

Community Connections Q2 2018:

Richmond Symphony, Richmond, 1/31/18-5/12/18, Recently named the most-performed composer of his generation, Mason Bates serves as the first composer-in-residence of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. He will be at the Carpenter Theater on May 12 at 8pm. The Richmond Symphony invites you to join them an hour before each concert for a free pre-concert talk with the Richmond Symphony Music Director, Steven Smith. These talks often feature guest artists and conductors and provide you with insights for the concert you are about to hear.

East End Cemetery, Richmond, 1/31/18-5/1/18, East End is a historic African American cemetery in Henrico County, established in 1897 next to Evergreen Cemetery. It is the final resting place of an estimated 13,000 people, among them some of the most prominent black Richmonders of the turn of the 20th century. Decades of neglect obscured their graves and thousands of others beneath tangles of ivy, brush, and illegally dumped trash. Since June 2013, a small group of regular volunteers, students and Richmond-area residents have been working to reveal them, slowly uncovering not just long-buried headstones but an entire community. So, if you like whacking weeds, lopping branches, and discovering the history of Richmond, then Friends of East End invite you to join them in their goal to restore East End. For more information, including progress on the restoration and a calendar of upcoming volunteer work days, their website is www.eastendcemetery.wordpress.com.

Center for Non-Profit Excellence, Charlottesville, 1/31/18-5/20/18, The Center for Nonprofit Excellence (CNE) in Charlottesville believes that strong nonprofits create a strong community, and as a nonprofit, they achieve their mission when nonprofits are connected to the resources they need to thrive. They offer tools, training, workshops and consulting for all things nonprofit in Charlottesville and the surrounding community. They have nearly 250 nonprofit member organizations – and when an organization is a member, board, staff, and volunteers are all members as well – so you may be a member without realizing it! You can contact them to see how they can help support you and your nonprofit or help you get more engaged in the nonprofit community. To learn more, you can visit their website at www.thecne.org.

Buffalo Creek Boys, Lexington, 1/31/18-5/1/18, Buffalo Creek Boys School is a new classical Christian education opportunity for middle school age boys. Founded in 2017 in response to the particular needs of boys for hands on/experiential learning, Buffalo Creek Boys School offers traditional crafts, horseback riding, survival skills, rigorous academic and physical training. The curriculum meets each student where they are and challenges them to be "caught up" in the adventure of learning! You can find out more at buffalocreekboyschool.org

Shelter for Help in Emergency, Charlottesville, 1/31/18-4/7/18 Shelter for Help in Emergency in Charlottesville, Virginia celebrates February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. The shelter's mission is to end domestic violence and part of that starts with early education on healthy vs. unhealthy relationships. We invite you to join us February 19th at the Downtown Mall's Freedom Wall near the Pavilion to proclaim your message of what a healthy relationship looks like.

Jefferson School Day, Charlottesville, 1/31/18-4/7/18, Jefferson School African American Heritage Center with the Miller School of Albemarle presents the Day Soiree, an annual event held at the Jefferson School African American Heritage Center. Festival favorites like music and food will be offered along with new educational content each year. Day Soiree 2018, "The Movement Through Time," offers your family the opportunity to learn about the social movements of the 1960s through hands-on activities, and the chance to talk with organizations working now to improve Charlottesville. You can learn more about the Day Soiree online at [jeff school heritage center dot com](http://jeffschoolheritagecenter.com)

Blue Ridge Irish Music School, Charlottesville, Charlottesville, 1/31/18-4/13/18, Blue Ridge Irish Music School (BRIMS) is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to creating community through Irish music, song and dance. BRIMS is hosting a concert with music trio, The ALT, on Friday April 13th, 7pm at Cville Coffee in Charlottesville. The ALT is comprised of John Doyle, Eamon O'Leary, and Mick McCauley. More ticket information can be found at brimstunes.org

Wild Virginia Film Festival, Charlottesville, 2/23/18-4/25/18, The Wild and Scenic Environmental Film Festival is Coming! Wild Virginia is proud to host the Wild and Scenic Film Festival "On Tour." The festival spans three evenings and three venues in three cities. There will be short films at all 3 venues. The Charlottesville Show will be at the Violet Crown Cinema, Wednesday, April 5th – 7pm. The Harrisonburg Show will be Court Square Theater, Thursday, April 6th – 7pm. The Staunton Show is Visulite Cinema, Sunday, April 30th – 7pm. Purchase tickets in advance at www.wildvirginia.org or at the door. You can become a member of Wild Virginia when purchasing a ticket online or at the door. You do not need to be a member of Wild Virginia to attend. Wild and Scenic On Tour brings together a selection of films that tell a story about our planet, our beautiful and precious wildlands, and the people who love and defend them. They open our eyes and hearts to fantastic experiences in remarkable places. They beckon us towards action, highlight issues, and provide solutions. A full list and links to all films can be found on our website. <http://wildvirginia.org/recreation/film-festival/>

Virginia Institute for Autism - Run for Autism 5K, Charlottesville, 3/6/18-4/14/18, Virginia Institute for Autism is hosting two runs on April 14th at Charlottesville High School, one for adults and the other for kids at 8a. These races are open to everyone and will benefit VIA.

Camp Holiday Trails, 3/20/18 – 4/22/18, Camp Holiday Trails is hosting their annual Hope Grows Celebration at 3:30 PM on April 22nd at King Family Vineyards. They invite you to bring family and friends to join in helping send children and teens with medical needs to Camp. There will be live music, food and drinks, and many kid-friendly activities including bouncy slides, firetruck rides and barn tours. For more information, visit campholidaytrails.org.

CASA for Staunton, 3/20/18- 6/30/18, Staunton, CASA for Children in downtown Staunton is a non-profit that trains volunteers to advocate for children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. In their operating region — which extends over the counties of Rockbridge, Augusta and Rockingham — there are over 300 children in foster care. Currently, they advocate for 100 of these children each year. Their capacity to serve more children is directly tied to community awareness and support. They are currently holding advocate training that begins on April 29th. If you would like to

learn more or schedule an interview with their advocate manager, please call their office at 540-213-2272.

City Schoolyard Garden, 3/30/18 – 5/3/18, This spring, students from the City Schoolyard Garden at Buford Middle School are growing over 8,000 plant seedlings to distribute to growing organizations, families, and community members. They invite you to join them at Buford on May 3rd and 4th at the entrance to Buford Middle School to take home some of our student-grown plants for your garden or a friend. For more information you go online to www.cityschoolyardgarden.com.

Rooster Walk, 3/20/18 – 5/27/18, Martinsville, The 10th annual Rooster Walk Music & Arts Festival is taking place over Memorial Day Weekend, May 24th to the 27th, at Pop's Farm, in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Martinsville, Virginia. Enjoy a weekend of live music, camping, outdoor adventures, healing arts, food and drink. Proceeds from the festival go to a memorial scholarship fund, public school band programs and local charities. To purchase tickets and see the full lineup, visit roosterwalk.com.

Great Appalachian Valley Conservation Corps, 3/20/18 - 5/15/18, The Great Appalachian Valley Conservation Corps is looking for youth 16-18 years of age to work on trail maintenance, habitat restoration and much more this summer at Shenandoah National Park and George Washington and Jefferson National Forest. Spend some time outdoors camping and giving back to the environment and your community! For more information and to apply, visit gavcc.org.

Charlottesville Ballet, 4/8/18 – 4/21/18, Charlottesville, The Charlottesville Ballet presents their performance of UpFront – Spring Fling on Saturday, April 21 at their in-house Studio Theatre located at the intersection of Seminole Trail and Woodbrook Drive. They invite you to bring your entire family for the afternoon and enjoy wine, food from the Shebeen Pub & Braai and performances by the professional dancers. Enjoy a diverse presentation of classical and contemporary choreography with performance times at 3:00 PM, 4:30 PM, and 7:00 PM. You can learn more online about UpFront – Spring Fling at CharlottesvilleBallet.org.

Lighthouse Studio, 4/8/18 - 6/25/18, Charlottesville, [Lighthouse Studio](http://LighthouseStudio.org) at Vinegar Hill Theatre invites you to their spring film series, Vinegar Hill '76. Vinegar Hill Theatre first opened its doors on February 14, 1976. To celebrate that history, we will be showing a series of films from 1976 including "All the President's Men," "Carrie," "Rocky," and "Taxi Driver," with discussions afterward with speakers like Academy Award winner Paul Wagner and Slate's Jack Hamilton. Screenings are every Tuesday at 7 PM, April 3rd-June 26th. For more information, please visit lighthousestudio.org.

Hope's Legacy, 4/8/18 – 5/5/18, Afton, 5K, [Hope's Legacy Equine Rescue](http://HopesLegacyEquineRescue.org) invites you to join them on Sunday, May 6th, for Hope's Legacy's first annual "Hoofin' It For Horses" 5K Trail Run and Open House. Walk, trot or Gallop the 5K Trail Run at Hope's Legacy's new home near Batesville. This race is open to all ages and all fitness levels. Registration is available here. All proceeds benefit the horses and donkeys at Hope's Legacy Equine Rescue. At their Open House from 10AM to 2PM, meet their horses and donkeys, and enjoy food trucks, music, educational programs and kids' games. More information is available at www.hopeslegacy.com.

