

October 2, 2022- Rerun of 9/25/22

October 15, 2022- Rerun of 9/6/22

Dec 3, 2022- Rerun of 11/20/22

Dec 24, 2022- Rerun of 12/18/22

Dec 30,, 2023- Rerun of 12/18

Delaware State of the Arts Podcast – September 25, 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.

Delaware State of the Arts Podcast – October 9, 2022

Andy Truscott interviews Kerriann Otaño, Vice President of Engagement at OperaDelaware in Wilmington, Delaware. OperaDelaware is a professional non-profit opera company with a reputation for excellence in both opera and arts education. OperaDelaware opens the door to bold, vibrant and creative operatic programming that enriches the community, transforms audiences, and encourages dialogue. Kerriann Otaño joined OperaDelaware in the newly-established position of Vice President of Engagement in July 2022. After an extensive career as a spinto soprano in leading opera houses including Washington National Opera, Opera San Jose, Wolf Trap Opera, and the Metropolitan Opera, Kerriann began transitioning into artistic administration in 2019 with a focus on artist advocacy, IDEA initiatives, and mental healthcare for singers. She was the artistic administrator for Opera NEO at the onset of the pandemic before leading the marketing and public relations department at Opera Memphis for two years. Kerriann holds a Bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance from Indiana University and a Master's degree from Mannes the New School for Music. In addition to her extensive knowledge of operatic repertoire and her enthusiasm for reaching new audiences, Ms. Otaño brings an artist-centered approach to her work, focusing on cultivating long-term relationships through deeply-rooted community collaboration, innovation, and robust artist-led initiatives. Kerriann resides in Wilmington with her husband, tenor Dane Suarez, and their sweet pups, Frankie and Chalupa.

To learn more about OperaDelaware and their upcoming season, visit <https://www.operade.org/>

Delaware State of the Arts Podcast – October 23, 2022

Andy Truscott speaks with Deb DeHart (Wilmington, DE), the founder of The Yuletide Singers.

The Yuletide Singers are an ensemble of highly experienced, professional voices that blend to recreate the unique sound of Victorian-era carolers. Dressed in elegant costumes, the quartet sings familiar, traditional Christmas carols in four-part a cappella harmony. The combination of period costumes and Victorian carols evoke the spirit of a time gone by. Numerous country clubs, retirement communities, weddings, corporate and private parties, and small towns have also commissioned The Yuletide Singers for their holiday entertainment.

To learn more about The Yuletide Singers, visit their website at <https://yuletidesingers.net/>

To learn more about Shoestring Productions of the Brandywine Valley, visit their website at <https://brandywineshoestringproductions.com/>

Delaware State of the Arts Podcast – October 30, 2022

Andy Truscott speaks with Don Foster, a 2019 Delaware Division of the Arts Individual Artist Fellow in the field of fiction literature.

Don Foster grew up “in a small farm town where people rode four-wheelers, practiced duck calls, and burned trash.” He’s been a resident of Dover for thirteen years now, but his uncles and cousins are carpenters, farmers and watermen in the land of his childhood – Maryland’s Eastern Shore. That still-potent connection with the region and its denizens continues to fuel his vivid short stories. Foster’s writing gets much of its juice from “stories overheard in the garage where my dad worked or by tales exaggerated at the dinner table during family gatherings.” Since his sister is ten years older, in many ways the writer grew up like an only child, playing outdoors in the woods and mentally banking the tall tales that he still draws on for material.

Writers and artists have a challenging life, but “it’s especially tough for those that don’t work in academic settings. We’re often marooned out here, living on our own.” So Foster is especially excited for the recognition and collegiality that the Fellowship brings. Division activities will allow him to connect with fellow artists “no matter what medium they work in.” And though he always has “a novel on the back burner, at the heart of things I know I’m a short story writer.” The award will enable him to buy a new computer and set a new goal – the 2020 publication of a story collection.

Don’s most recent published novel, “Only the Lucky” is available now on Amazon.com and is summarised as:

Life doesn’t always work out for the working class in this debut collection of fiction. In “Shorty Knows Bugs,” a pest control salesman escapes to the bar to avoid his morbidly obese wife only to be confronted by the child he abandoned twenty years ago. In “Younger and More Capable Men,” a grieving father can’t

finish his beer without being interrupted by an old friend needing a place to stash stolen macaws. And in the collection's title story, an unemployed preacher with a gambling problem tries his hand at becoming a lifestylepreneur with terrible repercussions. Sometimes poignant, and often hilarious, these eight stories examine a hardscrabble cast hanging on the fringes as they try to navigate loss and the connections they've shattered along the way.

