THE ALEXIS P. SUTER BAND JOINS THE RAY BLUE ORGAN TRIO IN A SPECIAL CONCERT AT THE ORPHEUM IN TANNERSVILLE THIS FEBRUARY
The Catskill Mountain Foundation presents

CONCERT TO CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH GOSPEL, SOUL & INSPIRATIONAL MUSIC

ALEXIS P. SUTER BAND

RAY BLUE ORGAN TRIO

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2016 @ 8:00 pm
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On the cover: This February, international recording artists Alexis P. Suter and her band join the Ray Blue Organ Trio for a special concert of Gospel, Soul, and Inspirational Music to celebrate Black History Month at the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center. For more information about this concert, please see the article on page 8.

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Windham Chamber Music Festival Opens 2016 Season with Winter Jazz Concert

The 2016 season of Windham Chamber Music concerts at the Historic Windham Civic Centre Concert Hall opens on February 13 with a winter jazz concert featuring the brilliant duo of pianist Renee Rosnes and bassist George Mraz. Don't miss this amazing, inventive duo traversing the great classics of modern jazz.

The New York Times says about Renee Rosnes: “No rhythmic inflection went unexplored, harmonies within a tune kept changing, and the formal elements were simply signposts for the soloists … she's a virtuoso, but a quiet one.” And the Concord Music Group says of George Mraz: “He is the total package, a master virtuoso of the bass violin, with flawless time and intonation, a commanding rhythmic focus, and a sophisticated sense of harmony.”

On July 16 the popular Gala Orchestra Concert features pianist Tanya Gabrielian in her Windham debut performing Bach, Saint-Saëns and Finzi, and the Windham Festival Chamber Orchestra conducted by Robert Manno performing Tchaikovsky’s lush Souvenir de Florence. August 13 brings the return to Windham of Trio Solisti with Maria Bachmann, Alexis Pia Gerlach and Adam Neiman performing the music of Beethoven, Ravel, and Arensky. On August 20 WCMF is delighted to present Divas Unleashed an evening of opera and comedy with soprano Michelle Jennings and mezzo-soprano Maria Todaro. The season comes to a close on September 3 with the return of the Lark String Quartet performing great string quartets of Beethoven and Debussy.

Tickets prices for all chamber music concerts are $25, $22 for seniors (65+) and $20 for contributors. Tickets for the July 16 Gala Orchestra Concert are $35, $32 for seniors (65+) and $30 for contributors. Student prices (6-23) for all concerts are $5 each. All concerts take place at the Historic Windham Civic Centre, 5379 Route 23 (Main Street) Windham, NY.

Tickets for all concerts are available by sending a check to WCMF 740 CR32C Windham, NY 12496 or in person at the following Main Street Windham locations: Carole’s Gift Emporium, the Catskill Mountain Country Store or the Windham Public Library. Reservations can be made by calling 518 734 3868 or by e-mail at info@windhammusic.com.

The 2016 season is made possible in part with foundation support from the Willow Springs Charitable Trust Foundation, the Peter R. & Cynthia K. Kellogg Foundation, the Windham Foundation, the David G. Whitcomb Foundation and with Public Funds from the Greene County Legislature through the Greene County Cultural Fund administered in Greene County by the Greene County Council on the Arts.
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Garden of Feverish Imaginings: An Art Installation by Gary Mayer with Soundscape by Michael Suchorsky runs through March 5 at the Roxbury Arts Center

The Roxbury Arts Center kicks off 2016 with Garden of Feverish Imaginings, a provocative installation by acclaimed Bovina visual artist Gary Mayer. For the first time, one art piece will fill the entirety of the Walt Meade Gallery at the Roxbury Arts Center. “The work will be playful like Dr. Seuss, but also dark like [15th century fantastical painter] Hieronymus Bosch.” Visitors received an immersive experience at the opening reception on January 23, with musical accompaniment on found objects by renowned percussionist Michael Suchorsky (Lou Reed), whose music, Mayer says, will be “woven into the piece.” After the opening reception, Suchorsky’s music will play on a loop in the gallery. Mayer hopes visitors will feel like they’re “walking into a painting.”

Detroit-born Mayer comes from a family of artists. After moving to New York in 1982, he exhibited widely, earning a name as an artist and illustrator whose comic-and-classic inspired work straddles sensibilities both humorous and dramatic. In 2004, Mayer moved to Bovina to raise two daughters. His occasional work as a contractor influences Garden of Feverish Imaginings. “Everything in the installation will come from the hardware store,” Mayer says. “House paint, burlap, window screens, and plywood. And all the drawing will be done with wire. I want it to look like the world is being re-seen, like when it was brand new.”

The installation runs until Saturday, March 5. Mayer will give a talk about his work on a Saturday during the run. Check www.roxburyartsgroup.org or call 607 326 7908 for details. The Walt Meade Gallery is located at 5025 Vega Mountain Road in Roxbury. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm and by appointment.
Director's Choice: The Responsive Eye

The Woodstock Artists Association and Museum opens the 2016 season with an exhibition entitled Director's Choice: The Responsive Eye. The exhibition opens with a reception on Saturday, February 6 from 2 to 4 pm. The exhibition continues through Sunday, April 30.

The exhibition is a survey of over 30 artworks drawn from the museum's collection of over 2,000 objects, as selected by the Executive Director, Janice La Motta. Represented through paintings, drawings, prints, sculpture and crafts are works that span the early years of the association, as well as examples of works by the founding members of the association.

The director has chosen works that both reflect her personal aesthetic and that express the atmosphere of the early Woodstock art colony. Examples of works by mid-to-late 20th century artists from the collection highlight WAAM’s continued dedication to collecting and representing the distinct and evolving voice that is the tradition of Woodstock artists.

