THE ARTS

HOW SWEET IT WILL BE!

A MILESTONE & THE FRISBEEs

SPRING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

COLDEST DAYS HIKING THE CATSKILL 35 HIGHEST PEAKS

MARCH AT THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION

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The Bardavon Announces the 40th Annual Hudson Valley Philharmonic String Competition
Final Rounds to be Held at Vassar College’s Skinner Hall

The Bardavon 1869 Opera House, Inc. and the Hudson Valley Philharmonic String Competition Committee announce the 40th Annual HVP String Competition. The free competition featuring nearly 30 musicians will be held at Skinner Hall on the Vassar College campus on Saturday, March 10 and Sunday March 11, 2012. The first round is Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm; the semi-final round is Sunday from 10 am to 12 pm. The finals are Sunday, March 11 starting at 3 pm. There is no admission charge and the competition is open to the public.

This international competition attracts a wealth of young musical talent from the finest conservatories in the U.S. and abroad. The contest began in 1966 under the direction of Maestro Claude Monteux, then the Hudson Valley Philharmonic (HVP) artistic director/conductor. It was originally started as a way to find string players for the orchestra.

The HVP String Competition is often credited for launching the careers of world-renowned orchestral and solo string musicians. Many previous winners have gone on to illustrious classical music careers. Previous notables include: violist Marcus Thompson ’67 (Boston Chamber Players), cellist Fred Sherry ’68, violinist Ani Kavafian ’73 (Lincoln Center Chamber Players soloist), violinist Adela Pena ’85 (Eroica Trio), and violinist Judith Ingolfsson ’96 (1998 Indianapolis International Violin Competition winner).

The 2012 first-prize winner will receive $3,000 and a solo performance with the HVP during its 2012-13 season. Last December, the 2011 winner, violist Yoshihiko Nakano, performed one of the greatest works for viola and orchestra ever composed: Bartok’s Viola Concerto, op. posth op. BB128. This young artist received an extended standing ovation for his exceptional interpretation.

The String Competition is stiff, and the winners have very promising careers ahead of them. The judges this year are: Carole Cowan and Susan Seligman, principal violin and principal cellist of the HVP; Daniel Avshalomov, violist with the American String Quartet and faculty member at the Manhattan School of Music; and Hiroko Yajima, violinist, faculty and Chair of the String Department at Mannes College The New School for Music, and HVP String Competition winner in 1967.

The String Competition also gives the public a rare opportunity to hear and see some of the best young violinists, cellists, and violists in the world, before their careers have even begun. The event is free and will be held at Skinner Hall on the Vassar College campus. For more information call the Bardavon Box Office at 845 473 2072 or log on to www.bardavon.org.
The Bardavon Presents  
Aaron Lewis  
Staind’s Front Man Brings Solo & Acoustic Show to Kingston

The Bardavon is pleased to present Aaron Lewis-Solo & Acoustic at the Ulster Performing Arts Center (UPAC) in Kingston, NY on Saturday, March 17 at 8 pm.

Aaron Lewis rose to fame as the lead singer of the rock band Staind. At his UPAC debut, Aaron will present a solo acoustic performance, playing the band’s hits including “It’s Been Awhile,” “Outside,” and “So Far Away,” as well as new songs from his Town Line album, in addition to taking requests from the audience.

At the heart of Staind’s loud, angst-laden music are the confessional lyrics and introspective personality of front man Aaron Lewis. He allowed his sensitivity to pour freely from his words and often pensive vocals, enabling the band to strike a balance between heavy metal bombast and thoughtful, melodic rock.

Staind sustained a decade of popularity before Lewis broke free with a solo career in 2011, refashioning himself as a country singer on his 2011 EP, Town Line. Tickets are $44 adult and $39 members, and are on sale at the Bardavon Box Office, 35 Market Street, Poughkeepsie (845 473 2072); at the UPAC Box Office, 601 Broadway, Kingston (845 339 6088); and through Ticketmaster (www.ticketmaster.com, 800 745 3000).
Mary McCarthy and Vassar

The Vassar College Libraries will mark the centenary of famed writer and Vassar alumna Mary McCarthy with an exhibit of archival materials from the college’s Mary McCarthy Papers, as well as with a special accompanying lecture by *Los Angeles Times* columnist and Vassar graduate Meghan Daum. The exhibit Mary McCarthy and Vassar can be seen March 16 through June 4, Mondays through Fridays from 9 am to 5 pm in the Thompson Memorial Library. Meghan Daum’s exhibition lecture “You Never Liked Me at College: Mary McCarthy’s Past Perfect Vassar” will be held on Thursday, March 29, at 5:30 pm in Taylor Hall, room 203, and is co-sponsored by the Department of English. Both events are free and open to the public.

About the Exhibit

Mary McCarthy was a prolific novelist, memoirist, journalist, and critic who drew extensively on her experiences at Vassar in her writings. Prominent examples include her article “The Vassar Girl” published by *Holiday* magazine in 1951, her 1963 breakout novel *The Group* (also made into a movie in 1966), and her 1987 memoir *How I Grew*. The exhibit Mary McCarthy and Vassar will feature writings, photos, and other materials from the collected Mary McCarthy Papers, one of the key holdings in the college’s Virginia B. Smith Memorial Manuscript Collection.

Curator Ronald Patkus, the Head of Special Collections at the Vassar College Libraries, writes that this exhibit “provides an opportunity to explore how Vassar influenced McCarthy, especially when she was a student, and also how the college was influenced by her, particularly in later years.” Of the Mary McCarthy Papers housed at the Vassar College Libraries, he explains that “the first group of papers came to the college in 1985, and since then it has been followed by several large and significant additions. Vassar remains committed to building this collection and providing access to its contents. Today the collection serves as a window not only on the life and work of McCarthy, but also on 20th century intellectual and political circles in general.”

