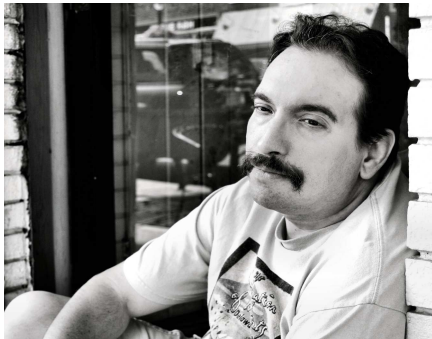


THE FORWARDIAN ARTS SOCIETY is a fellowship of people who love the arts sharing the belief the arts can inspire our creative dreams to become meaningful realities. We can revisit the many magnificent worlds of our deepest experiences reminding us who we really are. Therefore, our fellowship shares a desire to support, encourage, and explore the artistic experiences of creative individuals and groups as they go forward toward their dreams.” Mission Statement

As an Art Lover of our fellowship, you’re receiving our Newsletter on a monthly basis. However, if you’d like to stop receiving this newsletter, please feel free to let us know and we’ll be happy to comply with your request.

A FORWARDIAN GREETINGS TO THEE

Dear Friends in the Arts,



I hope my words find you well. Thank you for receiving this new edition of The Forwardian Arts Society Monthly Online Newsletter. It’s my hope you’ll find it meaningful and informative. Please feel free to forward this to Your Good Friends who loves the arts.

As the month of November comes to a close, many of us are preparing for another portion of the Holiday season. Many faiths are celebrating according to the dictates of their traditions and including those who find a spiritual solace in the arts. There are many festive events scheduled to occur throughout December denoting the desire to make this season one filled with vision and hope for those who partake of them.

The economic hardships many have encountered throughout the year makes embracing such hopes the arts encourage an especially hard challenge to meet. But, doing so in these difficult times becomes an even greater imperative as the realization we are more than our situations and our value is beyond that which is stated in our bank accounts (if we have one) gives us not only the strength to survive but the insights allowing us to thrive. We only need a mustard seed.

Many years ago, I worked with the mentally handicapped and took a group of them to an art show. Several of these individuals were known to act out in inappropriate manners due to their conditions. Yet, when they encountered a piece of art, their countenance changed to a peaceful one filled with thought. It was then I began to understand who the arts can change a life and the seed leading to the beginning of The Forwardian Arts Society was planted.

It has always been the goal of The Forwardian Arts Society to facilitate the hope for a more meaningful life through the inspirations offered in the arts. As many of you know, I've live in the area all of my life. When others mention the economy is bad, I ask, "When was it good?" So, I know how hard it is to make ends meet especially in this time of year. But, I also know we can decide to live a life of despair that does not enrich us one iota, or we can life a life inspired which can enrich us regardless of how much money we have.

The arts give us an opportunity to live our lives from the inside out instead of allowing our financial obligations to force us to live our lives from the outside in. An image, a piece of music, or a spoken word can touch us in a profound way and enhance the meaning we have already in our lives if we only allow it to do so. Yet, many of us don't as we allow our hardships to be our only existence.

Of course, I'm not claiming the arts or even The Forwardian Arts Society will dispel these hardships by paying someone's bills or securing or maintaining a place to live. After all, the conditions from which the mentally handicapped individuals had did not disappear as soon as they looked at that picture. But, for a moment, their handicapped were replaced with the realization there is something more than their limitations at work in their lives. They saw beyond their situation and gained a glimpse of what could be. And, for me, this is how the arts can enhance a life.

So, it is my hope that, as you go out to experience the festivities of the season, you'll be open to the hopeful encouragements they have to offer. They may not add money to your pockets, but they may just fill the coffers of your soul. I know many of you will and I invite you to share your experiences and reflections with me. I'll be sure to include them in future newsletters as they may serve to inspire others to go forward toward their dreams.

In the meantime, I'm happy to report our Literary and Arts Magazine Forwardian is coming along nicely. I've completed the layout of the publication and I'm now in the process of gaining permission from the contributors to publish their work as well as make any corrections to their creations they deemed needed. I hope to complete everything and have it posted online within the next few weeks. I'll be sure to let you and everyone within earshot know when that day arrives. Smiles.

And, oh. I've also taken some time this month to do some creative writing of my own. I've written a short story titled, "The Jumper's Secret." I've been told it's not too bad. I would love to know what you think of it. Please feel free to check it out at www.facebook.com/notes/paul-adam-smeltz/a-short-story/10150359122736232.