The Woodstock Artists Association and Museum Gallery hours are Friday and Saturday from 12-6 pm and Sunday, Monday and Thursday from 12-5 pm. For further information, visit www.woodstockart.org or call 845 679 2940.

Austin Merrill Mecklem “Hannah (Small)” 1929, WAAM Permanent Collection. Photo Courtesy of the Woodstock Artists Association & Museum.

Director’s Choice: The Responsive Eye

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Greene County Council on the Arts members and friends are banishing the winter blues this April 2, 2016 with an evening of art, dancing, fine food and celebration at the 28th Annual Beaux Arts Ball. This year GCCA celebrates its 40th Anniversary of promoting the arts and service to the community!

The Beaux Arts Ball is the Arts Council’s primary fund raising event, supporting the many programs and services we offer to our community. This special event will be held at The Copper Tree Restaurant at Hunter Mountain. Bring your own mask or buy one of the masterpieces made by GCCA artists and friends. Unmask your secret self, confound your friends, and support the arts.

One of the highlights at the Ball is the presentation of the Distinguished Service Awards, underwritten by First Niagara Bank. This year, as part of the festivities, we will honor Frank Cuthbert, a longtime friend and valued Board member from January 2004 through January 2014. Frank is an outstanding musician and composer, who is also known to many for his involvement in the community since the early 1990’s when he spearheaded the development of Catskill’s Main Street in the revitalization of historic buildings. As the owner of Brik Gallery, Frank hosted several fundraisers for the Greene County Council on the Arts. The Distinguished Service Award is presented annually for steadfast commitment and unselfish contributions to the quality of cultural life in Greene County.

At the Ball, the evening begins at 6:30 pm with the opening of the silent auction accompanied by fabulous hors d’oeuvres, an open bar, and entertainment by Lex Grey’s Naughty Cabaret. The silent auction features original works of arts and crafts donated by our talented artists, as well as wonderful items donated by area businesses. While you contemplate your bids, in the Main Ballroom, New York’s premier party band, Nite-Time, will entice you onto the dance floor with an impressive repertoire from a wide variety of musical traditions and dance rhythms from 8 pm until midnight!

Dinner is served at 8 pm in a dining room magically transformed by decorating diva Jean Slutzky. The Copper Tree Restaurant will tantalize your taste buds with a delectable haute cuisine menu, including a full entrée followed by an exquisite dessert.

So break out of the winter doldrums and plan to attend. Individual Benefactor tickets begin at $175 and Benefactor Tables of ten start at $1750. Based on availability, regular tickets may be purchased at $150. Call the Greene County Council on the Arts at 518 943 3400 or e-mail gcc@greenearts.org to check seating availability and reserve your tickets. Tickets may also be purchased online at www.greenearts.org. The Beaux Arts Ball is a fabulous night to remember! For more information about the Beaux Arts Ball and all other GCCA programs, exhibits and events visit www.greenearts.org. The Greene County Council on the Arts is located at 398 Main Street in Catskill, NY. GCCA Catskill Gallery and office hours are Monday though Friday, 10 am to 5 pm. The Catskill Gallery is open on Saturday from noon to 5 pm.

28th Annual GCCA Beaux Arts Ball

An Evening of Art, Dining and Dancing to Celebrate GCCA’s 40th Anniversary

David Slutzky, GCCA Board of Directors President and masked friends, extend an invitation to all to attend the Greene County Council on the Arts’ 28th Annual Beaux Arts Ball on April 2, 2016. Photo by Rob Shannon/fotopic.com
The Guide is seeking ad sales representatives!

Contact Steve Friedman for more information
friedmans@catskillmtn.org
518 263 2072
International recording artists, the Alexis P. Suter Band, is set to rock the Catskill Mountains during Black History Month as part of an exciting program featuring a wide array of music at the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Orpheum Film and Performing Arts Center in Tannersville, New York. This acclaimed five-piece ensemble is fronted by the talented and amazing vocalist Alexis Suter, who transcends styles and genres. When the great B.B. King first heard Suter sing her opening set for him, he shook his head in wonder in his characteristic way and said, “It’s a rare thing to share the stage with a great talent like that young lady.”

The popular blues band will share the stage with the talented and accomplished Ray Blue Organ Trio, led by saxophonist-composer Ray Blue.

Audiences to the performance on Saturday, February 13, at the Orpheum Theater which forms part of the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s program in commemoration of Black History Month are in for a special treat. The show begins at 8:00 pm, doors open at 6:30 pm with a cash wine and beer bar. Tickets start at $30 and can be purchased online at www.catskillmtn.org or by calling 518 263 2063.

The Alexis P. Suter Band is no stranger to the New York stage, having been the opening act at The Midnight Ramble in Woodstock, NY over 90 times. As special guest openers for The Levon Helm Band, they played to sold-out audiences at the Beacon Theater, Bethel Woods Center For The Arts, The Paramount Theatre in Asbury Park, NJ and Central Park’s Summerstage.

Since then, the Alexis P. Suter Band has been in high demand at North American Roots and Blues festivals, venues and events including The 50th Annual Philadelphia Folk Festival, Bluesstock, Musikfest, Beale Street Music Festival, Mont Tremblant Music Festival, Cincinnati Blues Festival, FloydFest, Pennsylvania Blues Fest, Daytona Blues Fest, Kitchener Blues Festival, Briggs Farm Blues Festival, Pocono Blues Festival, Vermont Blues Festival, Salmon Arm Roots and Blues Festival, Columbia Blues Festival, Tampa Bay Blues Fest and many, many more.

