ESSEX COUNTY & OLMSTED:
Parks for the People
Dear Friend:

If we have learned anything from the pandemic, it was how important our parks and open spaces have been to preserve and promote our physical and mental health. This is not a new revelation, for it is the premise on why our government leaders created the Essex County Parks System in 1895. In this issue, we also commemorate the 200th anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted, the father of landscape architecture and whose influence can be seen in many of our county parks.

During the last two years, we have experienced a surge in how our parks are utilized. Forced into isolation to prevent the spread of the virus, the walking paths, athletic fields, sprawling meadows and vistas became our home away from home and provided a chance to escape the four walls of our homes, burn extra energy, clear our heads and soothe our minds. In the late 1800s, industrialization was at its peak and our county was experiencing widespread development. It was fortuitous that our leaders of the time had the foresight to spare green space from development and create a collection of beautiful open spaces that would become the lungs of our communities and have the distinction of being the first county park system created in the United States.

Springtime literally can be a sight for sore eyes. Emerging from the gray, drab days of winter, the explosion of pink and white petals from the flowering cherry blossom trees can lift our spirits and awaken our souls. Mark your calendar for this year’s Essex County Cherry Blossom Festival from April 2 to 10. Blooming season continues in late May/early June at the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens and then in June at the Brookdale Park Rose Garden.

I hope you can make time to experience these beautiful nature wonders of our parks system. Together we will continue Putting Essex County First.

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.

Essex County Executive

Daniel K. Salvante

Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Wayne L. Richardson, President
Carlos M. Pomares, Vice-President
Tyshammie L. Cooper, Leonard M. Luciano
Brendan W. Gill, Robert Mercado
Romaine Graham, Patricia Setbold
Rafael J. Johnson

What do Central Park in Manhattan, The Emerald Necklace in Boston, and 17 of the Essex County Parks have in common?

They are all part of Frederick Law Olmsted’s legacy of landscape design. Frederick Law Olmsted was born 200 years ago in Connecticut. After pursuing many different careers (experimental farmer, merchant, journalist), he turned to his true professional love: designing parks and public spaces for the health and enjoyment of the people. Olmsted felt that public parks served an important service to the community. He understood instinctively what scientific studies have proven: access to natural areas makes people happier and healthier. Parks provide space for individuals to exercise more and relax, improving their physical and mental health. They are also places that serve the social development of children and adolescents as meeting places and spaces to play. Therefore, these “lungs of the city” encourage the development of dynamic communities.

Understanding that a lack of access to parks and public spaces for the health and enjoyment of the people would negatively affect people, Olmsted and his successors designed parks and public spaces in such a way to best utilize the local geography while still serving the needs of the community. Essex County was an early supporter of this idea, creating the first County Park Commission in the United States in 1895. With Olmsted’s foresight, parks such as Essex County’s Branch Brook Park, Brookdale Park, and Eagle Rock Reservation were created.

This year, Essex County Parks are joining other park systems around the country in celebrating the 200th anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted’s birth. More than just “grass museums,” Olmsted parks serve as bridges to the past and hubs of the community. Parks are being used now more than ever before as people seek areas to recharge and have fun while protecting themselves from illness. This visionary’s ideas of public access to open spaces are alive and well in Essex County, growing and developing every day.
Seasonal events sponsored by the Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

ESSEX COUNTY CODEY ARENA
560 Northfield Avenue, West Orange
973.731.3828 ext. 0
www.essexcountynj.org/codeyarena

Learn to Skate in the Spring
March 11 to June 15
Classes run on Friday, Saturday or Sunday
Six, seven and eight week classes

ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER
621-B Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland
973-228-8776 - www.essexcountynj.org/environmentalcenter

YOUTH GARDEN CLUB
Tuesdays – April 26, May 10, 24; June 7, 21; July 12, 19; August 2; Sept 6, Sept 20; 4pm to 5pm
For ages 5 and up. Participants will grow food in the garden plot and learn about everything from soil to seeds along the way. Participants will get hands-on experience with planting, harvesting and cooking. Session themes include soil and composting, seed planting and labeling, thinning, weeding and watering, selective harvest, garden pests, healthy eating and more! This is a drop-off and pick-up class (children only). Advanced registration required. Fee: $10/child/session or $80 for the full series

FROG POND CLUB
Wednesdays – March 9, April 6, May 11, June 8; 4pm to 5pm
For children ages 5 through 9
Uncover and discover ecosystem interactions at the frog pond. Explore with nets, magnifiers and microscopes to investigate what lives at the pond and learn from a naturalist what can be done to protect and conserve the pond inhabitants. Advance registration, payment and minimum number of participants are required. Fee: $10 per child per session

FOREST FRIENDS CLUB
Thursdays – March 10, April 7, May 19, June 16; 4pm to 5pm
For children ages 5 through 10.
Children will explore the forest using nets, binoculars, magnifiers, and microscopes to investigate nature in our woodlot and wetland habitat. Together we hope to foster an ethic of stewardship and offer an opportunity to take part in hands-on conservation projects. Advance registration, payment and minimum number of participants are required. Fee: $10 per child per session

SMORES n’ MORE NIGHT HIKE
Tuesday, March 8; 6pm to 7:30pm
For families.
Come out to build a campfire and practice fundamental fire skills in a safe and controlled environment. Once the fire gets burning, we’ll roast marshmallows and make s’mores. All ages are welcome. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required. Fee: $30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or $10 per child; $12 per adult

Fredrick Law Olmsted Trivia Quiz

Question: Did Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. design the Essex County Parks?
Answer: Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. consulted on the development of Essex County Branch Brook Park when the concept was introduced in 1867. By the time the Essex County Park System was created in 1895, Olmsted had retired, but his firm, run by his sons John C. and Frederick Jr., designed all our early parks. The Olmsted Brothers firm continued Frederick Law Olmsted Sr.’s landscape design philosophies.

Question: Did Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. visit Essex County Parks?
Answer: He was invited to Newark in 1867 to consult on a location that eventually became Branch Brook Park. He may also have visited the South Mountain Reservation area in 1894.

Question: Which design principle did the Olmsteds use in the landscape architecture of parks?
A. Overall design is more important than individual elements
B. Parks need to be useful, not just pretty
C. A succession of scenery as you move through the park
D. The shape of the land is taken into consideration as the design is being planned
E. All of the above

Answer: E. All of the above

Question: Where can I see evidence of Olmsted design in the Essex County Parks?
Answer: Each of our early parks, such as Branch Brook, Riverbank, and Yanticaw, retain elements of their Olmsted design. The original plans for the parks are kept in the Parks Archives at 115 Clifton Avenue in Newark.
FAMILY DINOSAUR DISCOVERY FIELD TRIPS
Wednesday, March 23; 5:15pm to 6pm
Wednesday, April 27; 5:15pm to 7:15pm
Wednesday, May 25; 5:30pm to 7:30pm
For families with young children ages 4 and up. Meet at the end of Locust Avenue in Roseland and hike 1 mile total to explore this National Historic Landmark that is home to three-toed Grallator dinosaur tracks from the late Triassic age. Using clay, we’ll make and take an impression of an existing Triassic age. Using clay, we’ll make and take an impression of an existing dinosaur track and leave the site undisturbed for future paleontological study. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants required. Fee: $30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or $10 per child, $12 per adult.