About the Lecture

Meghan Daum drew part of her lecture title from a line in Mary McCarthy’s bestselling novel, *The Group*, in which Norine says to Helena a few years after their graduation from Vassar, “You never liked me at college.” Daum believes the comment reflects a social anxiety at Vassar, “that everyone else is having more fun than we are, that others actually deserve to be there whereas we do not, and that we are mere impostors amid a sea of genuine articles.” Daum added “past perfect” to her lecture title to refer to “the way the Vassar experience can easily be eclipsed by nostalgia, and how this nostalgia—the love of having been there—is an integral and even priceless part of what it means to be a Vassar alum. My lecture will use Mary McCarthy’s relationship to Vassar as a framework for a discussion of the ups and downs of the Vassar experience.”

About Mary McCarthy

Mary McCarthy was born in Seattle, WA and orphaned at the age of six, when both of her parents died in the 1918 influenza epidemic. McCarthy graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Vassar College in 1933, and then moved to New York to begin her career as a writer and critic. She served on the editorial staff of the *Partisan Review* from 1937 to 1948, and published her first novel, *The Company She Keeps*, in 1942. In addition to numerous reviews and articles on topics spanning art and architecture, cultural criticism, political analysis, and travel observations, McCarthy published 28 books during her lifetime, including *Birds of America* (1971), *Cannibals and Missionaries* (1979), and *Memories of a Catholic Girlhood* (1957), before her death from cancer in 1989.
McCarthy won a number of literary awards, among them the Horizon Prize (1949) and two Guggenheim fellowships (1949-50 and 1959-60). Both the MacDowell Medal for Literature and the National Medal for Literature were bestowed upon her in 1984. She was a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters, the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, and the American Academy in Rome. She received honorary degrees from Bard, Bowdoin, Colby, and Smith Colleges, Syracuse University, and from the Universities of Aberdeen, Hull, and Maine at Orono.

About Meghan Daum
Meghan Daum is the author of *Life Would Be Perfect If I Lived In That House*, a personal chronicle, as well as the novel *The Quality of Life Report* and the essay collection *My Misspent Youth*. Since 2005 she has written a weekly column for *The Los Angeles Times*, which appears on the op-ed page every Thursday. She has contributed to the public radio programs Morning Edition, Marketplace and This American Life and has written for numerous publications, including *The New Yorker*, Harper’s, *GQ*, Vogue, *Self*, *New York*, Travel & Leisure, *BlackBook*, Harper’s Bazaar, The Village Voice, and *The New York Times* Book Review. Her essays have appeared in countless anthologies and are taught in many college classrooms. Daum earned a Bachelor’s degree in English from Vassar College, and graduated from the MFA writing program at Columbia University’s School of the Arts. She has taught at various institutions, including the California Institute for the Arts, where she was a visiting artist in 2004 and taught graduate nonfiction writing (www.meghandaum.com).

*Vassar College is located at 124 Raymond Avenue in Poughkeepsie, NY. Directions to the campus can be found at www.vassar.edu/directions.*
The Bard College Conservatory of Music Presents an Opera Double Bill

Features World Premiere of Commissioned Opera by Composer Elena Langer

The Graduate Vocal Arts Program of The Bard College Conservatory of Music presents evening and matinée opera performances in the Sosnoff Theater of The Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts on Friday, March 9, at 8 pm and Sunday, March 11, at 3 pm. The double bill features two professionally staged one-act operas, including the world premiere of a Conservatory-commissioned opera, *Four Sisters* by Elena Langer, and *Nélée et Myrthis* by Jean-Philippe Rameau. The operas will be preceded by two short works, Claudio Monteverdi’s *Dialogo di ninfa e pastore* and Michel Pignolet de Montéclair’s *La mort de Didon*. The production is directed by Marc Verzatt and conducted by James Bagwell and features the singers of the Conservatory Graduate Vocal Arts Program and the Conservatory Orchestra.

“We are delighted to present the world premiere of *Four Sisters*, an opera by the London-based composer Elena Langer and librettist John Lloyd Davies,” says Dawn Upshaw, artistic director of the Graduate Vocal Arts Program. “Langer came to our attention by way of the Young Composer/Singer Professional Training Workshop, which Bard has undertaken with the Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall. Collaborating with composers has been a vital and enriching part of my musical life, and it’s a joy I wish to pass on to the students in the Graduate Vocal Arts Program. We’re thrilled that Elena and John agreed to be part of our opera project, and we’ve enjoyed working with them, James Bagwell, and Marc Verzatt on this new piece. Together with Rameau’s beautiful *Nélée et Myrthis* and the shorter gems by Monteverdi and Montéclair, this is a rich and varied musical and theatrical offering and is a key part of the Graduate Vocal Arts Program experience for our young artists.”

The opera programs showcase new and classic works performed by the highly skilled and talented singers of the Graduate Vocal Arts program. This production will be performed by sopranos Faylotte Crayton, Lucy Dhegrae, Hannah Goldshlack, Vanessa Langer, Heejung Lee, Kameryn Lueng, Marie Marquis, and Jacquelyn Stucker; Abigail Levis, mezzo-soprano; Hyunhak Kim and Barrett Radziun, tenors; and Matthew Morris and Logan Walsh, baritones.

The Conservatory’s Graduate Vocal Arts program produces a fully staged opera program every two years, giving young artists the opportunity to collaborate with theater professionals. In addition to director Marc Verzatt and conductor James Bagwell, this year’s opera production engages the talents of costume designer Michelle Tarantina, scenic and lighting designer Vin Roca, choreographer Marjorie Folkman, and projection designer Laura Eckelman.

*Tickets are $15, $25, $35, and $100 (the latter includes priority seating and an invitation to the March 11 postconcert champagne reception with the artists). All ticket sales benefit the Conservatory’s scholarship fund. To purchase tickets, call the Fisher Center box office at 845 758 7900 or go to www.fishercenter.bard.edu.*
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call: 518.263.2073 or email: imperialef@catskillmtn.org
How Sweet it Will Be!