The Alexis P. Suter Band has also contributed a song to the incredible Songs After Sandy Project (songsaftersandy.com) and Restore Red Hook. This is a three-CD compilation of some of the biggest artists in music today. The band is proud and honored to be on the Second Volume along with Sir Paul McCartney and Dave Stewart (Eurythmics) with their song “In The City.”

Sharing the stage with the Alexis P. Suter Band will be the Ray Blue Organ trio, under the leadership of 2013 New York Blues Hall of Fame, Ray Blue. The New York native saxophonist,
composer, arranger and educator will return to his home state to add the Catskill Mountain Foundation to his portfolio of performances at top venues across the globe. A former member of The Sun Ra Arkestra, he has shared the stage with such world class musicians as Steve Turre, Eddie Henderson, Gary Bartz, T.K. Blue, Blues Legend Bob Gaddy, Wycliff Gordon and Benny Powell.

Blue's majestic performances have been featured at international festivals including North Sea Jazz Festival-Cape Town, South Africa; Macufe Festival-Bloemfontaine, South Africa; European Union Annex Festival-Dublin, Ireland; Audi Jazz Festival-Brussels, Belgium; Macao Jazz Festival, China; The New York State Black Arts Festival-Albany, New York; Midi Music Festival-Beijing, China; Pori Jazz Festival, Finland; Foix Jazz Festival, France and others.

Ray now conducts workshops/master classes and consults at colleges, universities, schools and communities institutions around the world. He is the founder of Cross-Cultural Connection, Inc. a 501 (c) 3 organization that promotes jazz culture, education and performance.

Tickets for this concert are $30 in advance (book-ahead ticket pricing is good up to 5 hours prior to the show) and $35 at the door. To purchase tickets and for more information, please visit www.catskillmtn.org. The Orpheum Film and Performing Arts Center is located at 6050 Main Street in the Village of Tannersville.
While it is hard to say what typical winter weather might be nowadays, suffice to say this past January has been a little tough to prepare for and react to. We have had snowfalls, frigid temperatures, warmer temperatures, winds, and rain here in the Catskills. This has all led to a multitude of conditions on the trails for those looking to get out on skis, snowshoes or crampons or just in their hiking boots! The best advice I can think of going into February is to be prepared for anything in the mountains. Conditions can and do change quickly in the mountains and if you are on the trails in the winter months, you should be spending more time on planning as there is less room for mistakes and errors because of the cold temperatures, generally higher winds, snow, ice and limited daylight hours.

February is also an important time in the political life of the Catskills. At the State Capital in Albany, this is the time of the year when budgets are being made. Organizations like the Catskill Center are working hard to raise awareness of the needs of the Catskills and through efforts like Catskill Park Awareness Day, using that opportunity to positively influence the Catskills through the budgeting process.

Think all the hiking trails of the Catskills are in the High Peaks Region? Think again! Thanks to Trailkeeper we have the top five winter hikes in Sullivan County, which is home to the southwestern Catskills and some real gems of trails.

Looking to give back to the mountains that you love? Learn more about the Catskill Conservation Corps, our very own local resource for connecting volunteers to the multitude of service opportunities across the Catskill Park!

Would you like to spend a week in a cabin in the woods of the Catskills? The Platte Clove Preserve Artist in Residence Program offers artists one of the most unique opportunities anywhere.

Catskill Park Awareness Day 2016 Support the Catskill Park!

Do your part and help build a modern park in the Catskills! Each year in February the Catskill Park Coalition gathers in Albany to meet with legislators to discuss the urgent needs of the Catskill Park and Forest Preserve. The annual Catskill Park Awareness Day last year generated an historic budget line item for the region under New York State Department of Environmental Conservation’s...
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Aid to Localities budget. In years past it has helped lead to the development of the Catskill Interpretive Center, inclusion of new land in the Catskill Park and many other significant improvements in the overall management and operation of the Park.

Organized by the Catskill Park Coalition, which is co-chaired by the Catskill Center, the 2016 Catskill Park Awareness Day will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2016 in Albany. This day is an opportunity for supporters of the Catskills to have their voice heard in Albany and to make a difference in the support and funding that the Park receives. For more information visit catskillparkawarenessday.splashthat.com, www.catskillcenter.org or call the Catskill Center at 845 586 2611. It’s a great opportunity to get involved in your government and let your representatives know you value the Catskill Park. If you can’t make it on February 9, a phone call or a letter to your representatives can be just as effective!

**Top Five Winter Hikes in Sullivan County**

Have you explored the trails of the Sullivan County Catskills? Thanks to the Trailkeeper Network we have a list of the five best cross-country ski and snowshoe trails in the Sullivan County region. Take them as an excuse to avoid winter hibernation during the colder months and get out exploring the Catskills, either by foot, skis, or snowshoes this winter. For more information on any of these trips, you can visit www.trailkeeper.org, an online outlet for hiking trails and public lands in Sullivan County.

When it comes to some great places to start, here are the top five cross-country ski and snowshoe trips from Trailkeeper:

- **Willowemoc Forest’s Frick Pond Trail**
  *(voted NY’s 10 best winter hikes by I Love NY!)*

- **Walnut Mountain Park** (Liberty, NY)

- **Bashakill D&H towpath** (Wurtsboro, NY)

- **Tusten Mountain Trail** (Narrowsburg, NY)
  Neversink Unique Area

- **Shawangunk Region Trail** (Rockhill, NY)

Never tried a winter hike and need some guidance? A great place to start and for outdoor gear rentals, visit Morgan Outdoors on Main Street in Livingston Manor, NY or call 845 439 5507.

