



The Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council

Creative We Stand

February 2020

A Note from our Executive Director:

February is an extraordinarily important month for the arts community in Maryland. On the 13th, hundreds of arts professionals will descend upon Annapolis for Maryland Arts Day, the state's annual advocacy event. Through this impactful day, Maryland Citizens for the Arts continues to connect arts professionals and supporters from around the state to legislators who need to hear the stories of how the arts not only feeds the soul but also contributes to the economic development of Prince George's County but across Maryland. I encourage you register if you have not already and contact your state lawmakers and urge them to support two bills; *HB 127 /SB 287- a pairing of legislation that creates the Maryland Arts and Culture Capital Grant Program.* and *HB 135/ SB 465- a pairing of legislation that will continue a \$1 million Admissions and Amusement Tax distribution for the Maryland State Arts Council by removing the sunset provision found in 2016 legislation.*



Together, we must remain intentional in our pursuit to create opportunity for creative expression, arts in education and arts centered economic development. The narrative that will be shared is ours to craft. Join us in Annapolis on February 13th so that we have a powerful showing that *ARTS DELIVER*.

Creative We Stand,

Rhonda Dallas - Executive Director and Chief Curator
Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council

Resources

[National Endowment for the Arts](#)

[MD State Arts Council](#)

[MD Humanities](#)

[Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation](#)

[MD Art Place](#)

[Greenbelt Arts Directory](#)

Did You Know That PGAHC has Artist and Film Registries?

Join our registries to get connected to what's happening in Prince George's County!

Click [here](#) to join the PGAHC Artist Registry!

Click [here](#) to join the Prince George's Film Industry database!

PGAHC Grant Opportunities



The graphic features a black background with white and yellow text. In the top right corner is the PGAHC logo. The main text reads '2020 GRANT APPLICATION SCHEDULE'. Below this, three grant categories are listed with their respective dates: 'Arts in Education' (Jan. 13 - Feb. 28), 'County Arts' (Jan. 13 - Feb. 28), and 'Artist Fellowship' (March 2 - April 10). The graphic is framed by white L-shaped corner brackets.

PGAHC is excited to accept applications for the FY2020 Grant season starting January 13th! Grants are available in the following categories: Arts in Education, County Arts, and Artist Fellowship. Interested parties are encouraged to contact Maleke Glee at info@pgahc.org to learn how to apply.

Click [here](#) to review descriptions of each PGAHC Grant Opportunity.

MARYLAND ARTS DAY

FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Join over 500 arts professionals in Annapolis on February 13, 2020 for Maryland's statewide arts advocacy event. This event connects artists, educators, arts administrators, and volunteers with lawmakers from each legislative district in the state of Maryland. Your participation is vital in showing the impact that the arts have on economic and cultural development.

Early Registration has been extended. Please visit the link below to purchase your ticket today!

<https://mdarts.org/events/maryland-arts-day-2020/>

PGAHC Event Highlights



First Poet Laureate Reading Series Event of 2020 Launches Literacy Through Poetry Initiative

Prince George's County Poet Laureate Sistah Joy kicked off the 2020 Season on January 18th at the Bowie Branch Library



introducing this year's theme: Literacy Through Poetry. This event featured a workshop facilitated by Sistah Joy and a performance by the new Prince George's County Youth Poet Laureate Marissa Michel (pictured).

Please visit www.pgahc.org/poetlaureate to learn about future events!

The Poetry Poster Project Makes Its Way to Annapolis!

At the end of January, several Prince George's County poets were featured in a display of the Poetry Poster Project at the Maryland House of Delegates in Annapolis. The exhibit featured poetry written and presented by Prince George's County Poet Laureate Sistah Joy, 2020 Prince George's County Youth Poet Laureate Marissa Michel, Diane Wilbon Parks, Sylvia Dianne "Ladi Di" Beverly, Edgar Silex, and Hiram Larew. Grace Cavalieri, Maryland Poet Laureate was also on hand to support the event. The Posters are on exhibit outside Room 207 until the end of February.

Click [here](#) to view photos from the Poetry Poster Project exhibit in Annapolis!

(Pictured below: Prince George's County Poet Laureate, Sistah Joy, stands next to her poem, *In The Eye*)



Second Grants Open House Connects Arts Community to Funding Opportunities

Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council was excited to welcome artists and arts professionals from around the County to Creative Suitland for an opportunity to learn about Grant Opportunities. PGAHC team members were on hand to give tips on how to submit successful grant applications and to encourage attendees to continue their work to expand the arts in the County.

Those seeking to apply for PGAHC grants who were unable to attend may contact Maleke Glee at mglee@pgahc.org to learn more! Please visit www.pgahc.org/grants to view all grant opportunities for the FY20 season.



2020 PGAHC Arts Education Program Expands Creative Learning Opportunities

For 2020, PGAHC's Arts Education program is proud to offer authentic learning opportunities for K-12 students. Transformative curriculums including music composition, filmmaking, and mural production will be facilitated by in-school Artists in Residence.

In addition to learning experiences for students, PGAHC's Arts Education program is also excited to offer free professional development training for teachers. Training sessions will include the use of the Romare Bearden exhibit at the Driskell Center as a case study for curriculum development and lesson planning.

For more information, please contact Eileen Cave at ecave@pgahc.org.