Well, that's all from me for now. Again, I thank you for reading The Forwardian Arts Society Online Newsletter. As we continue exploring another month with you, I would like to learn your thoughts as we embark on our adventures as we go forward together.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE ARTS

Here is a brief summary of the listed items submitted to The Forwardian Arts Society Passionate Art Lovers. You'll be able to read more information about them as well as view more items submitted by other members and non members on our website at www.theforwardianartsociety.com/Events-Opportunities-Educational-Listings.html. We update our listings frequently so please feel free to check them often.

If you would like to include your listings in our online newsletters, you may learn how to do so at www.theforwardianartsociety.com/Join-us.html.

THE FORWARDIAN ARTS SOCIETY EVENTS CALENDAR

The following is a listing of events which include concerts, theatrical events, art receptions, The Forwardian Arts Society Special Events, and more. Please feel free to share a press release regarding your upcoming events with us to be included in our website's listings.

Friday December 2nd - The Deer Head Inn in Delaware Water Gap, PA will present Subtone.

Friday December 2nd - The Grey Towers Heritage Association in Milford, PA will present the work of artists who participated in the Summer's "Come Paint With Me" plein air sessions conducted by Joan Polishook.

Friday December 2nd - The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA will present their Holiday Cabaret featuring an evening of fun and holiday songs.

December 2nd and 3rd - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present their production of Willy Wonka: Live on Stage.

December 2nd - 8th - The Pocono Community Theater in East Stroudsburg, PA will present the films “Melancholia,” “Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1,” and “Margin Call.”

Saturday December 3rd - The Main Street Jukebox in Stroudsburg, PA will hold an Artists’ Reception featuring the photographic works appearing on the 2012 Pocono Experience Calendar. The Exhibition Continues Until December 30th.

Saturday December 3rd - The Pocono Community Theater in East Stroudsburg, PA will present a holiday film festival free beginning at 10am.

Saturday December 3rd - The Hope Township Christmas Craft Market will take place at The St. John's United Methodist Church in Hope, NJ featuring a variety of original pieces available for purchase for the holiday season.

December 3rd - 12th - The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA will host The Northeast Ballet Ensemble production of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky’s “The Nutcracker” with original choreography created by Diane Verdi.

Sunday December 4th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present David Archuleta as part of his “My Kind of Christmas” tour.

Monday December 5th - The Grey Towers Heritage Association in Milford, PA will present an Art Exhibit and Sale featuring works by artists of “Come Paint With Me” as led by Joan Polishook. The Exhibition Continues Until December 18th.

Sunday December 6th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present Javier Colon.

Thursday December 8th - The Deer Head Inn in Delaware Water Gap, PA will present a Jazz Jam with Bill Goodwin and Friends.

Thursday December 8th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present Malcolm “Mac Miller” McCormick.

Friday December 9th - The Deer Head Inn in Delaware Water Gap, PA will present Najwa Parkins and the After Hours Trio plus One.

Saturday December 10th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present The Machine at 8pm as they perform “Symphonic Pink Floyd” featuring all of the Floyd classics backed by a full symphony orchestra.

**You’ll find more information about these Events at
www.theforwardianartssociety.com/Calendar-2.html.**

www.theforwardianartssociety.com

Sunday December 11th - The Elk Creek Café in Manheim, PA will present their Sunday Brush Mountain Gospel Hour beginning at 12:30pm.

Sunday December 11th - The Deer Head Inn in Delaware Water Gap, PA will present Samuel St. Thomas and the Bovine Social Club.

Sunday December 11th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present The Golden Dragon Acrobats.

Thursday December 15th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present Twelve Twenty Four.

Thursday December 15th - The Deer Head Inn in Delaware Water Gap, PA will present a Jazz Jam with Bill Goodwin and Friends.

Thursday December 15th - The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA will present their Holiday Cabaret featuring an evening of fun and holiday songs.

December 15th and 17th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present their Christmas Extravaganza.

December 16th and 17th - The Pocono Community Theater in East Stroudsburg, PA and The Buck Hill-Skytop Music Festival will present a screening of “The Nutcracker” as performed by the San Francisco Ballet Company as part of their Cinema Meets Culture Series.

Saturday December 17th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present a Christmas Jam in the Poconos.



December 17th and 18th - The Centenary Stage Company in Hackettstown, NJ will present The New Jersey Civic Youth Ballet’s production of “The Nutcracker.” Photograph provided by The Centenary Stage Company.

Sunday December 18th - The Deer Head Inn in Delaware Water Gap, PA will present Bill Charlap.