The Greater Stamford Area Chamber of Commerce (GSACC) is pleased to announce that they will be sponsoring a pop-up farmers’ market on Thursday, March 15 from 4:30 to 6 pm at the historic Stamford Railroad Station, located at 21 Railroad Avenue. The market will help kick off the 17th annual New York State Maple Weekend activities. There is plenty of parking available around the station.

Get to know the farmers and other vendors (and GSACC members), as you shop for local flavors. Want to make sure they have what’s on your list? You can pre-order directly from them for pick up at the station—just get in touch with them.

**Buck Hill Farm** (www.buckhillfarm.com) – has been producing a premium maple product since the 1960s, using nothing but the natural sap from sugar maple trees.

**Cowbella** (www.cowbella.com) – butter and yogurt lovingly produced on the family’s farm that was established in 1817. The featured flavor of yogurt is maple.

**Harpersfield Cheese** (www.harpersfieldcheese.com) – a farmstead cheese that comes from their own dairy herd to their cheese house to your table. They offer a variety of flavors.

**Hobart Book Village** (www.hobartbookvillage.com) – local books, cook books, children’s books and books on Celtic lore, to get your St. Patrick’s Day off to a great start!

**La Basse Cour Farm** (www.la-basse-cour.com) – fresh eggs straight off the farm and home-made baked goods.

**Peck and Potter Farm** (607 652 2107) – homemade baked goods from prize-winning baker Carol Bodnar.

**The Sheep’s Nest** (www.thesheepsnest.com) – wool and roving from their own Shetland sheep. A mixture of old and new home embellishments that will inspire you to create your own “nest”.

**Tundra Brewery** (markvanglad@yahoo.com) – select from three varieties (“Ma-Pale” Pale Ale, Red Ale, Brown Ale) of this special brew made with the brewer’s own grown barley and hops. The featured flavor will be Ma-Pale, subtly flavored with the brewer’s own family maple syrup.

**Wade’s Towne and Country Florist and Gift Shoppe** (607 652 2500) – go green and pick up a fresh St. Patrick’s Day bouquet.

**Weinland Farms** (weinlandfarms@aol.com) - Home-raised and all natural Hereford Beef, raised on the farm’s 800 acres. No hormones and no antibiotics. Wholes, halves, and quarters available, plus individual cuts ready for your freezer.

Continue the maple fun the following weekend by taking advantage of these specials offered by GSACC members:

- Pancake Shape Day at Buck Hill Farm on Saturday, March 17.
- Hobart Book Village (all Main Street stores) – 15% discount on books with a capital “M” in the title.
- La Basse Cour Farm, Store and Bed & Breakfast – featuring local maple products as part of breakfast and local ingredients. And 10% off your stay during Maple Weekend.
- Open House at Shaver Hill Farm – all day pancake breakfast, wagon rides, tree tapping and boiling demonstrations, activities for kids and maple cotton candy.

So pop in at the pop-up farmers’ market! For more information on the market, as well as other things to do, visit www.catskillmtns.org/events.
Willard and Lucile Frisbee have a vision for their farmland. They see Riverdale Farm in Delhi continuing as a working farm through the next two generations, at least. When their son, Ronald and his son Gideon Frisbee expressed interest in taking over the family business, Willard and Lucile got serious. The Frisbees took action, put their vision into play, and placed a conservation easement on 107 acres of working farmland adjacent to the West Branch of the Delaware River. “By protecting farmland, we’re guaranteeing that the family farm business will continue without interruption or hindrance,” says Lucile. “It’s just good stewardship of the land that’s been in the Frisbee family since the 1800’s.” In June 2011 the Frisbees achieved their goal. It was a turning point in their family history.

It was a turning point also for the Watershed Agricultural Council which now holds over 20,000 acres in conservation easements. “How fitting that the Frisbees’ decision to place Riverdale Farm here in Delaware County into farmland protection also marks a new milestone for us,” noted Executive Director Craig Cashman. “Willard and Lucile share our common goals, to protect working landscapes and to keep farming alive and profitable throughout the watershed. We work with funding from New York City Department of Environmental Protection earmarked specifically for farmland protection to address three key issues. First, the easement allows the family to continue working as a farm and forest enterprise. Second, the easement allows the family to remove capital from the property and put it to work somewhere else, like investing in a retirement vehicle or new equipment or livestock for the farm. Lastly, the conservation easement protects water quality and the working landscape. We need clean water and clean food, and protecting farmland through this land-use approach serves multiple purposes.”

The Frisbees’ decision to place a conservation easement on their land took a lot of time and a lot of thought. “We learned about farmland protection and land stewardship at an American Farmland Trust seminar in 2005,” noted Lucile. “We started thinking about how we could be stewards of our land and provide for the family’s future in farming.” Willard agreed: “Anyone interested in an easement should think it out and determine whether or not it’s a good fit for the farm business now and in the foreseeable future.” Working closely with their Easement Program Specialist, the Frisbees explored their conservation easement options and considered the farm’s expansion possibilities, housing needs and future composition. They then set land aside within the easement boundaries, called an ADA or Acceptable Development Area.
Area, where future development such as a new pole barn or other agricultural-related building can occur in the future. “You have to take your time and make sure it’s right for you,” added Willard. “Think and plan ahead.”

The Frisbee farm has a long history with the Watershed Agricultural Council, starting back in 1997 when it enrolled in the Council’s Small Farms Program. The family is also working with the Forestry Program by working with a qualified watershed forester (their son Ron) on a forest management plan that supports the family maple syrup enterprise. In turn, the maple business is also a Pure Catskills member and received an Agricultural Development grant last year to improve their maple syrup quality. Now the farm will enter the Council’s Easement Program. “We’ve worked for over a year with Amy Lieberman, our easement specialist,” said Lucile. “We’ve been around and around on a few things, but in the long run, it’s all worked out. We’re reinvesting in the farm, and the boys, starting with a new tractor to replace the 1946 Allis-Chalmers.”