OWL PELLET DISSECTION
Monday, March 28; 6pm to 7pm
For children ages 7-12. Learn about our beautiful and mysterious silent hunters of the night. Discover what they’re eating as you explore our barn owl pellets! Minimum number of participants required. Fee: $10 per child

SPRING CAMP
Tuesday, April 2; 9:30am to 1pm
For families with children ages 1 to 6. Celebrate the beginning of spring with a self-guided story walk reading of the “Little White Rabbit” and an egg hunt within the forest grounds of the Environmental Center. Kids should bring their favorite basket to collect eggs and earn surprises! In the spirit of being “green,” participants will exchange eggs for small prizes. The eggs are sanitized and reused for future events and programs. A spring craft giveaway is included. Bad weather cancels. Advanced registration is required; limited space available. For more information and/or to schedule a personalized time slot, call the Center at 973.228.8776. Fee: $15 per child.

DIY RECYCLED PAPERMAKING
Tuesday, April 12; 6pm to 7pm
For families or elementary age children. Join an environmental center naturalist to learn to turn your household paper waste into beautiful paper right in your own kitchen. Make and take recycled paper. Together we can reduce our waste and take better care of mother earth! FREE (This program is sponsored by the Essex County Utilities Authority.)

ACCESSIBILITY DURING THE ANNUAL ESSEX COUNTY CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL
Hundreds of thousands of visitors flock to Essex County Branch Brook Park every spring to witness the explosion of color when the famous Cherry Blossom trees bloom. Essex County has been hosting its annual festival to celebrate the beauty of the trees since 1976 and makes every effort to ensure events are accessible to all residents.

Many of the festival’s events take place near the Cherry Blossom Welcome Center on Branch Brook Drive between Helfer Parkway in Newark and Mill Street in Belleville. The Center has a paved parking lot with signposted handicapped parking spaces, no stairs to enter, and accessible restrooms. However, during some festival events, the parking lot will be used for programming and not for parking. The area around the Welcome Center is paved and there is exterior seating. Seating will also be available on the grass area of the parking lot during the festival for stage viewing. Many paths throughout the Cherry Blossom area are paved with smooth grading.

The Cherry Blossom 10K Run attracts thousands of runners, who enjoy the scenic views of the cherry blossoms while testing their endurance and competing against others. The event also includes a competition for the disabled. A portion of the proceeds from the 10K run support Special Olympics activities in Essex County.

TODDLER SENSORY HIKE
Monday, May 2; 10am to 11am
For children ages 1-5 with caregiver supervision. Bring your toddlers for a story walk reading of the “Little White Rabbit” and an egg hunt within the forest grounds of the Environmental Center. Kids should bring their favorite basket to collect eggs and earn surprises! In the spirit of being “green,” participants will exchange eggs for small prizes. The eggs are sanitized and reused for future events and programs. A spring craft giveaway is included. Bad weather cancels. Advanced registration is required; limited space available. For more information and/or to schedule a personalized time slot, call the Center at 973.228.8776. Fee: $15 per child.

For children ages 1 to 6. Celebrate the beginning of spring with a self-guided story walk reading of the “Little White Rabbit” and an egg hunt within the forest grounds of the Environmental Center. Kids should bring their favorite basket to collect eggs and earn surprises! In the spirit of being “green,” participants will exchange eggs for small prizes. The eggs are sanitized and reused for future events and programs. A spring craft giveaway is included. Bad weather cancels. Advanced registration is required; limited space available. For more information and/or to schedule a personalized time slot, call the Center at 973.228.8776. Fee: $15 per child.

Join an environmental center naturalist to learn to turn your household paper waste into beautiful paper right in your own kitchen. Make and take recycled paper. Together we can reduce our waste and take better care of mother earth! FREE (This program is sponsored by the Essex County Utilities Authority.)

DIY RECYCLED PAPERMAKING
Tuesday, April 12; 6pm to 7pm
For families or elementary age children. Join an environmental center naturalist to learn to turn your household paper waste into beautiful paper right in your own kitchen. Make and take recycled paper. Together we can reduce our waste and take better care of mother earth! FREE (This program is sponsored by the Essex County Utilities Authority.)

ACCESSIBILITY DURING THE ANNUAL ESSEX COUNTY CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL
Hundreds of thousands of visitors flock to Essex County Branch Brook Park every spring to witness the explosion of color when the famous Cherry Blossom trees bloom. Essex County has been hosting its annual festival to celebrate the beauty of the trees since 1976 and makes every effort to ensure events are accessible to all residents.

Many of the festival’s events take place near the Cherry Blossom Welcome Center on Branch Brook Drive between Helfer Parkway in Newark and Mill Street in Belleville. The Center has a paved parking lot with signposted handicapped parking spaces, no stairs to enter, and accessible restrooms. However, during some festival events, the parking lot will be used for programming and not for parking. The area around the Welcome Center is paved and there is exterior seating. Seating will also be available on the grass area of the parking lot during the festival for stage viewing. Many paths throughout the Cherry Blossom area are paved with smooth grading.

The Cherry Blossom 10K Run attracts thousands of runners, who enjoy the scenic views of the cherry blossoms while testing their endurance and competing against others. The event also includes a competition for the disabled. A portion of the proceeds from the 10K run support Special Olympics activities in Essex County.
FROG POND ADVENTURE
OUTDOOR CLASS
Tuesday, May 10; 6pm to 7:30pm
For families. This mitchettle program will take an up-close look at our pond ecosystem. Search for and identify the life found in the pond through magnifying glasses, microscopes and fields of guide. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. Fee: $30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or $10 per child, $12 per adult.

PASASSIC RIVER CANOE TRIP
Saturday, May 14; 9am to 1pm
For adults and children ages 12 and up. Paddle up the Passaic River from the Environmental Center to Okner Park in Livingstlont. Pack your own snack to enjoy at the park and then float back down to Garibaldi Hall where we launched. The session includes basic paddling safety and techniques and all equipment. For intermediate and advanced paddlers. Children ages 12 and up may paddle with a parent guardian. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. Fee: $30 per person.

PASASSIC RIVER CANOE TRIP
Thursday, May 19; 6pm to 8pm
For adults and children ages 10 and older. Take a leisurely paddle on the Passaic River! Paddlers will enjoy scenery and peacefulness as they paddle up the river and float downstream. Geared for beginners and children 10 and up accompanied by a parent or guardian. Meet in the Garibaldi Hall parking lot. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. Fee: $20 per person.