Delaware State of the Arts Podcast – November 6, 2022

Andy Truscott speaks with A.T. Moffett, the Executive Director for Delaware Institute for Arts in Education (Or DiAE).

A.T. Moffett is a dancer, choreographer, and educator trained in public policy. Her policy interests include arts education, arts and aging, and arts and health. Her creative work centers on arts-based research and community engagement.

A.T. is the recipient of a 2020 Plant Life in the City Fellowship and a 2017 Individual Artist Fellowship in Choreography from the Delaware Division of the Arts. In addition to university concerts and residencies, her choreography has been presented at the Delaware Contemporary, The Baby Grand, and the DuPont Environmental Education Center as well as Conduit (OR), Tek Box Theater (MN), Baxter Theatre (Cape Town, SA), and the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls (Myereton, SA). She serves as an educational consultant for the Grand Opera House, dance panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts, and secretary for the Delaware Dance Education Organization. Her writing is published in the Journal of Dance Education, Research in Dance Education, and Undergraduate Research in Dance.

DiAE is unique in that they bring the programs to the schools with their [professional artists](#). Their models of aesthetic, hands-on learning through the arts offers students of all ages to experience the creative decision making and critical thinking necessary to see beyond their circumstances and make connections to others and the world around them.

They provide public, private and charter schools with high quality, diverse arts programming that are aligned with statewide standards, and aligned with schools' goals and curricula.

Delaware State of the Arts Podcast – November 13, 2022

Andy Truscott speaks with Maia Palmer, a 2022 Individual Artist Fellow and the current artist exhibiting in the Mezzanine Gallery at the Carvel State of Building.

Maia Palmer was born in Wilmington, Delaware in 1980. She works primarily in acrylics and charcoal, and has also created community murals, digital works and figurative sculptures. Palmer earned a BFA from Carnegie Mellon University and an MFA from Washington University in St. Louis. She has exhibited nationally as well as internationally in Spain, Germany, and China. Palmer has lived all around the globe, and is interested in capturing the unique spirit of each location that she experiences. As a portrait artist, Palmer continues to use art to initiate communication – “my subject becomes my partner in conversation.” Much of her work has been portraiture of others, including a pandemic quarantine series of coloring-book portraits made “to create community from a safe distance.” But her Fellowship drawings feature Palmer as “my own subject, exploring how my identity has been altered by living with chronic migraine.”

This work gifted the artist with a new type of community: “It has been affirming to have positive feedback from others who have reached out to me as fellow sufferers.” Her exhibit *Making the Invisible, Visible*, is currently on display at the Mezzanine Gallery at the Carvel State Office Building in Wilmington, DE until Friday, November 25. To learn more about it watch this brief video about her work:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mLbj7UKa4Lw>

To learn more about Maia, to see her work, or to see when her next exhibits are, visit <https://www.maiapalmer.com/>.

In 2022, Palmer is also participating in the *INTO LIGHT PROJECT*, a national non-profit organization is dedicated to changing the conversation about drug addiction. By creating public exhibitions of original portraits and individual stories of people who have died from the disease of drug addiction in locations around the country, we provide communities with an opportunity to talk about the issue of stigma, the primary obstacle to getting support and treatment for those with SUD and their families. INTO LIGHT PROJECT is art activism in the purest sense. To learn more, or to submit your loved one to be featured visit, <https://intolightproject.org/submit-application-delaware/>

Delaware State of the Arts Podcast – November 20, 2022

Andy Truscott speaks with Jean Dahlgren and Lise Dubé-Scherr about the Delaware College of Art and Design’s 25th Anniversary and the launch of their new UI/UX Product Design Program.

For 25 years, Delaware College of Art and Design (DCAD) has empowered emerging creatives through its Associates of Fine Arts (AFA) degrees in Animation, Game Art, Illustration, Fine Art, Photography, and Graphic Design. The college’s rigorous curriculum and vibrant student community have activated the careers of over 1,000 graduates in a wide range of creative fields. DCAD and their graduates have woven their influence into the world in which we all live, work and play.

