

DE STATE OF THE ARTS – DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS – Q3 2022

- **July 2, 2022**
 - Michelle Kramer-Fitzgerald talks with arts advocate Leslie Sinclair about CAMP Rehoboth’s multifaceted arts initiative “Shine a Light on the Arts.”
- **July 9, 2022**
 - Andy Truscott talks with Executive Director Jen Boes from the Greater Wilmington Convention and Visitors Bureau about the organization’s rebound post-COVID and exciting events coming this summer in Downtown Wilmington. Learn more about the resources available from the GWCVB at their website: <https://www.visitwilmingtonde.com/>.
- **July 16, 2022**
 - Andy Truscott interviews David Pickrell and Marcia Reed about the upcoming Ladybug Music Festival in Downtown Milford, Delaware on July 30 from 2-9pm. To learn more about the 2022 Milford Ladybug Festival visit <https://www.theladybugfestival.com/> or <https://downtownmilford.org/>.
- **July 23, 2022**
 - Andy Truscott interviews Pam Manocchio, the newly appointed Executive Director of The Grand Opera House and The Playhouse on Rodney Square about the upcoming events this summer and beyond at Wilmington’s historic theatre complex. To take a look at upcoming events at The Grand or The Playhouse on Rodney Square, visit www.TheGrandWilmington.org.
- **July 30, 2022**
 - Andy Truscott interviews Dr. Traci Currie, the Program Director for the CityFest ArtsWork Youth Apprenticeship Program at the Urban Artist Exchange in Wilmington, Delaware.
 - Cityfest Arts Work began its inaugural 6-week summer program in June 2020 with 12 youth apprentices, 4 teaching artists, 1 volunteer community member, a yoga instructor and the program director – Monday through Friday from 10am to 4pm. This apprenticeship program is a paid internship opportunity that teaches youth artistic, personal, and entrepreneurial skills in the context of creating salable artwork.
 - Arts Work focuses on youth who have been identified as ‘at risk’ or are from underrepresented or economically disadvantaged communities. One of the goals is to offer creative ways to address personal problems that other interventional means have failed to do. Research has shown that the arts can address and help problem-solve social and personal issues that people deal with in their everyday lives. During this year round multi-discipline arts program, apprentices are encouraged to openly express themselves through their art-making while immersed in an affirming and nurturing environment. They are actively engaged in on-site classes and workshops; off-site excursions to museums; live performances; and other creative outdoor adventures.
 - To learn more about this program, or the Urban Artist Exchange, visit <http://cityfestwilm.com/urban-artist-exchange> or email UAE@wilmingtonde.gov
- **August 6, 2022**
 - Ran a Repeat-NO New show
- **August 13, 2022**
 - Andy Truscott interviews Leslie Shaffer, the Executive Director of the Delaware Contemporary, located on Wilmington’s Riverfront.
 - The Delaware Contemporary is an art space that infuses contemporary art and creativity into our community through compelling exhibitions, dynamic educational experiences, and access to the artistic process.

- Founded in 1979 by artists, The Delaware Contemporary presents exhibitions of regionally, nationally, and internationally recognized artists that explore topical issues in contemporary art and society. In addition, we provide opportunities for local and emerging artists to showcase their work and advance their artistic growth. Art sales through our galleries and Museum Shop support area and exhibiting artists and our commitment to the importance of contemporary art in our community.
- To join the artist registry discussed within, visit: https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=9178
- To apply to have an artist studio on site, visit: <https://www.decontemporary.org/studio-artist-application>
- To learn more about The Delaware Contemporary visit: <https://www.decontemporary.org/>.
- August 20, 2022
 - Andy Truscott interviews Joan Beatson, Director of Advancement, and Taylor Ciampi, company dancer, with First State Ballet Theatre. First State Ballet Theatre—Delaware’s professional ballet company—has written an unparalleled chapter of artistic, educational and financial achievement in Delaware dance history and is the only major Delaware performing arts company to have presented a statewide season with regular performances in theaters and schools in all three counties from Wilmington to the Beach. To learn more about their upcoming 2022-2023 season, the National Ballet Competition, or public classes for youth, teens, and adults, visit <https://www.firststateballet.org/>
 - To learn more about their 2022-2023 season visit: <https://www.firststateballet.org/2022-2023-season>
 - To learn more about their dance classes visit: <https://www.firststateballet.org/the-school>
- August 27, 2022
 - Andy Truscott interviews Leah Beach, Founder and Executive Director of the **Developing Artist Collaboration (the DAC)** located in Rehoboth Beach, DE.
 - Their Artist Development Programming provides Artist Members of DAC with access to resources, development based programming, studio space and a supportive community of like-minded individuals. Whether it’s a simply a space to work and collaborate or taking part in our **Creative Career Support Program**, their Artists are able to take control of their growth as an Artist.
 - The DAC has three guiding principles:
 - **No Free Art** – One of our core values is not capitalizing off of Artists. We won’t ask them to donate free art, work programming for free, or even pay a membership due. Our entrepreneurial model allows us to cover our costs so we don’t need to rely on Artist’s to support us financially.
 - **Artists Come First** – Every single decision we make we always ask ourselves, “does the Artist come first?” We’ve learned a lot of lessons about how society wants to take advantage of Artists and we are here to fight the good fight. We are here to advocate for our Artist Members.

