



SPRING 2022

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Thank you to the ARTZINE Sponsors: Ms. Harvey S. Wooten and The Daily Reflector



Cover Photo: Betsy Hughes and orchestra students (photo courtesy of Betsy Hughes)

For more information, visit www.pittcountyarts.org.

Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge

404 Evans Street · Greenville, NC 27858

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A Letter from the President

All the arts education in the world will not make me a fine singer, a prima ballerina, or the heir to Van Gogh.

My entire third grade class learned to square dance and we learned about colonial America through folk songs and dances. In fifth grade, our music teacher taught us the spirituals and work songs sung by slaves. We learned the threat behind a song as upbeat as "Jump down, turn around, pick a bale of cotton," and the painful yearning behind "Go Down, Moses". From good physical fitness to the finer points of empathy, arts education made us better Americans, better citizens, better people.

Arts education evokes all sorts of creative thinking as we move beyond elementary school. We have seen our own Pitt County arts educators enable children who learn in different ways master math concepts through music and visual arts. Our high school arts educators have partnered with other disciplines to inspire entrepreneurship. Those same teachers have taught the importance of perseverance, understanding civic government, how to partner for success, and how to work across age barriers. We saw teachers, students, citizens, and leadership move beyond conflict to new success and pride in their many kinds of work.

Arts education is important for all those reasons, and sometimes, those dedicated arts professionals discover the incredible singer, the supremely talented visual artist, the gifted architect, or an extraordinary writer. Maybe the next Amanda Gorman is in class at Wahl-Coates right now, opening her mind and heart to words that sing.

Wanda Yuhas
President

2021-2022
PCAC at Emerge
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Arts Organizations in Pitt County

An alphabetical listing of Arts Organizations in Pitt County

A Place in the Heart Theatre Company www.facebook.com/APITHTCO/

The Art Lab www.theartlabnc.com/

Ayden Arts & Recreation www.ayden.com/departments/artsrecreation

Ayden Historical and Arts Society www.aydenhistoricalandartssociety.com/

Black Creatives of Pitt County www.pittcountyarts.org/artists/ black-creatives-of-pitt-county

City Art Gallery www.cityartgreenville.com

East Carolina ArtSpace www.eastcarolinaartspace.com/

Eastern Youth Orchestra www.easternyouthorchestras.org

ECU Family Fare https://artscomm.ecu.edu/family-fare/

ECU Fletcher Recital Series www.artscomm.ecu.edu/fletcher -recital-series/

ECU Joyner Library's Faulkner Gallery https://media.lib.ecu.edu/development/faulkner-gallery.cfm

ECU Loessin Playhouse https://theatredance.ecu.edu/ current-season

ECU S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series https://artscomm.ecu.edu/alexander -series/

ECU School of Music https://music.ecu.edu/

ECU Wellington B. Gray Gallery https://art.ecu.edu/artonline/gray-gallery/

Emerald City Band www.emeraldcityband.com/

Emerge Gallery & Art Center www.emergegallery.com/

Farmers & Makers Market www.facebook.com/ Farmersandmakers/

Farmville Community Arts Council www.farmville-arts.org/about/

Faux & More...Lisa Jordan www.bylisajordan.com/

The GlasStation www.facebook.com/ ECUGlasStation/

Greenville Brushstrokes www.greenvillebrushstrokes.com/

Greenville Choral Society www.greenvillechoralsociety.com/

Greenville Civic Ballet www.greenvillecivicballet.com/

Greenville Museum of Art www.gmoa.org/

Greenville Theatre Arts Center www.gtacnc.org/

Heartoscope www.heartoscope.org/

Jaycee Park Arts & Crafts Center www.greenvillenc.gov/ government/recreation-parks/ programs-and-activities/arts -crafts#ad-image-0