DCAD’s Product Design course powered by Flatiron School curriculum focuses on UI/UX design for digital products we interact with, such as websites or mobile applications. Product Design is a holistic role, one that has ownership over the entire UX and UI process. Coding knowledge is not required, though it can be helpful, which is why this program teaches HTML and CSS basics. Through this course, you will learn how to think and build like a product design professional. In each of the four curriculum modules, you will develop key skills through a combination of lectures, labs, group work, and individual assignments.

The accelerated online course is 12 weeks, full-time (9 a.m. – 6 p.m. EST) plus approximately 20 hours of weekly self-study. Graduates of this course will be equipped for a wide-range of entry-level product design roles and will receive twelve 30-minute one-on-one individualized career coaching sessions. Each cohort is limited to 20 students. Pre-requisite includes 30-40 hours of Pre-Work which must be completed

before Day 1 of the program. Once enrolled, students can complete the Pre-Work at their own pace.

To learn more about the program, or to register, visit <https://dcad.edu/programs-of-study/professional-studies/>.

To learn more about DCAD and to celebrate their 25th Anniversary, visit <https://dcad.edu/25-years/>

Delaware State of the Arts Podcast – November 27, 2022

Andy Truscott speaks with Neil Kirschling, the new Executive Director of the Delaware Arts Alliance.

Neil joins DAA from Rodell, a nonprofit that partners with Delawareans to transform public education in the First State. His responsibilities included strategic planning, policy development, coalition management, program management, and local and national stakeholder engagement. Neil previously served as a legislative fellow in the General Assembly, conducted research for the Institute for Public Administration, and participated in the Delaware Department of Education's "Future Education Policy Leaders" program. He earned his bachelor's degree in Public Policy and Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Delaware.

A patron and participant in the arts, Neil volunteers and performs with various local theaters, and supports arts and cultural organizations throughout the state. Neil received a gubernatorial appointment to the Delaware Hispanic Commission, where he leads education and advocacy efforts in support of Hispanic youth and English learner students. He also serves as an advisor for the Delaware Community Foundation's Youth Philanthropy board.

Following the national fiscal crisis of 2008, artists, art professionals and civic leaders across Delaware grew concerned about the future of the arts sector. They formed a 16-member coalition with the goal to raise awareness of the importance of the arts for economic and community development. It was clear that Delaware needed a strong, unified voice speaking on behalf of arts and culture, and none existed at the time. The coalition brought together an initial group of 33 Delaware arts organizations to form the Delaware Arts Alliance in 2009. Since then, the alliance has nearly doubled in size and is a strong force in advocating for the arts at the state and national levels.

To learn more about the Delaware Arts Alliance, visit

<https://www.delawareartsalliance.org/>

To become a member organization, visit

<https://www.delawareartsalliance.org/membership/>

To sign up for DAA's mailing list, visit <https://www.delawareartsalliance.org/contact/>

Delaware State of the Arts Podcast – December 11, 2022

Andy Truscott speaks with Doug Poore, the curator of the Greater Harrington Historical Society. In cooperation with Delaware Humanities and the Smithsonian Institutes Museums on Main Street program, the Historical Society will be hosting the traveling exhibit “CROSSROADS: CHANGE IN RURAL AMERICA”. The exhibition is part of Museum on Main Street, a unique collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and Delaware Humanities. The exhibit is open through January 28, 2023.

Crossroads: Change in Rural America offers small towns a chance to look at their own paths to highlight the changes that affected their fortunes over the past century. The exhibition will prompt discussions about what happened when America’s rural population became a minority of the country’s population and the ripple effects that occurred.

Founded in May 1977, the Greater Harrington Historical Society is one of the oldest in Delaware. From our humble beginnings in an office, we have grown to now include 3 museum locations and we house over 50,000 artifacts, some dating back to the early 1700’s. To learn more about the Greater Harrington Historical Society, visit their website at www.ghhsociety.org/.

Delaware State of the Arts Podcast – December 18, 2022

Andy Truscott speaks with Rebecca Lowe and David White from the Lewes Public Library about the Spoken Word Society.

The Lewes Spoken Word Society (LSWS) celebrates the tradition and artistry of oral storytelling through lectures, performances, discussions, demonstrations, and other publicly-shared experiences.

The library also has a number of services at the disposal of their nearby patrons, including health advocates, meeting rooms, technology, book clubs and more.

To learn more about the Spoken Word Society, visit

<https://lewes.lib.de.us/2021/07/08/spoken-word-society-fall2022/>.

To learn more about other adult friendly activities, visit <https://lewes.lib.de.us/adults/>.