**Being There Exhibit at the Erpf Gallery**

Being There will be on display at the Erpf Gallery through March 11, 2016 and will feature the plein air paintings of Susan Miiller. The Erpf Gallery is located at 43355 Route 28 in the Village of Arkville.

Artist Susan Miiller describes one of her distinctive creative techniques as “subtractive.” It achieves its compelling effect by stripping away layers of paint to reveal the abstract form of “classical landscapes.” The subtly evocative pastels and oil paintings she calls “cloudscapes” create what she describes as “dramatic modulations of color and space,” capturing not only the physical composition of the scene but the psychological impact of its spirit. Susan describes her plein-air paintings as thickly painted, direct observations of nature. Though representational in imagery, they have important abstract qualities that embody a duality between paint and imagery.

Being There is on display through March 11, 2016. An artist talk and reception will be held on March 5, 2016 from 2 to 4 pm. For more information, contact the Catskill Center at 845 586 2611, e-mail kpalm@catskillcenter.org, or visit www.catskillcenter.org.

**The Catskill Conservation Corps**

The Catskill Conservation Corps (CCC) offers the easiest way for the public to volunteer on a multitude of stewardship projects throughout the Catskills. The CCC’s goal is to provide quality volunteer opportunities to the public on projects that protect natural resources and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities in the Catskills. Managed by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, the CCC recruits and supervises volunteers to perform various stewardship tasks in conjunction with New York State’s efforts in the Catskills and the Catskill Park. To learn more about the Catskill Conservation Corps, find events and volunteer in the Catskills, please visit www.catskillconservationcorps.org.

**Unique Platte Clove Artist in Residence Program Accepting Applications for 2016 Summer Program**

The Catskill Center is now accepting applications for the 2016 Platte Clove Artist-in-Residence Program. Applications are due by Friday, April 8, 2016. The residency, the only one in
the country situated in the historic landscapes which were the inspiration for the Hudson River School, provides a tranquil and rustic workplace, a retreat for artists, working in a variety of disciplines, located in the living landscape where American art began.

The residency is open to visual artists and performing artists who have an affinity for the natural world. The residencies run from July through September and artists can choose to stay from a couple days to a full week, depending on availability. The work produced should foster an appreciation for the environment and participants are encouraged to submit works for the biannual Platte Clove art exhibit at the Catskill Center's Erpf Gallery.

Participants stay in a rustic cabin in the Platte Clove Preserve—208 wild, pristine acres full of hiking trails, multi-tiered waterfalls, and old growth forests. Hiking trails to Indian Head and Overlook mountains begin near the cabin and the 60-foot Plattekill Falls is a short walk from the cabin.

Artists are selected by a jury comprised of representatives from local arts organizations as well as the Catskill Center. Artists working in all mediums are encouraged to apply. The application deadline is Friday, April 8. For more information and an application, please visit the Catskill Center web site at www.catskillcenter.org or contact Katie Palm at kpalm@catskillcenter.org.

Protect and Preserve the Catskills

The natural beauty, the majesty of the mountains, 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 work in: Catskill Park Advocacy; Invasive Species Control; Land Protection; Catskill Arts, Culture and Education; and the continued operation of the Catskill Interpretive Center, the Gateway to the Catskill Park.

To support the work of the Catskill Center you can donate online at www.catskillcenter.org/donate or donate by mail with a check made out to the “Catskill Center for Conservation and Development,” which can be mailed to Catskill Center, PO Box 504, Arkville, NY 12406.

Catskill Park Information and Visitor Services

Trail Conditions

Conditions can change quickly in the Catskill Mountains and on the trails. For more detailed information on the condition and status of trails and trailheads in the Catskills, the Trail Conference offers a page on their website with regularly updated conditions at www.nynjtc.org/content/catskill-trails-updates.

Catskill Park Visitor Center

Be sure to visit the Maurice D. Hinchey Catskill Interpretive Center during your visit to the Catskills! The Center is now open seven days a week from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. While there you can explore the interpretive exhibits, gather information and speak with knowledgeable staff about the recreational opportunities that are so abundant in the Catskills. You can also visit www.catskillinterpretivecenter.org or call 845 586 2611 for more information. The Catskill Interpretive Center is located at 5096 Route 28 in Mount Tremper, NY and is a program of the Catskill Center.

Jeff Senterman is currently the Executive Director of the Catskill Center, a member of the Board of Directors for the American Hiking Society and the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. He was formerly the Trail Conference’s Catskills staff representative and was an Assistant Forest Ranger for the DEC in Greene County. He graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from Lyndon State College and worked for several years in the Environmental Planning field in New England. To learn more about the work of the Catskill Center does in the Catskills, visit www.catskillcenter.org.
I came late to the game of winter hiking. I hate being cold. I hate needing a lot of gear. And I assumed that winter hiking would involve quite a bit of both. If you are flirting with the idea winter hiking, but haven’t given it a try because, like me, you figured it would be all about being cold and becoming a gearhead, get ready to shed those prejudices. But first, let’s do a little cost-benefit analysis.

You Gotta Be In It To Win It

“In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy.”

—William Blake

Perhaps you’re wondering “what’s in it for me?” Besides risking frostbite and hypothermia, and spending all your Christmas money on snowshoes, gaiters, trekking poles, microspikes, a facemask, hat-gloves-scarf, winter hiking boots, sock liners, glove liners, base layers … why not just skip it and stay in for a couple of months? Here’s the case for winter hiking:

• Snowshoeing can be an easy way to get around. Deep snow offers cushioning and reduces impact. It’s great exercise and once you’ve gotten your sea legs, it’s tons of fun.

• Snow muffles sound and the result is a hushed peacefulness that is truly remarkable.