SPRING JOURNALING OUTDOOR CLASS
Monday, May 23; 5:30pm to 7pm
All ages (children under 5 require caregiver supervision). Discover the joy of phenology, the cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena, especially in relation to climate and plant and animal life. Let us find a special place to write and draw our spring discoveries and appreciate the warmth and change of the season. Maybe partake in some spring birding! We will also hike the grounds to note seasonal changes and beautiful discoveries. We will make our journals here on site. Friends and family are encouraged to join. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. Fee: $30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or $10 per child, $12 per adult.

ESSEX COUNTY FISHING DERBY
Tuesdays, May 17 and May 24; 5pm
For families. This ribattling program is an opportunity to participate in supplementary science and nature-themed programs and projects that facilitate scientific literacy and life-long environmental stewardship. Available to students ages 6-12. The programs include a visit to the South Mountain Reservation, Reservoir, or Zoo as weather permits; it does not include zoo admission for after the program. Fee: $30/participant. For more information, visit https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/wonders-of-the-wild/

SPRING JOURNALING OUTDOOR CLASS
Monday, May 23; 5:30pm to 7pm
All ages (children under 5 require caregiver supervision). Discover the joy of phenology, the cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena, especially in relation to climate and plant and animal life. Let us find a special place to write and draw our spring discoveries and appreciate the warmth and change of the season. Maybe partake in some spring birding! We will also hike the grounds to note seasonal changes and beautiful discoveries. We will make our journals here on site. Friends and family are encouraged to join. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. Fee: $30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or $10 per child, $12 per adult.

ESSEX COUNTY TURTLE BACK ZOO
560 Northfield Avenue, West Orange
973-731-5800 • www.essecounty.org/turtlebackzoo

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS
Select Sundays and Mondays throughout the Spring; 10am and 11:30am
TBZ’s Early Childhood Programs encourage family learning and foster early environmental awareness. Young children are invited to discover the natural world through gently structured play, art, stories, animal visits and more. Age restrictions apply; pre-registration required; zoo admission not included. Tots (ages 2&3) and Explorers (ages 4&5) are $25-$30 per participant. For more information, visit https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/early-childhood-programs/

WONDERS OF THE WILD
Most Saturdays throughout the Spring; 9am
Turtle Back Zoo is an amazing classroom! Our Wonders of the Wild program is an opportunity to participate in supplementary science and nature-themed programs and projects that facilitate scientific literacy and life-long environmental stewardship. Available to students ages 6-12. The programs include a visit to the South Mountain Reservation, Reservoir, or Zoo as weather permits; it does not include zoo admission for after the program. Fee: $30/participant. For more information, visit https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/wonders-of-the-wild/

SOPHISTICATED SCIENCE SEMINARS
Select Saturdays throughout the Spring; times vary
Sophisticated Science Seminars are conservation programs geared to audiences ages 15 to 103. Seminars run throughout the year and span topics such as animal anatomy, habitats and conservation, animal careers, and more. The programs are perfect for those interested in animals, science, conservation, and nature who want to learn something new in a relaxed atmosphere. $30/participant includes a visit to the zoo, but not zoo admission for after the program. For more information, visit https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/sophisticated-science-seminars/

FAMILY NATURE CLUB: NATURE ADVENTURERS
Select Sundays throughout the Spring; times vary
Nature Play is playing WITH nature, not just IN nature and is a great way to interact with nature no matter your experience level or play style. Run, climb, build, dig, or even just sit and experience the sounds, smells, and sights of the outdoors. Nature Adventurers offer different locations near Essex County Turtle Back Zoo; zoo admission not included. $15/participant. For more information, visit https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/family-nature-club-nature-adventurers/

UPCOMING MINI-CAMPS
Spring Break Camp 1: April 12-14; 9am-4pm
Spring Break Camp 2: April 19-21; 9am-4pm
Join us at Turtle Back Zoo for some wild fun! To further our mission of conservation, education, and stewardship, campers will be introduced to the extraordinary world of animals, nature, and science. Children will enjoy age-appropriate camp activities that include games, teacher-led lessons, behind-the-scenes tours, up-close animal encounters, hands-on science demos, and fun crafts. $90/participant. For more information, visit https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/zoocamps/

OTHER PROGRAMS AT THE ZOO OR CLOSER TO YOU
In-person and Virtual Programs, Outreatches, and more

Dates and Times Scheduled at Need
Join us for a dynamic and fun educational program that is focused on animals, conservation, and stewardship. We offer a variety of programs that satisfy many scientific benchmarks while also being engaging and informative. Programs can be adapted to age and ability, many can be adapted for outreaches to schools, senior centers, etc. Fees and restrictions vary per location. For more information, visit https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/education-center-programs/

WORLD TURTLE DAY CELEBRATION
Sunday, May 22; 11am to 2pm
Join us at Essex County Turtle Back Zoo as we celebrate our special namesake animal on World Turtle Day! On May 22nd, visit TBZ to learn all about turtles, tortoises, and terrapins and take away some skills you and your family can use to help all chelonians. Free event with zoo admission; weather permitting.
FEEDER CONTEST

The Essex County Environmental Center staff would like to thank all those who entered our Forest Friends Feeder Contest. The distinctive, creative, and edible entries provided delicious and special treats for our outdoor wetland critters, who were most appreciative of all the creations! It was truly a delightful sight for all; our visiting families and Center staff witnessed countless winter birds landing from flight to enjoy a winter treat made specially for them.

1st Place Prize - Adult Professional
E.C. West Caldwell Tech - 12th Grade
Ashley Sanchez, Jaidelys Sanchez, Sabrina Fabara & Aryana Jackson
Instructor Daniel Decher

1st Place Prize - Group Family
DeFrank Family

2nd Place Prize - Adult Professional
E.C. West Caldwell Tech - 11th Grade
Yaira Ramos & Yaritza Gutierrez
Instructor Daniel Decher

2nd Place Prize - Adult Professional
E.C. West Caldwell Tech - 9th Grade
Madison Hill, Karen Velasquez & Tanea Joyner
Instructor Daniel Decher

2nd Place Prize - Group Family
4-H Young Gardeners Club

3rd Place Prize - Group Family
The Dat Family

3rd Place Prize - Adult Professional
E.C. West Caldwell Tech - 9th Grade
Madison Hill, Karen Velasquez & Tanea Joyner
Instructor Daniel Decher

Individual Child Category Winner
Ursa Brondo

People's Choice Den 4 Cedar Grove Cub Scouts

Visit SOPACnow.org/Covid-19 for all Covid-19 Precautions & Policies
The following events are offered for the public’s enjoyment by Essex County-based arts and history organizations.

LISA PALOMBO STUDIOS
55 Mountain Avenue, Caldwell
973.364.0280
www.Lisapalombo.com

Twice a year, Lisa Palombo opens her working art studio and gallery to the public to showcase new original art consisting of impressionistic-style paintings in various sizes and subject matter. This spring, she will debut her newest series “Animalia,” “Ode to Monet,” “Fields of Joy,” “Koi,” “Equine” and “Maritime,” which will all showcase her signature palette and expressive brushstrokes.

