#### **SEPTEMBER**

- 1... Backstreet Park Concert Series: Cabin Creek Band, 5:30pm, Backstreet Park
- 3... 21st Annual New River Blues Festival, River House, Grassy Creek
- 7-30... "Nature Up Close" exhibit, Ashe Arts Center
- 8... Gallery Crawl, 5-7pm, Downtown West Jefferson
- 8... Artists' reception for "Nature Up Close" exhibit, 5-7pm, Arts Center 9... Bluegrass Concert Fundraiser for Turtle Island Preserve, Civic Center
- 12... Brendan Slocumb, 7:00 pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 12-16... On The Same Page Literary Festival, various Ashe County locations
- 14... Ashe County Piecemaker's Quilt Guild meets, 2-4 pm, Generations Ashe
- 15-16... West Jefferson Olde Time Antiques Fair, downtown West Jefferson 19.. Ashe County Arts Council meets, 5:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 22-23... Carolina in the Fall, downtown Wilkesboro
- 23... Ashe County Hometown Heroes Day, 11am-3pm, AC High School
- 23... Art on the Mountain, 10am 4pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 23... Blue Ridge Art Clan meets, 9:30 am, Florence Art School
- 26... MtnHome Music Matinee: Wilcox, Smith, Lane, 2pm, Ashe Civic Center
- 27... Friends of the Library meet, 11am, Ashe County Library
- 29... Sarah McQuaid in concert, 7:30pm, Ashe Arts Center
- **NOVEMBER**
- 1-17... "Best of the Blue Ridge" exhibit, Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center
- 2... Jim & Susie Malcom in concert, 7:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 3... Della Mae in concert, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center
- 4... Sanctus Real in concert, Ashe Civic Center
- 14... Ashe County Arts Council meets, 5:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
- 14... Ashe County Piecemaker's Quilt Guild meets, 2-4 pm, Generations Ashe
- 18, 24, 25... Ashe County Farmer's Market Holiday Market, 9am-1pm
- 22-30... "Tree Fest and Christmas Miniatures" exhibit, Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center

#### **OCTOBER**

- 6... Ralph Stanley II & The Clinch Mountain Boys in concert, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center
- 7... Stomp & Brew, noon-4pm, Main Street, West Jefferson 10... Ashe County Arts Council meets, 5:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center 11-31... "Best of the Blue Ridge" exhibit, Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center 12... Ashe County Piecemaker's Quilt Guild meets, 2-4 pm, Generations Ashe 12... Cup O' Joe in concert, 7:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center 13... Gallery Crawl, 5-7pm, Downtown West Jefferson 13... Artists' reception for "Best of the Blue Ridge" exhibit, 5-7pm 14... Festival of the Frescoes, Glendale Springs, 9am-3pm 16-21... Missoula Children's Theatre residency, Ashe Civic Center 21... MCT's The Princess and the Pea, 3pm and 7:30 pm, Civic Center 21... Wordkeepers Salon, 4pm, Ashe Arts Center 24... MtnHome Music Matinee: Educated Guess, 2pm, Ashe Civic Center 25... Friends of the Library meet, 11am, Ashe County Library 27-28... Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre, Generations Ashe 336-246-2461 28... Blue Ridge Art Clan meets, 9:30 am, Florence Art School



TAFF: Joni Ray, Executive Director Linda Dreyer, Director of Operations Rebecca Williams, Program Director

Website: www.ashecountyarts.org E-mail: director@ashecountyarts.org 303 School Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694 336.846-2787

Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday 10am - 5pm Saturday 10am - 4pm



# **DELLA MAE VISITS THE ASHE CIVIC CENTER FOR A CONCERT ON NOVEMBER 3, 2023**

Ashe County Arts Council is thrilled to announce Della Mae, the illustrious all-woman string band that has left a mark on the world of folk and bluegrass, is set to take the stage at the Ashe Civic Center on November 3, bringing with them an enchanting fusion of harmonies, instrumental virtuosity, and a deeply rooted sense of community.

Della Mae was nominated for a GRAMMY for Best Bluegrass Album. With a distinguished history that has recently seen them shine on the main stage at Merlefest in 2023, Della Mae's performance is more than just a concert; it's an invitation to embark on a musical journey that traverses emotions, cultures, and shared human experiences.