Fourth Annual Soprano Slay Brings Color to the Classics and Honors PGAHC's Executive Director Rhonda Dallas

The Coalition for African-Americans in the Performing Arts hosted their Fourth Annual "Sopranos Slay" Concert on January 25th. Audiences were treated to performances in various genres including Classical, Opera, Contemporary, Spirituals and much more by seven singers. Miss American 2019 Nia Franklin, Marquita Cooper, Meroë Khalia Tchomobe, Elise Christina Jenkins, Brittani McNeill Shonda C Devine and student performer Kianna Kelly Futch were accompanied by pianist Lester Green. The performance was narrated by Ciara Gregory Simonson.

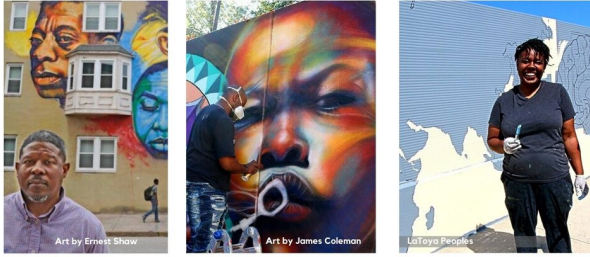
A major highlight of the evening took place when PGAHC's very own Executive Director Rhonda Dallas received the Arts in Action Award.

Click [here](#) to view more photos from the 2020 Sopranos Slay Concert.



THE BLACK VOTE MURAL PROJECT

BANNEKER-DOUGLASS MUSEUM



PGAHC Sponsors Black Vote Mural Project at Banneker-Douglass Museum!

PGAHC is proud to be a sponsor for the upcoming 'The Black Vote Mural Project' at the Banneker-Douglass Museum. Launching on Saturday, Feb. 15th at 3:00pm. This year-long exhibit explores the intersection of public art, Black voices, and civil rights with sixteen murals that transform the interior galleries of the museum. Painted by regional artists, these murals interpret the Association for the Study of African American Life and History's (ASALH) 2020 theme: African Americans and the Vote.

"This year's focus is on the power of the Black vote," said Sabriyah Hassan, Director of Programs, Banneker-Douglass Museum, "Through public art, exciting programs, and engaging activities, we will celebrate the heroes who secured our right to vote, while examining the ways in which our civic duty can impact the future of Maryland and this nation."

Please click [here](#) to RSVP for the Opening Reception.



PGAHC Grantee Highlight: Erwin Timmers, Green Artist and Co-Founder of Washington Glass Studio and School

This month, PGAHC is excited to highlight 2019 Artist Fellowship grantee Erwin Timmers, the co-founder of the Washington Glass School and the Washington Glass Studio. Originally from Amsterdam, Mr. Timmers moved to California and graduated from Santa Monica College for Design Arts and Architecture. In 1999, he moved to the Washington, D.C. area and his sculptures have been displayed in the Zenith Gallery, Fraser Gallery, and Gallery Neptune. Mr. Timmer is also featured in various prominent collections and has received commissions from numerous commercial enterprises, such as Starwood Urban, The Magruder Companies, David Gregory Restaurant, Food and Friends, and the Prince George's County courthouse. His approach to art is multifaceted, incorporating metalwork, innovative lighting and



glass design.

In addition to producing artwork which features themes of industrial salvage and recycling which he sees as crucial aspects of the interaction with one's surroundings, he teaches glass, lighting, sculpture, and metal work.

Learn more about Erwin Timmers at <http://artbasement.com/>.



One to Watch:
Miriam Machado-Luces,
Media Producer, Writer, Director



With an eye on diverse and multicultural programming, this month's "One to Watch" Miriam Machado-Luces is an award-winning Producer, Writer, and Director of documentary films, television programs, health films, commercials, and television promo spots.

Miriam's career mission is to affect the manner in which all content targeting diaspora audiences is constructed at its root. Her mission has been accomplished with such film credits as "I Thought I Knew You" a short film about how lifelong friends from different races resolve their differences; "La Vida in Black", a documentary of Afro Latinos into today's racially conflicted society; and "TriniVene Tribe", the story of an Afro-Caribbean family of 12 told through their home movies and memories.

In addition to being an award-winning producer and writer, Miriam has worked at Black Entertainment Television as Senior Producer/Writer and has also served as one of Prince George's Arts and Humanities "Filmmaker in Residence" where she provided instructions to Prince George's County Public School teachers and students in the art of filmmaking. Miriam, a Howard University graduate, is currently a Senior Producer at Prince George's Community College.

Keep an eye out for Miriam as she continues to “create content that adds to our story as human beings, regardless of race, creed or culture; imbued with multiple engaging cultures, exposing their riches and determining all of humanity’s infinite evolution within a universal society.”

Click the image below to view Ms. Machado-Luces' short film featuring PGCPs students:



Call to Action:
The Maryland Film Industry Coalition
Needs Your Help!



The 2020 Legislative Session has started and the Maryland Film Industry Coalition has put in a bill to increase the annual incentive amount available for film and television productions. MFIC needs your help to support this effort when the hearing is set. However, another bill has been presented to eliminate several tax credit programs and the film incentive program been targeted for elimination with a sunset date of fiscal year 2023.

MFIC needs your help *right now* to oppose HB565 which seeks to eliminate the film tax credit program in FY2023.

Here’s what you can do:

1. Attend the bill hearing on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12th at 1pm at [this location](#).
2. Email or call the Chair and each one of Ways and Means Committee members to let them know that you oppose the elimination of the film tax credit program and why.
3. Click [here](#) for email and phone numbers for committee members and contact them.

Click [here](#) to review the text of HB565.

Click [here](#) to review the one-sheet about the program

For more information, please email MFIC at info@mdfilm.org.



PGAHC Thanks Our FUNDERS For Helping Us Bring The Arts To A Larger Audience!



CONNECT WITH US

