

# arts

## Mid-Hudson

*together we create*

# Performing Arts in Our Community

**Vanessa Cappuccio-Baer**  
Grants Associate



# Introduction

## **Vanessa Cappuccio-Baer**

*Grants Associate*

*Pronouns: she, they*



Vanessa Cappuccio-Baer joined Arts Mid-Hudson in November, 2023. At Arts Mid-Hudson, Vanessa assists in implementing the organization's outreach initiatives and provides technical support for grants programming. Vanessa is a multi-hyphenate theatre practitioner who has directed, designed, and managed theatrical productions throughout the region. They hold a BA in Theatre Studies and an AS in Performing Arts. When not at Arts Mid-Hudson, Vanessa is the Communications Manager and Resident Dramaturg at Ancram Center for the Arts in Columbia County. Additionally, Vanessa stands as a founding member of Definitely Human Theatre, a Hudson Valley-based theatre collective dedicated to bringing cutting-edge new works to the community. In her free time, Vanessa enjoys crocheting, baking, going to concerts, and spending time with her cat, Elio.

# History of Arts Mid-Hudson

## Serving Dutchess County and Beyond Since 1964

- Founded in 1964 in Poughkeepsie by the Junior League to distribute arts and culture funding within Dutchess County
- Began distributing New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) grants in 1980 across Dutchess County and Ulster County in 1985
- In 1996, Launched first folk-arts programming, *Giving it Back*, a gospel program in Poughkeepsie
- 2013 rebranded as Arts Mid-Hudson
- Began serving Orange County with NYSCA regrants in 2013
- Launched Dutchess Handmade, a holiday pop-up shop in 2014



# **Our Mission**



## Mission Statement

To provide vision and leadership to support thriving and diverse arts in the Mid-Hudson Valley



*Poughkeepsie Gateway Mural Project*



*Poughkeepsie Galleria Mural Project*

# DEAI Statement

Advocacy Community  
Access Cultural Rethinking  
Value of  
Transparency Fostering  
& Understanding  
Commitment  
EQUITY Artists  
Shifting Sharing  
Power  
Arts

We envision a community where all artists are valued, all communities have access to the arts, and everyone has resources to create their own vision.

As advocates and mentors, our work focuses on developing practices that benefit all artists to encourage and support their artistic expression.

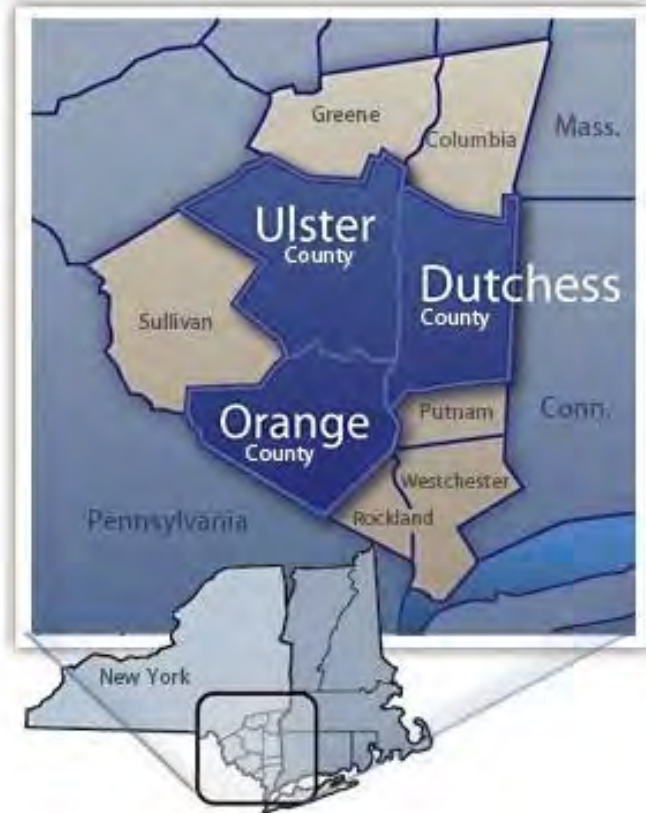
We strive to create programming that embodies an unbiased vision and includes all underrepresented artists.

*Full statement: [artsmidhudson.org/deai-statement](https://artsmidhudson.org/deai-statement)*



# What We Do

## Arts Mid-Hudson serves Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster Counties (totaling 2,825 square miles)



- Grants for Arts & Culture
- Art Exhibits & Events
- Promotion of the Arts
- Advocacy for Arts Education & Community Arts
- Community Engagement
- Folk Arts Programs

# Grants & Funding for the Arts & Culture

Arts Mid-Hudson administers New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) funding in Dutchess, Ulster and Orange Counties, with annual competitive grants awarded to artists, schools, community groups, and arts organizations. Funding also is available through Dutchess County Partners in the Arts, and Ulster County Cultural Services & Promotion Fund.

