move, Algin Ford-Sterling, Alora Martinez, Shireen Rahimi, Milerka Rodriguez, Kameron N. Saunders, Karma Stytz, and Yuki Sukezane. In preparation for its official premiere, New York Is Burning will receive a second bubble residency. When it premieres, the piece will bring ballroom to the Guggenheim in a work featuring Wiles’s AfrikFusion, a style that combines traditional African dances and Afrobeat with house dance and vogue.

According to dance educator and dancer LaTasha Barnes, one of the greatest disparities of the present-day dance canon is the one that exists between the African American dancer and authentic jazz dance. Barnes argues that despite the foundational role of jazz dance as a source of globally celebrated popular Black dance forms, there is a lack of contextual and performative knowledge of jazz in the African American artist, which does a disservice to the expressive purpose and possibility that is dance. With the focus and dedicated time afforded by a residency, Barnes aims to bridge the knowledge gap with a group of engaged and invested dancers who desire to embody jazz alongside the Black dance traditions they currently bear. The resulting work may manifest as a choreographed jazz dance performance or an “improvography”-centered exploration of jazz and its scions.

Works & Process, the performing arts series at the Guggenheim, and the Catskill Mountain Foundation announce a new digital series, Works & Process at Catskill Mountain Foundation. Each digital program will blend illuminating artists discussion with performance highlights to reveal the creative process of new dance commissions as they are being created inside Works & Process bubble residencies housed at the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center.

For more information
worksandprocess.org
catskillmtn.org
The Hudson River School
Paintings from the Collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art

“Summer Afternoon,” by Asher Brown Durand, 1865

Durand’s landscapes were so popular that they were often acquired by enthusiastic collectors almost as soon as the artist finished painting them. Morris K. Jesup, who commissioned this painting, also owned “The Beeches” (see next page) and several other important pictures by artists of the Hudson River School. In this view of luminous water and misty distance, he demonstrated how carefully he analyzed the subtle changes taking place in nature and showed how well he knew the technical secrets of depicting them.

In the early nineteenth century, many in this country were searching for a style of art that they could call their own – something uniquely American. Painter, poet, and essayist Thomas Cole (1801-1848) responded to this quest by creating pristine landscape paintings unlike any yet seen. His vision of wild and untouched scenery with majestic mountains and tangled forests stood in stark contrast to the gentle landscape images that had come before.

Influential people of the nascent New York cultural scene embraced his work enthusiastically, and Cole became the leader of an informal alliance of landscape artists now known as the Hudson River School. Cole, Asher Durand, Frederic Church, Sanford Gifford, Jasper Cropsey, and other painters, along with literary figures such as William Cullen Bryant and James Fenimore Cooper, forged a self-consciously “American” style and landscape vision for what was still a relatively new nation.

The artists of the Hudson River School were united by their belief that their art might lead to spiritual renewal and contribute to the formation of a uniquely American national culture. Their work established a notion of America as a new Eden, a concept that still resonates with artists, environmentalists, and landscape enthusiasts to this day.

—from thomascole.org/learn-about-the-hudson-river-school
This work, featuring meticulously rendered beech and basswood trees, was painted for the New York collector Abraham M. Cozzens, then a member of the executive committee of the American Art-Union. The painting illustrates a new trend in the work of the Hudson River School, with its diminished emphasis on sublime drama and increased interest in naturalism and in the creation of a tranquil mood. Durand was influenced by the work of the English landscape painter John Constable, whose vertical formats and truth to nature he absorbed while visiting England in 1840. “The Beeches” resembles Constable’s “The Cornfield” (National Gallery, London). This work is also the first one Durand based on a plein-air oil sketch, a technique the artist increasingly relied upon to reproduce accurately conditions of light and shade.
Born free in upstate New York, the African American Duncanson established an international reputation for his Hudson River School inspired landscapes during the Civil War era. Self-taught, he launched his career in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he came to the attention of abolitionist leaders, who later sponsored his study in Europe. By 1861, Duncanson was hailed in the American press as "the best landscape painter in the West." At the height of his career, he successfully toured his paintings in England and Scotland, where he lived for a period of time. Self-exiled in Montreal during the Civil War, Duncanson also helped launch a Canadian landscape movement.
“Hudson River Scene,” by John Frederick Kensett, 1857