Hope's Legacy, 4/8/18 – 4/28/18, Afton Bingo, [Hope's Legacy Equine Rescue](#) invites you to join them on Saturday, April 28th, for a fundraising bingo night at Loose Shoe Brewing Company. Loose Shoe is located at 198 Ambriar Plaza in Amherst, just off 29 south. From 6 PM to 10 PM, they'll have two rounds of bingo with food available. All proceeds benefit the horses and donkeys at Hope's Legacy Equine Rescue. More information is available on [Hope's Legacy's Facebook page](#).

Charlottesville Tai Chi, 4/12/18 – 4/28/18, Charlottesville, The Charlottesville Tai Chi Center is hosting World Tai Chi Day on April 28, at 9:45 AM at the IX Art Park. Bring your family and share in this peaceful, moving meditation where the world moves and breathes together to promote healing across geopolitical boundaries. For more information, visit [charlottesvilleTaiChi.org](#).

The National MS Society, 4/12/18 – 5/30/18. The National MS Society is presenting their annual Walk MS charity events taking place all across the state this Spring, including in Richmond, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, and Lynchburg. They invite you to bring your family and friends together to raise funds and awareness for individuals living with Multiple Sclerosis. Each walk is fully-accessible, includes multiple distance options, and is fully supported by on-site volunteers. For information on dates and locations, visit [walkms.org](#).

The James River Association, Albemarle, Nelson, Amherst Counties, 4/12/18 – 5/1/18. The James River Association is hosting the James River Tree-Athlon this Spring in partnership with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts. They'll be planting 3,000 trees along waterways on farms in Albemarle, Amherst and Nelson Counties throughout March and April and they'd like your help! Volunteers of all ages and skill levels are welcome. They'll provide the tools and teach you how to plant the seedlings. As a thank you, everyone who participates will be invited to an event at James River Adventures in Amherst this May. For more information and to sign up to volunteer, visit their website.

Valley Music Academy, Waynesboro, 4/12/18 – 5/8/18. The Valley Music Academy is hosting *Jazz in the Valley*, a concert featuring their community jazz ensemble The Supersax Big Band and the Waynesboro High School Band. The concert will be held in the Waynesboro High School theater on Tuesday, May 8th. Faculty members will lead a jazz improvisation workshop immediately preceding the concert. All proceeds from the event will go towards Valley Music Academy's scholarship fund. For more information, visit their website at [valleymusicacademy.org](#).

The Front Porch, Charlottesville, 4/15/18 - 5/8/18. The Front Porch is throwing their annual Spring Block Party on May 12th from noon to 6 p.m. They are taking over Third Street and hosting live music outside all day. There will be local food by downtown restaurants, beer by Champion brewing company, Chickapig, a play area by Little Planets and a gigantic raffle featuring tons of prizes, including weekend passes to LOCKN'! Inside, there will be instruments, including Rockbridge Guitars, and vinyl available. All proceeds from the day will go toward the Front Porch's community music program. For more information, visit their website.

Nelson County Habitat for Humanity, Nellyford, 4/15/18 – 6/1/18. [Nelson County Habitat for Humanity](#) is currently accepting applications for partner families for their next 2 builds in Arrington, Virginia. If you have lived or worked in Nelson County for at least one year, you can visit their website at [www.nelsonhabitat.org](#) to see if you qualify to become a homeowner or leave a message at 434 361-0201. The partnerships between Habitat for Humanity and our homeowner families aim to be true

collaborations, grounded firmly on mutual respect and a core belief that everyone should have an opportunity to live in a safe, decent and affordable home. Their partnerships with families are sound investments in the future, made by people who believe strongly in one another and in the greater good.

Wildrock, Crozet, 4/20/18 – 5/19/18. The Wildrock facility in Crozet will be hosting a special retreat for veterans and their families on May 19th from 2-8 p.m. called *A Repurposed Veteran: Growing Beyond the Military*. Presented by Kevin Blanchard, a retired U.S. Marine, and his wife, Myra Blanchard, this retreat teaches that “it’s not what happens to us that matters as much as how we react to those events that determines our wellbeing.” The retreat will help gain clarity on how to find purpose in your post-military life. After 13 months in the hospital, 33 surgeries and a leg amputation, Blanchard is excited to share his perspective and the lessons learned from an intensive self-discovery following a bomb explosion in Northwest Iraq.

Montessori School of Charlottesville, Charlottesville, 4/20/18 – 5/05/18. On Saturday, May 5th from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., the Montessori School of Charlottesville is hosting its annual Truck Touch event. The Truck Touch is a family-friendly event that allows children to explore some of their favorite trucks! There will also be food trucks, face painting, a strider course and many more activities. They invite you to bring your family and friends out to the IX Art Park in downtown Charlottesville to support our school community. All proceeds from this event will go toward increasing Montessori School’s scholarship fund so that they can continue to broaden access to early childhood education in our community! For ticket information, visit trucktouchville.com.

Crozet Spring Arts and Crafts Festival, Crozet, 4/20/18 – 5/14/18. The 38th annual Crozet Spring Arts and Crafts Festival will return to Claudius Crozet Park on Saturday, May 12th from 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 13th from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. They invite you to join in this family-friendly event featuring craft demos, food trucks and booths, Virginia beer, wine, and distilleries — and over 120 fine art and craft exhibitors with their own handcrafted creations. They’ll have live entertainment including Roosevelt Dime, Greg Howard, and more! Details, directions and ticket information can be found at crozetfestival.com.

Computers4kids, Charlottesville, 4/20/18 – 5/29/18. For years, DisruptHR has hosted events all over the world, but this year marks their first event in Charlottesville! They invite you to join them on May 29th from 5-8 p.m. at Live Arts for an evening of intelligent and provocative talks from area leaders about the future of work and talent. All proceeds from DisruptHR/Charlottesville will benefit Computers4Kids as they raise funds for a robotics lab to inspire and educate teenagers from low income households. The evening will begin with an hour of business networking during with beer, wine and light appetizers. For tickets and more information, visit disruptHR.co/Charlottesville. They invite you to make C4K’s dream of a new robotics lab for kids a reality!

Charlottesville Derby Dames, Charlottesville, 4/20/18 – 5/5/18. On May 5th, the Charlottesville Derby Dames present a roller derby double header at their Xanadu Warehouse. Charlottesville’s own Belmont Bruisers and All Stars will take on the Blue Ridge Roller Derby French Broads from Asheville, NC, and Brandywine Roller Derby All Stars from Downington, PA. The bouts will be at 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. This is a family friendly event. You can get your tickets in advance at Brown Paper Tickets, Cocoa and Spice or from your favorite Dame. Limited seating available. Proceeds from the event benefits Shelter for Help in Emergency. For more information, visit CharlottesvilleDerbyDames.com.

Charlottesville Ballet, Charlottesville, 4/20/18 – 5/5/18. Charlottesville Ballet presents their 10th Anniversary production, *A Decade of Dance*, on May 5th at 7 p.m. at the Paramount Theater in downtown Charlottesville. Enjoy beloved classics from the company's last 10 years as well as new contemporary pieces. After the performance, join the Charlottesville Ballet for the Encore After Party in the Founders Lounge to meet the dancers and celebrate the ballet's vision for the future of dance. You can learn more at CharlottesvilleBallet.org.

The Virginia Discovery Museum, Charlottesville, 4/20/18 – 5/5/18. The Virginia Discovery Museum invites you to lace up your running shoes for their 28th Annual Discovery Dash on May 5th at Monticello High School. Enjoy a morning of family fun and fitness, including a toddler scramble and quarter-mile, half-mile, and mile runs for kids ages 3 to 12; a sibling race for ages 5 to 14; parent-child relays; and a community-wide school relay. Registration is required to participate, and each runner receives a Dash T-shirt. You can learn more about the race schedule and registration online at vadm.org.

Valley Children's Advocacy Center, Staunton, 4/15/18 – 4/28/18. Valley Children's Advocacy Center invites you to join them for our 4th Annual Spring Gala on April 28th at Valley Red August Farm in Fishersville, Virginia, as they celebrate another year of restoring hope to the lives of children impacted by sexual abuse in our community. Proceeds from this year's event will go toward a new building designed especially for these young victims to feel safe, comfortable, and protected as they begin their journey toward healing and resiliency. More information about the event, including ticket sales and sponsorship opportunities, can be found on their website, [valley children's center dot org](http://valleychildrenscenter.org).

Scottsville Elementary, Scottsville, 4/15/18 – 5/5/18. Scottsville Elementary is hosting the 4th Annual Scottsville Scoot 5k and 1-Mile Fun Run on Saturday, May 5th. Enjoy a fun morning run, and stay for the local Farmer's Market and a walk through historic Scottsville. Registration forms available at the Scottsville Library and online.

Chrysalis Institute, Richmond, 4/15/18 – 5/4/18. The Chrysalis Institute invites you to join them for their Spring Keynote, *What Matters Most*, with internationally renowned Jungian analyst and author Dr. James Hollis on Friday, May 4th from 7-9 p.m. at VCU's Academic Learning Commons in the School for Social Work. All proceeds benefit Chrysalis Institute, a nonprofit learning center for mindfulness, meditation and spiritual exploration. Register online at ChrysalisInstitute.org.

Caring For Creatures, Fluvanna, 4/15/18 – 4/29/18. Caring for Creatures, A No-Kill Animal Sanctuary in Palmyra presents the Virginia Loves Animals Scavenger Hunt on Sunday, April 29th, from noon to 4 p.m. Human and animal teams, equipped with a smart phone, will physically search on the Downtown Mall in Charlottesville and virtually search the internet for answer to scavenger hunt clues. There will be a post hunt party where the grand prize winner will be announced. Door prizes and food and drink will be available. For full details and registration, visit CaringforCreatures.org.