Arts Mid-Hudson administered over \$423,000 in grants in 2023 funding 106 programs.



*Stephen Myron Hall T Space*

## Arts Education

- THRIVE: Making a Career in the Arts event includes professional artists on a panel discussion to guide youth and emerging artists with career connections in the arts.
- Develop art-based virtual workshops, updated job listings, calls for artists, and workshops offered in the community.



*2019 THRIVE: Making a Career in the Arts*



## Arts Exhibits & Events

- Arts Mid-Hudson's Gallery
- Community Galleries
- Arts Awards
- Dutchess Handmade Pop Up Shop
- Educational/Experimental Workshops



*Here & There Exhibit*



*Hand Pulled Noodle Workshop*



*Dutchess Handmade Pop Up Shop*

## Advocacy & Public Awareness

- Networking meetings in Poughkeepsie and Kingston focused on building community through the arts
- Art Walk Kingston
- Art Brunch
- Arts Mid-Hudson Mixer: April 11th!
- Promotion of the Arts



*Art Brunch*



## Folk Arts

- Traditional forms of creative expression that are passed from generation to generation
- Interactive Public Programs
- Technical Assistance



*Musical Round Robin*



*Kakizome*



*La Guelaguetza*

# Why are the arts important?

## Why are they important?

- Integral part of different cultures & societies.
  - Form of Communication
    - evoke emotions, thoughts & ideas
  - Personal and Social Identity
    - art in the community represents the voice of the community
  - Promotes Tourism
    - boost the economy's revenue & create thousands of jobs

# Performing Arts in Dutchess County

# Dutchess County

Dutchess County features four distinct regions, and each celebrates its own vibrant arts and cultural scene.

- **Northern Dutchess**

Red Hook, Rhinebeck, Milan, Clinton, Stanford, Hyde Park, Pleasant Valley

- **Central Dutchess**

Lagrange, Unionvale, Poughkeepsie

- **Southern Dutchess**

Beekman, Wappinger, Fishkill, East Fishkill

- **Eastern Dutchess**

Pine Plains, North East, Washington, Amenia, Dover, Pawling



Photo from [www.dutchesstourism.org](http://www.dutchesstourism.org)

# Northern Dutchess



## Fisher Center at Bard College

**The Fisher Center at Bard College**, a unique space designed by Frank Gehry, serves as a premier professional performing arts center and educational hub, fostering the development, production, and presentation of interdisciplinary performing arts while embodying Bard's dedication to cultural enrichment and democratic discourse. Building on a 164-year history as a competitive and innovative undergraduate institution, Bard is committed to enriching culture, public life, and democratic discourse by training tomorrow's thought leaders.



*More information: <https://fishercenter.bard.edu/>*

# Fisher Center at Bard College: Program Highlights



## SummerScape

Described as “part boot camp for the brain, part spa for the spirit” (New York Times) and a “highbrow hotbed of culture” (Huffington Post), Bard SummerScape is an annual summer arts festival. Since its inaugural season in 2003, the festival is held in tandem with the Bard Music Festival and features performances of opera, dance, theater, music, film, and cabaret.

## Fisher Center LAB

is the Fisher Center’s artist residency and commissioning program, providing custom-made and meaningful support for innovative artists across disciplines. Since its launch in 2012, Fisher Center LAB has supported residencies, workshops, and performances for hundreds of artists, incubating new projects and engaging audiences, students, faculty and staff in the process of creating contemporary performance.



*More information: <https://fishercenter.bard.edu/>*



## **Kaatsbaan Cultural Park**

**Kaatsbaan Cultural Park**, founded in 1990, is a 153-acre artist sanctuary in Tivoli, offering world-class facilities and diverse programming across multiple artistic disciplines, including dance, theater, music, film, and culinary arts. Founded in 1990, it fosters creativity and supports inclusive projects, with a commitment to historic preservation and environmental conservation.



*More information: <https://kaatsbaan.org/>*

# Kaatsbaan Cultural Park: Program Highlights



## Dance Festivals

Kaatsbaan Cultural Park curates dynamic dance festivals featuring world-class performances, residencies, and workshops, providing a platform for renowned artists to showcase innovative choreography and collaborate with emerging talents, fostering a vibrant exchange of ideas and creativity within the dance community.



## New Works

The presentation of new works is a cornerstone of its artistic mission. Through residencies, commissions, and partnerships with emerging and established artists, Kaatsbaan provides space for the development and premiere of innovative and boundary-pushing creations across various artistic disciplines. These new works often reflect contemporary themes, experimentation with form and technique, and a synthesis of movement and storytelling.



