



**arts**  
**council**  
smith mountain

January – February 2024

**NewsLetter**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

## Presidents message...

**W**e are so grateful to all of our members who support our mission with their time, talent and donations. We are looking forward to a great 2024 where new program offerings will be rolled out.

The Roanoke Ballet & Rainier Trio will be performing "A Celebration of the Seasons" at the W. E. Skelton 4-H Center March 9, bringing ballet to Smith Mountain Lake for the first time.

In May we will host the SMAC Expo. Every aspect of the Arts Council and their affiliates will be on display for the public to showcase the wide variety of literary, artistic, musical, and performing arts available to the community. There will be entertainment throughout the day, as well as displays and demonstrations.

You are invited and welcomed to participate in any of our SMAC events, activities, clubs, or meetings. You can find out more on our website at <http://www.smac-arts.com>.

Happy New Year!

*Dianna Weiner*

# Welcome SMAC Family,



On December 15, 2023, our Annual Christmas Concert “Home for the Holidays” was a delightful event that sparked everyone to bring in the holiday spirits. Bravo, what an excellent performance.

Our Maestro, **David Stewart Wiley**, has conducted such symphonies as Atlanta, Buffalo, Cincinnati, San Francisco, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Minnesota, Saint Louis, Oregon, Hawaii, and Utah, as well as in dozens of countries in Asia, Africa, and Europe. The Roanoke Symphony board recently extended David Stewart Wiley’s contract for another 4 years, which will make him the longest-tenured Music Director & Conductor in its storied 71-year history.



**Misha Wiley** is well known to many of us, having performed with his family as a cellist since an early age.

**Brian Thorsett**, hailed as “a strikingly gifted tenor, with a deeply moving, “unblemished voice”, tenor has been seen in over 100 diverse operatic roles and fosters a stylistically diversified repertoire of over 300 concert works.



## Launching off the 2024 Season

We’re excited to present the **Rainier Trio** and **the Roanoke Ballet Theatre** performing at the W.E. Skelton 4H Center, at 775 Hermitage Rd., Wirtz, for a 2:00pm performance on **March 9, 2024**. Tickets will go on sale early this month for our members and to the general public around January 20<sup>th</sup>.



### Rainier Trio

The Rainier Trio has established itself as an engaging and energetic group that captivates audiences with the magic of violinist and violist brothers Kevin and Bryan Matheson and their fabulous pianist Brenda Wittwer. They have won the hearts of audiences in concerts throughout Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, and North Carolina.

The trio has performed at Musikfest in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, collaborated with opera singers at the Vocal Arts and Music Festival at Virginia Tech and their album was chosen as “CD of the week” by WQED Pittsburgh.

(Continued on next page)

**H**ailed as “two perfect virtuosos” at their international performance début, Kevin and Bryan Matheson of the Classic Strings Duo were received with critical acclaim at their Carnegie Weill Recital Hall début as part of the Ibla Grand Prize competition winners’ tour. Recognized for their mesmerizing and spirited performances – two perfect virtuosos, playing as one, they have performed twice at Yamaha Hall in Japan as well as in Sicily, Ireland, and the Czech Republic.

Pianist Brenda Wittwer is a native of Charlotte, NC. She began her piano studies at the age of 4 with jazz pianist-arranger Ziggy Hurwitz and continued her studies at age 11 with concert pianist, Anita Bultmann Tritt. Brenda earned her Bachelor of Music degree from Queens University. Through the years she has been accompanist for a number of musicals, performed as one of two pianists in a piano duo featuring music of the Masters, accompanist for Theater Charlotte, Pfeiffer University Concert Choir and Sounds of America, a musical group which toured the 48 continuous states. With the Wytheville Community College Choir, she has performed at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall in New York City.

The Classic Strings Duo and Rainier Trio are partially supported by funding from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. Follow their performances at [www.ClassicStringsDuo.com](http://www.ClassicStringsDuo.com)

## Roanoke Ballet Theatre



**R**oanoke Ballet Theatre is pleased to be the home of Roanoke's premiere professional ballet company. Members of RBT's Company have undergone years of extensive training and many have danced professionally with other companies at a variety of levels. The Company keeps a full performance

schedule, including main stage shows, in-studio Black Box series, and traveling collaborations throughout Roanoke and the surrounding communities.



**Sandra Meythaler**, Executive/Artistic Director

**Renee Aguilera**, Ballet Mistress

**Rolando Sarabia**, Artistic Consultant



Stay tuned, more to come in 2024!!!