Sunday December 18th -The Pocono Community Theater in East Stroudsburg, PA will host a discussion of Kauai Hart Hemming’s novel titled, “The Descendents” beginning at 2pm as part of their Book Club Series.



Sunday December 18th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present The 4th Annual Labor of Love USA production of “Christmas Spectacular: Change” beginning at 4pm. Photograph provided by Labor of Love.

You’ll find more information about these Events at
www.theforwardianartsociety.com/Calendar-2A.html.

Thursday December 22nd - The Deer Head Inn in Delaware Water Gap, PA will present a Jazz Jam with Bill Goodwin and Friends.

Friday December 23rd - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present Patent Pending as part of their Independent Rock Series.

December 26th and 27th - The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA will present “Mark Mysterrio’s Tales of Magic and Mystery” featuring magician Mark Mysterrio is a unique blend of magic and comedy and audience participation.

Thursday December 29th - The Deer Head Inn in Delaware Water Gap, PA will present a Jazz Jam with Bill Goodwin and Friends.

Thursday December 29th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present The Wu-Tang Clan.

December 29th and 30th - The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA will present their “Kids Kabaret” at 7pm.

Friday December 30th - The Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, PA will present Set Phasers To Stun as part of their Independent Rock Series.

You’ll find more information about these Events at
www.theforwardianartsociety.com/Calendar-2B.html.

THE FORWARDIAN ARTS SOCIETY OPPORTUNITIES LISTING

The following is a listing of opportunities which include Auditions for Performing Arts in the areas of Dance, Theatre, Film, and/or Music, Calls for Artists to participate in exhibitions and charity auctions, Meetings, Community Endeavors, The Forwardian Arts Society Special Opportunities, and more. Please feel free to share a press release regarding your upcoming opportunities with us to be included in our website’s listings.

www.theforwardianartsociety.com

The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA is offering a \$5 discount off the regular adult ticket price to their production of "Home for Christmas" to those attending their Friday Night performances (**December 2nd, 9th, and 16th**) and brings a non-perishable food item or a new unwrapped toy. The donation will benefit area families in need this Holiday season through The Shawnee Presbyterian Church Food Bank.

The Spirit of the Arts Foundation and Vendor Finders USA is seeking to help those who are experiencing financial and/or physical hardships through making their situation known through their email blasts which are sent out to over 2000 people on the 2nd Thursday of the Month.

The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA is currently accepting applications for their Summer 2012 Internship position offering qualified candidates the opportunity to serve as artistic interns for a season with the professional Acting Company as either a performance or technical intern, and offers a weekly stipend for candidates who are hired into the program. This current Internship positions will run from May 21st - September 3rd with the possibility of extension.

The Centenary Stage Company in Hackettstown, NJ is currently accepting applications for the Spring 2012 Internship position for those who would like to gain a clear understanding of how the business of theatre works on every level, and with real-world experience in a number of capacities using a wide range of skills, while also offering performance opportunities in the program. The position will run from **January 3rd until July 1st** with the possibility of extension into the 2012-13 CSC main stage season.

The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA is seeking aspiring playwrights to participate in their Shawnee Original Playwright Series (SOPS). **The Submission deadline is January 31, 2012** with Staged Readings of the finalist scheduled to take place March 6th - 30th.

You'll find more information about these On Going Opportunities at
www.theforwardianartsociety.com/OPON.html.

Thursday December 1st - The Kaleidoscope Players will hold auditions for their upcoming production of "The Thwarting of Baron Bolligrew" written by Robert Bolt at The Eastern Monroe Public Library in Stroudsburg, PA. The production will take place at The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA from March 23rd until April 1st.

Thursday December 1st - The Pocono Arts Council will hold its Annual Membership Meeting at the ARTSPACE and Studio Galleries in Stroudsburg, PA.

December 8th and 9th - The Monroe County Historical Association will host the annual "Holiday Luncheon" at the historic 1795 Stroud Mansion in Stroudsburg, PA.

December 14th and 28th - The Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort in Shawnee on Delaware, PA will host its 3rd season of Community Outreach Dinners offering a no-cost dinners to those in need due to unemployment and other financial hardships. Volunteer are needed in many areas of the program.

You'll find more information about these Opportunities at www.theforwardianartssociety.com/Opportunities-2.html.

THE FORWARDIAN ARTS SOCIETY EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

The following is a listing of educational experiences which include Workshops in the arts including those in the areas of Dance, Theatre, Film, and/or Music, Holistic Health including physical movement (Yoga, Tai Chi, etc), Lectures, Tours, and Pilgrimages, The Forwardian Arts Society Special Educational Experiences, and more. Please feel free to share a press release regarding your upcoming educational experiences with us to be included in our website's listings.