## **The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck**

**The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck** offers a wide range of artistic experiences, including theatrical productions, musical performances, dance recitals, film screenings, workshops, classes, and community events, catering to diverse interests and ages.

**The CENTER** offers mainstage productions, family-friendly events, and now boasts a new, intimate black box theatre space.



*More information: <https://www.centerforperformingarts.org/>*

# The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck Program Highlights

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## Family-Friendly Performance

The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck offers a variety of family-friendly entertainment options, including theater productions, musical performances, and special events tailored for all ages. From children's plays to interactive workshops and holiday-themed shows, the center provides a welcoming environment for families to enjoy high-quality cultural experiences together.

## Community-Driven Productions

Community involvement takes center stage with mainstage productions entirely produced by local community members and groups. From casting to set design, costumes to lighting, every aspect of these productions is crafted by local theatre practitioners dedicated to bringing a wide range of performance to life. This unique approach not only fosters a sense of ownership and pride within the community but also showcases the wealth of talent and creativity present in the Hudson Valley.



More information: <https://www.centerforperformingarts.org/>

[www.artsmidhudson.org](http://www.artsmidhudson.org)



# Central Dutchess

## **Bardavon 1869 Opera House**

**The Bardavon** theater is the oldest continuously operating theater in the state, one of the oldest in the country, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**The Bardavon** offers affordable, diverse arts education programs, world-class performances, and free outdoor events, fostering cultural pride, urban revitalization, and tourism while prioritizing accessibility and preservation of its historic theater.



*More information: <https://www.bardavon.org/>*

# Bardavon 1869 Opera House: Program Highlights



## Mainstage Entertainment

At the Bardavon in Poughkeepsie, you can experience a wide range of entertainment, including live performances like comedy, dance, and music spanning various genres, as well as theatrical productions, opera, symphony orchestras, chamber music ensembles, solo recitals, cultural events, and movie screenings, providing diverse cultural experiences for audiences of all ages.

## Education Performance Series

The Bardavon's goal is to enrich the lives of children by exposing them to extraordinary theatre, dance and musical programs. These original events and concerts engage young people through creative exploration and active participation. The Bardavon is proud to present the Daytime Performance Series, celebrating over 30 years of presenting programs for young people.





## **Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center**

The Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, located in downtown Poughkeepsie within two meticulously preserved Victorian-era Italianate buildings, offers a rich program of theater and performance, featuring a 200-seat VBI Theatre hosting dance, music, drama, lectures, and films, complemented by a dance studio and a grand parlor accommodating up to 100 people, while also providing rotating art exhibitions and historic guided tours.



*More information: <https://cunneen-hackett.org/>*

# Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center: Program Highlights

## Performing, Cultural and Visual Arts

**Art Exhibitions:** Showcasing works by local and regional artists, featuring various mediums such as painting, sculpture, photography, and mixed media.

**Theater Productions:** Presenting a diverse range of theatrical performances, including plays, musicals, and experimental theater.

**Live Music Performances:** Hosting concerts and recitals featuring musicians and bands from different genres, such as classical, jazz, folk, and contemporary.

**Dance Recitals and Performances:** Featuring dance performances by local dance companies, schools, and independent choreographers.



*More information: <https://cunneen-hackett.org/>*

# Southern Dutchess



# Howland Cultural Center

The **Howland Cultural Center** in Beacon, New York, housed in a restored 1872 Victorian building, is a vibrant hub of artistic expression and community engagement. It offers a diverse range of cultural events, from art exhibitions to live performances, and fosters creativity through educational programs. It serves as a gathering place for both residents and visitors, enriching the local community's cultural landscape.



*More information: <http://www.howlandculturalcenter.org/>*

# Howland Cultural Center Program Highlights



## Howland Chamber Music Circle

Since 1993 the Howland Chamber Music Circle has been bringing world renowned musicians to perform in the historic and intimate Howland Cultural Center. Each season they present Chamber Music Concerts, a Piano Festival, the popular Classics For Kids concerts and free Pop-Up Community Concerts.

## Open Mics and Storytelling

Artichoke Presents Open Mics at Howland Cultural Center offer a welcoming stage for local talents to showcase their music, poetry, and more in a supportive atmosphere. The storytelling series provides a platform for individuals to share personal narratives, fostering community connection through the art of storytelling in a cozy setting.

*More information: <http://www.howlandculturalcenter.org/>*



## County Players at the Falls Theatre

**County Players** in Wappingers, New York, is a beloved community theater known for its captivating productions, ranging from classic plays to contemporary shows. This intimate venue fosters local talent and offers a diverse lineup of performances throughout the year. With its welcoming atmosphere and passionate community, County Players is a must-visit destination for theater enthusiasts in the region.



