THEATER GRAND OPENING PERFORMANCES

SRIRANJANI SANTHANAGOPLAN

MARTHA REDBONE ROOTS PROJECT

DANIEL KELLY TRIO

DIANNE REEVES



2023-24 LIVELY ARTS SEASON

FALL 2023

Jazz/New Age: WRTI Presents Lao Tizer Band 09/20/2023

Choral/Classical: The Philadelphia Boys Choir + Elegance String Quartet 09/21/2023

Rock: The Femmes of Rock 09/23/2023

World Music: Sruti Presents Sriranjani Santhanagopalan 10/07/2023

Blues/Roots: Martha Redbone Roots Project 10/14/2023

SPRING 2024

Family: Effects of Gravity 01/26/2024

Dance: Philadanco 02/02/2024

Theater: An Evening with Harriet Tubman 02/10/2024

Jazz/Classical: Diane Monroe: Violin Women, African Dream 02/25/2024

Lecture Series: Richard K. Bennett/Racism in America Series: Black Like Me: An Exploration of the N-Word 03/02/2024



Jazz:

Daniel Kelly Trio: Blind Visionaries 11/04/2023

Jazz: WRTI Presents Dianne Reeves 11/10/2023

Family: Philadelphia Dance Theatre presents "A Philadelphia Nutcracker" 12/15-17/2023

Family: Polar Express: Hot Chocolate and Pajama Night! 12/22/2023

Family: Bindlestiff Family Cirkus 03/09/2024

Jazz: SFJAZZ Collective: 20th Anniversary Celebration 03/23/2024

Classical: Messiah 2.0 03/24/2024

Family: Philadelphia Dance Theatre: Fancy Nancy Mermaid Ballet 04/05-07/2024

Brazilian Jazz: Vinicius Cantuaria Quintet 04/27/2024

Montgomery County Community College receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



LIVELY ARTS SERIES: FALL PERFORMANCES



SRUTI PRESENTS: SRIRANJANI SANTHANAGOPALAN 10/07/2023 • 4:30 PM

Lively Arts Series (World Music) Montco Cultural Center, Blue Bell Campus theater

Sriranjani Santhanagopalan (Classical Carnatic Vocalist) is one of the most sought-after musicians in the Carnatic music field today. Her meteoric rise to the highest echelons of the Carnatic world has been rapid, sensational and a testament to her hard work and dedication. She hails from a family with a great musical pedigree – she is the daughter of "Sangita Kalanidhi" Neyveli R.Santhanagoplan, an accomplished stalwart in the field of Carnatic music.

Sriranjani's artistic brilliance, poise and stage presentation simply belie her age and her impeccable adherence to pitch mixed with her golden voice elevates the listener to a state of bliss. She has already won numerous awards and accolades – notably the "Outstanding Vocalist" award from the Music Academy five times. Sriranjani has traveled across the globe enthralling audiences with exemplary performances.

More details on Sriranjani's background and accomplishments can be found here: https://en.everybodywiki.com/Sriranjani_Santhanagopalan

Read a conversation with Sriranjani here: https://carnatictimes. wordpress.com/portfolio/stardom-beckons-sriranjani-santhanagopalan/



MARTHA REDBONE ROOTS PROJECT 10/14/2023 • 7:30 PM

Lively Arts Series (Blues/Roots) Montco Cultural Center, Blue Bell Campus theater

Native & African American vocalist/songwriter/composer/educator, Martha Redbone, is known for her unique gumbo of folk, blues, and gospel from her childhood in Harlan County, Kentucky infused with the eclectic grit of pre-gentrified Brooklyn. Inheriting the powerful vocal range of her gospel-singing African American father and the resilient spirit of her mother's Cherokee/Shawnee/Choctaw culture, Redbone broadens the boundaries of American Roots music. With songs and storytelling that share her life experience as a Native and Black woman and mother in the new millennium, Redbone gives voice to issues of social justice, bridging traditions from past to present, connecting cultures, and celebrating the human spirit.

Her album The Garden of Love – Songs of William Blake, produced by Nitty Gritty Dirt Band founder/ GRAMMY[®] Winner John McEuen is an unexpected twist – "a brilliant collision of cultures" (The New Yorker) – Redbone's magnificent voice, Blake's immortal words, and a masterful cornucopia of roots music (blues, gospel, bluegrass, soul and traditional Southeastern Woodlands). Featured on All Things Considered the album released on her own imprint Blackfeet Productions rose to the Top Ten on Amazon Folk Charts for many weeks and has become the bedrock of her live shows bringing audiences to their feet with her fiery old time mountain gospel singing and foot-stomping.



This engagement of the Martha Redbone Roots Project is made possible funded through the Mid Atlantic Arts Tours program of Mid Atlantic Arts with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.



DANIEL KELLY TRIO: BLIND VISIONARIES 11/04/2023 • 7:30 PM

Lively Arts Series (Jazz) Montco Cultural Center, Blue Bell Campus theater

Composer and pianist Daniel Kelly explores the meeting place of music with literature, visual art and journalism, captivating audiences across the country.