Wednesdays and Fridays - The Wellspring Holistic Center in Stroudsburg, PA will present classes in Taekwondo beginning at 7pm led by Nancy Olivieri of The Fire Mountain Taekwondo Academy. You'll find more information about this Ongoing Educational Experience at www.theforwardianartssociety.com/EDON.html.

Monday December 12th - The Eastern Monroe Public Library in Stroudsburg, PA will hold a poetry workshop beginning at 7pm offering poets the opportunity to improve their craft. Published and unpublished Poets are welcomed and encouraged.

Saturday December 17th - The Pocono Community Theater in East Stroudsburg, PA will hold a class led by Alicia Johnson titled, "The Price of Coffee."

You'll find more information about these Educational Experiences at www.theforwardianartssociety.com/Educational-2.html.

WHAT'S ON THE FORWARDIAN ARTS SOCIETY BLOGS

Here is a brief summary of the adventures I had in the art community. Unless otherwise noted, you'll be able to read the full article as well as view more of the photographs I took through the links found on our website.

You'll find links to the article I wrote and the pictures I took at www.facebook.com/pages/The-Forwardian-Arts-Society/91146283760.

www.theforwardianartssociety.com

Dreams Touch a Cheeky Monkey



The Cheeky Monkey Coffeehouse in Stroudsburg, PA held an Artist's Reception featuring the works of John Kolbek and Michael Parsons on Friday November 4th as part of their Espresso Yourself Art Series. The music for the reception provided by Singer/Songwriter Jeni Hackett on guitar as accompanied by her bass player simply known as Ken. The Exhibition continues until January 1st.

Theatrical Review: "The Glass Menagerie"



I've written and posted my review of The Kaleidoscope Players production of Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie" being presented at The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on the Delaware, PA until November 13th. Photograph provided by The Kaleidoscope Players.

Theatrical Review: Macbeth



I've written and posted my review of The Pocono Shakes production of William Shakespeare's "Macbeth" (aka "The Tragedy of Macbeth") being presented at The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on the Delaware, PA until November 13th. Photograph provided by The Pocono Shakes.

Castling Faces Emerge



The Castle Inn Gallery in Delaware Water Gap, PA held an Artist's Reception on Saturday November 19th for their Exhibition titled, "Faces." The exhibition features the works of Donna A. McCartney who was debuting her talents at the gallery. The Exhibition continues until January 21st.

Topping the Sky with Art



Colorful lights, enchanting art and crafts, and the excited utterances known to accompany the holiday season filled the Executive Conference Center located within the Skytop Lodge in which The Pocono Mountain Arts Council held their 7th Annual Holiday Arts Festival on November 26th and 27th.

To read articles/reviews and view photographs as they're posted,
Please feel free to join us at
Facebook at www.facebook.com/forwardian.dude
Myspace at www.myspace.com/forwardian_arts

So, what would I like to do during December?

Thursday December 1st - The East Stroudsburg University of PA will present their production of "A Christmas Carol." The Production Continues Until December 4th. I plan to attend the December 2nd performance.

Thursday December 1st - The Pocono Arts Council will hold an Artist's Reception for their Annual Holiday Show and Sale of Fine Crafts at the ARTSPACE and Studio Galleries in Stroudsburg, PA featuring the works of the Pocono Guild of Craftsmen. The show and sale Continues Until December 24th.

Saturday December 3rd - The ArtMusic Coffeehouse in East Stroudsburg, PA will present The Juggernaut String Band beginning at 8pm as part of The Concerts In Your Home Series.

Sunday December 4th - The Dreamland Creations in Stroudsburg, PA will hold an Artist's Reception featuring the work of Shane Izykowski beginning at 4pm. The Exhibition Continues until December 31st.



December 4th and 10th - The School of Visual and Performing Arts in Stroudsburg, PA will present "What's for Christmas?" by Aileen Fisher featuring a puppet show directed by Jazmin Ospa. Please Explore The School of Visual and Performing Arts Website for more information. Photograph provided by School of Visual and Performing Arts.

Wednesday December 7th - The East Stroudsburg University of PA (ESU) will present their Winter Choral Concert.

Saturday December 10th - The Jacob Stroud Corporation in Stroudsburg, PA will hold their annual Festival of Carols featuring numerous choral performing throughout the town.