MONTCLLAIR ART MUSEUM
3 South Mountain Avenue, Montclair
973.746.5555
www.montclairartmuseum.org

Tenacity & Resilience: The Art of Jerry Pinkney
February 6 to June 26
Tenacity & Resilience: The Art of Jerry Pinkney will feature more than 80 beautiful illustrations and working drawings from nine children’s books spanning 1979 to the present by Jerry Pinkney, one of America’s most renowned children’s book illustrators. These illustrations express powerful messages from the history of the Civil Rights movement in America, honor Black heritage, and inspire with tales of courage and aspiration. They also reflect Pinkney’s compassionate nature and his desire to be a “strong role model for my family and other African Americans.” Mr. Pinkney passed away on October 20, 2021, three months before the opening of this exhibition. We hope you will join us in celebrating his legacy and enjoying his multifaceted talents as a master watercolorist, draftsman, and storyteller.

By Our Own Hand: Frontline Arts in collaboration with Donna Bassin
Through August 14
MAM presents a year-long, site-specific installation in the Laurie Art Stairway, in collaboration with Frontline Arts and Donna Bassin. On view are approximately 800 sheets of handmade paper created from veterans’ uniforms and provided by Frontline Paper, an initiative of Frontline Arts. Inspired by the ancient practice of Tibetan prayer flags hung to mark an important and challenging occasion, BOOH refers to the toll of veteran deaths by their own hand as well as to the resiliency and creativity from transforming military uniforms into handmade paper.

Transformed: Objects Reimagined by American Artists
Through January 8, 2023
Inspired by the note Jasper Johns wrote to himself in his sketchbook in 1964, this exhibition features more than 60 artworks from 1829 to the present in which artists take objects as their points of departure, transforming them to reflect their varied cultural backgrounds and viewpoints. This exhibition is organized thematically, as indicated on each object label, to represent these diverse perspectives.

THE NEWARK MUSEUM OF ART
49 Washington Street, Newark
973.596.6550
www.newarkmuseum.org

Carlos Villa: Worlds in Collision
Through May 8
Carlos Villa: Worlds in Collision presents the first major museum retrospective dedicated to the work of a Filipino American artist, celebrating the groundbreaking career of Carlos Villa (1936-2013). His paintings, drawings, sculptures, self-portraits, and performance art are filled with imagery inspired by his study of non-Western art and culture, including ethnographic objects he observed in museum collections. Carlos Villa: Worlds in Collision is co-organized by the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco and the San Francisco Art Institute.

Endangered!
Through April 24
This immersive exhibition will explore the stories behind some extinct, threatened and lower risk species, as well as how human behaviors affect animals. Visitors will be invited to make a pledge to help save various animals worldwide. Great for families with children of any age.

Saya Woolfalk: Field Notes from the Empathic Universe
Through December 31
Saya Woolfalk: Field Notes from the Empathic Universe invites visitors to enter the kaleidoscopic and culturally hybrid worlds created by the artist. The exhibition features an immersive video installation exploring portraiture and a series of new mixed media collages, all accessed through the North Wing elevator, which will be transformed by Woolfalk’s digitally-collaged murals.

WEST ORANGE ARTS CENTER
551 Valley Road, West Orange
862.500.1918
www.WOArts.org

The JSDD WAE Center’s “Inside Out” Virtual exhibit indefinite
On display is the work of over 20 WAE Center artists and most of the artwork is available for purchase. Self-driven and self-taught, this genre of work is referred to as “ Outsider Art,” meaning that the artist is not formally trained yet still create from an organic place of knowledge and experience. The visual representations of each artist’s own raw experiences, thoughts, and feelings communicate their perceptions of the world around them in varied and vibrant form.

A Hybrid Art Experience Online To schedule your visit, please email info@woarts.org or call the center. A virtual exhibit is on the West Orange Arts Council’s website.
March, April, May: Essex County Branch Brook Park Volunteer Stewardship. Join the Branch Brook Park Alliance and Jersey Cares in ongoing volunteer stewardship efforts at Essex County Branch Brook Park. Meet at the Essex County Branch Brook Park Prudential Concert Grove. Various Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays; 9am to 1pm. Registration required. 973.969.1889. www.branchbrookpark.org/volunteer. Please call for ADA accessibility details.

March-May: Register for ACCA Creates Summer Arts. See the ACCA (Arts Culture and Community Activism Creates) for information and registration forms. accacreats.org

March 1: Soapmaking. Learn how to work safely with traditional soap ingredients to create luxurious handcrafted soap imbued with your favorite fragrances or essential oils for family and friends. Be sure to wear old clothing and bring safety goggles and waterproof protective gloves. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm. $65. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

March 1 to April 5: Writing A Life: Memoir Workshop. There are many ways to write about a life: A book-length memoir, a personal essay, a series of prose poems. In this workshop, we will share our life stories and receive encouragement and critique on them. March 1 to April 5: Writing A Life: Memoir Workshop. www.somadultschool.org

March 2 to April 6: Pen and Ink Drawing. Learn the pleasures of pen and ink drawing. Create beautiful drawings of plants, objects, scenes from childhood stories and architectural photographs. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 6:30-8pm. $96. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

March 3: Intro to Native Plant Gardening. Various planting methods, including winter sowing and garden planning with landscaping plugs, will be covered. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood, 7-9pm. $40. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

March 3 to April 7: Acrylic Painting. Learn different brush stroke techniques as well as how to mix and blend colors. Artists of all levels will enjoy experimenting with different styles including realism, abstract art and painting from observation. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm. $125. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

March 3 to April 7: Ukulele: Beginner. Riding the wave of Indie folk music, the ukulele is enjoying a remarkable revival. With only four strings and an appealing folksy twang, this instrument is easy to play and a joy to share with friends. Learn basic chords, strumming and community play. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8pm. $42-$77. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

March 4: New Jersey Symphony, Ravel’s Boléro. Superb New Jersey Symphony principals step into the spotlight. Bart Feller in a tour de force that lets the flute’s shining personalities sing out and Jonathan Spitz in a piece many call the perfect cellos concerto. Xian Zhang bookends this beauty with iconic pieces by the master orchestral colorist Maurice Ravel, ending with the build-hurricane of Boléro. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. 1:30pm. $25-$90. 800.255.3476. https://www.njsymphony.org/

March 5: An Evening with Marc Cohn. After winning a Grammy for his soulful ballad “Walking in Memphis,” Marc Cohn solidified his place as one of this generation’s most compelling singer-songwriters, combining the precision of a brilliant tunemaster with the passion of a great Soul man. South Orange Performing Arts Center One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $45-$60. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

March 6: West Orange Classic Film Festival “Some Like It Hot” (1959), with Stephen Whitty. Two musicians (Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon) disguise themselves by dressing as women in order to escape gangsters whom they witnessed committing a crime. The film also stars Marilyn Monroe. The film will be followed by a discussion led by a local film scholar/critic. AMC Theatre in Essex Green Shopping Center, Prospect Avenue. West Orange. 2pm. $14. Tickets must be purchased in advance on Eventbrite at https://www.eventbrite.com/t/6-west-orange-classic-film-festival-39820071883. Tickets will not be available at the theater box office or through Fandango.