With a long farming legacy, Riverdale has seen farming generations come and go. Originally a dairy, Willard’s father, Wyatt, sold the cattle in the 1950s and transitioned to beef. Similarly, Willard and Lucile have experimented with alternatives to keep the farm going, such as turning the farmhouse/boarding house (Riverdale Inn) into an apartment complex. Willard juggled farm work with full-time work at SUNY-Delhi as Food Service Manager and Assistant Professor in the Hotel Division. Lucile also worked at the college and as a church organist. “Keeping the farm going was difficult; we had to have a second income. Our most rewarding experience here on the farm has been raising our three sons.

After 50 years at the helm, Willard is passing the agricultural enterprise on to his son and grandson who are diversifying the farm profile. “Gideon just expanded into a pig operation,” noted Willard. In a strange twist of historic fate, Gideon is raising feeder pigs for Jay Wilson of Maple Shade Farm across the river, the same farm Willard’s forebears started over 150 years ago. But that’s the way it is with small town farming. “Ron and Gideon are both passionate about farming and making the business work. They’ve diversified the beef farm, bringing in pigs, chickens, even ten thousand bees. They’re continuing and modernizing the maple syrup production. I’m truly honored that they wanted to return to the family farm.” For Willard, the greatest feeling is coming full circle, working alongside his son and grandson as he did with his father. “Now I wish that I could just keep up!”

The couple entered into the conservation easement for a variety of reasons. Willard jokes it was about time he got paid. “You put in and put in, always investing in your farm, replacing equipment and livestock.” Now, in their 80s, it was time he and Lucile took a little sweat equity out of their nest egg. The couple, married 56 years, have raised three kids on the farm and hope that the next generations will continue to enjoy the farming lifestyle.
With spring just around the corner, there is a lot of activity occurring behind the scenes in order to get our trails ready. Trail maintainers are visiting their trails to clean off fallen branches, check on trail markers and to make sure that the trails in general are in good shape for hikers. Our trail crews are gearing up for a season worth of work and our volunteers are organizing a number of training opportunities throughout the region.

**Trail Maintainers**

While most of our winter was snow free which afforded extra time to be out on the trails, in March, our Trail Maintainers really start to stretch their legs and get out on the trails. This gives them a chance to assess the conditions of the trails and start to clean them up. If there are very large problems, this information is communicated to their Trail Supervisors so crews can be put together to tackle large trees that may have come down or significant areas of erosion.

This spring we expect several additional trails to be adopted by the Trail Conference. This will create additional opportunities for volunteers looking to maintain individual trail sections. If you are interested in volunteering to be a trail maintainer, visit www.nynjtc.org/vop/trail-maintainer-catskills-south to let us know that you would be interested.

**Trail Crews**

Having received approval for the relocation of the Long Path over Cross Mountain, Mount Pleasant and Romer Mountain near Woodland Valley and Phoenicia, our Trail Crews will have their work cut out for them. We will be laying out and building approximately seven miles of new trail. We will also have crews working on the trails around Frick and Hodge Ponds in the western Catskills, the trails near the Little Pond State Campground and a crew working on the Long Path through the Catskill Center’s Platte Clove Preserve in the northeastern Catskills.

We are planning on having a trail crew dedicated to trail maintenance this season. The crew would get together to tackle trail segments that need additional work or where a trail maintainer has been unable to keep up with the work that the trail requires.

In addition, our Lean-to Crew will be working to rehabilitate the Devil’s Acre Lean-to on Hunter Mountain with a new roof, a new floor and newly stained interior and exterior.

For information on our Trail Crew work in 2012, please visit www.nynjtc.org/content/catskill-trail-crews.

**Training Through Trail University**

We will be offering a number of different workshops throughout the Catskill Region. These workshops will cover areas from basic trail maintenance to the construction and design of trails. These workshops allow volunteers to gain the skills necessary to properly maintain trails and through Trail Crews, build and repair trails. These workshops are open to the public. Depending on the course, there may be a registration fee involved. Please visit www.nynjtc.org/trailu for a list of the workshops that are available,
Updates

Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) staff have continued working on replacing bridges and repairing trails that were damaged during Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee.

While not directly related to trails, there was some great news from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in February. The DEP announced a broad expansion of their recreational boating program at the Neversink, Pepacton and Schoharie reservoirs. DEP has also been working within the region to open more of the watershed lands to recreation such as hiking and is in talks with several organizations to begin the development of trails on their lands.

Getting Involved

If you are interested in joining a trail crew, adopting a trail for maintenance, or just finding out more information, please visit the web links above, contact the Trail Conference at 518 628 4243 or via e-mail at jsenterman@nynjtc.org.

Jeff Senterman was formerly an Assistant Forest Ranger for the DEC in Greene County, graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from Lyndon State College, spent a decade in the environmental planning field and is currently the Catskill Region Program Coordinator for the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference.

The New York New Jersey Trail Conference partners with parks to create, protect, and promote a network of over 1,800 miles of public trails. We offer volunteer opportunities for people who love the outdoors, as well as publishing detailed hiking maps for the Catskill Region, along with a number of other regions. For more information on our maps and our Catskill Community Trails program please visit us on the web at www.nynjtc.org/catskills and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NYNJTC.
The forecast for the last weekend in February was for very frigid but sunny weather. On Saturday we climbed 3,880-foot West Kill Mountain, perhaps the most beautiful of all our winter climbs, and one of the coldest days yet. As we climbed up West Kill’s East ridge, the lacy designs of the winter canopy were alight in brilliant sunshine, radiating into lustrous gossamer sprays against the deepest blue sky. Myriad branches were transformed into white filaments gracefully arching over a snow-obliterated trail. Higher up, ice wrapped each tiny branch and they clinked together in the breezes and shimmered in sunlight.