Founded by the dynamic duo of lead vocalist/guitarist Celia Woodsmith and 2-time

Grand National champion fiddle player Kimber Ludiker, Della Mae's lineup is further enriched by the talents of guitarist Avril Smith and bassist Vickie Vaughn. Their diverse musical backgrounds converge to create a captivating sound that has resonated with audiences across more than 30 countries, transcending language barriers and cultural divides to convey the universal language of music.

At the heart of Della Mae's mission lies a deep commitment celebrates the power of shared moments. to amplifying the voices and talents of female musicians, and to creating opportunities that empower women and Tickets are \$22.50 for adults and \$7.50 for students. Tickets girls in the music industry. Beyond their instrumental can be purchased in advance online at AsheCountyArts. prowess and exquisite harmonies, Della Mae stands org or by calling 336-846-2787.



West Jetterson, NC 28694 SU3 School Avenue Ashe County Arts Council







as a beacon of advocacy, mentorship, and performance, weaving a narrative of unity and empowerment that goes beyond the stage.

Their latest album, Family *Reunion*, captures the essence of a band reunited after a year of virtual collaboration, reflecting the sheer joy of making music together once more. This collection of songs, as described by Folk Alley, sparkles as "a little gem of perfection," exploring themes that range from timeless bluegrass tradition to poignant contemporary narratives. Mixed in with the six new originals, Della Mae nods to their heroes and influences with new covers of songs by bluegrass greats John Hartford (You Don't Have To Do That) and Hazel Dickens (A Few Old Memories), and songwriters Gillian Welch and David Rawlings (Dry Town). Della Mae's dedication to their fan community is palpable, as they not only celebrate

resilience but also deepen the connections that extend beyond the confines of concert halls.

Music enthusiasts and community members are invited to join, as we come together to celebrate the artistry, camaraderie, and unwavering spirit that Della Mae brings to every stage they grace. It's more than just a performance; it's an invitation to join a collective experience that transcends individual boundaries and

# **LIVE MUSIC**

#### SARAH MCQUAID Sept. 29, 7:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center Free and Open to the Public

Genre: Folk



Experience a captivating and immersive concert, brought to you by Ashe County Public Library and Ashe County Arts Council. Sarah's lush, versatile vocals, brilliant musicianship, and diverse background come together in a unique performance that defies categorization, as showcased in her new live album and video series, The St. Buryan Sessions. Don't miss this chance to savor her emotive and innovative music.

## **RALPH STANLEY II & THE CLINCH MOUNTAIN BOYS**

#### Oct. 6, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center

Tickets: \$22.50 Adult | \$7.50 Student, Genre: Bluegrass



Join us in celebrating the 77th Anniversary of The Clinch Mountain Boys, led by Grammy Award-winning artist Ralph Stanley II. This dynamic band, featuring a lineup of exceptional musicians, showcases a mix of bluegrass classics, old-time favorites, and original hits. With a rich musical legacy and a high-energy stage presence, Ralph Stanley II & The Clinch Mountain Boys are a must-see for bluegrass enthusiasts and music lovers alike.

# www.AsheCountyArts.org

CUP O'JOE Oct. 12, 7:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center Tickets: \$18.50 Adult | \$7.50 Student

**Genre: Progressive Folk & Bluegrass** 



Cup O'Joe is a progressive folk and bluegrass quartet hailing from Northern Ireland. Siblings Tabitha, Benjamin, and Reuben Agnew, joined by David Benedict, create a captivating blend of original compositions and reimagined classics, highlighted by their harmonious vocals and virtuosic instrumentals. Their acclaim and international presence make them a standout act, with performances at festivals like Celtic Connections and IBMA.

# **JIM & SUSIE MALCOLM** Nov. 2, 7:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center

Tickets: \$18.50 Adult | \$7.50 Student Genre: Scottish Folk



Jim Malcolm, a celebrated Scots troubadour, has spent over three decades captivating audiences across the UK and the USA with his rich voice, masterful guitar skills, and impeccable mouthorgan playing. Joined by his wife Susie, a traditional singer, they create a harmonious and humorous concert experience, sharing tales from their journeys and the heartland of Scotland. Don't miss their performance, which beautifully weaves traditional songs and original compositions.