Full Circle Inspired Child Development, Charlottesville, 4/15/18 – 5/11/18. Full Circle Inspired Child Development is a non-profit organization with a mission to inspire healthy development for all children. They are hosting *PLAY! With Your Food: From Seed to Table* on Friday, May 11th from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at Springfield Farm in Earlysville. Children and their parents will be able to pick herbs and vegetables from the garden, feed goats, chickens, and horses, make delicious recipes with the fresh produce and learn to compost. Donations from this event will go toward providing wooden building blocks to [Big Brothers](http://BigBrothers.org), [Big Sisters of the Central Blue Ridge](http://BigSisters.org). Space is limited. If you miss them this time, you can find out about their next event on their [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/fullcirclechild) or at their website fullcirclechild.org.

The Center for Nonprofit Excellence, Charlottesville, 4/15/18 – 5/11/18. The Center for Nonprofit Excellence's invites you to attend their annual Celebration of Strong Nonprofits on Thursday, May 10th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at The Bridge Progressive Arts Initiative. CNE, a member organization of over 250 nonprofits, believes that strong nonprofits are essential to strong communities. CNE provides education, consulting, tools, and resources for all things nonprofit in Charlottesville and surrounding communities – creating strong leaders, effective managers, healthy collaborators, and a growing regional community of practice. Each year, CNE is delighted to bring together CNE members, local nonprofits, business and community leaders, philanthropists, friends, family, and anyone interested in learning about nonprofits, to celebrate the work of the local nonprofits that knit our communities together. For an evening of food, drinks, fresh air, conversation, and relationship-building, you can RSVP at thecne.org/celebration.

Charlottesville Derby Dames, Charlottesville, 5/4/18 – 6/2/18, On June 2nd, the Charlottesville Derby Dames present a roller derby double header between Charlottesville's own Belmont Bruisers and All Stars as they take on the Charm City Roller Girls from Baltimore, Maryland at their Xanadu Warehouse. The bouts will be at 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. This is a family friendly event. You can get your tickets in advance at Brown Paper Tickets, Cocoa and Spice or from your favorite Dame. Limited seating available. Proceeds from the event benefits Shelter for Help in Emergency. For more information, visit CharlottesvilleDerbyDames.com.

Smart Cville, Charlottesville, 5/5/18 – 6/2/18, On June 2nd, Smart Cville is presenting the second annual Civic Innovation Day at CitySpace on the downtown mall in Charlottesville. They're bringing together designers, developers, public servants, and community members from diverse backgrounds to consider how technology can address specific challenges in our community. It's part hackathon, conversation, and community event. The event will focus on creating solutions to four problems that range from public transportation to fire awareness. Everyone can participate: we welcome designers, developers, public servants, teachers, students, and technology enthusiasts. You can learn more about the Civic Innovation Day online at cid.smartcville.com.

The Senior Center, Charlottesville, 5/5/18-6/30/18, The Senior Center has partnered with the CFA Institute to offer seminars and workshops that aim to help you make better decisions about your money. Whether you're interested in budgeting, retirement planning, or investing, they invite you to join their programs, which start on June 6th. You can learn more about their lectures and workshops at seniorcenterinc.org.

Lynchburg Grows, Lynchburg, 5/5/18-5/24/18, Lynchburg Grows' mission is to work with the community to provide access to healthy food and to afford purposeful jobs for individuals with disabilities. They invite you to join them at their Salad Days event on Thursday, May 24th from 6-9 p.m. featuring a picnic on the lawn, a silent auction of local art and live music with Becca Mancari and her band. They'll have a salad bar with greens and veggies raised at Lynchburg Grows plus toppings and dressings made by local chefs. You can find more information <https://www.lynchburggrows.org/>.

Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation, Richmond, 5/5/18 – 5/20/18, The Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation is not a traditional grantmaking foundation. They're a statewide, Richmond-based nonprofit providing Virginians with knowledge and a voice in the fight against breast cancer. They invite you to

learn more about their mission to Educate, Advocate, Eradicate at vbcf.org. You can find help for yourself or a loved one with breast cancer, request breast health basics brochures for men and women to share in your local community, and explore ways to get involved with their work.

The Better Housing Coalition, Richmond, 5/5/18-5/17/18, The Better Housing Coalition is raising awareness of the need for affordable housing in our region and invites you to join them for Stay Home RVA, Richmond's first non-even gala from May 10-17th. Here's how it works: You stay home and donate what you would have spent going to a gala. Then they ask that you share your support for more affordable housing in your community on social media. As thanks, you'll get a virtual swag bag full of recipes, films and playlists curated by local celebrities. All donations are fully tax-deductible, and their toolkit has everything you need to help spread the word. You can visit stayhomerva.org to learn more.

The North Branch School, Afton, 5/5/18-5/20/18, On Sunday, May 20th, North Branch School presents BandFair XVI from 1-6 p.m. at Cardinal Point Winery. There will be local food, Cardinal Point wine, children's activities by Little Planets, a cake walk, a silent auction and music by The Humbleloos, Jen Tal Band, John Marshall Mays Band, and Byron Massie. Proceeds benefit North Branch's playground upgrade and needs-based assistance. For ticket information call 540-456- 84-50 or visit north-branch-school.org.

Pine Bluff Pool, Waynesboro, 5/5/18-5/20/18, Pine Bluff Pool in Waynesboro is excited to connect the community through Parkerfest, a festival featuring food, craft beer, local wines, and arts and crafts vendors on May 20th from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Musical guests will include Valerie McQueen, Crystal Armentrout, Alex Arbaugh, and Gypsy Mountain Band. A portion of the proceeds will go to support Parker Staples, a 9-year old boy diagnosed with lymphoma. For more information, you can visit pinebluffpool.com.

Virginia Film Festival, Charlottesville, 5/5/18-6/1/18, The Virginia Film Festival invites you to attend a special screening of The Paris Opera on Friday, June 1st at 7:30 p.m. at The Paramount Theater. The documentary uncovers the passion and life behind the scenes of one of the most prestigious performing arts institutions in the world. Under new leadership, the Paris company must navigate the complications of a strike, the arrival of a live bull, the overwhelming talent of the Opera's Academy, and the steps needed to reunite after terrorist attacks plunge Paris into a state of panic and mourning. This event is presented in partnership with The Paramount Theater. You can learn more theparamount.net

Accessible Music Project, Charlottesville, 4/27/18 – 5/11/18, Since 1995, the Accessible Music Project has been making the therapeutic benefits of live contemporary music accessible. They invite you to bring your family and friends down to IX Art Park on Friday, May 11th, for an evening of music, face painting for the kids, and Three Notch'd Beer and food trucks for the belly. Local act Born Crooked return from Nashville to rock the first of their Three Fridays events, along with Nay Nichelle, Beleza Music, and Jon Spear Band.

Wild Virginia, Charlottesville, 4/27/18-5/27/18, Wild Virginia invites you to join them for their Rich Hole Wilderness hike on Sunday, May 27th. Rich Hole Wilderness is a designated wilderness area in the James River Ranger District and is a six-mile point to point hike. Three hours at a steady pace or maybe five

hours of moseying. They begin at the upper parking area and climb up to a rock overhang before climbing into a National Natural Area. If folks are interested, there is a bit of work they'd like to do with a severe runoff issue near the end of the hike. The work will entail moving some stone to divert water but can be a group decision at the time of the hike. They invite you to come out and explore nature with some other Wild Virginians! For more information, you can visit their website <http://wildvirginia.org/>.

Wild Virginia, Charlottesville, 4/27/18-5/14/18, Wild Virginia invites you to join them for their May Book Club on May 14th at 7 p.m. Their book selection is *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer, who writes that she offers "a braid of stories meant to heal our relationship with the world. This braid is woven from three strands: indigenous ways of knowing, scientific knowledge, and the story of a scientist trying to bring them together in service to what matters most. For more information, you can visit their website <http://wildvirginia.org/>.

The Monticello Challengers, Charlottesville, 4/27/18-5/13/18, The Monticello Challengers is a baseball team for kids with disabilities serving Charlottesville and surrounding counties. They invite you to join them for their first annual It's All About the Kids golf tournament on Monday, May 14th at 1 p.m. at the Greene Hills Country Club. They are an all-volunteer staff, so 100% of proceeds from the golf tournament will allow special needs children the joy of playing baseball. For more information, you can visit their Facebook page [here](#) or call coach Steve Hess at 434-953-3977.

Center for Rural Culture, Columbia, VA, 5/7/18-6/3/18, Rassawek Vineyards and The Center for Rural Culture will host the Rassawek Spring Jubilee on June 2nd and 3rd. The two-day festival welcomes families to celebrate heritage by walking back in time with bateau boats, steamboats, cast iron cooking, antique wagons, small engine displays, fishing, and a kid-friendly horse-shoe painting activity. They invite you to join them in rural Columbia, Virginia, to celebrate their 8th anniversary featuring 13 vineyards, live music, and over 25 onsite demonstrations in pottery, painting, glass blowing, fiber arts, silk dying, stone carving, jewelry-making, photography, basket-weaving and steamroller printmaking. As part of their new program on local food and rural culture, local author Leny Sorenson will be reading from her book, *A Garden of Recipes from the Virginia Housewife*, and you can meet representatives from Fall Line Farms' Local Roots online Farmer's Market. For more information, you can visit rassawek.com or thecenterfornruralculture.org.