Just below the summit, the large Buck Ridge Lookout offers spectacular 180-degree views; directly across is Hunter Mountain and the roller-coaster outline of the Blackhead Range is north. Diamond Notch is several hundred feet below. We couldn’t tarry too long at this lookout, but it was sunny enough to allow a brief snack break; it is important to eat sufficiently and hydrate regularly while winter hiking. Across the way is another nice view over Spruceton Valley. We saw fresh bear prints here one April and decided not to get the stove out and cook soup that day, as we usually do. When we were writing *Catskill Day Hikes for All Seasons*, we were resting on this lookout and a porcupine crawled up onto the rock. He went down and we heard little noises, and then two porcupines appeared!

The day after our West Kill hike, the forecast called for equally bitter cold and stronger winds. With another couple, we’d planned to hike 3,980-foot Black Dome and 3,940-foot Thomas Cole Mountain, near Windham, and we didn’t call each other to cancel due to the weather. Meeting in Maplecrest, we considered not doing it but decided to give it a try—we could always retreat. Quickly we strapped on our snowshoes and set off up unplowed Big Hollow Road; this fast road walk beyond the snowplow turnaround was good, to work up body heat.

After climbing several hundred feet, the north wind whipped across the ridge and stung our faces. Wanda experienced frostnip on a cheek and I gave her a knitted ear warmer to tie over nose and cheeks. Later, she discovered a frostbitten toe! Temperatures like these, combined with strong winds, should cancel an outing—especially one to high peaks. From Lockwood Gap, the col between Blackhead and Black Dome at 3,400 feet, the terrain becomes much steeper up a series of rock ledges. Our unwieldy Sherpa snowshoes with inadequate serrated crampons were insufficient for reliable grip on hard snow and ice. We would have to change into full crampons in sub-zero wind on the north side of Black Dome out of the sun. We found a huge rock ledge to hunker under, with a splendid view down to the valley through a crevice. We quickly removed overmitts and mittens, leaving...
that scared me on the way up, a narrow ledge only one snowshoe wide. To cross it involves good balance, teetering on one snowshoe while placing the other snowshoe ahead of it. Next to it is a wide. To cross it involves good balance, teetering on one snowshoe while placing the other snowshoe ahead of it. Next to it is a wide.

When we started descending Black Dome, we reached a place that scared me on the way up, a narrow ledge only one snowshoe wide. To cross it involves good balance, teetering on one snowshoe while placing the other snowshoe ahead of it. Next to it is a serious drop-off. On close examination now, I saw a sizable ledge eight feet below us, and another drop-off with a ledge below that. Dave tried to get me to cross the narrow ledge, but I could see that by sitting and stretching down from a handhold and digging in with snowshoe crampons, I could then drop onto the ledge with little freefall. And from that ledge there was another drop about like this one; then I would bushwhack over to the trail.

“I’ll see you down there—I’m going across on the trail,” Dave exclaimed. “I’m sure it’ll be much easier!” After dropping down to the first ledge, I had no option but to continue with the plan. I said to myself, just s-t-r-e-t-c-h down as far as possible from the handhold and slide to the ledge, probably faster than I’d like—gravity is an amazing force! Here goes nothing, I thought, and let go. My gaiter string caught on a branch halfway down; I continued the freefall and suddenly found myself hanging upside down with foot caught up above. I reached up to free it, but it was too high and I couldn’t wiggle it free. In a perverse way I enjoyed this—unhurt, with others somewhere around to help, in a really ridiculous position. But they were not immediately in sight, having taken the trail north and down. This is another good reason why people should not hike alone.

“Dave,” I yelled loudly. “I need some help!” It was beginning to get seriously cold in the sub-zero wind. I yelled loudly enough so they would hear—but in a story in Catskill Peak Experiences, someone rappels off a two-hundred-foot cliff and lands on a ledge twenty feet off the ground, and his calls cannot be heard in noisy wind. I may have to wait a while until they discover that I’m not following them. I see Marty hiking back up toward me! I realize that I’ve forced them to do some steep re-climbing off-trail to get to me. Marty starts pulling at the caught string high up the ledge, and he can’t get it off; my dead weight makes it unyielding. Dave arrives and lifts me up so Marty can pull it off. Dave said I looked like a side of beef hanging in the butcher’s cooler.

All these experiences made us feel more knowledgeable about the hazards of hiking in winter¹ so the following December we headed to the Adirondack High Peaks to see what they were like. We became Winter 46ers in the next three years—in 1997, Carol became the twentieth woman to do so, and wrote Women with Altitude: Challenging the Adirondack High Peaks in Winter, about the first thirty-three women to become Winter 46ers. We went on to hike the forty-eight high peaks of New Hampshire’s White Mountains in winter, but the rugged Catskill peaks—thirteen of them trailless—require equal preparation, knowledge and care.

¹ Carol has completed an anthology about the many dangers and safety practices in the mountains of the Northeast titled Peak Experiences: Danger, Death and Daring in the Mountains of the Northeast, to be published by the University Press of New England in Fall 2012.

Carol and David White are authors of Catskill Day Hikes for All Seasons (Adirondack Mountain Club, 2002) and editors of Catskill Trails, 3rd edition: Volume 8 (Forest Preserve Series, Adirondack Mountain Club, 2005). Carol is editor of Catskill Peak Experiences: Mountaineering Tales of Endurance, Survival, Exploration & Adventure from the Catskill 3500 Club (Black Dome Press, 2008). Signed copies of all of these books are available at the Village Square Bookstore and Literary Arts Center in Hunter, NY.
MARCH AT THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION

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

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

Ticket Prices: $8 / $6 seniors & children under 11
Film schedule subject to change, please call ahead to confirm: 518 263 4702 (recorded messages) or visit www.catskillmtn.org.