March 6: Jazz in the Loft: Freddie Hendrix Quartet. Over the past two decades, Freddie Hendrix has become one of the most in demand trumpeters in Jazz and beyond. This accomplished composer, arranger and educator from Teaneck has worked with everyone from the Count Basie Orchestra to Alicia Keys. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7pm. $20. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

March 8-29: Introduction to Gel Plate Printing. Learn how to create monoprints using gelatin plates and acrylic paints. No need for a printing press or anything fancy in order to create beautiful and unique art pieces or decorative papers. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm. $125. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

March 8 to 29: Rewriting Sex and Gender. Female? Male? Trans? Intersex? Cis? Gay? Straight? Bisexual Female? Male? Trans? Intersex? Cis? Gay? Straight? Bisexual? What does any of it mean? Why are those meanings so very important to us? We will utilize the works of queer/gender theorists and artists to explore our own understanding of gender. For each class, there will be a readings/video/visual work and a writing prompt based on that source. Prompts will give each student the opportunity to explore these topics by accessing their creative mind. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. $115. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

March 8 to April 5: Pet Portraits in Collage. Create a rich and textured portrait of your pet in collage. Students will work from a photograph of their pet and create a portrait of it using magazines and other papers. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue. Maplewood. $125. 7-9pm. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

March 9: Son Volt. Founded by songwriter and vocalist Jay Farrar, Son Volt is an American Rock band that also infuses Folk, Country, Blues and Soul into their sound. Their songs often seek out the ghosts of America’s discordant or forgotten past. The group marked their 25th anniversary in 2020, while in lockdown due to the pandemic. They released their 10th studio album, Electro Melodier, in July 2021. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC

New Jersey Symphony at SOPAC

Kindred The Family Soul at SOPAC
March 9: Beginner Songwriting for Fun (And No Profit Whatever). All ages/levels/backgrounds are welcome to participate in this super-fun, fast-moving interactive songwriting session. We'll write a catchy, toe-tapping original tune together and then participants will break off and write another song on their own, either alone, in pairs or groups. This is an ideal session to do with a friend. Everyone will leave buoyant and singing a new tune! South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 6:30-9pm. $40. www.somadultschool.org.

March 9 to 30: Tarot for Beginners. All Fun (And No Profit Whatsoever!). The Spirit of North Indian Bhangra with elements of Funk, Go-Go, Rock and raw Punk energy. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $25-$35. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

March 10: The Bad Plus. The Bad Plus is a critically acclaimed, avant-garde jazz quartet that has been called "technically brilliant, beyond versatille" (The New Yorker) and is known for producing "moving, mighty music" (Rolling Stone). South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $28-$36. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.


March 10 & 12: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Artis-in-Residence Danill Trifonov. "The most astounding pianist of our age" (The Times) returns for his second week this season with a brand new concerto written for him by a musical polymath—DJ and composer Mason Bates. Xian Zhang specializes in Tchaikovsky’s singing line, digging deep into the sorrow and joy that makes her favorite Russian composer’s music utterly unique. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. Thursday at 1:30pm. Saturday at 8pm. $25-$90. 800.255.3476. https://www.njsymphony.org/

March 11: Red Baraat Festival of Colors. Red Baraat Festival of Colors is an immersive experience celebrating the spirit of the Hindu holiday of Holi through music, dance and visuals. Led by dhol player Sunny Jain, the group has drawn worldwide praise for its merging of North Indian Bhangra with elements of Funk, Go-Go, Rock and raw Punk energy. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $25-$35. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

March 12: West Orange Classic Film Festival “Buck Privates” (1941) with comic writer/film historian Paul Castiglia. Jersey boys Bud Abbott (Asbury Park) and Lou Costello (Paterson) were launched into the comedy stasisphere with their roles in their first service comedy based on the peacetime draft of 1940. The Andrews Sisters and Nat Pendelton co-star. AMC Theatre in Essex Green Shopping Center, Prospect Avenue, West Orange. 2pm. $14. Tickets must be purchased in advance on Eventbrite at https://www.eventbrite.com/o/the-west-orange-classic-film-festival-3982071883. Tickets will not be available at the theater box office or through Fandango.

March 12: Sonis Delaunay: A Modern Language of Color. Sonia Delaunay was an avant-garde artist who spent her life experimenting with the language of color and abstraction. She developed a varied practice, giving equal weight to design and fine art. While remaining faithful to abstract painting, she created innovative designs in typography and textile prints. She crafted handmade garments and ready-to-wear fashion and designed costumes for theater, ballet, and film. She also created tapestries and mosaics as well as cutting edge interior design.

March 13: Dee Dee Bridgewater & Bill Charlap. Renowned Grammy Award winners Dee Dee Bridgewater and Bill Charlap ignite their musical chemistry to generate an incomparable jazz experience. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. $40-$54. 973.313.7877. SOPACnow.org.

March 15 to April 5: Meditation: Beyond Mindfulness. Meditation and mindfulness are excellent ways of relieving stress and staying healthy. This class will help you become more centered and peaceful. Mindfulness is essential; it is used and developed through meditation. But meditation shows us that mindfulness is just the beginning to discovering lasting inner peace. No prior experience necessary. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. $64. 973.378.7620. www.somadulschool.org.

March 15: How to Publish a Children’s Book. Students will learn the basics of writing and illustrating a children’s story. We will brainstorm story ideas and discuss the eight key factors included in selling your story to a publisher. The teacher will review successful art and illustration techniques that will make your story come alive. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. $35-$43. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

March 16: Psychic Reading. In addition to having your palm read, you will receive an eight-page detailed numerology chart. Based on your name and your birthday, this chart will analyze what motivates you in life, the impression you make on others, the way you express yourself, best careers for you, cycles in your life and your personal horoscope every day for a year. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. $35. 973.378.7620. www.somadulschool.org.