• Depending upon where and when you go, there may be fewer people in the woods. The profound sense of solitude can be amazing.

• The lack of vegetation means that you’ll have more views. You’ll be able to see the contours of the land and quite possibly see wildlife that stays hidden the rest of the year.

• Tracks! The snow offers your human eyes what our dogs have been sniffing all year long. A fresh snowfall offers a Natural Geographic film special unveiled before your eyes!
• Beauty, plain and simple. The snow and ice sculpt the land in ways that you won’t ever see if you don’t go out and look.

**What’s the Catch?**

There are a few key considerations when hiking in the winter. Not exactly downsides, but details that require attention in order to stay safe and comfortable. Overall, they can be summed up by saying that your margin for error in the winter is extremely narrow.

• **Day length.** Hiking by headlamp can be a fun adventure in the summertime, but during the winter season, darkness means plummeting temperatures. You need to be ready for a steep drop in temps if you plan to hike after daylight fades.

• **Injury risk.** A twisted ankle is painful any time of year, but a serious injury in the winter—made all the more likely by slippery conditions—can mean a very slow walk back to the car. Given short day length, a minor injury can lead to a cascade of consequences that all add up to an unplanned overnight in the woods.

• **Mechanical and electronic hinkiness.** Expect everything—from your car door locks to your snowshoe buckles—to behave differently in cold temperatures. Mechanical devices act weird when it’s cold and electronic devices can quit on you when temperatures take a nosedive. Be sure you use lithium batteries where you can, but don’t rely on your devices.

• **Everything takes longer.** Getting your gear ready takes longer. Depending on conditions, your pace on the trail will be slower (except in those awesome circumstances when the stars line up and the snow is perfect and you can fly down the mountain. That’s what passionate snowshoers live for!). The roads to trailheads are usually plowed and sanded, but still a little dicey this time of year so your drive will take longer. Expect every aspect of your day will take a little more time than it does in the summer.

• **Dehydration.** Believe it or not, getting dehydrated is a big concern for winter hiking, for two reasons. The first is that you might not notice your thirst since you probably won’t feel hot. And drinking cold water in 10 degree weather isn’t very tempting. But the other challenge is that Camelbak-style hydration systems freeze quickly. Even your regular water bottles end up freezing solid if you’re out for long. I make a thermos full of herbal tea for winter hiking. Any hot beverage is better than none but be aware that caffeine and sugar both contribute to dehydration.

**Handy Tips**

• **Stay warm; stay dry.** Wear layers, and be ready to layer up or layer down as your activity level and the conditions change. The higher up you go, the more likely you’ll experience wind, so have a wind shell handy, and protect your face. A balaclava, face mask, and sunglasses or ski goggles can make a world of difference. I prefer wool for my layers but polyester fleece can be nice and light and warm too. Silk makes a comfortable and light base layer. Avoid cotton because once cotton gets wet, it no longer insulates. In fact cold wet cotton against your skin will suck the heat right out of you, increasing your risk of hypothermia. Moderate your pace to prevent getting overheated and sweating.
Stay upright. Falling in the snow is a good way to get soaked, and falling on ice is a good way to get injured. Use appropriate traction devices for the trail you’re hiking. Yaktrax are not sufficient for most Catskill trails. Some snowshoes have much more aggressive traction than others. Talk with the knowledgeable folks at any of the local outfitters (Kenco, The Storehouse, or Morgan Outdoors) to learn about the dizzying array of traction options: microspikes, hillsound brand, instep crampons, steel versus aluminum…. And even if you don’t use hiking poles the rest of the year, slippery conditions and icy stream crossings make winter a good time to pick up your poles.

Stay together. I am an avowed solo hiker … except in the winter. Winter’s narrow margin for error means that I trade my preference for solitude for the safety of a small group. A few years back I fell in a creek—not just an ankle splash, but a full-blown dousing including icy water running down my back. After being pulled out, I stripped off my wet clothing in the 18 degree weather. By the time I handed my husband my jacket it had frozen stiff. Had I been alone, I would have been in very serious trouble. Because of the strength of the group, the mishap was just that—a minor mishap and a lesson learned. Four to six people is an ideal group size for winter hiking.

Stay stocked. Carry extra everything! Dry socks are a godsend after a day on the trail. Extra mittens, hat, pullover, batteries, headlamps (yes, more than one), and so on. Carry everything you might need to survive an unplanned overnight in the woods. Your winter pack should be heavy.

Stay flexible. Respect your own limitations and prioritize safety. I think I’ve canceled more winter hikes than I’ve actually completed! Don’t head out if you are not prepared—mentally, physically, or gear-wise. The mountains aren’t going anywhere, and there is always another option for something fun to do in the Catskills!

What are my Options?
If you want to have a little outdoor fun and not commit to a graduate level course in winter survival skills, what can you do that’s a little less complicated?

Ice skating. Check out rinks in Stamford, Saugerties, Delhi, and New Paltz (at Mohonk).

Downhill skiing and snow tubing. Belleayre, Hunter, Plattekill, and Windham all offer great ski runs, rentals, lessons and packages. And the lodge is right there if you need to take a break and warm up.

Cross-Country Skiing. Belleayre, Mountain Trails in Tannersville, and all the local rail trails are great places to start. Cross country skiing is permitted on hiking trails—if you see ski tracks, please don’t walk in them!

Special Events. Hanford Mills Ice Harvest (with horse drawn sleigh rides!), and the Tannersville Ice Sculpture Festival are taking place this month. For more information on these events, visit www.hanfordmills.org or www.communityeventsny.com/tannersville.html.
Where the performing arts, fine arts, crafts, movies, books, and good friends meet.