CARNAGE (RATED R, 80 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY ROMAN POLANSKI
Carnage is a razor sharp, biting comedy centered on parental differences. After two boys duke it out on a playground, the parents of the “victim” invite the parents of the “bully” over to work out their issues. A polite discussion of childrearing soon escalates into verbal warfare, with all four parents revealing their true colors. None of them will escape the carnage. 3/2-3/4 Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:15 & 7:15

“Snappy, nasty, deftly acted...fully delivers the laughs and savagery of the stage piece”
—Todd McCarthy, Hollywood Reporter

DECLARATION OF WAR (UNRATED, 100 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY VALERIE DONZELLI
This exuberant and moving film follows a couple who must face the ultimate test when they discover their newborn child is very ill. This contemporary couple who surprises even themselves with their ability to fight not only for the life of their child but for each other. In French with English subtitles. 3/9-3/11. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:15 & 7:15

“plays like something Jacques Demy and François Truffaut might have cooked up ... a joy to watch ...”
—Screen Daily

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PERFECT SENSE
(UNRATED, 88 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY
DAVID MACKENZIE
A hit at Sundance ’11 and winner of the Edinburgh Film Festival’s prize for Best New British Feature, the amazing genre creation directed by David Mackenzie stars Eva Green and Ewan McGregor as witnesses to the end of the world—strangers who form a desperate romantic connection in the face of an apocalyptic epidemic of sensory loss. 3/16-3/18. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 7:15

KILL LIST
(UNRATED, 95 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY
BEN WHEATLEY
Eight months after a botched job in Kiev, Jay is an out-of-work hitman with no job, money, health insurance and a wife constantly on his case. But when his business partner Gal comes over for dinner and pressures Jay into taking a new assignment, Jay quickly finds himself back in the game with the promise of a big payoff after three assassinations. Although the hits start off without incident, soon things begin to unravel and Jay’s paranoia reveals itself as he is plunged into the heart of darkness. 3/23-3/25. Friday 7:15; Saturday 7:15; Sunday 7:15

“bold and heart-pounding...likely to shake you up and change your mood long afterward.”
—Christy Lemire, Associated Press

A TRIP TO THE MOON
(UNRATED, 16 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY
GEORGES MELIES
presented with
THE EXTRAORDINARY VOYAGE
(UNRATED, 63 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY SERGE BROMBERG & ERIC LANGE
Sourced from a hand-painted color version of Méliès masterpiece that had been considered lost for several decades, A Trip To The Moon has been fully restored and is presented with an original score by the French band, Air (Virgin Suicides). In 2010, three experts in worldwide film restoration launched the most complex and ambitious restoration in the history of cinema, over 12 years, using advanced digital technologies to reassemble and restore the fragments of the 13,375 frames. Now, one of the most technically sophisticated and expensive restorations in film history, A Trip to the Moon can thrill cinema-goers in its original 1902 colors.

The Extraordinary Voyage chronicles the journey of A Trip to the Moon from the fantastical Méliès’ production in 1902 to the astonishing rediscovery of a nitrate print in color in 1993, to the premiere of the new restoration on the opening night of the Cannes Film Festival in 2011. The documentary includes interviews with contemporary filmmakers, including Costa Gavras, Michel Gondry, Michel Hazanavicius, and Jean-Pierre Jeunet on Méliès’ enduring significance to cinema. In English and French with English subtitles. 3/30-4/1. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:15 & 7:15

“Technology and infinite patience form the alchemist’s stone that turns celluloid dross into cinematic gold in The Extraordinary Voyage, Serge Bromberg’s and Eric Lange’s tale of preservation magic. … Bromberg’s documentary, liberally sprinkled with fanciful excerpts from Melies’ surviving works, never bogs down in scientific detail as bits get reassembled and enhanced, frame by frame, fragment by fragment.”
—Ronnie Scheib, Variety

CHICO & RITA
(UNRATED, 94 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY
FERNANDO TRUEBA & JAVIER MARISCAL
Cuba, 1948. Chico is a young piano player with big dreams. Rita is a beautiful singer with an extraordinary voice. Music and desire unite them as they chase their dreams and each other from Havana to New York to Paris, Hollywood and Las Vegas. With an original soundtrack by legendary Cuban pianist and five-time Grammy®-winning composer Bebo Valdés, Chico & Rita captures a defining moment in the evolution of history and jazz, and features the music of (and animated cameos by) Thelonious Monk, Charlie Parker, Cole Porter, Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Herman, Tito Puente, Chano Pozo, and others. 3/30-4/1. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:15 & 7:15

“A visually hypnotic, musically electric film. The design of Havana and New York is often breathtakingly beautiful.”
—Hollywood Reporter
THE ARTIST
Set in 1920’s Hollywood, silent movie star George Valentin wonders if the arrival of talking pictures will cause him to fade into oblivion, as he sparks with Peppy Miller, a young dancer set for a big break.

BIG MIRACLE
In small town Alaska, a news reporter recruits his ex-girlfriend on a campaign to save a family of gray whales trapped by rapidly forming ice in the Arctic Circle.

CONTRABAND
To protect his brother-in-law from a drug lord, a former smuggler heads to Panama to score millions of dollars in counterfeit bills.

THE DESCENDANTS
With his wife on life support after a boating accident, a Hawaiian land baron takes his daughters on a trip to Kauai to confront the real estate broker who was having an affair with his wife before her misfortune.

EXTREMELY LOUD AND INCREDIBLY CLOSE
A nine-year-old boy searches New York City for the lock that matches a mysterious key left behind by his father, who died on September 11, 2001.