March 18: Edwin McCain. A longtime friend of Hootie and the Blowfish, the guitarist has been called the “great American romantic” (The New York Times). His tender, instantly recognizable ballads “Tell Me” and “I Could Not Ask for More” are immortalized in several 2000s film and TV soundtracks. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. 388-5431. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

March 20: How to Publish a Book. The class will focus on writing and illustrating a children’s book. The teacher will review successful art and illustration techniques that will make your story come alive. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. $40-$54. 973.313.7877. SOPACnow.org.
March 31: Damien Escobar. Violinist Damien Escobar sits at the intersection of Hip-Hop and Classical music with a sophisticated, edgy style and an unstoppable swagger. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. $38-$58. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

April 1: Marc Broussard. Marc Broussard’s signature “Bayou Soul” style and rich voice are influenced by his Louisiana roots and musical father, a guitarist for the Soul Band The Boogie Kings. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $35-$45. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 22, 23, 28, 29 & 30: Historic & Horticulture Walking Tours. Join the Branch Brook Park Alliance for a 45-minute walking tour and learn about the historical significance of Essex County Branch Brook Park and the renowned collection of Japanese and flowering Cherry Blossoms. Essex County Branch Brook Park, Prudential Concedo Grove. Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays, 10am and 3pm. Registration required. Visit the website for updated fees. 973.969.1198. www.branchbrookpark.org. Please call for ADA accessibility details.

April 2: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. French-Canadian wonder Louis Lortie teams up with the New Jersey Symphony to perform Beethoven’s Piano Concertos Nos. 1 & 5. This concert shows Beethoven at the starting line of his career, full of youthful fire, and at his glorious pinnacle. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark, 11:30pm. 800.255.3476. https://www.njsymphony.org/events/detail/beethovens-piano-concertos-nos-1-5.

April 3: Tab Benoit. One of the most impressive guitarists to emerge from the rich Bayous of Louisiana, Tab Benoit’s guitar tone and his Otis Redding-like voice are iconic. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. $35-$45. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

April 4: Stephen Whitty Presents – the World According to Coens. Joel and Ethan Coen have a reputation for being a little dark, a little snarky, a little sarcastic. But as a display of their films – including Fargo, A Serious Man and The Big Lebowski – reveals a different, far sunnier world. One of the greatest people search for meaning, holy fools and innocents are protected by providence and the only real sin is thinking you’re smarter than everyone else. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7:30pm. $30. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org.

April 7: Olmsted’s Imprint on Montclair. The Olmsted firm designed much more than just parks, as this Zoom slide show illustrates. Montclair projects include Essex County parks but also church grounds, a subdivision, private estates, and even a parking lot. April marks the 200th birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted. Presented by Lisanne Renner, historian for Friends of Anderson Roseman’s Guillaume Tell. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. Friday at 8pm. Sunday at 3pm. $25-$90. 973.378.7647. https://www.njsymphony.org. 

April 9: The Milk Carton Kids. The harmony duo have the same Grammy Award-nominated Indie-Folk duo has earned them comparisons to Simon & Garfunkel and the Everly Brothers. Their engaging live shows have a touch of comedy with Smothers Brothers-esque banter. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $25-$45. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

April 10: Jazz in the Loft: Roseanna Vitro. Grammy-nominated artist Roseanna Vitro is a renowned vocalist specializing in Jazz. She has toured on every continent except Antarctica, representing the USA as a Jazz Ambassador for the US State Department, The Kennedy Center and Lincoln Center. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $25. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

April 18: Shovels & Rope: The Manticore Tour. Shovels & Rope channel Country, Folk, Blues, Americanas and Blues through a nervy Indie Rock prism. Partners musically and in life, this duo composed of Michael Trent and Cary Ann Hearst combine threads from their solo careers in the harmonious music they mix together. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $29-$39. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

April 22: DakhaBraka. You’re in for a sonic feast as well as a visual spectacle. The award-winning Ukrainian quartet DakhaBraka blends ancient Ukrainian Folk melodies into a subversive musical tapestry that embraces Indie-Rock, Pop, Hip-Hop, the avant-garde and traditional instrumentation from around the world. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $35-$45. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.

April 27: The Spirit of Los Lobos at SOPAC. Los Lobos at SOPAC. Los Lobos were formed in 1980 by members of the East Bay Rockabilly scene. Their performances are a fusion of Hawaiian music, Latin American music styles, and rockabilly, all wrapped together in the form of storytelling and has presented more than 35,000 shows withstanding room only crowds worldwide.

March 24: The Moth Mainstage. The Moth is dedicated to the art and craft of storytelling and has presented more than 35,000 stories, told live and without notes, by people from all walks of life to standing room only crowds worldwide. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. $30-$50. 973.313.2787. www.somadultschool.org.


March 25 & 26: The Machine performs Pink Floyd. The Machine pays homage to Pink Floyd in two back-to-back nights. Hear the epic rock opera, The Wall, with their interpretation and Pink Floyd’s greatest hits plus some obscurities on Saturday, South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $35-$48. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org.
April 13: Melvin Seals & JGB. Embark on a psychedelic musical journey with Melvin Seals & JGB as they perform a blend of Rock, Gospel, Soul and Rhythm and Blues. Seals is most revered for his 18 years with the Jerry Garcia Band playing his powerful, high-spirited, Hammond B-3 organ and keyboards. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. $39-$161. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

April 14: Tommy Emmanuel, CGP. Tommy Emmanuel, four-time winner of Australia’s Best Guitarist Award, has helped bring the art of Rock guitar down under to a higher awareness by bringing a sense of Jazz improvisation into a mix that also includes Blues, Country, Rock, Classical, and Spanish music. He is often regarded as one of the greatest acoustic guitarists of all time. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. $43-$59. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

April 20: Los Lobos. The trademark of this great American Rock band is its ability to meld styles, including Blues of this great American Rock band is its The trademark. He is often regarded as one of the greatest acoustic guitarists of all time. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. $43-$65. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

April 21: Suzanne Vega: An Evening of New York Songs & Stories. Suzanne Vega, a Grammy Award-winning artist with a restrained Folk-Pop sound, celebrates her career-spanning winning group Los Lobos is known for its cover of Ritchie Valens’ iconic “La Bamba.” South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. $59-$79. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

April 21: Carolyn Dorfman Dance: Returning to Reconnect. Carolyn Dorfman Dance returns to SOPAC for a joyous evening that will have audiences dancing in their seats. Carolyn and her 11 multi-ethnic and stunning dancers invite you to celebrate the human experience with new works and repertory favorites. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. $25-$35. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

April 24: Blue in the Loft: Alex Tea. Alex Tea is a Roots/Reggae songwriter and multi-instrumentalist residing in Jersey City. His current projects include the band KIWI, the international collaboration Orquestra Raiz, and the South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. $160. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

April 25: The Spirit of Free to the Public. The Spirit of Free to the Public reservations recommended. www.eventbrite.com


April 20 to May 11: Juggling: Beginner. Learn one of the basic requirements to juggle. Participants will start by learning the basic three-ball cascade and then begin adding new moves such as “tennis.” South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. $65. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

April 21 to May 26: Painting Portraits from Photographs. This class is designed for students with some experience painting and drawing who want to explore composition and content within a portrait. Students will view and critique work by established artists, learn basic color theory and explore surrealism and symbolism while creating an original portrait of a subject of their choosing. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 6-8pm. $160. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

April 20 to May 11: Juggling: Beginner. Learn one of the basic requirements to juggle. Participants will start by learning the basic three-ball cascade and then begin adding new moves such as “tennis.” South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. $65. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