*More information: <https://countyplayers.org/>*

## County Players: Program Highlights

### CP2 Readers Theatre Series

Three mini-festival weekends for the adventurous theatregoer: each weekend presents two challenging plays in a unique format. Offers audiences and actors alike an opportunity to experience theatre, underscoring its essence: the playwright's words.

### Varied Mainstage Productions

County Players produces a wide range of theatrical productions, including musicals, comedies, dramas, and classics. This diversity in programming ensures there's something for everyone in the community to enjoy.

*More information: <https://countyplayers.org/>*



# Eastern Dutchess



## Stissing Center for Arts and Culture

**The Stissing Center**, a historic brick building dating back to 1915, is being revitalized to serve as a vibrant cultural hub in Pine Plains. The main hall offers a versatile performance space for live events, while ongoing renovations will create The Cellar at The Center for smaller gatherings and community activities. With its rich history and renewed purpose, the Stissing Center is poised to become a focal point for artistic expression and community engagement in the region.



*More information: <https://www.thestissingcenter.org/>*



# Stissing Center for Arts and Culture: Program Highlights

## Cabarets

The Stissing Center regularly hosts cabarets: Broadway Stars get up-close and personal with the acclaimed Cabaret performances. Song, stories and personal reflections of the lives of the talent that makes Broadway unforgettable.

## Chamber Music

Following the mission of bringing music to the community and supporting young artists, the Stissing Center's 2024 season will expand on their commitment of presenting, professional, world-class talent on their stage with a larger season and include a variety of Master Class/Educational Opportunities.



*More information: <https://www.thestissingcenter.org/>*

**And so much more!**

# **Dutchess County Arts Resources**

# Arts Mid-Hudson Community Calendar

info@artsmidhudson.org

Today | October 2022 | Print Week Month Agenda

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 11am THE LOCKWOOD 2:30pm "Classics for 3pm HARLEM QUARTET 3pm Faculty Concert	26	27	28	29 7pm Live Music: Bos	30 4pm Haitian Art Sale 7pm Hudson Valley 7pm Hudson valley	Oct 1 11am Ecology Series 2pm Chashama Fest 4pm Gallery Opening <a href="#">+2 more</a>
2 4pm Young Brahms: 4pm Parker Quartet	3	4	5	6	7 2pm County Players 4:30pm Reception & 6:30pm The 2022 Hi <a href="#">+5 more</a>	8 2pm Ensemble Oper 2pm County Players 3pm Allana Clarke: / <a href="#">+9 more</a>
9 2pm County Players 2pm County Players 3pm 12 Short Plays <a href="#">+2 more</a>	10	11	12	13 6pm Hudson Valley 6pm Hudson Valley 6pm Hudson Valley <a href="#">+2 more</a>	14 6pm Film Screening, 8:30pm The 2022 Hi 8pm Sondheim On S <a href="#">+2 more</a>	15 11am ArtEast Open 12pm Explore & Mon 12:05pm Beware the <a href="#">+5 more</a>
16 1pm County Players 1pm Spooky Marzipa 2pm The Cape Fanta 3pm Leda's Lament:	17	18	19 7:30pm Next Year's	20 5pm Carolyn H Ed/ur 5pm Orange County	21 6pm Los 18 años de 6:30pm The 2022 Hi	22 1pm Open Studio: S 1pm Architecture To 3pm Signaling Perfo 6:30pm The 2022 Hi
23 2pm Hudson Valley 3pm Tchaikovsky in 3pm Silents at The S <a href="#">+2 more</a>	24 9:30am 11th Interna	25	26 5pm Artist Nayland I	27	28 6pm Art After Dark 6pm Art After Dark:	29 2pm Trick or Treat ir 10pm King Kong (19
30 8pm LUMINOUS: Tal	31 4pm Hudson Valley I	Nov 1	2	3	4 6pm Rip Van Finkel	5 1pm Park and Galler 5pm CONFRONTATIC 5pm All That Jazz, a

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York

[+ Google Calendar](#)

*Full information: [artsmidhudson.org/community-calendar](https://artsmidhudson.org/community-calendar)*

# Dutchess Tourism



**Dutchess Tourism** is the officially designated destination marketing organization of Dutchess County, New York. It works to bring tourism dollars to area businesses and our community by marketing and promoting the assets of Dutchess to the nation and the world.

*Full information: <https://dutchesstourism.com/>*



## **Dutchess County Chamber of Commerce**



**The Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce**, often simply referred to as the Dutchess Chamber, is a business advocacy and networking organization located in Dutchess County, New York. Its primary mission is to support and promote the interests of the local business community.

*Full information: <https://www.dccoc.org/>*

## E-mailing lists!

### Stay in the loop

Sign up with your email address to receive news and updates.

The best way to stay up to date with the latest events of any organization is to sign up for their e-mail list. You can receive first-hand information about upcoming events, discounts, and more

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**Questions?**



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