At West Point, New York, the Hudson River flows between picturesque mountains, to both the east and the west. The region was a favorite of many of the Hudson River School artists, including Kensett, who painted numerous views of the site seen here. His vantage point was a spot near Fort Putnam, a corner of which can be glimpsed at the far right, looking north toward the bend in the river. The disparate levels of terrain permitted great variety in the depiction of light and shadow: for example, the dark foliage of the trees in the deep ravine provides a strong contrast to the sunlit rocky space in the immediate foreground, at the base of the fort.
“A Gorge in the Mountains (Kauterskill Clove),” by Sanford Robinson Gifford, 1862

Gifford was the only major Hudson River School painter to have actually grown up in the Catskills region of New York made famous by Thomas Cole, the school’s founding figure. Rather than focusing on a central mountain or waterfall, as had most artists in earlier depictions of the landscape, Gifford chose to feature light and atmosphere as viewed from Kauterskill (Kaaterskill) Clove in the eastern Catskill Mountains. The result is a shift from the sublime to the meditative. A hunter and his dog climb the rocks at the left, merging with the terrain as they make their way to the platform overlooking the ravine, which is burnished by an Indian summer haze. From 1845 until his death in 1880, Gifford chose Kauterskill Clove in the Catskill Mountains as one of his favorite subjects. This painting, dated 1862, was called “Kauterskill Falls” in the catalogue of the 1876 New York Centennial Loan Exhibition of Paintings, as well as in the 1881 official catalogue of Gifford’s work. The title has since been changed to “Kauterskill Clove,” for the view is from the east, looking west to Haine’s Falls at the head of the clove.
Whittredge returned again and again to the subject of the forest interior, which he had come to admire in works such as the Museum’s “In The Woods” by Asher B. Durand. Even the title of this picture evokes one of Durand’s favorite pursuits, fishing, which was shared by many of the Hudson River School painters. Unlike the older, conservative Durand, Whittredge admits blazes of pure sunlight into his refuge, linking his vision to that of his younger colleague in New York, Albert Bierstadt, who, like Whittredge, studied at The Academy at Düsseldorf, Germany.
“A River Glimpse,” by Thomas Doughty, ca. 1843-50

A native of Philadelphia, Doughty represents a link between the eighteenth-century pastoral style of landscape painting first imported from England and the passionate language of the Sublime introduced later by Thomas Cole, founder of the Hudson River School. Doughty occasionally attempted to emulate the style of his more famous successor, as in the gnarled expressiveness of the largest tree in this picture, but he could never forsake the modesty of arrangement and touch that distilled, even from a specific site, a “river glimpse.”
“Approaching Thunder Storm,” by Martin Johnson Heade, 1859

Heade became a good friend of the acclaimed landscape painter Frederic Church (1826–1900), but he worked on the periphery of the Hudson River School. He specialized not in dramatic wilderness subjects, as many of the school did, but preferred more prosaic marshlands and coastal settings. Even when he painted storms, as here, he portrayed not the actual tempest, but its tense preamble of blackening sky and eerily illumined terrain. This painting was based on a sketch of an approaching storm that Heade witnessed on Rhode Island’s Narragansett Bay about 1858. The image became the basis for a more elaborate and synthetic version of the subject painted in 1868 (Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas).
The Olana Partnership, Olana State Historic Site, and the Thomas Cole National Historic Site have announced that “Cross Pollination: Heade, Cole, Church, and Our Contemporary Moment” will open on June 12 at the two historic sites—the only opportunity to see the unique presentation of the exhibition in New York, in the landscapes and historic spaces that so dramatically influenced and continue to influence the evolution of art in America. For the first time in over two decades, 16 paintings from the influential series of hummingbirds and habitats—The Gems of Brazil (1863-64)—by Martin Johnson Heade (1819-1904) will be on view in New York for public audiences. The project uses the metaphor of cross-pollination inspired by Heade’s paintings to explore interconnections in art and science, between artists, and across the 19th and 21st centuries. Paintings, sketches, sculpture, and natural history specimens will be displayed in provocative juxtapositions.

Artist Martin Johnson Heade has long been associated with the Hudson River School of landscape painting, which is characterized by the epic landscapes of the artists Thomas Cole (1801-1848) and Frederic Church (1826-1900). Heade, though, with his series The Gems of Brazil, was making a different kind of “landscape” that magnified the intricate operations within nature itself. Heade traveled to Brazil in 1863, so that he could study the hummingbirds in their natural habitat. Heade’s focus in The Gems and his related writing, which decry the overhunting of bird species, aligns with the proto-environmentalism of Thomas Cole, who wrote against deforestation in his own time. Heade’s own Brazilian journey was inspired by Frederic Church’s travels in Latin America. The environmental awareness and advocacy of these 19th-century artists connect thought and conversations taking place today, as concern for preservation and protection of the environment reaches critical urgency.