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** We're in search of members who have an interest in assisting SPECIAL EVENTS, with building stage, setting up stage lighting, sound reinforcement and on occasions setting up tables and chairs. If interested please send an e-mail to: [special-events@smac-arts.com](mailto:special-events@smac-arts.com), to have someone contact you with additional details.

Keep an eye out for our e-Blast for events, volunteer opportunities and updates. As always, we very much appreciate your patronage and support.

Visit our website [WWW.SMAC-ARTS.COM](http://WWW.SMAC-ARTS.COM) regularly for upcoming events and to purchase tickets.

Joe Yarbrough, Chair

[www.special-events@smac-arts.com](http://www.special-events@smac-arts.com)







Point your camera to the QR code to the left and you'll be brought straight to the SMAC website where you can find out **more information** about the many Activities SMAC has to offer as well as Performance Information, Opportunities, Ticket Sales, Affiliate Info a Whole Lot More!



#### Mon Jan 8, 2024 - Photo Club Meeting

Mon 7:00 pm  
Moneta/Smith Mountain Lake Library  
13641 Moneta Rd, Moneta, VA 24121



The SML Photo Club provides creative support of all area photographers. The club meets in the Moneta Library's Community room on the first Monday of each month at 7pm.



**TOGETHER OUR MEMBERS CREATE ARTFUL EXPERIENCES AND MEMORIES AT SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE. YOU ARE A GIFT TO US AND WE VALUE YOUR MEMBERSHIP. THANK YOU! MEMBERSHIP IN SMAC CAN INCREASE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE BOARD. MEMBERS CAN FEEL MORE INVOLVED IN THE NONPROFIT, WHICH CAN LEAD TO INCREASED GIVING. MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO SMAC BOARD MEETINGS AT 9:30 AM THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH AT TEP CHURCH.**



#### SMAC Scholarship 2024 - now accepting applications



SMAC awards up to two \$2,000 two-year college scholarships for high school seniors demonstrating talent in the Performing, Visual or Literary Arts. Eligible students must be attending the following high schools or are home schooled in the geographic areas of these schools: Franklin County High School, Gretna High School, Staunton River High School, Christian Heritage Academy and SML Christian Academy.

# Affiliates

## Alexander/Heath Contemporary



Alexander/Heath Contemporary, located in downtown Roanoke since 2015, provides local, regional, and national artists for month long exhibitions with a wide variety of work and styles.

## Art on 1st



Art On 1st is a gallery that features the paintings of Annie Schultz and the photography of Rick Sheridan. In addition, we feature art in a variety of media from other artists and photographers.

We strive to support established, emerging and aspiring artists through exhibitions and classes. The gallery space can also be rented for photo shoots, critiques, art lectures, and other related activities.

## Bald Knob Artists



An art collective from Rocky Mount, Virginia. Blue Ridge Mountain artists in every medium!

## Bower Center for the Arts



At the Bower Center for the Arts our mission is to make visual and performing arts available to all residents in our region. We foster creative expression and encourage our community to gather, connect, learn new skills and gain confidence through the process of making and enjoying art.

## Friends of the Moneta/SML Library



We are a small group of volunteers looking for more community members to join us in fulfilling our purpose to support the library financially with programs, books and supplies.

## Goose Creek Studio



Goose Creek Studio offers quality custom framing and hospitable exhibition space featuring regional artists and artists working at the intersection of faith and creative expression. Our gallery features a wide variety of art and crafts from over 30 local and regional artists. We also have an art lover's vintage shop on the second floor.

## Harvester Performance Center



The Harvester Performance Center is an indoor, mid-sized music venue serving Rocky Mount, VA, and surrounding areas with great live performances in all kinds of genres.

## Lake Quilters Guild



We are a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing good fellowship and the interchange of ideas to those interested in the art and craft of quilting.

## Left of Center Art Space



Left of Center Art Space has six working studio spaces, a gallery and class space. The artists who make up the center in painting, weaving, and pottery include Meridith Entingh, Miki Overcast-Kallan, Patti Kapral, Kelly Smith-Price, Susanne Sellars, and Susan Egbert.

## The Let's Dance Band



Captivating Big Band Sounds – Crossing the Generations with Music

The Let's Dance Band is comprised of professional musicians ages 17 – 93. The group's repertoire consists of popular music from the 1930s to now including Big Band Swing, Jazz, Latin, Funk, and Rock.

# Affiliates

## LinDor Arts

### LinDor Arts

LinDor Arts is a fine arts gallery, bringing you the latest works by our better regional artists.

LinDor Arts is involved in our community and participates in or with Roanoke City, Taubman Museum, WBRA TV, Roanoke Sidewalk Art Show, The O. Winston Link & History Museum, Art by Night, Downtown Roanoke Arts Collective and the Eleanor D Wilson Museum at Hollins University.