December 10th and 11th - The Wellspring Holistic Center in East Stroudsburg, PA will hold it's Annual Craft Show featuring pieces created by the members of the Mandela Design Works.

You'll find more information about these Events at www.theforwardianartsociety.com/Calendar-2.html.

Saturday December 17th - The ArtMusic Coffeehouse in East Stroudsburg, PA will present Danielle Miraglia beginning at 8pm as part of The Concerts In Your Home Series.



Tuesday December 20th - The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA will present their Annual Holiday Sing In Concert featuring Handel's "Messiah" at 8pm led by professional musicians and soloist. Photograph provided by The Shawnee Playhouse.

You'll find more information about these Events at www.theforwardianartsociety.com/Calendar-2A.html.



Friday December 23rd - The Shawnee Playhouse in Shawnee on Delaware, PA will present Brent Alan Burington's version of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" featuring a one man show performance. Photograph provided by The Shawnee Playhouse.

You'll find more information about these Events at
www.theforwardianartssociety.com/Calendar-2B.html.

So, what wonderful things are you planning to do this Month? I would love to learn all about them. And, it would be really great if you could join me in what I hope to do in the near future. Let me know if you are and we can meet up. What do you think?

SO, WHAT'S NEW WITH YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS?

The following presents news relating to your fellow members in The Forwardian Arts Society. This includes achievements, birthdays, new discounts for Passionate Art Lovers, and who joined our fellowship recently. This section also includes other news our friends wish to share such as recent setbacks and bereavements. You'll be able to read more about what your fellow members are doing at www.theforwardianartssociety.com/Member-Page.html.

The Forwardian Arts Society would like to wish a happy birthday to:

Florence Benenati (December 1st)
Amanda Jamison (December 7th)
Samantha Polak (December 26th)
Mary Noguera and Raj Shankar
(both born on December 31st)

We welcomed Lauren Joseph who became new members of The Forwardian Arts Society.

We congratulated Andrea Robbins Rimberg, Margaret Benson, and others who have become new officers of The PoconoArts Council's Board of Directors.

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We congratulated Youth Infusion, Inc who was awarded \$5,000 to implement its School-based Service-learning Initiative in partnership with East Stroudsburg High School South.

We congratulated Nada Gilmartin who has been elected to serve as President of The Scranton Cultural Center in Scranton, PA Board of Directors.

We congratulated Joan Polishook who has published her book titled, “Bouquet” which is a memoir. This and her earlier book titled, “The House on the Sixth Floor” are available.

We congratulate The Writers Group of Hemlock Farms who has recently published “Creatively Speaking” which is a collection of prose, poetry and art.

We congratulate Maria Sutton who has published her memoir titled, “The Night Sky: A Journey from Dachau to Denver and Back.”

You’ll find more information about these achievements as well as to obtain information on how to share your congratulatory sentiments at www.theforwardianartssociety.com/Member-Page.html.

We Offered our Condolences to Jan Julia and Don Slepian whose beloved pet Shiloh went to heaven on Sunday October 31st. You’ll find more information about their loss as well as to obtain information on how to share your sentiments at www.theforwardianartssociety.com/Member-Page.html.

We now have over 700 members in total.

We continue to invite and encourage you to share your welcoming, congratulatory, and/or sympathetic thoughts with your fellow members. Please feel free to email them to me and I’ll be glad to pass your words along to them. Also, you may send your news to me via email as I would be happy to learn and share information on what you are doing.

Once again, I thank you for reading this issue of The Forwardian Arts Society Online Newsletter. Please feel free to share your thoughts on anything regarding you’ve discovered in our newsletter and/or The Forwardian Arts Society. I’m always eager to learn how our fellowship can serve you better.

Please feel free to share this newsletter with anyone whom you think would like to be a part of The Forwardian Arts Society. All they have to do is contact me and they’re in. I like easy. Smiles. I look forward to hearing from you soon and I’ll keep a good thought for you until then.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Barbara Courouble “found this fellow on a tombstone at the Trinity Church near the World Trade Center.” So, she took this pictures as she “Always wanted to capture this type of expression on a bird. This was my third best photo of the day. Hope you get a kick out of it too!” Well, I did get a kick out of it and I’m sure you will, too. Am I right? Smiles. Thank you Barbara for sharing this with us.

Send me your favorite photograph and you may see it posted here.

AND REMEMBER

“God Gave us Friends as an Apology for our Relatives.”

Dr. Wayne Dwyer.

“Have you ever noticed how the best decisions you make are preceded by the words, ‘What The Hell?’”

Marilyn Monroe