A recipient of the Chamber Music America/ASCAP Adventurous Programming Award, Chamber Music America Residency Partnership Grant, New York State Arts Council Individual Artist Grant and the Aaron Copland Fund, Kelly is also the co-founder and co-Artistic Director of Connection Works, an artist-run nonprofit organization based in Brooklyn that, since 2007, has presented workshops for young people & produced over 250 concerts, featuring artists such as: Grammy award-winner Joe Lovano, NEA Jazz Masters Dave Liebman & Shelia Jordan and MacArthur "Genius" Grant recipients Dafnis Prieto & Steve Coleman.

Kelly has also composed for chamber orchestra, string quartet, film and multi-media theater works. He has released five CDs of original compositions, including World, which blends Afro-Cuban and Brazilian music and features guest DJ, RJD2; Duets with Ghosts, which combines samples of voices from old archival recordings with a hard-edged Downtown New York electric quartet; Portal, an improvised solo piano suite that arose from his series of improvised solo piano concerts; Emerge, a new take on the jazz piano trio, infusing it with the energy and drive of rock music; and Rakonto: A Sounding of Community Voices which features the voices and stories of immigrants living in one of New York City's most ethnically diverse communities.



This engagement of Daniel Kelly Trio/Blind Visionaries is made possible through the Jazz Touring Network program of Mid Atlantic Arts with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.





WRTI PRESENTS: DIANNE REEVES 11/10/2023 • 7:30 PM

Lively Arts Series (Jazz) Montco Cultural Center, Blue Bell Campus theater

Five-time GRAMMY[®] winner Dianne Reeves is the pre-eminent jazz vocalist in the world. As a result of her breathtaking virtuosity, improvisational prowess, and unique jazz and R&B stylings, Reeves received the Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Performance for three consecutive recordings – a Grammy first in any vocal category.

Featured in George Clooney's six-time Academy Award nominated Good Night, and Good Luck, Reeves won the Best Jazz Vocal Grammy for the film's soundtrack.

Reeves has recorded and performed with Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. She has also recorded with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra conducted by Daniel Barenboim and was a featured soloist with Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic. Reeves was the first Creative Chair for Jazz for the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the first vocalist to ever perform at the famed Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Reeves worked with legendary producer Arif Mardin (Norah Jones, Aretha Franklin) on the Grammy winning A Little Moonlight, an intimate collection of standards featuring her touring trio. When Reeves' holiday collection Christmas Time is Here was released, Ben Ratliff of The New York Times raved, "Ms. Reeves, a jazz singer of frequently astonishing skill, takes the assignment seriously; this is one of the best jazz Christmas CD's I've heard." In recent years Reeves has toured the world in a variety of contexts including "Sing the Truth," a musical celebration of Nina Simone which also featured Lizz Wright and Angelique Kidjo. She performed at the White House on multiple occasions including President Obama's State Dinner for the President of China as well as the Governors' Ball.

Reeves' most recent release Beautiful Life features Gregory Porter, Robert Glasper, Lalah Hathaway and Esperanza Spalding. Produced by Terri Lyne Carrington, Beautiful Life won the 2015 Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Performance. Reeves is the recipient of honorary doctorates from Berklee College of Music and the Juilliard School. In 2018 the National Endowment for the Arts designated Reeves a Jazz Master – the highest honor the United States bestows on jazz artists.

Band Members (subject to change): John Beasley – Piano Romero Lubambo – Guitar Reuben Rogers – Bass, Acoustics Terreon Gully – Drums



Jazz Series Sponsor



Janet's Planet ASTRONAUT ACADEMY SUMMER CAMP

MONDAY - FRIDAY • 9 AM - 3 PM

Montgomery County Community College

Pottstown Campus 101 College Drive Pottstown, PA 19464

Blue Bell Campus

340 DeKalb Pike Blue Bell, PA 19422

Visit **mc3.edu/planet** to reserve your space.

COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JULY 22 – 26, 2024 In-Person • Ages 8-14 (Reserve early, seating is limited)

JULY 29 – August 2, 2024 In-Person • Ages 8–14 (Reserve early, seating is limited)









Hyatt House Plymouth Meeting Supports The Lively Arts Series

Come and enjoy a place to munch and mingle at the newly renovated Hyatt House Plymouth Meeting, the **new H BAR** is open Monday thru Saturday from 5–10 p.m. Sit back and relax before or after the show with our Sip + Savor menu, any of our sip-worthy, premium cocktails, beers + wines.



HYATT house[™] Philadelphia/ Plymouth Meeting 501 E Germantown Pike East Norriton, PA 19401 610.313.9990

YOUNG ARTS EXPLORERS FAMILY SERIES: FALL PERFORMANCES

For more than 30 years, the Young Arts Explorers Family Series have presented enriching, entertaining and interactive performances for all ages. From lighthearted musicals to whimsical comedies to interactive workshops that use the arts as a learning tool. The Lively Arts Children's programming is a fun time for your family to enjoy being together.