# **NEWS & SAVE THE DATE**



Fiddlers Convention Photos Courtesy of Martin Seelig Thanks to All who Made the 2023 Ashe County Bluegrass and Old Time Fiddlers Convention a Success! Ashe County Arts Council heartily thanks all those who helped make this 52 year tradition a success including the 2023 Sponsors, our donors, volunteers, the Fiddlers Convention Committee, the Ashe Post & Times, Heather Barker and the Ashe County Park Staff, Andrew Cole, GLAD, John Maddocks, Tim Varner, the Todd Ruitan Club, and 580 WKSK The Farm.





# **SUPPORT THE ARTS IN OUR COMMUNITY IT'S FUND DRIVE TIME FOR THE ARTS!**

September is always a banner month for the Arts Council, as we announce the new programming season and celebrate our 45th year as an organization serving the arts needs of Ashe County. We'll kick off our annual fund drive in September to raise funds for the arts.

As we begin another year of community concerts at the Ashe Civic Center and Ashe Arts Center, gallery exhibits, school arts assembly programs, the Junior Appalachian Musicians Project (JAM), downtown Gallery Crawl, Spring Fest, On The Same Page Literary Festival, the Fiddlers Convention, and Studio Tours we realize that you who have shared in the Arts Council's vision all these years play a dual role in its success. You provide both intangible gifts of time, energy and enthusiasm and the financial support we need to continue our mission of promoting the arts in all forms in Ashe County.

Information about the 2023-2024 Fund Drive and schedules for the year will be in the mail soon. The Arts Council expresses its gratitude for the past contributions and thanks you in advance for your future support. Contributions may be mailed to 303 School Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694 or made online at www.ashecountyarts.org.

Please take this opportunity to contribute to the Ashe Co Name
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Amount Pledged
Send your tax-deductible contribution to 303 School Ave
ONLINE DONATIONS may be made
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# 336.846.2787



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Payment Enclosed enue, West Jefferson, NC 28694. at www.ashecountyarts.org	- o Benefactor \$400-599 o Sponsor \$600-999 o Special \$1000-2499 o Angel \$2500-4999 o Archangel \$5000-up!	\$600-999 \$1000-2499 \$2500-4999

# **ARTS IN EDUCATION**

# SCHOOL ARTS IN ASHE 2023-2024

The Arts Council's sponsorship of cultural programs in Ashe County Schools continues to enhance students' education through the arts. Concerts, programs and residencies are offered throughout the year in music, dance, theatre, visual arts and literature.

The Junior Appalachian Musicians (JAM) Program offers instruction in guitar, banjo and fiddle to the county's third through sixth grade students. The visual arts are well represented in the Council's annual Young at Art exhibit in The Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center. Spring Fest and A Very Special Arts Festival offer a day-long celebrations of the arts for Ashe County's young people.

The Arts in Education programs are sponsored by the Ashe County Arts Council and local schools with funding support from the Daniel Lee "Dan" Eldreth Memorial Endowment, a component fund of the North Carolina Community Foundation, a North Carolina Arts Council Folklife Grant for the JAM Program, and a Grassroots Arts Program Grant. The North Carolina Arts Council is a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

During the 2023-2024 school year students will experience programming such as:

- Magical Mask, Music and Mime of Japan with Kuniko Yamamoto
- Theatre performances by the Atlantic Coast Theatre • Missoula Children's Theatre
- Dancing Drum Residency

<sup>•</sup> Powers of Poetry Residency with Phillip Shabazz



#### ASHE COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL SPONSORS JAM JUNIOR APPALACHIAN MUSICIANS

The JAM program has been sponsored by Ashe County Arts Council since 2002 in support of traditional music in our community and passing along that tradition to the next generation. Classes open to grades 3 - 6 in banjo, fiddle and guitar are held after school at the Ashe Civic Center during the semester.

Sign ups: September 18 & 19, 4-6pm, Ashe Civic Center

- Classes begin September 25
- Beginning and Intermediate levels available
- Classes meet two days a week, M/W and T/Th
- \$3 per class fee charged
- Classes end December 14
- Spring Semester to be announced

This program is funded, in part, by a Folklife Initiatives Grant from the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, a Wayne Henderson Festival Grant, and is sponsored by the Ashe County Arts Council. For more information about JAM please call 336-846-ARTS or email Rebecca Williams: programs@ashecountyarts.org.

## www.AsheCountyArts.org



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Visit ourstate.com or call (800) 948-1409 to subscribe.