**MOUNTAIN CINEMA**

At the Doctorow Center for the Arts • 7971 Main Street, Hunter

*February Schedule for Screen Two, the only place on the Mountain Top to see the best Foreign and Independent Films*

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**PEGGY GUGGENHEIM: ART ADDICT**  
(RATED R, 96 MINUTES)

**DIRECTED BY LISA IMMORDINO VREELAND**

A colorful character who was not only ahead of her time but helped to define it, Peggy Guggenheim was an heiress to her family fortune who became a central figure in the modern art movement. As she moved through the cultural upheaval of the 20th century, she collected not only art, but artists. Her colorful personal history included such figures as Samuel Beckett, Max Ernst, Jackson Pollock, Alexander Calder, Marcel Duchamp as well as countless others. Through it all, she maintained her vision to build one of the most important collections of modern art, now enshrined in her Venetian palazzo. 2/5–2/7. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

“Richly informative and fascinating.”  
—Steven Rea, Philadelphia Inquirer

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**NOMA: MY PERFECT STORM**  
(UNRATED, 100 MINUTES)

**DIRECTED BY PIERRE DESCHAMPS**

Noma is a feature-length documentary film about the renowned chef René Redzepi, set against the backdrop of his Copenhagen restaurant, NOMA, voted the Best Restaurant in the World in 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2014. The story is not simply about a chef, but about a man who came from a humble background and rose to the height of the gastronomic world. It’s also a story about what it takes to be the best restaurant in the world. 2/12–2/14. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

“Deschamps’ camera captures the emotional roller coaster Redzepi rode during that tumultuous time and shows his conflicted relationship with fame…. The end result is a revealing portrait of an artist wholly dedicated to his art.”  
—Soren Anderson, The Seattle Times
MOONWALKERS
(RATED R, 107 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY
ANTOINE BARDOU-JACQUET
What if Apollo 11 never actually made it? What if, in reality, Stanley Kubrick secretly shot the famous images of the moon landing in a studio, working for the U.S. administration? This is the premise of a totally plausible conspiracy theory that takes us to swinging sixties London, where a stubborn CIA agent (Ron Perlman) will never find Kubrick but instead is forced to team up with a lousy manager (Rupert Grint) of a seedy rock band to develop the biggest con of all time. 2/19-2/21. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

“This is a cheeky, madcap romp, with exaggerated views of 1960s American stereotypes about Brits and vice versa, featuring terrific performances by Perlman and Grint, a most unlikely and most likable buddy duo.”
—Richard Roeper, Chicago Sun-Times

THE TREASURE
(UNRATED, 89 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY
CORNELIU PROUMBOIU
Costi leads a peaceful life. At night he likes to read stories to his 6-year-old son, to help him sleep. Their favorite character is Robin Hood. Costi sees himself as the hero: righter of wrongs and defender of the oppressed. One evening, his neighbor pays him an unexpected visit and shares a secret: there’s treasure buried in his grandparents’ garden, he’s sure of it. If Costi will hire a metal detector to help locate it, he’ll give him half of whatever they get. Skeptical at first, in the end Costi can’t resist. The two accomplices have one weekend to locate the loot. Despite every obstacle in their path, Costi refuses to be discouraged. For his wife and son, he’s a real hero: nothing and no one are going to stop him. In Romanian with English subtitles. 2/26-2/28. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

“Aptly named and drolly executed, leading to a transcendently funny, endearing and unexpected finale, The Treasure confirms Corneliu Porumboiu as the Joker in the Romanian New Wave pack.”
—Jessica Kiang, The Playlist

A PERFECT DAY
(RATED R, 106 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY
FERNANDO LEON DE ARANOA
It’s just another day on the job for a band of war zone rescue workers as they defy death and confront war’s absurdities. The setting is 1995, “somewhere in the Balkans.” Over the course of 24 hours, Mambru (Benicio del Toro), leads his team of humanitarians—including a hard-bitten, wisecracking veteran (Tim Robbins) and a new recruit (Melanie Thierry)—as they deal with a most unexpected crisis, layers of bureaucratic red tape, and the reappearance of Mambru’s old flame. Through it all, the group handles the less-than-glamorous realities of life in a combat zone the only way they know how: with selfless bravery and a healthy dose of irreverent humor. 3/4-3/6. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

“A Perfect Day is a wry salute to the hard-drinking, eye-rolling aid workers of the world, men and women whose high ideals get crushed by global bureaucracy and local recalcitrance.”
—Amy Nicholson, Village Voice

Ticket Prices (Screens 2 & 3, and the Orpheum):
$9 / $7 seniors & children under 11

3D Ticket Prices (Screen 1):
$11 / $9 seniors & children under 11
We show the best Hollywood films available each week
Below are some films that we may show during the month of February.

For the most up-to-date schedule, call 518 263 4702 or visit www.catskillmtn.org.
While there, sign up for our e-mail updates so you can get
the newest schedule delivered to your e-mail box each week!

Ticket Prices (Screens 2 & 3, and the Orpheum): $9 / $7 seniors & children under 11
3D Ticket Prices (Screen 1): $11/ $9 seniors & children under 11

The 88th Annual Academy Awards are on February 28th!
See the nominees before the awards ceremony!

13 HOURS: THE SECRET SOLDIERS OF BENGHAZI  (RATED R, 144 MINUTES)
An American Ambassador is killed during an attack at a U.S.
compound in Libya as a security team struggles to make
sense out of the chaos.

THE BIG SHORT  (RATED R, 130 MINUTES)
Four outsiders in the world of high-finance who predicted
the credit and housing bubble collapse of the mid-2000s
decide to take on the big banks for their lack of foresight
and greed.