The exhibition will also include paintings by Thomas Cole and Frederic Church, as well as botanical works on both paper and porcelain by Emily Cole, Cole’s daughter, and Isabel Charlotte Church, Church’s daughter, which will be shown together here for the first time. The exhibition highlights natural specimen collections amassed by Thomas Cole and Frederic Church, including Cole’s mineral and herbarium collections and a sampling of the Church family’s extensive collection of bird eggs.

“Cross Pollination” positions these 19th-century artists in a call and response with 21st-century American artists, whose works engage contemporary issues related to biodiversity, habitat protection, and environmental sustainability. The contemporary artists are Rachel Berwick, Nick Cave, Mark Dion, Richard Estes, Juan Fontanive, Jeffrey Gibson, Paula Hayes, Patrick Jacobs, Maya Lin, Flora C. Mace, Vik Muniz, Portia Munson, Lisa Sanditz, Emily Sartor, Sayler/Morris, Dana Sherwood, Jean Shin, Rachel Sussman, and Jeff Whetstone.

The joint project will be presented simultaneously as one exhibition at both Olana State Historic Site in Hudson, NY, and the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in Catskill, NY, from June 12 to October 31, 2021. The two historic sites are connected by the Hudson River Skywalk, a scenic walkway across the Hudson River—with sweeping views of the Hudson Valley and the Catskill Mountains—that opened in June 2019. “Cross Pollination” is the second major collaborative project between Olana and the Thomas Cole Site and builds upon the success of the

The “Cross Pollination” exhibition was created by The Olana Partnership at Olana State Historic Site, Thomas Cole National Historic Site, and Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, AR. The exhibition was originally scheduled to open in May 2020 at the two historic sites in New York but was delayed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The exhibition tour is presented at a total of five venues: Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens in Jacksonville, FL; Reynolda House Museum of American Art in Winston-Salem, NC; Thomas Cole National Historic Site and The Olana Partnership at Olana State Historic Site in New York’s Hudson Valley; and Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in AR. The exhibition tour is organized by Crystal Bridges.

The exhibition will include site-specific artwork created expressly for this occasion and inspired by *The Gems of Brazil*, the natural environment, and the landscapes, historic homes, and studios of Cole and Church. The following artists made new work for these specific settings: Rachel Berwick, Mark Dion and Dana Sherwood, Lisa Sanditz and Emily Sartor, and Jean Shin. In addition, Sayler/Morris, Portia Munson, and Paula Hayes drew from existing works to create new site-specific installations for “Cross Pollination.” The Pollinator Pavilion, for instance, is a major public artwork by Mark Dion and Dana Sherwood created for the exhibition at the Thomas Cole Site; it is designed so that pollinators and humans may share the same space. Nationally renowned artist Jean Shin will create a site-specific installation at Olana titled “FALLEN,” a memorial artwork created from a much-beloved hemlock tree that died of natural causes. “FALLEN” creates an opportunity to reflect on the sadness of both this hemlock and the wider history of environmental loss in the Catskills region. The installation is in process and will open on May 1.

Olana and the Thomas Cole Site interpret and open their landscapes to the community for free as public parks and follow all pandemic protocols laid out by New York State. All guided tour and program participants are required to wear masks covering the mouth and nose and maintain social distancing (six feet at all times). More information and tour details are available at the historic sites’ websites (below).

“Cross Pollination” is curated by Kate Menconeri, Curator & Director of Exhibitions and Collections at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site; Julia B. Rosenbaum, Associate Professor and Chair of Art History & Visual Culture, Bard College, and former Director of Research & Publications at The Olana Partnership; Mindy N. Besaw, Curator of American Art & Director of Fellowships and Research at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, and William L. Coleman, Director of Collections & Exhibitions at The Olana Partnership. The exhibition was created collaboratively by the partner museums and in conversations with leading American artists, scholars, scientists, and historians.

A richly illustrated companion book—also titled *Cross Pollination*—accompanies the exhibition and features new original essays by the exhibition curators. The book is published by the Thomas Cole National Historic Site and The Olana Partnership.

Support for the exhibition and its national tour is provided by Art Bridges. Additional major support is provided by the Henry Luce Foundation.