**Our State** 

#### Missoula Children's Theatre **Residency Returns October 16 -21**

This is a week-long residency that engages local children in the theatre experience. Auditions will be held for the Missoula Children's **BND THE** Theatre (MCT) production of The Princess and the Pea

on Monday, October 16, from 3:30 - 5:30 pm at Ashe Civic Center in the auditorium. Those auditioning should arrive by 3:15 pm and plan to stay the full two hours.

MCT productions are complete with costumes, scenery, and props. MCT Tour Directors will conduct rehearsals throughout the week from 3:30 to 8 pm each day. There is a \$35 fee per cast member to help fund the cost of this learning experience.

Performances will be held Saturday, October 21 at 3:00 and 7:30. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Information is available on our website.

# **SPECIAL EVENTS**



Ashe County's Literary Festival

#### **INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION** More information and registration can be found at www.OnTheSamePageFestival.org

Festival events are open to the public. Most are free; workshops require advance registration and the Literary Trails Luncheon has a \$12 fee for lunch. Most events are at Ashe County Library, other locations noted in the description.

On the Same Page is sponsored by Ashe County Public Library and Ashe County Arts Council. This project was supported by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. Thank you to our 2023 Corporate Sponsor: SkyLine/SkyBest

#### **FESTIVAL SCHEDULE**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12** 

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM: Reading with Brendan Slocumb, Location **Arts Center** 

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM: Workshop with Susan Zurenda

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM: Tribute to Philip Gerard with Elizabeth H

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM: Reading with Patti Frye Meredith

3:30 PM - 4:15 PM: Reading with Barbara Benson

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM: Workshop with David Joy

#### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM: Reading with De'Shawn Charles Winslow

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM: Reading with Wayne Caldwell

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM: Reading with Anne Chesky Smith

4:30 PM - 5:15 PM: Reading with David Joy, Location: Old Ore Creek General Store, Lansing, NC

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM: Panel with De'Shawn Charles Winslow, Marjorie Hudson, and Wayne Caldwell. Moderated by Georg Eubanks. Location: Ashe Arts Center

#### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM: Workshop with Marjorie Hudson

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM: Literary Trails Luncheon with Georgann Eubanks, Registration required, \$12 Fee for lunch

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM: Reading with Marjorie Hudson

3:30 PM - 4:15 PM: Reading with David Joy

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM: Workshop with David Joy

#### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

10:00 AM - 10:45 AM: Reading with Mark de Castrique

# SEPTEMBER 12-16, 2023 **A CELEBRATION OF READING**

Ashe County's 14th annual On the Same Page Literary Festival will highlight twelve authors with a week featuring readings, workshops, and special events.

n: Ashe	<b>TURNERS</b> The Arts Council and Library gratefully acknowledge the financial contributions from the PAGE TURNERS, individuals and businesses committed to supporting ON THE SAME PAGE and reading and writing in Ashe County. These donations were received by August 13, 2023.		
Hudson	Chip Anderson IMO Judy B. Anderson Jack Apple Michael Bell Pete & Judy Benda Alan Briggs Karen Brock Becky Burgess Susan Caddell	LifeStore Bank Jane Lonon Becky Marsten Johnna Matthews McFarland Publishers Tom & Linda McLintock Susan Meredith Belva Miller Judy & Sandy Mitchell	
w	Pat Considine Joan Croteau Theresa Early Curd Linda Dreyer Dave & Lynne Eastburn	Janet Montgomery Vaughn & Beth Morrison Barb Naser Nanci Newton Anita Pangle	
chard	Rose Ellen Farrington Max & Kay Fryar Jerry Gambill	Ellie Perzel Cathy Pfeil Janet & Louis Pittard	
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# **SPECIAL EVENTS**



ART

on the

MOUNTAIN

**FINE ART, COOL CRAFTS** 

Unique Art for Sale &

**Artist Demonstrations** 







336-846-278

# Ashe County Arts Council is excited to announce **ART ON THE MOUNTAIN** featuring fine art, crafts & live music Saturday, September 23rd!

It's a day filled with an array of arts and crafts from some of the best artists in the region. Join in the fun from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM on Saturday, September 23 on the grounds of the Ashe Arts Center. The street and adjacent parking lots will be filled with vendors including potters, painters, writers, wood workers, guilters, rug hookers, fiber artists, jewelers, basket makers, and more.

If you're looking for something handmade this is the perfect time to support local artisans. Get holiday shopping done early and enjoy some live music in scenic downtown West Jefferson! You can find more information on our website:

www.ashecountyarts.org or call the Ashe Arts Center: 336-846-2787.