Katura Dance www.katuradance.com/



L'Academie de Danse www.Lacademiededanse -noraparker.com

Magnolia Arts Center www.magnoliaartscenter.com/

Makerspace of Greenville www.makerspaceofgreenville.com

Music Academy of Eastern North Carolina www.musicacademyec.org/

Music House www.visitgreenvillenc.com/ visit/the-music-house/

NC Academy of Dance Arts www.ncacademyofdance.com/

North Carolina Furniture School www.ncfurnitureschool.com/

Opus 126 - St. Paul's Episcopal Church www.opus126.com/

The Painted Peacock www.paintedpeacock.com/

PCC Fine Arts Gallery and Symphony www.pittcc.edu/

Pitt County Schools Arts Education www.pitt.k12.nc.us/Page/1446

Pitt County Senior Center www.pittcsr.com/

R. A. Fountain General Store www.rafountain.com/

Room 108 www.facebook.com/ Room108Art

Smiles and Frowns Playhouse www.smilesandfrowns.org/

Spazz Presents www.facebook.com/spazzpresents

The State Theatre www.statetheatrenc.com/

Tar River Community Band www.tarriverband.com/

Uptown Greenville www.uptowngreenville.com/

USA Dance www.greenvillencusadance.org/

West Side Strings School www.facebook.com/ The-West-Side-Strings-School-171811026187832/

Whirligig Stage www.whirligigstage.com/

Winterville Historical and Arts Society, Inc. www.facebook.com/ WintervilleHistoricalAndArtsSocietyInc/



Looking for things to do? Here is a comprehensive calendar of arts related events in Pitt County!

pittcountyarts.org/events

Makerspace of Greenville

Darby & Tara George Owner/Operators



We asked Darby George of Makerspace of Greenville why the arts are so important to our community. He told us, "The world has gone digital and every kid instinctively knows how to swipe and navigate through digital media like a pro, which is great, but our youth are missing the skills to make stuff by hand.

They no longer teach shop class in schools. Kids are missing the chance to use a band saw or sander to create something simple from a scrap of wood. That's our mission. Get the kids creating. Show them how to use the tools safely. Then stand back and watch the creativity come out. I'm constantly amazed at some of the ideas I see pop up in our kids' woodworking classes. My nephews came for a visit a while back. Once I got them to put down their phones and start creating

in the shop, I couldn't get them out. It was my day off but it was well worth it!"

Back in early to mid 2019, Darby was looking for a much needed career change. Prior to this, he had worked in fields that were very reactive. Darby had recently read Adam Savage's book "Every Tool's a Hammer" and had reflected on how he had gotten his start, which was building sets for theatre and collecting items to craft into art. He seemed to have found the

Makerspace of Greenville offers weekly woodworking classes for kids. Each week is a new project. Before one of the snowstorms this past winter, they built small picnic tables to use as squirrel feeders. The kids loved it. Lately they have been making old wooden toys such as spinning tops and cars.



perfect job.



Every other weekend Makerspace has blacksmithing classes with morning and afternoon time slots available. The students take a railroad spike and turn it into a knife. Everyone leaves with their own unique creation. Bottle openers and oyster shuckers have also been made in the class, but the knives seem to be quite popular.

Monthly they hold a Date Night class.

It doesn't have to be a date, so you could bring a friend or family member, or come by yourself if you just need to get away. Some of their projects have been reusing pallets to make outdoor furniture. They show proper use of tools and safety gear and everybody gets a chance to use a saw.



Recently students have made live-edge charcuterie boards with laser engraved personal sayings, names, or logos on them.

The first time in a woodshop can be intimidating if you don't know what you're doing. So to help people over the hurdle, Makerspace offers a one-on-one Intro to Woodworking class. They teach proper use of the major woodshop tools and explain how they work and the safest way to use them. Students leave with a trophy that was cut, chopped, jointed, planed, routed, drilled and sanded. Students also leave with a growing desire to come back and create!



Their members have access to all the equipment in the space – from vinyl cutters to sewing machines, 3D printers, lasers, and CNC routers.

"It's amazing to see the creativity come alive as kids learn to use the shop tools!"

- Darby George

For more information, visit www.makerspaceofgreenville.com 102 Staton Ct. Ste E | Greenville, NC 27834 | (252) 565-8178

Pitt County Arts Council Annual Report 2020-21

It has been another busy year for the staff and Board of the Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge. While still in the pandemic, we have learned how to function safely by reopening our adult classes, summer camps, and having in person events. Our staff has worked harder than ever to enhance the quality of life in Pitt County.