The exhibition is also made possible through support from the Terra Foundation for American Art. The exhibition is supported in New York in part by The National Endowment for the Arts, Market New York through I LOVE NY/New York State’s Division of Tourism as part of the Regional Economic Development Council awards, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, and the New York State Legislature; the Robert Lehman Foundation; The Bank of Greene County Charitable Foundation; Greene County Legislature through the County Initiative Program of the Greene County Council on the Arts; The Olana Partnership’s Novak-Ferber Exhibitions Fund, the Kindred Spirits Society of the Thomas Cole National Historic Site, Charina Foundation, The Stainman Family Foundation, Anne Miller & Stuart Breslow, Kristin Gamble, and Deedee & Barrie Wigmore. Support for the catalogue is provided by Furthermore: a program of the J. M. Kaplan Fund.

**OLANA STATE HISTORIC SITE AND THE OLANA PARTNERSHIP**

Olana is the greatest masterpiece of Frederic Edwin Church (1826-1900), a preeminent American artist of the mid-19th century.
century and the most important artist's home, studio, and designed landscape in the United States. Church designed Olana as a holistic environment integrating his advanced ideas about art, architecture, landscape design, and environmental conservation. Olana's 250-acre artist-designed landscape with five miles of carriage roads and a Persian-inspired house embraces unrivaled panoramic views of the Hudson Valley and Catskill Mountains and welcomes more than 170,000 visitors annually. Olana State Historic Site, administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, is a designated National Historic Landmark and one of the most visited historic sites in the state. The Olana Partnership, a private not-for-profit education corporation, works cooperatively with New York State Parks to support the restoration, conservation, and interpretation of Olana to make it accessible to all.

Admission to the gardens and grounds is free every day from dawn until dusk. The hours for Thomas Cole's home, studios and special exhibitions vary by season. For details, see thomascole.org/visit. Keep in touch on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter at @thomascolesite.

THE THOMAS COLE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
The Thomas Cole National Historic Site is an international destination presenting the original home and studios of Thomas Cole (1801-1848), founder of the Hudson River School of painting, the nation’s first major art movement. Located on 6 acres in the Hudson Valley, the site includes the 1815 Main House; Cole's 1839 Old Studio; the reconstructed historic New Studio building; and panoramic views of the Catskill Mountains. It is a National Historic Landmark and an affiliated area of the National Park System. The Thomas Cole Site’s activities include guided tours, special exhibitions of both 19th-century and contemporary art, printed publications, extensive online programs, activities for school groups, free community events, lectures, and innovative public programs such as the Hudson River School Art Trail—a map and website that enable visitors to visit the places that Cole painted. The goal of all programs at the Thomas Cole Site is to enable visitors to find meaning and inspiration in Thomas Cole's life and work. The themes that Cole explored in his art and writings—such as landscape preservation, our conception of nature as a restorative power and the need for public art museums—are historic and timely, providing the opportunity to connect to audiences with insights that are highly relevant to their own lives. The Thomas Cole Site's programming and operations are continually evolving under its initiatives for Greening, and Diversity, Equity and Access.

The landscape is free and open to all every day from 8:30 am to sunset. For a current list of tours of the Main House and artist-designed landscape, visit olana.org/hours-and-admission. Keep in touch on social media @OlanaSHS.

HUDSON RIVER SKYWALK REGION
The Thomas Cole National Historic Site in Catskill, NY and Olana—across the Hudson River in Hudson, NY—joined forces with New York State to launch a new initiative to recognize the region as an epicenter of American art where the nation's first major art movement began. The project—titled the Hudson River Skywalk Region—weaves together the home and studios of Thomas Cole at the Thomas Cole Site and those of his legendary student Frederic Church at Olana with the landscape that inspired it all to create one seamless experience. With support from New York State, a continuous pedestrian scenic walkway—the Hudson River Skywalk—connects the historic sites across the Rip Van Winkle Bridge over the Hudson River. The Region also includes the City of Hudson and the Town of Catskill. For more information, visit hudsonriverskywalk.org.

For more information about this exhibition, visit hudsonriverskywalk.org/crosspollination.
Bringing the Community Together through the Arts

2021 PERFORMING ARTS SEASON

There are many unknowns as we plan our 2021 season. We will continue to work with our artists to offer virtual, recorded performances throughout the year. We are hoping to present The Nutcracker live in the Orpheum in December 2021.

FOR CLASSICAL MUSIC LOVERS

Salon Series of 12 Performances with the Academy of Fortepiano Performance
A monthly series of informal online performances and discussions with fortepiano students and professionals anywhere, hosted by AFP faculty and guest artists around the world.

A Night at the Theater, London, at the Turn of the 18th Century
Labyrinth Baroque Ensemble
Richard Kolb (Music Director) and Tracy Cowart (Stage Director)
Saturday, September 4 @ 7:30pm or a virtual performance date TBD
The ensemble brings to life the ravishing beauty and wry wit of 17th and 18th century chamber music on period instruments.