THE GREY
In Alaska, an oil drilling team struggle to survive after a plane crash strands them in the wild. Hunting the humans are a pack of wolves who see them as intruders.

THE HUNGER GAMES—STARTS MARCH 23
Set in a future where the Capitol selects a boy and girl from the twelve districts to fight to the death on live television, Katniss Everdeen volunteers to take her younger sister’s place for the latest match.

THE IRON LADY
A look at the life of Margaret Thatcher, the former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, with a focus on the price she paid for power.

JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND
Sean Anderson partners with his mom’s husband on a mission to find his grandfather, who is thought to be missing on a mythical island.

JOYFUL NOISE
A story of faith and determination by two small-town choir leaders and the young talent who give their all to win the grand prize in a national competition.

SAFE HOUSE
A young CIA agent is tasked with looking after a fugitive in a safe house. But when the safe house is attacked, he finds himself on the run with his charge.

THE VOW
A car accident puts Paige in a coma, and when she wakes up with severe memory loss, her husband Leo works to win her heart again.
When a small group of compassionate citizens came together some years ago, their purpose was quite simple: to enrich life on the mountaintop. This progressive group of second homeowners, soon to become the Windham Chapter, has taken many small steps to make great strides in our community. As a division of the Catskill Mountain Foundation, the Windham Chapter is committed to supporting projects in the arts, education, and recreation.

Their impact has been felt on many levels; from the very public to the intensely personal: radio and emergency equipment for local firefighters, medical care for families, band uniforms for WAJ students and college scholarships for deserving graduates. This group saw a need and made a commitment to help fill it. Since 2003, the Windham Chapter has awarded nearly 2 million dollars to local non-profit organizations.

Some people want things to happen, some people wish things to happen...

The Windham Chapter makes things happen.

The Windham Chapter is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, governed by an all-volunteer board.

Windham Chapter • P.O. Box 600 • Windham, NY 12496
www.windhamchapter.com
March 17-April 15 at Kaaterskill Fine Arts…

The Children’s Insight
Artwork After the Flood by Students of Gilboa

Over 80 images by student artists created under the direction of Gilboa-Conesville Central School art teacher Susan Kliza

I drew the Old Covered Bridge in Blenheim because I have many memories of it. When I first heard that it was gone it was heartbreaking. When I saw that it was gone, it was even worse. So that’s why I drew the Old Covered Bridge.
—Shawn VanValkenburg, Grade 8

Swimming through the void
We hear the words
We lose ourselves
But we find it all…”

During the flood the little girl lost her house. Once the water went down the girl found her doll in the river.
—Dillon Walters, Grade 9

In art class we did a project letting us express in any way our feelings during or after Hurricane Irene. The hurricane flooded and ruined the local town areas that surround our school, including my home. My picture is of a raindrop in front of a sun. You can see the raindrop clearly but the sun is very close up to you so you can’t tell it’s there. You can just see the colors. The colors that I used over-exaggerate the actual colors of a raindrop or the sun. The raindrop is a deep purple, deep blue, a light blue, and lastly teal. The sun is red, orange, and yellow. I honestly believe this project let me take out some emotion that I have been holding back through art. I loved this project and I hope to do more like it in the future.
—Hailey Havrish, Grade 8

I will stand by you.
I will help you through.
When you’ve done all you can do
And you can’t cope…

My painting is about the relief and grief after the flood. The words are the lyrics of the song “I Won’t Let Go,” by Rascal Flatts. The image is the relief and the colors represent grief. That is why I chose it because it represents two emotions.
—Jessica Bathen, Grade 8

In this piece I drew a house with the flood water rising. My statement talks about hope. It also shows a rainbow that shows hope.
—Claire Chapman, Grade 9

God promised to never flood the earth again. To remind us of this promise He gave us a rainbow. Rainbows give us hope. Hope to fight the outcome of Irene.

“life is a waterfall
We’re one in the river
And one again after the fall

During the flood the little girl lost her house. Once the water went down the girl found her doll in the river.
—Dillon Walters, Grade 9

In art class we did a project letting us express in any way our feelings during or after Hurricane Irene. The hurricane flooded and ruined the local town areas that surround our school, including my home. My picture is of a raindrop in front of a sun. You can see the raindrop clearly but the sun is very close up to you so you can’t tell it’s there. You can just see the colors. The colors that I used over-exaggerate the actual colors of a raindrop or the sun. The raindrop is a deep purple, deep blue, a light blue, and lastly teal. The sun is red, orange, and yellow. I honestly believe this project let me take out some emotion that I have been holding back through art. I loved this project and I hope to do more like it in the future.
—Hailey Havrish, Grade 8

Kaaterskill Fine Arts Gallery, Main Street, Rte. 23A, Hunter, NY • 518 263 2060 • www.catskillmtn.org
Gallery Hours: Thu., Fri., Sun. 10am-5pm, Sat. 10am-7pm (Closed Mon.-Wed.)
The Village Square Bookstore & Literary Arts Center has over 10,000 titles in stock including books on the visual arts, crafts, film, poetry, drama, illustrated children's storybooks, cooking, gardening, fiction and non-fiction, bestsellers, publishers' overstocks and one of the largest selections of books on the Catskill Region in the area. We also carry an assortment of games, gifts and cards.

**MYSTERY WRITING WORKSHOP**

**Saturday, April 28, 1 PM**

Alison Gaylin's debut book, *Hide Your Eyes*, was nominated for an Edgar Award in the Best First Novel category. Her critically acclaimed suspense novels have been published in such countries as the UK, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Norway and Japan.

Her new book, *And She Was*, comes out in March 2012 from Harper Collins—the first in a new series featuring Brenna Spector, a private investigator blessed (and cursed) with perfect autobiographical memory.