Here is some data about our 2020-2021 year:

Expenses

Programs: \$522,930 Fundraising: \$20,647 Administration: \$82.028

\$625,605

Income

Grants/Contracts Received: \$501,941

Donations Received: \$157,703

Class Revenue: \$68,051

Art Sales: \$23,184 Fundraisers: \$13,430 Memberships: \$24.911

Other Earned Revenue: \$9,559

\$798,779

Girants Disbursed

NC CARES for Arts: \$127.601

Grassroots Arts Project Grants: \$17,550

to 9 Pitt County Arts Organizations

Artist Support Grants: \$10,824

to 16 Regional Artists in 6 counties

Established Emerge Endowment

\$155,975

BCPC

Black Creatives of Pitt County Officially Formed

2021

*See page 22

Artists

Contracted Artists for teaching, performances. and public art

\$20K for 20 Years Community Funds Raised: \$23,846

Board Member Match: \$20,107

Donor Match: \$20,000

63,953

Members

Current Members and Donors

Public Art Continues to Flourish

In 2020-2021, the Pitt County
Arts Council's Civic Art
Committee broke an alltime record for public art
projects with installing nearly
30 pieces of art throughout
our community. We set the
bar high, as well as including
public art administration and
implementation into two of our fulltime staff positions' job descriptions.

This current year we have continued with the momentum by kicking off the Emerald Loop project (Pages 10-11) as well as purchasing two pieces of sculpture and gifting it to the City of Greenville's public art collection. Low-Poly Heart (R.E.D.I.) by Matthew Duffy is located in front of the Greenville City Hall, and Memory Bomb by Adam Walls is located along the Greenway at the Elm Street Access. Both sculptures were from the annual DownEast Sculpture Exhibition. There are currently 14 new sculptures as part of this exhibition throughout Greenville, Farmville, Winterville, and Ayden. Other projects included a mural on the 4th Street side of the City Parking Deck, a painted piano project initiated by the Black Creatives of Pitt County that now resides in The Roxy, home of the Greenville Theatre Arts Center. and the new mural on the side of Starlight Cafe. We reached beyond Greenville to Avden with an incredible mural that is across the street from Fryday Nite Fish. There will be more to come soon, so keep your eye out around Pitt County for amazing new public art.





Photographs: Low-Poly Heart (R.E.D.I.) by Matthew Duffy and Memory Bomb by Adam Walls



Photographs: Aerial view of artwork at the Intersection of Evans Street and Reade Circle, design by Haddad/Drugan and "West Avenue, Ayden" mural by Karena "Kidd" Graves, Raymond Henderson and Rakia Jackson, in Ayden



Photographs: "A Great Place to be Outside" mural by Karena "Kidd" Graves and Rakia Jackson on 4th Street side of Uptown Greenville Parking Deck and Piano Project painted by Marlon Westray



The Emerald Loop Surfaces



Artist Laura Haddad, Mayor PJ Connelly, and Holly Garriott, celebrate the completion of the Intersection mural at Evans Street and Reade Circle



Installation image of the Intersection mural at Evans Street and Reade Circle

Years of planning and community engagement have signs of the district wide arts plan coming to fruition. The Emerald Loop, a multi-modal urban arts trail, is the project that over 20 stakeholders chose to undertake as part of the SmART Communities grant awarded to the Pitt

County Arts Council at Emerge and the City of Greenville by the North Carolina Arts Council. This began with the SmART City designation to Greenville in 2018. Laura Haddad and Tom Drugan, of artist team Haddad/Drugan, were then selected to work with our community to create the Emerald Loop Vision Plan, a 70+ page document that is a cultural master plan for the district. This plan was approved by the Greenville City Council in August of 2020.

Even when other SmART Communities were unable to implement their projects during the pandemic, Greenville continued on and in 2021 completed the first public art project, the Intersection Mural designed by Haddad/Drugan at Reade Circle and Evans Street.



The Emerald Express has free rides Thursdays thru Saturdays.