Thanksgiving Weekend Chamber Music Concert
Arranged and Conducted by Robert Manno
Saturday, November 27 @ 7:30pm or a virtual performance date TBD

FOR FAMILIES AND KIDS

Virtual performances in each season of 2021.

No Strings Marionette Company: “The Snowmaiden”
March, 2021
Animals, humans and mythical creatures populate this beloved Russian folktale.

Enchantment Theatre from Philadelphia
Three stories from the Brothers Grimm

A FEW LAUGHS GO A LONG WAY

Tune in for staged readings of a pair of short theater comedies filmed at the Doctorow Center for the Arts in Hunter.

Wanda’s Visit, by Christopher Durang
Featuring Darcy Dunn, Dayna Kurtz, John McCaffrey, & Mark Singer
Streaming live on Facebook and YouTube
June 12, 2021 @ 7:30pm
In this madcap farce, a married couple in a stale marriage host an unexpected visit from the husband’s old girlfriend, and she turns out to be the guest from hell.

The second play in this series has yet to be chosen.

FOR DANCE LOVERS

We continue to do everything we can to support dance artists who seek safe studio and theater space to continue their dancing. Dance residencies will be hosted at our facilities in the winter, spring and summer of 2021.

ZviDance Residency
Zvi Gotheiner, choreographer
Three Weeks in January, 2021
Films of the dancers in residence will capture their experience of working in the Catskill Mountains. Final performances will be available later in the year on WNET.

Works & Process at the Guggenheim
Directed by Duke Dang
Eight Two-Week Residencies from January through July, 2021
Works & Process, the performing arts series at the Guggenheim, will incubate six new dance commissions shaping a more inclusive and representative world. These projects will be developed as part of a series of bubble residencies, a model pioneered by Works & Process, where artists can safely gather, create, work and perform. Each residency will feature a digital program that will allow audiences to go behind the scenes to gain insight into the creative process.

Orpheum Dance Program Performances
Directed by Victoria Rinaldi and featuring dancers from the Community Ballet program as well as students and professional dancers from other schools and dance companies in the Northeast.

A Midsummer Night’s Dream
August, 2021
A night of dance and spoken word including dancers from professional ballet companies and local ballet students.

The Nutcracker
December, 2021
The magic continues with this annual holiday production featuring local ballet students and professional dancers.
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WEEKLY CERAMICS CLASSES

BASICS & BEYOND
Instructor: Susan Bogen
June 23 to August 25

CLAY FOR SENIORS FULL
Instructor: Susan Beecher
June 23 to August 25

CERAMICS WORKSHOPS

HANDBUILDING: TRICKS OF THE TRADE
Instructor: Vince Pitelka
June 17 to June 22

SENSATIONAL SODA FIRING FULL
Instructor: Bruce Dehnert
June 24 to June 27

DELICIOUS DISHES FULL
Instructor: Susan Beecher
July 2 to July 4

LEVEL UP YOUR PATTERN
Instructor: Michael Kline
July 8 to July 12

COILING AND SLAB CONSTRUCTION: AN UNORTHODOX APPROACH TO TRADITIONAL TECHNIQUES
Instructor: Jeff Shapiro
July 15 to July 20

AN EXPERIMENTAL SALT FIRING
Instructors: Max Seinfeld & Stephanie Lanter
July 22 to July 27

EXPRESSIVE TIPS & SODA FIRING
Instructor: Kenyon Hansen
July 29 to August 3

MARRYING FORM AND SURFACE WITH BRENTA QUINN
Instructor: Brenda Quinn
August 5 to August 10

WHICH CAME FIRST, THE POT OR THE IDEA
Instructor: Lindsay Oesterritter
August 12 to August 16

THE POETIC PICTURE: CLAY AS CANVAS
Instructor: Shanna Fliegel
August 19 to August 24

PATTERN ON THE CLAY SURFACE FULL
Instructor: Adero Willard
August 26 to August 31

MOSAICS MAGNIFICENT MOSAICS
Instructor: Cynthia Fisher
July 23 to 25

PAINTING CHINESE BRUSH PAINTING
Instructor: Linda Schultz
June 26 to 27

FIBER ARTS BASICS & BEYOND WEEKLY WEAVING CLASS
Instructor: Laura Pierce
Session 1: June 7 to July 26
Session 2: August 9 to September 27

INTRO TO RIGID HEDDLE
Instructor: Teresa Curtiss
August 7 to 8

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—Leo Tolstoy
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