LEAP Project Management, Charlottesville, 5/17/18-9/30/18, The Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP) empowers central Virginia homeowners with energy efficiency solutions. Starting in July, LEAP will offer Project Management, a streamlined path for homeowners to complete energy upgrades in Charlottesville and Albemarle. After an initial Home Energy Check-Up, a LEAP Energy Advisor will act as your single point of contact throughout the process, minimizing the uncertainty and inconvenience of dealing with multiple contractors directly. For more information and to get started with a Home Energy Check-UP, it's leap-va.org.

Piedmont Housing Alliance, Charlottesville, 5/10/19-6/30/18, Piedmont Housing Alliance creates housing opportunities and builds community through education, lending and development. They believe everyone should have a place to call home. June is home

ownership month. If you are thinking about buying your first home, they invite you to join their VHDA Homebuyer Classes this June at their office at [682 Berkmar Circle](#) in Charlottesville. They have a two-part evening class on June 5th and 12th and a Saturday class on June 30th. Their class will teach you how to get started and what steps to take on your path to homeownership. For more information or to register, you can visit [piedmonthousingalliance.org](#) or you may call their office at 434-817-2436.

Common Ground, Charlottesville, 5/10/18-6/2/18, On Saturday, June 2nd, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Common Ground is hosting C-ville's Day of R+R at their downtown Jefferson School City Center location. C-ville's Day of R+R is an opportunity to try all of their services including yoga, massage, acupuncture and meditation, in one day. This day fundraising for their nonprofit community wellness center is offered by donation. They invite you to join them in this opportunity to recover and recharge.

Montpelier, Barboursville, 5/10/18-6/2/18, On Saturday, June 2nd, Montpelier invites you to bring your family and friends to see Michael Twitty, a culinary and cultural historian who writes about African American historic foodways and their legacies. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Michael will bring the South Yard alive demonstrating colonial-era cooking techniques. At 3 p.m., Michael will be at the Visitor Center talking about his James Beard award-winning cookbook, *The Cooking Gene*. There's plenty to do at Montpelier, including family-friendly tours, miles of walking trails, galleries, a hands-on archaeology lab, and more.

Montpelier, Barboursville, 5/10/18-6/16/18, On Saturday, June 16th, Montpelier presents its annual Juneteenth Celebration of African American history, music, food, family, and freedom. The day begins at 10 a.m. with a traditional libation ceremony and continues until 4 p.m. with live music, living history, enslaved community walking tours, and more. There will be food or you can bring your own picnic. While you're there, you can take a house tour, walk the trails, and explore Montpelier's 2,700 acres. Juneteenth is co-sponsored by the Orange County African American Historical Society and the Arts Center of Orange.

Camp Kum-Bay-Yah, Lynchburg, 5/10/18-7/13/18, Camp Kum-Ba-Yah in Lynchburg has registration open for this summer for ages 5-13, free programs called Young Buds for your younger children, and a new Keeper of the Woods program. What's keeper of the woods? They have over 40 acres and a new Kinderwoods play space that they would love to share with you! Camp sessions from June to August are still available. For more information you can visit their website

Vector Space, Lynchburg, 5/10/18-6/17/18, Vector Space in Lynchburg is celebrating the National Week of Making from June 11th-17th. They'll have family-friendly events and workshops to celebrate all of the makers in our community. Proceeds will benefit their community outreach and educational programs. For more information, you can visit their website

Charlottesville Municipal Band, Charlottesville, 5/15/18-6/5/18, The Charlottesville Municipal Band will kick off its 96th Summer Season with a concert under the stars at Claudius Crozet Park on Tuesday, June 5 at 7:30 p.m. The 80-piece all-volunteer ensemble will perform music that includes marches, patriotic favorites, popular tunes and movie themes. Saxophonist Mike Elswick will be the guest soloist and Crozet's own Gary Fagan, band director emeritus at Henley Middle School, will guest conduct. There will

be food available from local vendors. Concert-goers are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets. In case of rain, the band and the audience will be seated under the covered pavilion. For more information, you can visit the band's web site

Second Street Gallery, Charlottesville, 5/15/18-6/7/18, Second Street Gallery is hosting Brews with a View in partnership with the Front Porch. The event takes place on the roof of the Second Street Gallery/LiveArts building in downtown Charlottesville. The event will feature bands Small Town Rodeo and Wild Common on Thursday, June 7th from 6-10 p.m. plus a kid-friendly art activity in the gallery from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Along with great music, guests can enjoy Bold Rock cider and beer from South Street Brewery. Proceeds will support both Second Street Gallery and the Front Porch For more information, you can visit their website

Wildrock, Albemarle County, 5/30/18-6/23/18, Wildrock is a nature playscape and discovery center located a scenic drive outside of Charlottesville in northwest Albemarle County. They invite families to join them for their First Annual Tree Hugger Hike and Race on Saturday, June 23rd. Participants can choose from an uphill race beginning at 8 a.m. or a family-friendly Hug Me Tree Hike beginning at 11 a.m. Each loop starts at Wildrock and winds into shady Patricia Byrom Forest Preserve. Food trucks and ice cream will await at the finish line along with playscape fun. You can visit wildrock.org to learn more.

Lewis Ginter, Glen Allen, 5/30/18-6/23/18, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond invites you to join them on Thursdays from 5-8 p.m. for Flowers After 5, their summer concert series, on the lawn at historic Bloemendaal House. Guests are invited to bring their blankets and lawn chairs to enjoy live music from regional musicians showcasing a range of styles and cultures. This family friendly event features food, drink, and children's activities. For more information, you can visit lewisginter.org

YWCA Richmond, Richmond, 5/30/18-9/1/18, If you or someone you know is in crisis due to sexual violence, the emergency departments at VCU Medical Center or any Bon Secours hospital is a safe place where a hospital accompaniment advocate from YWCA Richmond can meet you. Advocates start by believing survivors, and empowering them to feel safe. They connect survivors to resources that can help them gain control of their lives. They also support survivors as they navigate collecting forensic evidence, making police reports, and deciding what services they need after they leave the hospital. To find out more about Domestic and Sexual Violence resources, you can call the Greater Richmond Regional Hotline at [804-612-6126](tel:804-612-6126) and learn more at ywcarichmond.org/violence/

Commonwealth Community Trust , 5/30/18-9/1/18, Commonwealth Community Trust is a nonprofit organization established in 1990 that serves clients nationwide. Their mission is to administer pooled special needs trusts so that people with special needs and their loved ones can plan for their financial future. They provide a cost-effective and convenient way to set aside and preserve funds that will be used to enrich the quality of life for individuals with special needs. A Pooled Special Needs Trust protects eligibility for Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income and ensures that the funds are used for the sole benefit of the Beneficiary for a variety of items such as medical or dental expenses not covered by insurance, caregiver services, adaptive technology, home renovations, clothing, and much more. For more information, you can visit trustCCT.org

Camp Kum-ba-yah, Lynchburg, 5/30/18-7/31/18, Camp Kum-ba-yah in Lynchburg has summer registration open for children ages 5-13, free programs called Young Buds for your younger children, and a new Keeper of the Woods program. What's keeper of the woods? They have over 40 acres and a new Kinderwoods play space that they would love to share with you. Camp sessions from June to August are still available. For more information, you can visit their website.

First Tee of the Virginia Blue Ridge, 6/3/18-7/16/18, The First Tee of the Virginia Blue Ridge invites you to take in the views of the Blue Ridge Mountains while playing a round of golf at either historic Farmington or Keswick on Monday, July 16th. You can entertain clients, reward employees, or just bring friends and enjoy an afternoon of golf followed by a cocktail reception and awards ceremony. Proceeds from this fundraiser go towards providing program scholarships so more youth have an opportunity to learn life skills, character development, and life-enhancing values like as integrity, judgment, and perseverance. For more information, you can email info@thefirstteevbr.org

Northside Library, 6/3/18-6/19/18

Kluge Ruhe Aboriginal Art Museum, Charlottesville, 6/3/18-6/21/18, The Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection of UVA is the only museum dedicated to Australian Aboriginal art outside of Australia. They're presenting their 6th annual summer concert series called Night at the Museum on the third Thursday of each month this summer. They invite you to join them for live music, local beer wine and cider, a food truck rally, and two exhibitions of contemporary Indigenous Australian art. On June 21st, they're hosting the local band Larkspur, beer from Blue Mountain Brewery, Bold Rock cider and wine from Glass House Winery.

Building Goodness, Charlottesville, 6/3/18-8/1/18, The Building Goodness Foundation is a Charlottesville-based nonprofit providing construction services in Central Virginia. They have partnered with more than 45 local nonprofits to make sure their programs can be held in safe and sustainable buildings for years to come. They are always looking for skilled volunteers in our area to help design, build and manage projects. You can learn more on their website.

Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle, 6/3/18-6/16/18, Literacy Volunteers' mission is to help individuals become better workers, consumers, neighbors, citizens and parents through one-to-one tutoring. In the last five years, their student enrollment has increased by 94%. To keep up with the demand for their services, they are urgently seeking volunteers to tutor adults in reading, writing, or speaking English. Their students come from a variety of backgrounds, and they are hoping to acquire the skills they need to independently pursue life goals, support their families, and contribute to their communities. You can help students achieve their goals by registering for an upcoming New Tutor Training on Saturday, June 16 or Saturday, August 11 from 9:30am to 4:00pm. To register, you can call 434-977-3838 or literacyforall.org

Charlottesville Municipal Band, Charlottesville, 6/3/18-6/19/18, The Charlottesville Municipal Band has been the soundtrack of the community since 1922 and they invite you to join them for their concert on Tuesday, June 19th at 7:30 pm at the Paramount Theater on the Downtown Mall in Charlottesville. The program will include classics, patriotic favorites, jazz, pop and show tunes. Guest artists include

Charlottesville Symphony trumpeter Rachel Duncan and jazz trombonist Stephen Sanford. There will be a musical instrument petting zoo for the youngsters beginning at 7:00 pm. For more information, you can visit their website

Girl Scouts of the Virginia Skyline, 6/3/18-8/4/18, The Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council is holding their annual Over the Edge event on Saturday, August 4th . Feeling brave? You're invited to join them as an "edger" and rappel nine stories down the Omni Hotel in downtown Charlottesville. If high adventure isn't your thing, you're still welcome to join them to cheer on other edgers and participate in other planned activities. Proceeds from Over the Edge support Girl Scout opportunities across their 36-county council. You can learn more and sign up www.gsvsc.org/en/events/over-the-edge.html

The Central Virginia Blues Society, Afton, 6/6/18-6/23/18, The Central Virginia Blues Society will be holding their 3rd Annual Blues Fest from 3 to 10 pm at the Rockfish Valley Community Center in Afton, Virginia on Saturday, June 23rd. This year's festival features all local vendors, food and beverages, workshops, and performances by the Bobby Blackhat Band, the Dave Chappel Band, the Patty Reese Band, Vintage#18 and the Danger Zone. For more information, you can visit the CVBS website at centralvablues.org.

Richmond VegFest, Richmond, 5/30/18-6/23/18, The 16th Annual Richmond VegFest will be from noon until 6 p.m. on Saturday, June 23rd. They invite you to bring your family, friends—and even your pup!—to the Azalea Gardens in Bryan Park to enjoy a day of food, speakers, live music, cooking demonstrations, and activities for adults and children alike, plus shade from the trees in the garden. Whether you are just looking to try healthier alternatives or you are an environmentalist looking to leave a smaller footprint, they welcome you to enjoy the company of people aiming to make the world a kinder, more loving place for all beings for generations to come. For more information, you can visit veggiefest.org

Blue Ridge Irish Music School, 6/17/18 – 8/3/18, Charlottesville, The Blue Ridge Irish Music School (BRIMS) is dedicated to creating community through Irish music and dance and offers classes for all ages and skill levels. They are hosting a summer day camp August 6th-10th for ages 5-14. At BRIMS Summer Camp, kids participate in activities including Irish music, dance, song, drama, crafts and more. No previous experience is needed and all levels are welcome. For more information, you can visit brimstunes.org

CIC's Entrepreneur Workshop, Charlottesville, 6/11/18-6/29/18, If you are looking to start your own business or you currently run a business that you'd like to grow, the Community Investment Collaborative (CIC) invites you to join them for their collaborative 16-week Entrepreneur Workshop, which helps entrepreneurs from all walks of life start and grow businesses. They are currently accepting applications for the workshop until Friday, June 29th, and the workshop begins on August 21st. More information, a list of our graduates, and the application can be found at cicville.org.

Front Porch Tuesday Tunes, Charlottesville, 6/17/18-6/26/18, The Front Porch, a roots music school in downtown Charlottesville, is hosting the 4th annual Tuesday Tunes in partnership with James Monroe's Highland. The first sunset concert of this three-part series will take place on Tuesday, June 26 from 6-9

PM,. They invite you to bring your family out to the home of President James Monroe with a blanket and chairs to enjoy music from Virginia and the mid-Atlantic region. For more information, you can visit frontporchville.org.

JDRF Central Virginia Young Leadership Committee, Richmond, 6/17/18-7/14/18, The JDRF Central Virginia Young Leadership Committee works every day to change the reality of Type 1 Diabetes for millions of people by funding research, advocating for government support of research, ensuring new therapies come to market, and connecting and engaging the T1D community. They invite you to join them for their Brew A Cure event on July 14th from 1 p.m. – 10 p.m. at Garden Grove Brewing and Winery in Carytown. There will be live music, raffle prizes, drinks and food. Proceeds will go towards JDRF's vision of a world without Type 1 diabetes. For more information, you can visit their Facebook page.

Richmond Court Appointed Special Advocates, Richmond, 6/17/18-9/13/18, Richmond Court Appointed Special Advocates, also known as CASA, is in need of volunteers to serve children in our community. CASAs are everyday citizens appointed by judges to advocate for children who have been abused or neglected. You could make a difference in a child's life. Richmond CASA is a program of Greater Richmond Stop Child Abuse Now. To learn more, you can visit grscan.com/casa.

Richmond Symphony Summer Recital Series, Richmond, 6/17/18-8/16/18, The Richmond Symphony is hosting their annual summer recital series beginning on Thursday, July 12th, with the final concert being held on Thursday, August 16th. This year's theme, Stories in Music: The World of Robert Schumann, exposes the intrigue and complexity of German composer Robert Schumann. For single tickets and subscriptions for this series, you can visit richmondsymphony.com

Richmond's VA Repertory Theatre Presents 'Knuffle Bunny,' Richmond, 6/17/18-8/11/18, The Virginia Repertory Theatre in Richmond is presenting their children's show, Knuffle Bunny, July 13th – Aug 12th at their Children's Theatre in the Shops at Willow Lawn. The show is based on the Caldecott Medal-winning picture book. It runs one hour and is set for children ages 4 and older, and their families. For more information, you can visit Virginiarep.org or call the Box Office at 804-282-2620.

The Rockfish Valley Community Center, Nelson, 6/17/18-7/21/18, The Rockfish Valley Community Center in Nelson County is hosting their 4th Annual SK8 Nelson, a skateboarding fundraiser, from 4-9 PM on Saturday, July 21st. They invite you to join them at the Rockfish Valley Community Center on Rte. 151 in Nellysford for food and drinks from Blue Mountain Brewery, Bold Rock Cider, Cardinal Point winery, Blue Ridge Bucha, and Trager Brothers coffee. Plus, live music from Shagwuf, The Blndrs, and more. The skate jam session starts at 4 PM and there will be a best trick competition from 6-8 PM. All proceeds go toward the costs of keeping and maintaining Nelson's only skate park on RVCC's grounds. For more information, you can visit rockfishcc.org, SK8 Nelson's Facebook page, or call 434-361-0100.

Montpelier, Orange, 6/18/18-8/10/18, This summer, Montpelier invites you to visit and experience history with your family and friends. They have family-friendly tours, eight miles of walking trails, a hands-on archaeology lab, public archaeology expeditions, a variety of walking tours around the

property, “The Mere Distinction of Colour” exhibition, galleries, the Exchange Cafe, the Gilmore Cabin, and more.

Wildrock, Charlottesville, 6/18/18-8/31/18, Wildrock is a nature playscape and discovery center located a scenic drive outside of Charlottesville in northwest Albemarle County. They invite families to explore their pristine stream, hide out in their playhouses, climb on their giant salamander and relax in sight of the Blue Ridge foothills. They’re excited to offer expanded summer hours on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, in addition to their weekend openings. You can visit wildrock.org to learn more.

Jefferson Madison Regional Library, Charlottesville, 6/18/18-7/13/18, In conjunction with Virginia Careerworks Charlottesville, part of the Piedmont Workforce Network, the Northside Library invites you to their job fair on Friday, July 13th from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Northside Library at 705 West Rio Road in Charlottesville. If you’re looking for a new job or new career, you can sit down with more than 15 representatives from a variety of local employers. Bringing your resume is encouraged but not required. Plus, they invite you to come early at 1 p.m. for a Job Interviewing Techniques workshop. This event is for ages 16 and up and no registration is required.

Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville Albemarle, Charlottesville, 6/18/18-8/11/18, Literacy Volunteers’ mission is to help individuals become better workers, consumers, neighbors, citizens and parents through one-to-one tutoring. In the last five years, their student enrollment has increased by 94%. To keep up with the demand for their services, they are urgently seeking volunteers to tutor adults in reading, writing, or speaking English. Their students come from a variety of backgrounds, and they are hoping to acquire the skills they need to independently pursue life goals, support their families, and contribute to their communities. You can help students achieve their goals by registering for their upcoming New Tutor Training on Saturday, August 11 from 9:30am to 4:00pm. To register, you can call 434-977-38-38 or visit literacyforall.org for more information.

Charlottesville Municipal Band, Charlottesville, 6/18/18-7/17/18, The Charlottesville Municipal Band has been the soundtrack of the community since 1922 and they invite you to join them for their concert on Tuesday, July 31st at 7:30 pm at the Paramount Theater on the Downtown Mall in Charlottesville. The program will include classics, patriotic favorites, jazz, pop and show tunes with guest trombonist Jason Dech. There will be a musical instrument petting zoo for the youngsters beginning at 7:00 pm.

Front Porch July, Charlottesville, 6/18/18-7/10/18 The Front Porch, a roots music school in downtown Charlottesville, is hosting the 4th annual Tuesday Tunes in partnership with James Monroe’s Highland. The second sunset concert of this three-part series will take place on Tuesday, July 10th from 6-9 PM, and will feature the bluegrass band Meadow Mountain. They invite you to bring your family out to the home of President James Monroe with a blanket and chairs to enjoy music from Virginia and the mid-Atlantic region. For more information, you can visit frontporchville.org.

Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection of UVA, Charlottesville, 6/18/18-7/19/18, The Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection of UVA is the only museum dedicated to Australian Aboriginal art outside of Australia. They’re presenting their 6th annual summer concert series called Night at the Museum on the third Thursday of each month this summer. They invite you to join them for live music, local beer wine

and cider, a food truck rally, and two exhibitions of contemporary Indigenous Australian art. On July 19th, they're hosting the local band We Are Star Children, beer from Hardywood Park, Bold Rock cider and wine from Ankida Ridge Winery.

Virginia Repertory Theatre , Richmond, 6/18/18-8/25/18, The Virginia Repertory Theatre in Richmond is presenting the show, Crimes of the Heart, at the Hanover Tavern July 20th – Aug 26th. Three sisters reunite in this Southern Gothic comedy to escape their past, yet their present reality offers hilarious and troublesome obstacles along the way. You can eat a meal or enjoy a beverage in the Hanover Tavern before the show. For more information, you can visit virginiarep.org or call the Box Office at 804-282-2620.

Culture Connections Q2 2018

Beryl Solla, Chairperson of Piedmont Virginia Community College's Art Department delivers the weekly arts review on WNRN's Culture Connection.

For the week of April 2nd to April 8th.

This Friday in Charlottesville, Chroma Art Projects opens a visual and auditory sub-aquatic collaboration between photographer Alexandria Searls and sound designer Morgan McLeod. Alexandria Searls gives us a fish's perspective, using her underwater camera to capture, from below, the flora and fauna of our local waterways. Morgan McLeod supports the images with *Harmoniai*, a generative music installation, created from water-themed field recordings in the area. The reception for *Submerged* is from 5-7pm.

Also in Charlottesville, this Friday, The McGuffey Art Center opens a wide range of exhibitions including Cynthia Burke in Lower Hall North Gallery. The exhibit, *Gathering*, shows a range of new and slightly vintage works that allow us a passport into Cynthia Burke's amazing world.

Opening this Friday from 6-8, in Richmond, The Page Bond Gallery is presenting *Point of View*: new paintings by Karen Blair and *Spring Prints*: a group exhibition featuring remarkable contemporary prints by several artists, including Polly Apfelbaum, John Baldessari, Jim Dine, and Fiona Watson.

In Harrisonburg, This Sunday, and Sun, Apr 22nd, The Virginia Quilt Museum will host 2 online auctions. Check their website for more information.

For the week of April 9th to April 15th.

This Monday, The Beverly Street Studio in Staunton presents Rosalind Waters "Bas Relief: A Place Between". Rosalind's talk will be a brief look at the history of relief sculpture and a discussion of the bas relief technique. Bring your brown bag lunch and enjoy the talk from 12:30-1:30 pm.

In Richmond, The 1708 Gallery continues *SV Randall: In the Purple*. *In the Purple* examines the relationship between consumer, commodity, and object transformation. Randall focuses on the symbolism and historical implication of basic consumer objects to identify the notion of obsolescence, visual decay and materiality.

In Harrisonburg, James Madison University's Duke Hall Gallery of Fine Art presents an MFA Thesis Exhibition featuring the work of Lynda Bostrom, Katherine Burling and Sam Posso. The reception is this Monday, from 5-7pm.

The McGuffey Art Center in Charlottesville, continues its exhibition *Playing with Light*, Nan Rothwell and Junko Ono Rothwell. This exhibition, in the Sarah B. Smith Gallery, features

paintings by Junko Ono Rothwell and functional pottery by Nan Rothwell. Also at McGuffey, to help Celebrate the Tom Tom Festival, look for an open house this Saturday, from noon to 4. The Open House will include art demonstrations, over a dozen open artist's studios and several group shows including innovative works that explore reclaimed materials.

For the week of April 16th to April 22nd.

In Sweet Briar, The Benedict Gallery at Sweet Briar College continues their exhibition, "We Are Here: Faculty and Staff Show".

The Staunton Augusta Art Center is showing Concurrent Exhibits: Art: a voice, featuring mixed media work by from artists struggling with the challenges of mental illness, and April Shower Bring May Flowers, pottery by members of Terra Floyd. The reception is this Friday, from 5-7 p.m. Also In Staunton, The Beverly School Studio School presents its annual Queen City Plein Air Festival April 17th-22nd. Professional plein air (French for "in the open air") painters from the Mid-Atlantic region will be staying in Staunton for five days of painting, demonstrations, shows, sales, and artistic expression. Check the website for specifics.

This Friday In Charlottesville, Piedmont Virginia Community College's Dickinson Gallery presents the Annual Student Exhibition and the much anticipated 7th Annual Chocolate Chowdown. The 7th Annual Chocolate Chowdown celebrates the wonderful work of our students with excessive amounts of delicious chocolate treats. The opening is 5-7 this Friday night.

For the week of April 23rd to April 29th.

This Monday, The Beverly Street Studio in Staunton presents Susan Crave Rosen: "Creating Collage Papers for Mixed Media" During her talk, Susan will demonstrate several of the methods she uses to paint collage papers. These papers can be seen in her work as a place to start (when they are hardly visible) or as additions to finish a painting. Bring your brown bag lunch and enjoy the talk from 12:30-1:30 pm.

In Charlottesville, this is the final week to apply for the Teeny Tiny Trifecta exhibitions in Second Street's Dove Gallery. Submissions are open until May 1st, They especially encourage artists living in Charlottesville or the state of Virginia to apply.

In Harrisonburg, this is the final week for Adoration and Art at the Lisanby Art Museum at JMU. Historically, religious spaces were designed to set apart the sacred from the every day. This exhibition explores—through the eyes of Fiona Wirth—the artistic traditions of the ancient Mediterranean through early modern cultures that infused holy sites with the presence of the divine.

For the week of April 30th to May 6th .

In Richmond, this is the final week for the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts exhibition Like a Study in Black History: P. H. Polk, Chester Higgins, and The Black Photographers Annual, Volume 2

In Harrisonburg, James Madison University presents JMU Emeriti: Jerry Coulter & Kenneth Szmagaj. The reception is on May 07 th 5-7p in the Duke Hall Gallery. In Charlottesville, The Kluge Ruhe Aboriginal Museum continues its Dots and Tots program the First Tuesday of each month. The museum offers three different sign-up times and is designed for children ages six months to four years. Registration for the May 1 st class is open.

McGuffey Art Center, in Charlottesville, opens several new exhibits this Friday including Megan Read in the Sarah B. Smith Gallery, Erica Lohan and Lotta Helleberg in the Lower Hall North Gallery, Kerney Rhoden in the Lower Hall South Gallery and the Annual High School Show in the Upper Hall Gallery.

Charlottesville's Chroma Projects, opens Scott Smith: Fluid Passages this Friday. Scott Smith's black & white, and subtly pigmented photographs are homages to the phenomena often seen in the physical world. The Opening Reception is this Friday 5:00 - 7:00PM. In Amherst, Simen Johan will discuss his work and present slides this Saturday at 7:30pm at the Second Stage. Johan is a Scandinavian artist, photographer, sculptor, and Virginia Center for Creative Arts fellow.

For the week of May 7th to May 13th.

In Charlottesville, the Kluge Ruhe Aboriginal Museum presents Beyond Dreamings: The Rise of Indigenous Australian Art in the United States. Beyond Dreamings is a colorful selection of artworks from Kluge-Ruhe's permanent collection and includes eight artworks on loan from significant private collections in the United States. The media ranges from painting and photography to wood, porcelain and fiber works.

In Crozet, The Artisans Depot presents the Blue Ridge and Beyond, posters by Barbara Shenefield. The opening is this Saturday, from 3-5pm. Shenefield's beautifully designed posters highlight the region and its visual and cultural gifts.

The Taubman Museum of Art in Roanoke presents Reclamation! Pan-African Works from the Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection that features over one hundred works from various media highlighting the global migration of peoples across the world. The exhibiting artists create work that investigates the universal conversation of migration, history, race and representation in art being made today. The exhibition captures the personal stories and collective histories of artists reflected through installations, videos, paintings and sculptures. Look for work by world renowned artists such as Willie Cole, Kara Walker, Romare Bearden, Kehinde Wiley, Amy Sherald, and Nathaniel Mary Quinn, among others working in a broad reach of media and conceptual approaches.

In Sweetbriar, this is the final week for Sweetbriar College's Babcock Gallery's annual senior exhibition, featuring Jules Sudol. Sudol draws most of her inspiration from music, Nature and pop culture.

For the week of May 14th through May 20th .

The Staunton Augusta Art Center opens Nature in Detail, paintings by Erica Lohan this Friday. The reception takes place from 5-7pm.

In Lynchburg, Randolph College's Maier Gallery continues: Atmospheric Conditions, a site-specific installation by New York-based artist Rebecca Smith. Her installation includes colored tape "drawings" on gallery walls and painted metal wall sculptures, abstract, though suggestive of and named after glaciers and molecules.

In Richmond, The Page Bond Gallery presents Paintings • Drawings • Prints: Peri Schwartz and VT -> NY: new paintings by Ryan Syrell. Within a practice that spans painting, drawing, and printmaking, New York- based Peri Schwartz primarily focuses her artistic inquiry on two subjects: her studio, and bottles and jars. For years Schwartz has treated her studio as a mutable still life, capturing the space and its contents in an ongoing investigation of color, light, and composition. In Ryan Syrell's recent paintings, he creates a visual journal of memories from a week-long summer road trip from Vermont to New York. Through vivid color and enthusiastic gestural rendering, the paintings amplify and dramatize the seemingly mundane: driving in traffic, staring at a phone, preparing dinner.