Wordkeepers returns to the Ashe Arts Center on October 21 beginning at 4pm with writers sharing their latest prose and poetry works in five-minute open microphone time slots.

Wordkeepers is free and open to the public; refreshments are provided. Live music with Scot Pope begins at 3:30 pm. Writers interested in reading from their work should email Sandy Lassen at slassen@skybest.com to receive guidelines for reading.



Wilcox, Smith, Lane Sept. 26, 2 pm



**Educated Guess** Oct. 24, 2pm

#### JOE SHANNON'S MOUNTAIN HOME **MUSIC MATINEES**

Joe Shannon's Mountain Home Music is the recipient of the 2023 Jane Lonon Legacy Fund Grant for the Tuesday Matinee Series held at the Ashe Civic Center. The series is designed to be both educational and interactive, and to provide an affordable outlet for senior communities, families, and those who prefer afternoon performances. . Matinee Concerts are open to the public, with a 'pay as you exit" suggested donation of \$10.

Are you interested in contributing to the Jane Lonon Legacy Fund to support grants like this one? Please contact the Arts Council for more information.

# **VISUAL ARTS**



Nature Up Close features over 60 works by members of the High Country Watermedia Society. This local group has been a part of the art scene in the High Country for twenty years with meetings, exhibits, and other artist opportunities. The exhibit features intimate views of the outdoors environment based on the artists observations in nature. A close-up focus brings viewers a new perspective on the environment around us.

The Opening Reception will be held from 5-7 pm on September 8 during the Downtown West Jefferson Gallery Crawl.

## UPCOMING GALLERY EXHIBITS

Visit Ashe Arts Center to see monthly exhibits featuring regional artists!

#### **BEST OF THE BLUE RIDGE**

October 12 - November 17 Our annual juried exhibit featuring High Country artists that create paintings, hand pulled prints, and drawings.

#### **TREE FEST AND MINIATURES**

November 22 - December 31 Decorated trees, ornaments, and miniature paintings and photography. Perfect gifts!

Are you a local artist interested in exhibiting your work? Many of our exhibitions are open to submissions. Contact us to find out more!

# **GALLERY CRAWL**

#### **PROMOTING DOWNTOWN** WEST JEFFERSON'S ARTS DISTRICT! Music • Refreshments • Maps • Free! • 5 - 7 pm

The 22nd season of GALLERY CRAWLS continues on the second Friday of the month! Mark Sept. 8, Oct. 13, and Dec. 1 on your calendars for opportunities to see new, creative, innovative works by local artists. Extended gallery hours are from 5 - 7 pm at galleries, studios & craft shops.



### **BEST OF THE BLUE RIDGE**



Alleghany, Watauga, Wilkes, Grayson and Johnson Counties are eligible to submit original work that has been executed within the last three years. Paintings, drawings, hand pulled prints and mixed media works will be accepted. There is a non-refundable entry fee and delivery dates are October 9 & 10 at the Ashe Arts Center. A prospectus for the show is available from the Arts Council.

Painters from Ashe and surrounding counties are invited to submit works for BEST OF THE

BLUE RIDGE, a juried fine art competition and exhibition. Visual artists residing in Ashe,

Juror for the Best of the Blue Ridge is **Tim Miller**, owner of Blowing Rock Frameworks and Gallery. He has been in business for 29 years and is NC's only CPF (Certified Picture Framer) and GCF (Guild Commended Framer). Since 1994, Tim has assembled over 25 of the most accomplished artists in the southeast in his gallery. Sharing his passion for art and framing is what has kept him in business for so long and is his gift to the community. He is a member of BRAHM, Boone and Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce, PPFA (Professional Picture Framers of America) and The Fine Art Trade Guild in London.

The exhibit is open October 12 - November 17. The public is invited to the opening reception for the artists and awards ceremony during the Gallery Crawl on October 13 from 5 – 7 pm.

> CHEAP JOE'S **ART STUFF** Make More Art, Spend Less Money™

Thank you to Cheap Joe's Art Stuff for sponsoring the awards for Best of the Blue Ridge!





#### PARTICIPATING GALLERIES

Ashe Arts Center Ashe Custom Framing & Gallery CatchLight Gallery **Florence Thomas Art School** Naked Creek FARMacy **New River Conservancy Originals Only Gallery** WSL Originals