PHILADELPHIA DANCE THEATRE PRESENTS A PHILADELPHIA NUTCRACKER

12/15/2023 • 7PM 12/16/2023 • 11 AM (Sensory Friendly) 12/16/2023 • 4PM 12/17/2023 • 2PM

Young Arts Explorers Family Series Montco Cultural Center, Blue Bell Campus theater

The Young Arts Explores Family Series welcomes back Philadelphia Dance Theatre's beloved production of A Philadelphia Nutcracker in its 24th season, with a cast of 70 professional and pre-professional dancers. A sellout every year! This magical tale of Clara, the Nutcracker and the Mouse King will feature the traditional choreography that delights audiences each season. Bring the whole family and revel in the spirit of the season!



POLAR EXPRESS: HOT CHOCOLATE AND PAJAMA NIGHT!

12/22/2023 • 7 PM

Young Arts Explorers Family Series Montco Cultural Center, Blue Bell Campus theater

Get on board a magical adventure to the North Pole on the Polar Express! Bring your child in pajamas with a pillow and get a free cup of hot chocolate. **Special treat:** parents and children can enjoy the movie on stage or in regular seating.

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

Lively Arts Memberships support ALL who benefit from our Series – Artists, Students, Speakers, Families, Community Members, and YOU! As 2023 draws to a close, **will you become a member and make a gift of \$150 today** to support the future of the Lively Arts Series?

- **Become a Lively Arts Series Member!**
- Friends and above \$50 \$100
- Family Circle \$150
- Lively Arts Supporter \$500

The Lively Arts Series depends on the generous support of our members to sustain us; please help ensure that the best is yet to come by contributing to the Lively Arts Fund today. To make your gift, please visit: **mc3.edu/for-our-community/arts-and-culture/support-the-arts**

FALL STUDENT PERFORMANCES

Montgomery County Community College students have opportunities to share their talents with the community and gain performances experience through music, theater, and dance.

THE PILLOWMAN

by Martin McDonagh Directed by Jessica Dal Canton 11/02/2023 • 7PM 11/03/2023 • 12:30 PM & 7PM 11/04/2023 • 7PM 11/05/2023 • 2PM

West End Student Theatre & MCCC Theatre Arts Program Montco Cultural Center, Blue Bell Campus theater

THE PILLOWMAN centers on a writer in a totalitarian state who is being interrogated about the gruesome content of his short stories and their similarities to a series of child murders. The result is an unflinching examination of art's very nature and purpose.

ANTIGONE

by Sophocles, translated by Anne Carson Directed by Dyana Kimball 11/16/2023 • 7PM 11/17/2023 • 12:30PM & 7PM 11/18/2023 • 7PM 11/19/2023 • 2PM

The Drama Club & MCCC Theatre Arts Program Montco Cultural Center, Blue Bell Campus theater

A civil war, two brothers dead, one labeled a traitor. In defiance of her uncle and the city of Thebes, Antigone honors her fallen brother, a tenacious act that will trigger a cycle of destruction.

The performances will be held in the newly renovated theater on our Blue Bell Campus.

BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER



EXPLORE OUR 2022-2023 ANNUAL YEAR IN REVIEW





MONTCO CULTURAL CENTER

Arts and Culture Staff:

		Senior Director of Arts and Culture
	Riley Berkoski	Volunteer Usher Ambassador
	Dottie Campbell	Senior Usher Ambassador
	Maggie Davis	Program Technical Coordinator of Arts and Culture
	Patricia DeBrady	Volunteer Coordinator
		Volunteer Usher Ambassador
	G. Blake Harrison-Lane	Production Sound Engineer
		Volunteer Usher Ambassador
	Cara Morris	Box Office Coordinator
		Volunteer Usher Ambassador
		Lead Stagehand
		Director of Galleries
		Volunteer Usher Ambassador
	Kathleen Shaw	Volunteer Usher Ambassador
	Kevin Stroman	Volunteer Usher Ambassador
	David Todaro	Resident Lighting Designer & Services

Additional Program Support:

Dianne Zotter-Mill.....Assistant Professor of Art & Faculty Liaison to the Galleries Dr. Fran Lassiter..... English Associate Professor & Bennett Lecture Series Facilitator



APPLAUSE & APPRECIATION

Thank You Lively Arts Family! We are deeply grateful to the following individuals, businesses, and organizations for their support of the Lively Arts Series and Gallery Programs.

Institutional Funders and Sponsors:

\$25,500+ Montgomery County Community College Foundation

Up to \$10,000+ Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Baird/Foley Hillsley Group FJN Charitable Foundation (Galleries)

Up to \$5,000+ Baird Foundation Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation: Tours Program Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation: Jazz Touring Network National Endowment for the Arts New England Foundation for the Arts

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\$1,000 Harriett D. Kline

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Up to \$150 Michael P. Billetta Christiana H. D'Adamo Ronald Dorfman Naomi M. Godel Clementine B. King Yolanda K. Kopcsandy Helen P. Mirkil Gay B. Seidman



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