CAROL  (RATED R, 118 MINUTES)
Set in 1950s New York, a department-store clerk who
dreams of a better life falls for an older, married woman.

THE HATEFUL EIGHT  (RATED R, 168 MINUTES)
In post-Civil War Wyoming, bounty hunters try to find shel-
ter during a blizzard but get involved in a plot of betrayal
and deception.

THE REVENANT  (RATED R, 156 MINUTES)
In the 1820s, a frontiersman named Hugh Glass sets out on
a path of vengeance against those who left him for dead
after a bear mauling.

RIDE ALONG 2  (RATED PG-13, 102 MINUTES)
As his wedding day approaches, Ben heads to Miami with
his soon-to-be brother-in-law James to bring down a drug
dealer who’s supplying the dealers of Atlanta with product.

ROOM  (RATED R, 118 MINUTES)
After five-year-old Jack and his mother escape from the
enclosed surroundings that Jack has known his entire life,
the boy makes a thrilling discovery: the outside world.

SISTERS  (RATED R, 118 MINUTES)
Two sisters decide to throw one last house party before
their parents sell their family home.
CLASSES ARE NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION!

WEEKLY CLASSES start June 29
Basics & Beyond: June 29-August 31
Susan Beecher, nationally recognized potter & teacher

Clay for Seniors: June 29-August 31
Susan Beecher

WORKSHOPS start June 24
Learn, Refresh, Refine: June 24-June 26
Susan Bogen, studio potter

Magnificent Mosaics: June 24-26
Cynthia Fisher, award-winning mosaic artist

Sensational Salt Firing: July 1-3
Susan Beecher

Salt of the Earth: July 7-12
Jack Troy, potter, teacher and writer

Exciting and Formidable Soda Firing!
Making Lively Pots and Working Soft on the Wheel: July 14-19
Gay Smith, studio potter & teaching artist

Flashing & Fuming:
Effects in Raku & Salt Firing: July 21-26
Randy Brodnax & Don Ellis, master Raku potters

Pots for the Table: July 28-August 1
Caroline Cercone, independent studio potter

Working to the Edge: August 4-8
Kevin Crowe, potter and international teacher

Chinese Brush Painting: August 6-7
Linda Schultz, master painter

Creative Print Making,
Using Gelli Plate Techniques: August 6-11
Patti Ferrara, multi-media artist

Surface: Pottery Surfaces: August 11-15
Ryan J. Greenheck, practicing studio potter and lecturer

Making with a Master: August 28-22
Shiro Otani, visionary ceramic leader

Having Fun with Vessels that Pour: August 25-29
Susan Beecher

CLASS FULL!

For questions about courses, you may email Susan Beecher at beechers60@earthlink.net

Visit www.sugarmaples.org or call 518 263 2001 for more details, to request a brochure, to register or to make reservations for housing.
THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION’S KAATERSKILL FINE ARTS & CRAFTS GALLERY
representing artists & artisans of the Northern Catskills
is proud to present

THROUGH MARCH 6, 2016

CREATING LANDSCAPES
A Solo Exhibit by Naomi Blum

A SHORT INTERVIEW WITH NAOMI BLUM

Can you explain the title of your exhibit?
Most of my paintings do not have a plan. I select 2 or 3 colors to start painting with according to my mood at the time. As an abstract expressionist painter I originally worked on images that were non-representational, but for the past few years I have become more comfortable discovering elements from the natural world and incorporating them into my paintings. Each painting is the result of memory, imagination and the unknown element of intuition.

Can you tell us something personal about yourself as an artist?
In my life I tend to be conservative, staying with the practical. As an artist I can experiment and take whatever chances I want to express my individuality. This gives me a wonderful sense of freedom. I appreciate the fact that many people feel that sense in viewing my work.

Are you inspired by landscape wherever you travel?
In order for me to create a meaningful landscape I must internalize repetitive images of the place I am visiting. This can only happen when I have spent enough time seeing and being somewhere special to me.

Who are the artists that you most admire and why?
I admire Vincent Van Gogh because I believe he was able to paint how he felt about the subject matter he painted. I admire Jackson Pollock because he allowed intuition to dominate his paintings.
BOOK BOUTIQUE

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HOURS: FRI. & SAT. 10AM-5PM; SUN. 10AM-3:30PM

CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION
WHERE THE PERFORMING ARTS, FINE ARTS, CRAFTS,
MOVIES, BOOKS, AND GOOD FRIENDS MEET

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS!

Catskill Mountain Foundation is supported in part by the Bank of Greene County, Jarvis & Constance Doctorow Family Foundation, Friends of Tannersville Organization (FOTO), Greene County Council on the Arts, Greene County Youth Fund, Marshall & Sterling, NYS Council for the Humanities, NYS on the Arts and the REDC initiative with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, Stewart’s Shops, Windham Foundation, and by private donations.

Catskill Mountain Foundation • 7971 Main Street, Village of Hunter
518 263 2001 • www.catskillmtn.org
**February 2016 Movies & Events at a Glance**

Schedule subject to change: please call 518 263 4702 or visit our website for the most up-to-date schedule. While there, sign up for e-mail updates so you can get the newest schedule delivered to your e-mail box each week!

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**Catskill Mountain Foundation Piano Performance Museum**

*Featuring the Steven E. Greenstein Collection*

Rediscover this extraordinary collection and its new positioning as a major venue for performance, music education and historical insights.