We are always adding programs to our calendar of events so please check our Web site at www.catskillmtn.org frequently!
High Peaks Music Festival: Music with Altitude!

celebrates

CLASSICAL HOLLYWOOD

“‘We are looking forward this summer to ten days of high level performance with seasoned artists as well as young colleagues on the cusp of professional life. Our focus will be Hollywood composers, film music, and jazz. Combined with the extraordinary scenery and mountain air that inspired the Hudson River School of painters—as well as an engaging symposium on urban and bucolic art—Catskill High Peaks Festival: Music with Altitude is the perfect culmination to your summer plans. I enthusiastically welcome you this August to the summits of chamber music, informal opportunities to discuss the wonders of music, literature and art, and a chance for encounters, friendship, and inspiration...”

—Yehuda Hanani, Artistic Director

Classical Hollywood: Cinematic Piano/Classics from the Silver Screen

Jennifer Rivera, mezzo-soprano
Michael Chertock, piano
Stefan Milenkovich, violin
Yehuda Hanani, cello
Sunday, August 19, 2pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts
This concert is funded in part by the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation.

Fascinatin’ Rhythm

Michael Chertock, piano
Bill Schimmel, accordion
James Cammack, double bass
Arti Dixson, percussion
David Parsons Dancers
Stefan Milenkovich, violin
Yehuda Hanani, cello
Saturday, August 25, 8pm
Orpheum Performing Arts Center
This concert is funded in part by the Friends of the Orpheum (FOTO).

More details about festival events, as well as tickets for these concerts, will be available soon: bookmark www.catskillmtn.org and check often for updates as they become available!
CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION
PIANO PERFORMANCE MUSEUM

Featuring the Steven E. Greenstein Collection
Artistic Director, Kenneth Hamrick

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

View Our Online Video!
Scan me to view a YouTube video about the Piano Performance Museum!

Or find the video at www.catskillmtn.org/about-us/projects/pianoperformancemuseum.html

Route 23A, Main Street, Village of Hunter
518 821 3440 • www.catskillmtn.org

Hours: Friday and Saturday, noon-4 pm and by appointment
The CMF Piano Museum is funded in part by the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation
Piano Performance Museum Festival
June 9–October 13, 2012

The Piano Performance Museum Festival in its inaugural year presents wonderful performances highlighting the playable pianos in the collection, offers interaction with aspiring young musicians from around the world who will be participating in musical residencies, and draws on the museum collection to provide a historical context for interdisciplinary performances and other arts events.

- Concerts by internationally renowned performers
- Intimate mini-concerts and talks
- Lectures on the Catskill Region by a noted historian
- Other special events—both indoors and out

Concerts

These concerts are funded in part by the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation

OPENING NIGHT
Summertime Living: Easy, Poignant, Clever and Fun
Fusion Bande
Kenneth Hamrick, director and piano
Anthony Turner, baritone and JP Jofre, bandoneon
Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance Company
Saturday, June 9, 8pm
Weisberg Hall, Doctorow Center for the Arts

Appalachian Spring: Traditional music and dance of the Appalachian Mountains and Aaron Copland’s masterpiece Appalachian Spring
Perspectives Ensemble
Sato Moughalian, Artistic Director
With Guest Artists: Dale Paul Woodiel, Jr., Fiddler & Program Artistic Advisor; Ira Shapiro, Appalachian, Irish Step and Solo Percussive Dancer; Jerron “Blind Boy” Paxton, Banjo and Vocals
Saturday, July 7, 8pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Demons of the Baroque Ballrooms: The Devil’s Fiddles
American Virtuosi Baroque Opera Theater
Kenneth Hamrick, director & harpsichord
Mark Huggins, Associate Concertmaster of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra
Nicholas Tamagna, countertenor
Carlos Fittante and Robin Gilbert Campos, Baroque Dancers
Saturday, August 4, 8pm
Weisberg Concert Hall, Doctorow Center for the Arts

Jazz Masters of the Piano Performance Museum
Kenny Barron
Saturday, October 13, 8pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

More details about festival events, as well as tickets for these concerts, will be available soon: bookmark www.catskillmtn.org and check often for updates as they become available!
WEEKLY CLASSES
starting June 27
Basics & Beyond
June 27-August 22
Susan Beecher, nationally recognized potter & teacher

Clay for Seniors
July 19-August 23
Susan Beecher

WORKSHOPS
starting June 29
Begin, Refresh, Refine! Throwing and Slip Decorating
June 29-July 1
Michael Boyer, master potter

Sensational Salt Fire
July 6-8
Susan Beecher

Elegant & Ornate: Form & Surface
July 12-16
Kristen Kieffer, full-time studio potter, workshop leader and ceramics instructor

Form & Surface: Pots Worth Their Salt
July 19-24
Jack Troy, potter, teacher and writer who has taught over 200 workshops all over the world.

Forming Clay with a Sculptural Dynamic
July 21-22
Mikhail Zakin, founder and president of Old Church Cultural Center in Demarest, NJ

Animals Go Tactile
July 26-30
Bernadette Curran, studio artist and educator

Chinese Brush Painting
July 28-29
Linda Schultz, retired art teacher

Size Matters
August 2-7
Tony Clennell, second-generation potter who has taught workshops all over the world

Flashing & Fuming
August 9-14
Randy Brodnax & Don Ellis, master Raku potters

Let’s Fire! Slips, Glazes and Soda Firing:
Working Soft on the Wheel
August 16-21
Gay Smith, studio potter and teaching artist single firing porcelain ware near Penland, NC

Having Fun with Vessels that Pour
August 23-27
Susan Beecher

Chinese Brush Painting • July 28-29
Linda Schultz, retired art teacher

For more information, to request a brochure, to register or to make reservations for housing, call Fran Imperiale at 518 263 2073.
For the most updated schedule, look for our 2012 Performance Book, to be distributed in March.
AMERICA’S LARGEST KALEIDOSCOPE

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$5 Admission for Adults,
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