- **We Will Always Be Fair** – We always promise to charge Artists fair & honest costs. We strive to keep vendor fees, professional development, resources, space, and opportunity at the fairest possible cost so that you can focus on what matters...your career.
- September 3, 2022
 - Andy Truscott interviews [Kiara Florez](#), a 2022 [Delaware Division of the Arts Individual Artist Fellow](#) in the field of Visual Arts.
 - A recent graduate of Delaware State University with a B.A. in studio art, Florez has already been seen in several exhibitions, was the Delaware winner of the 2017 Doodle4Google competition, and has had her work on view at the U.S. Capitol. Her imaginative paintings magically merge the figurative and the abstract, always informed by “nature, music, all forms of art, and dreams.”
 - The collection that garnered her the Division’s Fellowship is a series of acrylic paintings on canvas, colorful narratives that “explore spiritual thinking and imaginative worlds, using bold colors and wavy lines.” Both figural and abstract, her works are populated with exaggerated shapes in a vibrant color palette, a “loose interpretation of the human figure and nature” that carry Florez’ personal, spiritual messages
- September 10, 2022
 - Andy Truscott speaks with [Dr. Kirsten Kunkle and Dr. Marisa Robinson](#), the co-founders of Wilmington Concert Opera.
 - Wilmington Concert Opera, an exclusively woman and minority run company, was founded on principles of diversity, inclusivity, and accessibility. Wilmington Concert Opera strives to serve the greater Wilmington, Delaware community by prioritizing the hiring of local musicians to provide high-level performance opportunities. The free performances in West Center City, adjacent to the economically-disadvantaged Arts District, provide opportunities for the community to experience a family-friendly version of a traditionally expensive art form.
 - To learn more about their upcoming events, including GIRONDINES from October 21-23, 2022
- September 17, 2022
 - Andy Truscott speaks with Dr. JoAnn Balingit and Dr. Traci Currie, the teaching artists and coaches of this year’s Poetry Out Loud Recitation Contest in Delaware.
 - Poetry Out Loud (POL) is a national program that encourages the study of great poetry by offering educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition to high schools across the country. POL uses a pyramid structure that begins at the classroom level. Winners advance to a school-wide competition, then to a regional and/or state competition, and ultimately to the National Finals in Washington, DC. More than 100,000 students are expected to take part in POL nationwide each year.
- September 24, 2022
 - Andy Truscott speaks with [Greg Hammond](#), an author from Wilmington, Delaware – and one of the Delaware Division of the Arts’ 2022 Emerging Individual Artist Fellows in the field of fiction literature.
 - Gregory Hammond wanted to be a writer “from the get-go.” In elementary school, he wrote “book reports in the form of plays and presented them for the oral reports.” Later, inspired by the Civil Rights movement and its emerging Black writers and poets, he began to read and write poetry as well as write novels. “Where most kids wanted to grow up and be a baseball player or a star athlete, I knew I wanted to have an impact on my community as a writer/lawyer.”

- His most recent novel, *Blue Money*, is inspired partly by real experiences of his in the Congo. This episode contains a reading from this new novel.
- If you'd like to attend a free, public reading of *Blue Money*, you can join Greg at the Brandywine Public Library on October 22 from 1-3pm