The City of Greenville also launched the Emerald Express, the pilot program for Greenville's Transit system that includes trolleys. With the success of the pilot program, the ulimate goal is for the trolleys to be "blinged up" (think of MTV's show "Pimp My Ride"), with Haddad/



The Emerald Express Trolley

Drugan's design for the trolley that includes an irredescent wrap and undercarraige lighting, as well as interior lights. The Emerald Express currently runs Thursday-Saturday from 12-8pm around the Uptown District and Dickinson Avenue, and includes stops on Evans Street, Town Common, Cotanche, in front of the Greenville Museum of Art, and Dickinson Avenue. The Emerald Express is free to the public, so hop on to make the pilot a success! For a map of the Emerald Express route, visit www.greenvillenc.gov/our-city/emerald-express-downtown-circulator.

Future projects are the Emerald Loop Artistic Lighting Plan that includes over ten buildings and structures throughout the area. Some buildings included in the Vision Plan are the radio tower along 5th Street, City Hall, Pitt County Courthouse, as well as other privately owned buildings. Phase 1 of the Lighting Plan includes conceptual lighting plans for each entity and estimated budgets. Phase 2 which will begin next year includes the actual installation

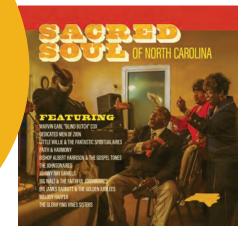


Special one night lighting of the radio tower

of the lights. Imagine driving over the 10th Street Connector and looking over and seeing 10+ buildings lit purple and gold before a game, or green and blue another night. Perhaps on Fridays there were a light show, with each structure changing colors.

The Emerald Loop is a 5+ year plan that will include sheltered benches in different locations that will also tie in the African American Cultural Trail of Greenville/Pitt County. To find out more information please go to: www.pittcountyarts.org/community/arts-district and be ready to see the Emerald Arts District come alive.

The **Dedicated** Men of Zion



The Dedicated Men of Zion were formed in 2014 by eight members including four vocalists: Anthony Daniels, Antwan Daniels, Dexter Weaver, and Marcus Sugg. The group was born out of a love of singing in churches throughout eastern North Carolina. These four vocalists share a love of music and family, as they are all related through blood or marriage. The men joyfully share a harmonious version of the gospel in a style so akin to soul music that they refer to it as "sacred soul".

The Dedicated Men of Zion recorded their hit song "Can't Turn Me Around" in Memphis for the Bible & Tire Recording Company in 2019. It was producer and label head Bruce Watson's first time working with artists from the Sacred Soul tradition of Fastern North Carolina, When Watson arrived to record the sessions that became the album "Sacred Soul of North Carolina". he knew that they had to be a part of it.

According to the R.A. Fountain's newsletter, Found After Dark, "Sacred Soul of North Carolina" includes sixteen tracks by eleven gospel groups, most from the Greenville area. The tracks were recorded during an



Dedicated Men of Zion

eight-day session in Fountain during February 2020 in a portable studio set up by Fat Possum, the Memphis recording company, in Freeman Vines' Music-Maker workshop. The performers were assembled from contacts provided by Alice Vines, and she and the Vines Sisters are one of the featured acts.

CDs and LPs of "Sacred Soul of North Carolina" can be purchased at R.A. Fountain General Store, 6754 E Wilson Street, Fountain, NC 27829.

The group's next performance is at the Word of South festival in Tallahassee, Florida on April 9, 2022. Follow them on facebook to get

updates about upcoming events. In the meantime, you can purchase their new record "The Devil Don't Like It", out on May 3.

To purchase a CD or LP of the Dedicated Men of Zion's newest album, visit www.biglegalmessrecords.com/collections/bible-tire/products/the-devil-dont-like-it.





Dedicated Men of Zion

Celebrating Pitt County Schools' Arts Teachers

Crisis can bring opportunity. Our arts teachers here in Pitt County rose to the challenge that the pandemic created and found new ways to engage with their students from a computer screen and then from behind a mask. The last two years have shown us all the passion and compassion that our teachers have for arts education and for the youth of our community. Here are the reflections of six Pitt County Schools Arts Educators regarding teaching throughout the last two years. We start with a quote from our newly appointed Coordinator of Arts Education, Russell Knight.