For the week of May 21 st through May 27 th

The Staunton Augusta Art Center is holding their 52nd Annual Art in the Park this Saturday and Sunday. The two-day festival will feature juried fine art and fine craft, music, food, and kids's activities. The event will be held in Gypsy Hill Park.

The Fralin Museum at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville presents the Art of Protest. Art of Protest highlights the ways in which artists have both documented and participated in the protests of the 20th century. This exhibition displays photography featuring dynamic compositions of pivotal moments in time, including work by Danny Lyons, Ed Roseberry and Andy Warhol. Alongside these images of bodies in protest, the exhibition also displays objects that demonstrate artistic activism. This includes a pop-up book by Kara Walker and a sculpture by Melvin Edwards that both respond to America's exploitation of enslaved labor. These objects merge visual expression with political activism, suggesting that art should confront viewers and inspire change.

The Virginia Quilt Museum in Harrisonburg presents Beyond the Valley (based on the Valley Botanical) curated by Doreen Johnson. Quilts for this exhibit have been submitted from members of the online Shenandoah Valley Botanical Album Sew Along and reflect the

celebration and preservation of an American iconic Folk Art quilt that depicted botanicals of the Shenandoah Valley area of Virginia just prior to the Civil War. Esther Blair Matthews created a beautiful Botanical Album quilt that voiced her declaration and devotion to her family and her country.

For the week of May 28th through June 3rd.

In Charlottesville, this Friday, Chroma Art Projects opens Exaltation of Lark. The reception is from 5:00 - 7:00pm. This exhibit celebrates the beauty of the natural world with a group show including Cynthia Burke, Michelle Gagliano, Robin Hanes, and many others.

The Institute for Contemporary Art in Richmond presents its inaugural exhibit, Declaration. The Mending Project is part of the ICA's inaugural exhibition.

Lee Mingwei's The Mending Project, invites visitors to bring a garment in need of repair. A volunteer mender will repair the item while engaging in conversation with its owner. The goal is not to restore the item to its original condition, but to share in the gift of conversation with a total stranger. The Mending Project installation is located in the True Farr Luck Gallery on the ICA's third floor.

McGuffey Art Center in Charlottesville is opening a new series of exhibits this Friday including Giselle Gautreau, Jeannine Regan, Cri Kars-Marshall, and L. Michelle Geiger in the Sarah B. Smith Gallery and Nancy and Joshua Galloway, in the Lower Hall North Gallery

This weekend take a self-guided tour of Richmond's 3rd Annual RVA Clay Studio Tour. 21 unique clay studios will be open to the public with nearly 100 clay artisans showing off their work and studio space. Discover fine craft in and around Richmond, VA. Learn more and map your route at www.rvaclay.com

For the week of June 4th through June 10th.

The Lynchburg Art Club has opened its annual CALL FOR ENTRIES – for the 46th annual LYNCHBURG ART FESTIVAL. The Festival will be held on Saturday, September 15, 2018. Check their website for more information.

The Kluge Ruhe Aboriginal Art Museum is presenting a series of 6 etching made by Aboriginal artist, Judy Watson entitled, Experimental Beds. The prints are being displayed at UVA's Rotunda, in the Upper West Oval Room. Watson draws parallels between Thomas Jefferson's relationship with Sally Hemmings and the mixed-race relationships in her own family history.

In Richmond, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts is featuring The Horse in Ancient Greek Art. The exhibition features Greek vases, sculpture, and coins from the 8th through the 4th centuries BC drawn from private collections, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, the Tampa Museum of Art, and other museum collections. The exhibition and accompanying publication explore the

significance of the horse in ancient Greek culture, and imagery of the horse in ancient myth, war, sport, and competition. From some of the earliest examples of the horse in Greek art, to stunning examples of black and red-figure vases, the objects on view illustrate ancient equestrian life.

The [Jefferson School African American Heritage Center](#) is continuing the exhibition, Frank Walker: New Work. In this new body of work, Frank Walker continues his exploration of the history of African American's in the United States. This time he addresses the notion that black bodies are disposable and easily erased according to whim.

For the week of June 11th through June 17th.

Second Street Gallery, in Charlottesville is continuing its collaborative exhibition with the Kluge Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection at the University of Virginia. (na-gerring-krety) Ngerringkrrety: One Voice, Many Stories, work by Regina Pilawuk Wilson will continue through July. This solo exhibition features paintings on canvas and paper, as well as fiber works and prints. The inspiration for Wilson's works come from the traditional weaving practices of her people.

In Lynchburg, The Academy Center of the Arts, 2018 National Juried Photography Exhibition applications are now available. Visit their website for entry details. The juror is Carolyn Russo, a professional photographer and author from Washington, D.C.

In Richmond, both The Page Bond Gallery and the 1708 Gallery have mounted group exhibitions, featuring regional and national artists in a variety of styles and media.

For the week of June 18th through June 24th.

In Richmond, the ADA Gallery will be celebrating their 15th ANNIVERSARY. The exhibition will run through the summer, showing some of their favorite artists of the past, present and future.

In Harrisonburg, this is the final week for James Madison University's Duke Hall Gallery's exhibition Coulter/Szmagaj In Conversation. The paintings of these well-known art emeriti professors, Jerry Coulter and Kenneth Szmagaj survey their individual styles, differences and similarities.

The Riverviews Artists' Co-Op Gallery, in Lynchburg, represents artists who are tenants of Riverviews as well as local artists. The original art ranges from realistic to abstract, from oils and acrylics to photography, fiber art, encaustic, etchings, pottery, and jewelry. Every two months a new and different show is exhibited and a different member artist is featured.

At the Staunton Augusta Art Center, this is the final week for Nature in Detail, paintings by Erica Lohan. Lohan's series was influenced by a biology for gardeners course she took several years ago.

Lohan hopes that by recording, in detail, the beauty and diversity of nature, she will inspire a sense of gratitude and an interest in conservation, for those who view this work.

For the week of June 25th through July 1st.

The University of Virginia's Fralin Art Museum in Charlottesville, continues the exhibition, *Reflections: Native Art Across Generations*. This exhibit brings together historic Native American art drawn from the collections of the Museum, with the work of several distinguished contemporary Native artists. The work establishes connections between past and present creative traditions and forms, and explores the idea of legacy and the meanings and inspirations that works of art carry through the generations.

The Virginia Quilt Museum in Harrisonburg is presenting *Small Botanical Sentiments*, curated by Doreen Johnson and Dawn Cook Ronningen. Quilts for this exhibit have been submitted from members of the online Shenandoah Valley Botanical Album Sew Along and reflect the celebration and preservation of an American iconic Folk Art quilt that depicted botanicals of the Shenandoah Valley area of Virginia just prior to the Civil War.

The Maier Museum at Randolph College in Lynchburg presents *Modern & Contemporary Selections From The Collection*. Their summer exhibition highlights a selection of recent acquisitions to the College's collection. The exhibition will be on view along with the ongoing exhibition *Selections from the Collection*.

Hear Together Profiles Q2 2018:

The Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program, Harrisonburg. The Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program has been resettling refugees since World War II. The Harrisonburg location opened in 1988 and has been helping refugees from Africa, South America the Middle East and other regions successfully settle in the Shenandoah Valley ever since. With an 11-person staff, the program resettles anywhere from 350-400 refugees per year in Harrisonburg and surrounding areas. Staff work closely with families for about 100 days during the thick of the resettlement process, helping them acquire social security cards, an apartment, a job, enroll in language classes and schooling for children. Afterwards, staff members maintain contact with families, checking in periodically to ensure there are no issues with employment, health, education, or language. Harrisonburg's program director Jim Hershberger says the goal is to ensure that each family becomes self-sufficient and forms long lasting relationships in their community.

Friends of East End, Richmond, When he retired from the banking industry in over a decade ago, John Schuck could not have imagined that he'd be leading a grassroots effort to restore historic African-American cemeteries in Richmond, Virginia. But when the Iowa native shares just how much he enjoys the historic research, and the important role that cemeteries and grave markers can play in that work, it starts to make sense. Beneath the thick vines, the mud and the undergrowth of the East End Cemetery, Shuck found countless stories waiting to be told from the lives of Richmond's historic African-American community.

Shelter of Help in Emergency, Charlottesville, The statistics for teen dating abuse are startling. 1.5 million experience dating abuse of some form each year, but only 33% ask for help. The Shelter for Help in Emergency is working to educate young adults about what healthy relationships look like and to spot red flags that in unhealthy and abusive relationships.

Alzheimer's Association, 1/31/18 – TFN, [The Central and Western Virginia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association](#) supports research, brain health and brain awareness as they work towards fulfilling their vision of a world without Alzheimer's disease. The nonprofit is particularly focused on providing resources and aid to families and all persons affected by Alzheimer's. Specifically, they offer support groups for caregivers, providing education, tips and therapeutic peer interaction. "Alzheimer's is the only disease that impacts caregivers more than the disease," says President/CEO Sue Friedman. "As Alzheimer's progresses, the person who has it doesn't connect that they've lost their memory and lost themselves because that is taken from them. The caregiver knows; It's hard on them." Listen to our Hear Together interview with Friedman below and find out more at alz.org.

Lynchburg Daily Bread, Lynchburg, 1/31/18 – TFN, [Lynchburg Daily Bread](#) was established 34 years ago to address community hunger. Every day since, the nonprofit has served a free, hot lunch to community members in need at their location in downtown Lynchburg. The organization operates on food donations and volunteer help. Food that area grocery stores, restaurants or colleges can't use is donated, and in turn, around a dozen daily volunteers prepare and serve meals. In this way, Lynchburg Daily Bread is also a positive source of food waste prevention, saving thousands of pounds of food from going to the landfill each year. Listen to our Hear Together interview with Executive Director Tracey Dixon below, and learn more at lynchburgdailybread.com.