April 21 to May 26: Painting Portraits from Photographs. This class is designed for students with some experience painting and drawing who want to explore composition and content within a portrait. Students will view and critique work by established artists, learn basic color theory and explore surrealism and symbolism while creating an original portrait of a subject of their choosing. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 6-8pm. $160. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

April 26 to May 17: Creative Writing Workshop: An Open-Genre Approach. Do you have an idea you want to write about but are not sure what container it belongs in? Short fiction or poetry? Memoir or journalistic essay? This workshop is open to writers working in those genres. Come share your work and receive the feedback you need to keep moving forward. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8pm. $120. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

April 28 & 30: Birding in New Jersey. New Jersey is one of the best places in North America for birding. The first class covers the basics of bird migration. The second class takes place in Essex County South Mountain Reservation so that students can witness migrating birds firsthand. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. $60. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

April 28 & 30: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. Conrad Tao Performs Tchaikovsky. Since Conrad Tao’s New Jersey Symphony appearance four seasons ago, his career has exploded: he’s written music for the New York Philharmonic, performed all over the world and earned a huge spread in The New York Times. He plays his own playful Spoonfuls and Tchaikovsky’s big-shouldered First, with Shostakovich’s lighthearted Ninth. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. Thursday at 130pm. Saturday at 8pm. $25-$90. 800.255.3476. https://www.njsymphony.org/

April 28, 29 & 30: Celebrating and Recognizing the Deaf. Dance: Stepping. This dance, Stepping, uses rhythmical patterns that can more readily be accessible to those with levels of hearing loss extending to the Profound Deaf, because they can feel and see the rhythmic patterns. Additionally, these dance classes lift up Stepping, a form of African American performance, challenge, and competitive art. Taught on zoom. For people of all ages. Ivy Hill Vailsburg Center for Arts Culture and Community Activism, ACCA Creates. 973-371-9782. Visit www.accacreates.org for accessibility information.

May 4: Wednesday Night Flight. Taproom Tour @ 4 City Brewing Co. The craft brewery offers a large selection of brews, from citrus-forward IPAs to rich, toasty stouts, from crisp cream ales to spicy saisons. Go behind the scenes with a taproom tour, tempt your tastebuds with a flight and have a medium pour of your favorite brew. Four City Brewing Company, 65 South Essex Avenue, Orange. 7-9pm. $40. 973.378.7620. www.somadultschool.org

May 7: Succeed2gether’s Montclair Literary Festival. The sixth annual Succeed2gether’s Montclair Literary Festival. Check our website closer to the date for updated information. Live near the Montclair Public Library’s Main Branch & First Congregational Church, Fullerton Avenue and Plymouth Streets, Montclair, and on-line. Free with several paid ticketed events. 973.746.0553. succeed2gether.org/montclair-literary-festival

May 14: Happy Birthday, Mr. Olmsted! The 200th anniversary of the landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted will be celebrated in Essex County Anderson Park with live music, an antique bicycle display, children’s activities, and a theatrical living-history portrayal of Olmsted by Joseph Smith. Essex County Anderson Park, 274 Bellevue Avenue, Montclair. 1-4 pm. Free. (Rain date: May 15) Sponsored by Friends of Anderson Park. Funding has been made possible in part by the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State, through funds administered by the Essex County Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs. 973.477.7207. A schedule of activities is available at FriendsOfAndersonPark.com

Eddie Palmieri at SOPAC
May 22: Kids ‘N Family Series: The Little Mermaid. This award-winning adaptation of Hans Christian Anderson’s beloved tale follows the dreams of a young girl who believes there is a better life waiting for her above the surface of the ocean. With stunning scenery and costumes, original songs and chart-topping hits, this show is an adventurous and delightful musical theatre experience. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 1pm. $20. 973.313.2787.

THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART
ESSEX COUNTY ONGOING PROGRAMS

Wednesday at Noon: A 30-minute recital. A brief tour of the cathedral will immediately follow the recital. Free will offering.

May 27: Verona High School Concert Band
May 4: Music For Voices Elizabeth Pimentel, soprano; Julia Zivick, mezzo-soprano; Theodore Chiocchio, tenor, and Jorge Ocasio, bass-baritone.

May 11: Organ and Flute Recital: John A. Pomereni and John A. Pomereni II.
May 18: Organ Recital: Chung A. Hong

Concert Series
March 20: NJ Wind Symphony. 3pm. Free will offering.
April 15: Choral Meditations on the Stations of the Cross with the Cathedral Choir. The cathedral’s tradition of presenting meditations within the Stations of the Cross continues. This a cappella program will feature works of Clausen, Lotfi, Allegri, and Casiula. 8pm. Free will offering.
April 22: Archdiocesan Choral Festival – Music of Ludwig van Beethoven – Mass in C Major. This is a combined event with the Hackensack River Singers and the Sacred Music Society of New Jersey. A 30-minute recital. A brief tour of the cathedral will immediately follow the recital. Free will offering.

May 1: Music in the Garden: Children’s Voices. The children’s voices will be heard in the garden, under the trees, and in the cathedral.


May 19: Organ Recital: David Ozard

May 22: Organ Recital: John Pomereni

May 29: Organ Recital: Thomas Murray

March 3: ‘Cell Phone Photography’ presented by Paul Michael Kane
March 17: Club Competition of nature and pictorial projected images judged by Dave Mills
April 7th: Member Workshops presented by club members
April 21st: Club Competition of nature and pictorial projected images judged by Becky Witt
May 5: Ridgewood International Photo Contest Winners presentation
May 19: Club Competition. Best Images of the Year judged by Susan Candelario, Citadel Grange and Al Brown

MAPLEWOOD LIBRARY
129 Boyden Avenue, Maplewood
973.762.1688 / http://www.maplewoodlibrary.org

March 7: Remember the (First) Ladies. This program will touch on all the first ladies of the United States from Martha Washington to Melania Trump. Each will reveal her own way with the inherent tension between the public nature of the role and the discomfort of society with women in public positions. Presented by the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts and Maplewood Library. Virtual. 7pm. Free. 973.762.1688. http://www.maplewoodlibrary.org

April 18-22: Maplewood Ideas Festival. Celebrating the talent and creativity of the community. Now in its ninth year, the festival will feature author Ibi Zoboi, WNYC’s Nancy Solomon, Dr. Joshua Sharfstein of John’s Hopkins, and global tech pioneer Tim Hwang, as well as prominent acting, sports, and culinary figures. Locations may vary. Free. 973.762.1688. http://www.maplewoodlibrary.org

LIVINGSTON CAMERA CLUB
Livingston Community Senior Center 204 Hillsdale Avenue, Livingston
https://ccc-nj.org

April 18: A 30-minute recital. A brief tour of the cathedral will immediately follow the recital. Free will offering.