"It has been a tremendous first six months in my position as Coordinator of Arts Education for Pitt County Schools. I have been able to get into every arts classroom to meet teachers and witness the great teaching that is going on. Furthermore, I have been able to witness numerous students receive local, state, and national recognition for their work that has been shaped by our teachers. We are excited about all of our upcoming All-County music clinics, the Day of Theatre, a Dance Immersion event, and our Spring/ Summer Art shows. Our Superintendent and his Senior Staff have been incredibly supportive in getting the North Carolina Symphony here for performances on February 24 and the School Board has made a significant investment in the future of our music programs. I can tell you that the Arts are alive and flourishing in Pitt County Schools!"

--- Russell Knight, Coordinator of Arts Education, Pitt County Schools



Jacqueline Hobbs, Visual Arts, A.G. Cox Middle School

"Growing up, arts classes were always the highlight of my day. In school we called them "specials" and to me that was a perfect word to describe them! Now, fast forward to 2022. I'm the teacher in one of these special classes, but with additional obstacles like COVID and virtual learning. Although this has presented some unique challenges I now get to see how truly special and important they are, despite the strain on education, and how many students feel the same way I did!"





"The purpose of arts education is not to produce more artists, though that is a by-product. The real purpose of arts education is to create complete human beings capable of leading. successful and productive lives in a free society."

- Dana Glioia

Celebrating Pitt County Schools' Arts Teachers

Ira Varney, Visual Arts, South Central High School "Teaching through the pandemic has been harder than I thought it would be. I did not realize how much I thrived on the energy of the students in the room.

When we first came back to school with super small classes I thought it would be great to be able to work with small groups, but in fact it was the opposite.

Classes were dead silent and there was no excitement. That excitement is apparently what fuels me creatively because as soon as we went back to full capacity, my energy and creativity returned and I was back to normal mentally.

A positive thing I gained from the pandemic experience was how I was able to streamline my grading processes. Having to put everything on CANVAS was required for delivery of instruction,

but having the students submit work that can be graded quickly was my favorite part. Online submission of work allows me to grade and provide feedback to students instantly."

"The student is Afaf Al-Quhshi and she is in my Art 4 Advanced class. She is in the process of creating work for her Honors Portfolio. Her theme is "How nature can inspire Fashion". She has to create each work in a different material. In the picture, I am talking with her about how we can use the Laser Etcher to engrave her drawing into glass and then paint her animal print and flower border directly on the glass behind the etching."

Photo provided by Ira Varney



Randall Leach, Visual Arts, J.H. Rose High School

"In teaching art during these times, I haven't looked at the obstacles of what we can't do...instead I have looked to create new opportunities for students to create art. When our schools went virtual, our Art Club created a virtual magazine and increased our activity on our discord server in order to share our artwork with each other digitally, which is definitely social distancing. I feel that students need us as teachers to help them find other ways, in addition to social media, to stay connected with their peers and what better way than to share, create, and exhibit their artwork together."

"The arts are essential. They teach students innumerable lessons—practice makes perfect, small differences can have large effects, collaboration leads to creativity. The arts also teach children that there a several paths to take when approaching problems and that all problems can have more than one solution."

- Americans for the Arts



Melissa Coxe, Music, Eastern Elementary School



"For me, music has always been an escape and a way to feed my soul. During the pandemic, our children need this escape more than ever. Music provides them with a positive outlet to express themselves without fear or judgement. I am honored that I can play a small role in providing a sense of normalcy during these very unnormal times."



Photos provided by Melissa Coxe



"These photographs are a glimpse of performances by the 8th grade Orchestra at C.M. Eppes and a small chamber group from J.H. Rose performing at locations and in the classroom."



Betsy Hughes, Music and Orchestra, C.M. Eppes Middle School and J.H. Rose High School





It shouldn't have taken a pandemic for us to appreciate the hard work, amazing talent, and impact of our teachers, however the last two years have shined a light on these incredible people. Emerge Gallery & Art Center will be establishing a Pitt County Arts Educators Fund this year that will help fund their annual supply budgets. You can donate at: www.emergegallery.com/support/donate and help the arts continue to grow!