## Little Town Players



"Our Mission is to provide live theatrical productions for the education and enrichment of the community"

## Smith Mountain Lake Center



The Smith Mountain Lake Center, Inc. is a non-profit organization working to develop a centrally located, multi-use facility and gathering place for education, entertainment, and community and tourism events.

## Smith Mountain Lake Harmeneers



The Harmeneers' Mission is to sing four-part Barbershop harmony of a caliber that gives enjoyment to our members and audiences while promoting a true spirit of fellowship within our Chapter.

## Smith Mountain Lake Woodturners (SMLW)



The Smith Mountain Lake Woodturners is a chapter of the **American Association of Woodturners (AAW)**. We are a group of wood turners that have joined together to share ideas and techniques and to use our knowledge to educate others in the art of the lathe and woodturning. Through our **meetings and events**, we promote, demonstrate and teach woodturning skills at all levels.

**Smith Mountain Arts Council Affiliates are independent organizations that share the mission of supporting the arts. SMAC and its affiliates seek opportunities to engage in mutually beneficial activities which further each organizations, mission and vision.**

## SML Steel Drum Band



Steel Drums took root at SML over 10 years ago after a Roanoke-based steel drum band performed a SMAC-sponsored concert here. Fascinated audience members jumped at the chance to practice and perform at SML. Since then a "beginner" band has formed, and ukulele and marimba ensembles. Performances benefit local charities – over \$100,000 has been donated. Contact Jerry at 540-420-0900 for more info.

## Southwest Virginia Songwriters Association



We are an association of approximately 50 members from varying musical backgrounds who like each others' company enough to meet once a month to socialize, talk about songwriting, and critique each others' songs, all in the interest of becoming better songwriters.

## Shop at the Nines



SHOP AT THE NINES features a variety of unique artisan crafts from local artists, Fair Trade items, vintage, and much more. If you like original art work, you will find it at 9999 Brook's Mill Road, Wirtz, VA.

## E-BLASTS

Did you Know? The more you share and like our eBlasts the more our events are attended and the more SML artists are kept alert on what's happening through SMAC.



## SMAC WEBSITE

Don't forget to check it out! Not only can you find the latest Upcoming Events, you can also purchase tickets and find our latest Newsletters.

<https://smithmountainartscouncil.com/>

## Officers

President – Dianna Weiner  
Vice President – Sheridan Brown  
Secretary – Diane Ryan  
Treasurer – Marty Bowers

## Board Members

Art Show – Marita Cheney  
Back Up Treasurer – John Crawford  
Community Liaison – Dana Walz  
Junior Appalachian Music Youth Program – Jim Mullins  
Lakeside Singers – David Shea  
Membership – Sheridan Brown  
Newsletter – Matt Karris  
Photo Show – Kathryn Orth  
Publicity – Dianna Weiner  
Scholarship – Kathleen Riordan  
Special Events & Prod. Manager – Joe Yarbrough  
Webmaster – Larry Sakayama  
Youth Arts Camp – Karen DeBord

## MEMBERSHIP

Members get advance e-mail notices of opportunities and ticket sales, as well as discounts on tickets and entry fees. Don't lose out! You can join/renew on our website. We look forward to seeing you at SMAC events!

## SPONSORSHIP

The Smith Mountain Arts Council is seeking event sponsors. Contact Karen DeBord ([debordk@gmail.com](mailto:debordk@gmail.com)) if you are interested in sponsoring an event. Amounts from \$20-\$2000 are accepted!

\* If your loved one, loved the arts, SMAC can set up a memorial fund to receive contributions in their name.\*



## SMAC MEMBERSHIP FORM

FOR USE BY NEW MEMBERS ONLY

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Interest: ☐ Art ☐ Photography ☐ Singing ☐ Theatre ☐ Writing ☐ Music

Other Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK ONE

☐ Individual \$25 ☐ Family \$35 ☐ Patron \$ 50 ☐ Sustaining \$100 ☐ Donation

Please make your check payable to: "SMAC"

Mail to: **SMITH MOUNTAIN ARTS COUNCIL**  
**PO BOX 70**  
**MONETA, VA 24121**

Join SMAC or renew membership via PayPal or credit card: <https://smithmountainartscouncil.com/about>



**smith mountain**

**P.O. Box 70. Moneta, Virginia 24121**

Address Service Requested

PRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO.  
78  
MONETA, VA

Visit us at: [www.smithmountainartscouncil.com](http://www.smithmountainartscouncil.com)