Route 23A, Main Street, Village of Hunter
518 821 3440 • www.catskillmtn.org
Hours: Friday and Saturday, noon-4 pm & by appointment

The CMF Piano Museum is funded in part by the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation

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JANUARY
Common Ground on the Mountain:
Folk, Bluegrass and Special Acoustic Music with Walt Michael & Company, Tony Trischka, Prof. Louie and the Crowmatix & Greg Dayton
Saturday, January 16 @ 8:00pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

FEBRUARY
Concert Celebrating Black History Month
Alexis P. Suter Band & The Ray Blue Organ Trio
Gospel, Soul, Jazz and Inspirational Music
Saturday, February 13 @ 8:00pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

When the great Bluesman B.B. King first heard Alexis P. Suter sing, he was visibly impressed. Shaking his head in wonder, he remarked “It’s a rare thing to share the stage with great talent like that young lady.”

APRIL
American Dream: Featuring Talented Student Dancers of Victoria Rinaldi and Valentina Kozlova
Wednesday, April 20, Time TBD
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center
The award-winning dancers from Valentina Kozlova Dance Conservatory New York will display their talents in a program ranging from ballet’s most bellowed classical solos and pas de deux to brand new cutting edge works making their world premiere.

MAY
Enchantment Theater: “Peter Rabbit”
Saturday, May 7, 3:30pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center
In celebration of Beatrix Potter’s 150th birthday anniversary, Enchantment Theatre brings her captivating stories to life. Using fantastic masks, whimsical puppets, gorgeous scenery and original music, the magical, marvelous World of Beatrix Potter™ comes alive on stage.

JUNE
Vladimir Feltsman, Solo Piano
Saturday, June 11, 8:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts
Pianist and conductor Vladimir Feltsman is one of the most versatile and constantly interesting musicians of our time. His vast repertoire encompasses music from the Baroque to 21st-century composers. He has appeared with all the major American orchestras and on the most prestigious musical stages and festivals worldwide.

“Quite simply an amazing pianist….” — The New York Times
**JULY**

**OMNY Taiko Drummers**
**Sunday, July 3, 7:00pm**
**Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center**
Join us to experience the powerful vibrations of OMNY Taiko's traditional Japanese taiko drumming.

**New York Blues Hall of Fame Award Show**
**Saturday, July 16 @ 8:00 pm**
**Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center**

**Lecture: Playing Mozart as Mozart Would Have Played Mozart**
**Jeffrey Langford and Joanne Polk**
**Saturday, July 23 @ 2:00pm**
**Doctorow Center for the Arts**
Dr. Langford, with Dr. Polk at the 1783 Stein Viennese Piano forte, will show that what we know today as musical notation needs to be “deciphered” by today’s pianists when it comes to music from the 18th century.

**National Dance Institute**
**Saturday, July 23 @ 7:00pm**
**Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center**
Over the course of two weeks in July, local children from the Mountain Top region of Greene County, NY will have an opportunity to experience dance as part of the 8th annual Mountain Top Summer Residency program led by the National Dance Institute. As a grand finale for this program, the students will perform in a delightful, full-staged production accompanied by the NDI Celebration Team of young dancers from New York City.

**August, cont.**

**Concerts & Conversations**
**Mendelssohn: His Life in Violin Sonatas**
**Saturday, August 20 @ 8:00pm**
**Doctorow Center for the Arts**
With the brilliant baroque violinist Abigail Karr and fortepianist Yi-heng Yang performing on the 1842 John Broadwood Semi-Grand and the 1873 Erard Paris 7’ Grand, the concert will cover all three of Mendelssohn’s violin sonatas.

**Concerts & Conversations**
**The Frederick Collection of Historical Pianos**
**Ashburnham, Massachusetts**
**Sunday, August 21 @ 2:00pm**
**Doctorow Center for the Arts**
Edmund Michael and Patricia Frederick visit the Steven E. Greenstein Collection of Historic Pianos to lecture about their own superb collection of historical 18th and 19th century playable pianos and to comment on the piano collection.

**NOVEMBER**

**New York Theatre Ballet: “Cinderella”**
**Saturday, November 12 @ 7:30pm**
**Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center**
This timeless, enchanting story ballet is a delight for the entire family. Introduce a new generation to dance with winning choreography by Donald Mahler, the jubilant music of Sergei Prokofiev, and beloved characters.

**Windham Festival Chamber Orchestra**
**Tanya Gabrielian, piano • Elmar Oliveira, violin**
**Robert Manno, conductor**
**Saturday, November 26 @ 8:00pm**
**Doctorow Center for the Arts**
Program: Antonio Vivaldi, Sinfonia Rustica; Gerald Finzi, Romance for Strings; Edvard Grieg, Two Melodies Opus 53; Felix Mendelssohn, Concerto in D Minor for Violin, Piano and String Orchestra

**DECEMBER**

**The Nutcracker**
**Saturday, December 10 @ 7:30pm**
**Sunday, December 11 @ 2:00 pm**
**Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center**
Valentina Kozlova Dance Conservatory, NYC joins with former Met Opera Ballet star Victoria Rinaldi, to create the most enchanting Nutcracker ever for the Catskill Region. Superb award-winning young dancers, including talented artists from the region, bring alive the magic of E.T.A. Hoffmann’s story of a young girl, the Nutcracker prince and their fantastic adventures.

MORE EVENTS ARE ADDED WEEKLY!
Tickets will go on sale soon! Check www.catskillmtn.org for updates
While there, sign up for our weekly newsletter so you can have updates delivered to your e-mail box each week.
THANK YOU,
EMILY FISHER,
Emerson Resort Owner,
for your Vision, Perseverance
and Extraordinary Contributions
to the Catskill Region.

Your efforts at the Emerson
and the Belleayre Resort
will have far-reaching impacts benefitting
generations of residents and visitors.