Currently, due to COVID, meetings are held virtually at 7:30pm on two Mondays a month. Members will be informed of the details. Founded in 1971, the Livingston Camera Club promotes photography as an enjoyable amateur recreational endeavor. Members learn to improve their photography through educational programs and competitions. It typically has two meetings each month. One meeting is when an award-winning photographer educates members on a unique topic. The second meeting is a competition in which a judge, usually a top photographer in the area, critiques members’ photos. New members of all levels are welcome to join. Annual dues are $20 for students, $55 for individuals and $65 for families. The full schedule is available at https://ccc-nj.org/calendar.

March 7: Master Gardener of Essex County Plant Sale. Perennials, shrubs and woody plants along with Master Gardener grown tomato and pepper plants, basil and herbs along with local honey and honey products will be for sale. Spring planting advice from trained volunteers is available. Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, 474 Upper Mountain Avenue, Upper Montclair. Friday from 10am to 4pm; Saturday from 9am to 3pm.

May 7: Master Gardener of Essex County Plant Sale. Perennials, shrubs and woody plants along with Master Gardener grown tomato and pepper plants, basil and herbs along with local honey and honey products will be for sale. Spring planting advice from trained volunteers is available. Essex County Environmental Center, Garibaldi Hall, 621A Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland. Saturday from 9am to 3pm.

May 22: Kids ‘N Family Series: The Little Mermaid. This award-winning adaptation of Hans Christian Anderson’s beloved tale follows the dreams of a young girl who believes there is a better life waiting for her above the surface of the ocean. With stunning scenery and costumes, original songs and chart-topping hits, this show is an adventurous and delightful musical theatre experience. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 1pm. $20. 973.313.2787.

THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART
ESSEX COUNTY ONGOING PROGRAMS

Wednesday at Noon: A 30-minute recital. A brief tour of the cathedral will immediately follow the recital. Free will offering.

May 27: Verona High School Concert Band
May 4: Music For Voices Elizabeth Pimentel, soprano; Julia Zivick, mezzo-soprano; Theodore Chiocchio, tenor, and Jorge Ocasio, bass-baritone.

May 11: Organ and Flute Recital: John A. Pomereni and John A. Pomereni II.
May 18: Organ Recital: Chung A. Hong

Concert Series
March 20: NJ Wind Symphony. 3pm. Free will offering.
April 15: Choral Meditations on the Stations of the Cross with the Cathedral Choir. The cathedral’s tradition of presenting meditations within the Stations of the Cross continues. This a cappella program will feature works of Clausen, Lotfi, Allegri, and Casiula. 8pm. Free will offering.
April 22: Archdiocesan Choral Festival – Music of Ludwig van Beethoven – Mass in C Major. This is a combined event with the Hackensack River Singers and the Sacred Music Society of New Jersey. A 30-minute recital. A brief tour of the cathedral will immediately follow the recital. Free will offering.

May 1: Music in the Garden: Children’s Voices. The children’s voices will be heard in the garden, under the trees, and in the cathedral.


May 19: Organ Recital: David Ozard

May 22: Organ Recital: John Pomereni

May 29: Organ Recital: Thomas Murray

March 3: ‘Cell Phone Photography’ presented by Paul Michael Kane
March 17: Club Competition of nature and pictorial projected images judged by Dave Mills
April 7th: Member Workshops presented by club members
April 21st: Club Competition of nature and pictorial projected images judged by Becky Witt
May 5: Ridgewood International Photo Contest Winners presentation
May 19: Club Competition. Best Images of the Year judged by Susan Candelario, Citadel Grange and Al Brown

MAPLEWOOD LIBRARY
129 Boyden Avenue, Maplewood
973.762.1688 / http://www.maplewoodlibrary.org

March 7: Remember the (First) Ladies. This program will touch on all the first ladies of the United States from Martha Washington to Melania Trump. Each will reveal her own way with the inherent tension between the public nature of the role and the discomfort of society with women in public positions. Presented by the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts and Maplewood Library. Virtual. 7pm. Free. 973.762.1688. http://www.maplewoodlibrary.org

April 18-22: Maplewood Ideas Festival. Celebrating the talent and creativity of the community. Now in its ninth year, the festival will feature author Ibi Zoboi, WNYC’s Nancy Solomon, Dr. Joshua Sharfstein of John’s Hopkins, and global tech pioneer Tim Hwang, as well as prominent acting, sports, and culinary figures. Locations may vary. Free. 973.762.1688. http://www.maplewoodlibrary.org

LIVINGSTON CAMERA CLUB
Livingston Community Senior Center 204 Hillsdale Avenue, Livingston
https://ccc-nj.org

April 18: A 30-minute recital. A brief tour of the cathedral will immediately follow the recital. Free will offering.

Currently, due to COVID, meetings are held virtually at 7:30pm on two Mondays a month. Members will be informed of the details. Founded in 1971, the Livingston Camera Club promotes photography as an enjoyable amateur recreational endeavor. Members learn to improve their photography through educational programs and competitions. It typically has two meetings each month. One meeting is when an award-winning photographer educates members on a unique topic. The second meeting is a competition in which a judge, usually a top photographer in the area, critiques members’ photos. New members of all levels are welcome to join. Annual dues are $20 for students, $55 for individuals and $65 for families. The full schedule is available at https://ccc-nj.org/calendar.

March 7: Master Gardener of Essex County Plant Sale. Perennials, shrubs and woody plants along with Master Gardener grown tomato and pepper plants, basil and herbs along with local honey and honey products will be for sale. Spring planting advice from trained volunteers is available. Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, 474 Upper Mountain Avenue, Upper Montclair. Friday from 10am to 4pm; Saturday from 9am to 3pm.

May 7: Master Gardener of Essex County Plant Sale. Perennials, shrubs and woody plants along with Master Gardener grown tomato and pepper plants, basil and herbs along with local honey and honey products will be for sale. Spring planting advice from trained volunteers is available. Essex County Environmental Center, Garibaldi Hall, 621A Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland. Saturday from 9am to 3pm.
Be a Fan and Follow Us

Essex County Arts  @essexarts

THE SPIRIT OF ESSEX

For additional copies of this magazine, to join our mailing list, or to submit events for publication, please contact Terri P. Guess, Marketing Coordinator, at 201.341.5786 or e-mail essexarts@parks.essexcountynj.org

The Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs
PUTTING ESSEX COUNTY FIRST

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER WITH SOY INKS.

Upcoming concerts at NJPAC in Newark:

Beethoven's Piano Concertos Nos. 1 & 5
March 31

Beethoven's Piano Concertos Nos. 2, 3 & 4
April 2

Zhang Conducts Mozart’s ‘Jupiter’
April 8 & 10

Conrad Tao Plays Tchaikovsky
April 28 & 30

Star Wars: A New Hope in Concert
May 14

Mozart & Mendelssohn
June 2

Season Finale: An American Rhapsody
June 12

GET TICKETS!

1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476) | njsymphony.org

© 2022 & TM LUCASFILM LTD. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. © DISNEY

This program is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.