Summer Theatre Returns to ECU



East Carolina University, School of Theatre & Dance Production Archives, "Seven in One Blow," Summer 2012

East Carolliae Callage Sammer Theatre

McGarnis Austrafrum
Greenville, N. C.

July 18 - July 30, 1946

EDGAR R. LOESSIN

Presents

ANNE GILLIAM SCOTT WILLIAMS
In

The Sound of Music

and

JANE HALDERMAN

with

Marthe Bradner Gerham Polleck Jone Barrett

Back by

Oscor Momeratelin, 2nd Heword Under ond Sussell Crosses

Suggend by "The Trape Family Super" by
Morte Angulant Trapp

Consequence

C

East Carolina University, School of Theatre & Dance Production Archives, "The Sound of Music" program, 1966 During the Summer of 2021, the School of Theatre & Dance launched a campaign to "Bring Back Summer Theatre". This campaign was in conjunction with the 60th Anniversary of The Loessin Playhouse. The funds raised have made the return of Summer Theatre possible this year.

The musical comedy, "Mamma Mia!" will be performed in the McGinnis Theatre this June. This performance will mark the return of ECU Summer Theatre after the lights went off nearly a decade ago. After 300 titles being performed on this stage, "Mamma Mia!" will have its debut.

The first East Carolina Summer Theatre opened in 1964 with six full-scale musicals, which were rehearsed and performed in an eight-week period. Well known Broadway hits like "West Side Story," "My Fair Lady," and "Li'l Abner," were some of the shows that kicked off what would become a beloved summer tradition at ECU as well as in the larger Greenville community.

For nearly 50 years, talented young performers took the stage with seasoned

professionals to entertain audiences who were transported to another time and place, if only for a few hours.

2012 was the final curtain call on Summer Theatre as budgets could no longer support this endeavor. "Seven in One Blow" was one of the final performances to grace the stage at McGinnis Theatre.

"Mamma Mia!" will be directed by Michael Tahaney, who heads the university's musical theater program, with choreography by ECU instructor and Dance Program Coordinator Tommi Galaska.

"Mamma Mia!"
performances are
scheduled June 22-26 at
ECU's McGinnis Theatre.
Audition and ticket
information will be made
available at ecu.edu/arts.

East Carolina University, School of Theatre & Dance Production Archives, "Guys and Dolls," Summer 2006





East Carolina University, School of Theatre & Dance Production Archives, "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," Summer 2000



Black Creatives of Pitt County's mission is to host a safe space and inspire Black artists in Pitt County, North Carolina to network, create, and serve the arts community with diverse expressions from Black creatives.

> Public Art and Performances, Networking Events, Artist Opportunities, Art Scholarships, Grants, and Support



Scan the QR code to visit the BCPC webpage, become a member, donate to, and sign up for emails about events!

Follow Black Creatives of Pitt County (BCPC) on Instagram for more updates on future events, exhibitions, networking, and artist opportunities.



@blackcreativespc







əmerge

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Emerge Gallery & Art Center 404 Evans St., Greenville, NC | (252) 551-6947 www.emergegallery.com



Lillian and Freddie Outterbridge have dedicated their lives to enriching the minds and hearts of students throughout Pitt County. Collectively, the couple taught for over 60 years. Freddie, whose major in college was Fine Arts Education, taught art as an itinerant teacher to students from kindergarten to senior year. Freddie even taught teachers through continuing education courses. Lillian studied history and political science with the intent to continue in law before finding her passion teaching in the classroom.

Years ago, Lillian and Freddie saw that the local talent of their students was not being recognized by the community and approached the administration at the Greenville Recreation and Parks department. This need to showcase student work became "Celebrate Youth Expressions", which is now a part of the annual Youth Arts Festival every fall.

When asked about the importance of the arts in our community, especially for our youth, both emphatically discussed how the arts touch every subject and every aspect of our environment. Art ultimately gives us an ability to think beyond face value and to cultivate creative problem solving skills, which can be applied to other areas of life.

Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge Donors for 2021-2022

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Benefactor Level

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Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge Donors for 2021-2022

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