Community Attention Foster Families, Charlottesville. There is so much more to foster care than taking in kids that need a place to stay. We sat down with experts from different programs that deal with foster care to learn about what's being done to create a sense of community and network as they grow into adults.

The Virginia Chapter of Foster Care Alumni of America, Richmond, . There is so much more to foster care than taking in kids that need a place to stay. We sat down with experts from different programs that deal with foster care to learn about what's being done to create a sense of community and network as they grow into adults.

Women's Initiative, Charlottesville, The Women's Initiative in Charlottesville is a non-profit dedicated to making sure women have the mental health services they need, regardless of ability to pay. They have walk-in clinics, groups, social support, and more in order to enable women to find healing. Our conversation with Executive Director Elizabeth Irvin helps listeners find out more about their mission and work in our community.

Groundwork RVA, Richmond, Groundwork RVA has found a way, through working with kids after school and during the summer months, to get them involved and invested in the green spaces in their own community. Richmond teens work to improve school campuses and improve neighborhoods with blighted or contaminated sites. We sat down to learn more how they are working with other non-profits across the country to create better futures for their students and their cities.

Science Museum of Virginia, Richmond, Dr. Jeremy Hoffman explained on a hot day last summer what volunteers with the Science Museum of Virginia did when they headed out across the city with special thermometers to gather the actual temperature in a range of locations. They were studying what they call the urban heat island.

United Way – Thomas Jefferson Area, Charlottesville, 3/6/18 – TFN, The United Way – Thomas Jefferson Area works to serve the needs of local families through a variety of different programs. The organization's three main areas of concentration are community philanthropy, catalytic leadership and dynamic grant-making. Each area United Way, including Thomas Jefferson, is not a chapter of a national organization, but is instead local and autonomous. However, United Ways across the country do communicate with each other, sharing information and best practices, and aiding one another in times of local emergency. Listen to our Hear Together interview with United Way – Thomas Jefferson Area Vice President Caroline Emerson below, and visit unitedwaytja.org/ to learn more about resources and opportunities to volunteer.

The Humane Society Nelson County SPCA, Lovingson, 4/4/18 – TFN. Since its inception 12 years ago, The Humane Society Nelson County SPCA has saved an upwards of 13,000 animals and maintained a 98% adoption rate. Nelson County is just one of a handful of no-kill counties in the state of Virginia, and although the SPCA operates with a small, part-time staff, the non-profit works hard to have animals locally adopted. Due to Nelson County's small population and the SPCA's limited resources, they also transfer animals to rescue groups and other no-kill shelters in higher-population areas throughout the Northeast. The Humane Society Nelson County SPCA depends solely on donations and has been able to

thrive with the support of local businesses. Another important source of income comes from the SPCA Thrift Shop. They are always seeking volunteers to feed animals at the shelter, process donations at the thrift shop, and foster kittens and puppies. Listen to our Hear Together interview with board member Denise Merricks below, and visit [The Humane Society Nelson County SPCA's website](#) to learn about volunteer and fostering opportunities.

Central Virginia Health Services, 3/20/18 – TFN Designed to target medically underserved populations, [Central Virginia Health Services](#) is a nonprofit community health center offering medical services and prescriptions to anybody who needs healthcare. “People can be medically underserved for a variety of reasons: poverty, lack of education, lack of insurance, cultural or linguistic barriers that prevent you from accessing healthcare,” explains Development Director Sheena Mackenzie. “You might be insured but there might not be enough doctors who provide care in your community, so it doesn’t matter if you’re insured or not.” One of the beauties of community health centers is that they’re community-governed and community-based, and as such, Central Virginia Health Services’ Board of Directors must be made up of a majority of patients. Listen to our Hear Together interview with Sheena below and learn more at [cvhsinc.org](#).

Southside Transformation Opportunities For Residents And Youth (STORY), Richmond, 3/28/1/ - TFN, [Southside Transformation Opportunities For Residents And Youth \(STORY\)](#) is a new non-profit created to help children from low-income backgrounds in the Tri-Cities area. Because the region’s high school dropout rate is high, STORY’s primary mission is to provide tutoring and other educational resources to get students to a level where they can be successful at school. STORY offers an afterschool program from Monday through Thursday every week, which gives children a safe space to do their homework, with specific focus on math and reading. STORY also offers mentorship programs every other Saturday, pairing children with Virginia State University students. Learn more at [storyva.org](#).

VITA Tax Help, 3/28/18 – TFN, filing taxes can feel like a daunting project, but thanks to some local volunteers, it doesn’t have to be one that you tackle alone. The [Voluntary Income Tax Assistance Program \(VITA\)](#) offers free state and federal tax-filing services, helping individuals and families secure their proper refunds and walking all new clients through the tax-filing process. To learn if you qualify for help, or to sign up to volunteer, visit VITA [here](#).

Valley Program for Aging Services, Staunton, 3/20/18 – TFN, [Valley Program for Aging Services](#) serves Augusta, Bath, Highland, Rockbridge and Rockingham counties. As a non-profit-organization, they specialize in personal care, health and wellness programs, and medicare insurance counseling for seniors. By offering transportation to and from places like the pharmacy, bank and grocery store, their in-home and community-based services help populations over 60 years of age continue to live independently. Valley Program for Aging Services is perhaps best known for their Meals on Wheels deliveries and seven senior centers, which host activities like water color painting, guitar picking and singing, line dancing and thai chi lessons. We spoke with Executive Director Jeri Schaff to gain insight into the wide array of resources the Valley Program for Aging Services provides. Listen to our Hear Together Profile at the link below and click on the second link to hear an extended cut of Ms. Schaff discussing [recent population research](#) from UVA’s Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service.

Rockbridge County SPCA, Lexington, VA (4/27/18 – TFN) WNRN staff interviewed Executive Director, Tara Rodi, about their rescue of animals and how to find their list of adoptable pets.

Fountain Fund, Charlottesville, Many individuals released from incarceration face mounting debt due to court-imposed fees. If they do not repay their court costs within a designated amount of time, the penalties range from revoked parole to suspended driving privileges. Without the ability to drive, it can be hard to find transportation to work, therefore hindering their ability to earn the money to pay off their debts. A felony conviction also presents a significant barrier to obtaining gainful employment. These financial barriers make it extremely difficult for people to successfully reenter communities upon release from periods of incarceration. The Fountain Fund established in Charlottesville in 2016 offers low-interest loans to formerly incarcerated citizens along with financial counseling and referrals to other area resources. Loan funds may be used to repay fees, costs, restitution and other court-imposed obligations, purchase job-related clothing and equipment, or provide start-up funding for small businesses. To date, The Fountain Fund has helped over 200 people in our community and given out 31 loans amounting to \$75,000. Their hope is to better understand the problems facing their client population and to use their work to eventually evoke policy change. We spoke with Fountain Fund Director Nicole Snyder. Hear Together provides a link to hear an extended cut of Ms. Snyder discussing the impact of the organization on one of their very first clients.

LEAP, Charlottesville, The Local Energy Alliance Program (also known as LEAP) provides energy efficient solutions for homeowners in Charlottesville and Albemarle. One of the services they provide is a Home Energy Checkup, which is used to identify how homes use energy and to pinpoint any safety issues and areas in need of improvement. After the assessment, LEAP draws up a report with the list of to-dos, categorized by priority and tailored to each individual homeowner's goals. For this Hear Together segment, we joined Technical Director Wilson Ratliff for one of LEAP's in-home energy checkups. Listen to our profile below and find out more about LEAP on their website.

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond, 6/5/18 – 9/1/18, Spanning over 50 acres of cultivated gardens, the [Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden](#) in Richmond has worked to connect people through plants since 1984. Open year-round, they offer a variety of themed landscapes ranging from a rose garden and a meditation garden to a community kitchen garden, along with accompanying programming. A popular field trip destination for local schools, they are also known for their Butterflies Live exhibition located in their expansive conservatory. We spoke with Lewis Ginter's Director of Education and Exhibitions, Kristin Thoromon.

Vector Space, Lynchburg, 6/17/18, Two years ago, Elise Spontarelli and her husband founded Vector Space, a nonprofit makerspace in Lynchburg. They offer classes for high school students and adults. With 8,000 sq. ft. of shared workshops, Vector Space features a textile center, an electronics lab, woodworking and metal-working areas, 3D printers, laser cutters and more. In addition to classes and workshops, Vector Space also offers membership options for the community, giving members 24/7 access to the space. Listen below as Spontarelli gives us a tour of the space for this Hear Together profile.

Building Bridges, Lynchburg, 6/18/18, Building Bridges is a nonprofit in Lynchburg that has been connecting children ages 9-19 to the arts since 2015. With a team of volunteers and instructors, they work with at-risk and underprivileged students who may not have otherwise had access to performing arts programming. As their name suggests, collaboration is key for Building Bridges, which has partnered with other area nonprofits like the Boys and Girls Club, the Academy Center for the Arts, and the YMCA to provide year-round programming. Their programming isn't just limited to theater – they have instructors in dance, creative writing, spoken word, poetry, and movement – and their projects tend to cultivate a combination of skillsets. We spoke with Coordinator Janice Benejan for our Hear Together on Building Bridges. Listen at the audio link below.