A Note from our Executive Director:

2020 is a new decade bearing the promise of new paradigms, new paths, new collaborations, and new interpretations of art and culture. This will be an important decade for the creative community to be **bold**. Artists and arts administrators alike must be courageous in our pursuit of advancing artistic expression, access, and inclusion.

Throughout the year, PGAHC will be announcing new initiatives and partnership opportunities. Let’s realize our dreams together; *Vision Up, Stress Down, Creativity Forward!*

Creative We Stand,

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

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**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**

**PGAHC Event Highlights**

**PGAHC Hosts First 2020 Grants Mixer!**

PGAHC hosted local artists and arts administrators from around Prince George’s County for a meet and greet to learn more about the 2020 Grants Cycle. The event, which was hosted at Goldn Roots in Mt. Rainier, served as an opportunity the arts community to hear about grants and the grants application process and schedule. Another Grants Open House and Mixer is scheduled to take place on February 4th.

Click [here](#) to register for the February 4th Grants Open House at Creative Suitland.
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.

**Upcoming PGAHC Events**

**2020 LITERACY THROUGH POETRY**

**Read, Write & Share Poetry**

Workshop Facilitators: Patience Smith & Poet Laureate Sistah Joy

Bowie Branch Library
15210 Annapolis Road
Bowie, MD 20715
Sat, Jan 18, 2020
1:30 PM

**Jan. 18th: 2020 Poet Laureate Series Kickoff**

Prince George's County Poet Laureate Sistah Joy will kick off the 2020 Season on January 18th from 1pm-3pm at the Bowie Branch Library located at 15210 Annapolis Road. This will be the first installment in the 'Literacy Through Poetry' themed poetry reading series that will travel to each councilmanic district throughout 2020.

**Final Poet Laureate Reading Series Event of 2019 Gives the Gift of Poetry and Art**

On Dec. 21st, Prince George's County Poet Laureate, Sistah Joy, hosted "The Gift of Poetry and Art: A Poet Laureate Reading Series Event," the last Poet Laureate Reading Series of 2019 at the Suitland Community Center. Guests participated in an afternoon of poetry, holiday music, and art. Audience members, including District Heights Mayor Johnathan Medlock (pictured), participated in an Open Mic after performances by featured poet, Diane Wilbon Parks; multiple Prince George's County Youth Poet ambassadors; Vocalist, Christine Jenkins; and Djembe drummer, Doc Powell. For 2020, the Office of the Poet Laureate will focus on Literacy through Poetry.

Please visit www.pgahc.org/poet-laureate to learn about future events!

**Holiday Sing Ushers in the Holiday Spirit in Prince George’s County!**

Just in time for the holidays, PGAHC Grantee Tamara Wellons facilitated a Holiday Sing at the Gateway Media Arts Lab in Mount Rainier, MD on Dec. 21st. Over 20 guests collaborated to sing holiday favorites as well as other top 40 hits. After attendees sang in harmony with each other, they had the opportunity to network and go into the holiday season inspired.

**PGAHC and Mission of Love Charities Host Youth Workshop to Bring Holiday Cheer to Veterans!**

On Saturday, December 14th, PGAHC partnered with Mission of Love Charities to spread holiday cheer. Six county artists led a creative arts workshop for County youth creating ornaments and holiday cards. The
is excited to invite you to the second Grants Open House at on February 4th from 6pm-8pm at Creative Suitland. Join us for an evening of networking and get to know the PGAHC Grant Process better! We can't wait to see you at 4719 Silver Hill Road!

Refreshments will be served.

Click here to RSVP today!

In 2020, PGAHC will continue our social practice programming partnership with Mission of Love Charities and other partners serving the community. Through social practice we connect creativity to service, often addressing and providing solutions to the issues that plague local, national, and international communities.

PGAHC and ALDI, Inc. Commissioned Mural Becomes Photo Destination in Hyattsville

PGAHC, in partnership with ALDI, Inc. commissioned a public art mural which was a part of the grocery chain’s Hyattsville renovation project. The unveiling of the mural was met with rave reviews. Created by artist Rafael Rodriguez, the mural is now a destination that community residents enthusiastically embrace.

Rafael Rodriguez (pictured above right) is a local artist who is originally from Lajoya, El Salvador. He moved to the United States in 2013 to escape violence. While attending Northwestern High School in Hyattsville, he discovered his love for art and began honing his skills. During his senior year, he attended the CreativeWorks job training program at Joe’s Movement Emporium. He is currently studying studio art at Montgomery Community College and has a studio at Red Dirt Studios in Mount Rainer.

Visit 3025 Hamilton St. in Hyattsville to shop and view the mural!

PGAHC Supports Local Artists’ Exhibit at Art Basel 2019

Prince George’s Arts and Humanities Council is always excited to take advantage of opportunities to broaden the exposure of local artists. PGAHC, in partnership with the DMV League of Artists, supported Prince George’s County based artists Jay Durrah, Luis Del Valle, Sonia Jones, and Luther Wright who were featured at the Spectrum Gallery in the Wynwood District of Miami. Special thanks to Keiona Clark, artist, founder of the DMV League of Artists and curator at Gateway CDC for organizing this exhibition. The artists will conduct a public conversation about their Art Basel experience at the Gateway Media Arts Lab in early spring.
PGAHC Grantee Highlight:
John Paradiso, Resident Artist/Curator at Portico Gallery and Studios

This month, PGAHC is excited to highlight grantee John Paradiso, Resident Artist and Curator at the Portico Gallery and Studios in Brentwood, MD. Mr. Paradiso earned a BFA from State University of New York (SUNY) Purchase and his MFA at SUNY Buffalo. He describes his mixed media work as ‘metaphorical and based upon such issues as identity, sexuality, health, and love.’ His work has been featured in private and public collections including the Kinsey Institute, the Leslie Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art, Stamp Collection at the University of Maryland College Park, and a the National Picture Collection at the Library of Congress.

In addition to his art, John has served as a health educator and caregiver in the HIV/AIDS community for over twenty years.

Location Spotlight:
Walker Mill Regional Park

Are you a filmmaker in search of a location that has sports fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, and a state of the art playground and skate park? Walker Mill Regional Park is the perfect place for your next production. This month’s Location Spotlight sits on 500 acres of wooded land and is an ideal location. Among the park’s many locations are multiple athletic fields outfitted with night lights. A covered shelter area is also available for use as a production workspace for hair, make up, and craft services. Walker Mill Regional Park also boasts the Imagination Playground which is visually appealing with lots of color. The Prince George’s Film Office is happy speak with you about securing Walker Mill Regional Park as the location for your next shoot!

Contact Donna Foster-Dotson at donnafoster@princegeorgesfilm.org to learn more!

Walker Mill Regional Park is located at 8001 Walker Mill Road in Capitol Heights, MD.
PGAHC Thanks Our FUNDERS For Helping Us Bring The Arts To A Larger Audience!

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