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The County's art buzz

By Dana Stewart / Special to the Fairfax County Times Mar 8, 2019



Lolita Marie as Marian Anderson from "Secrets of the Universe (And Other Songs)" co-produced by The Hub Theatre and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia.

PHOTO COURTESY THE HUB THEATRE

There are plenty of art offerings in Fairfax, but have you checked out Twitter?

County resident and writer Jesse Stanchak tells his stories in 280 characters or less. A marketing professional in the metro area, Stanchak spins his literary prose three times a day via Twitter @MicroFlashFic. A modern version of an Irish Lyrics or a Japanese haiku, Stanchak's work has attracted over 35,000 followers and been translated into multiple languages for audiences in countries around the world. Stanchak admits his work tends toward the scary and sad, but hopes readers will explore the many voices he represents in his work.

Stanchak gives this advice for aspiring artists, "The price of failure is so low. The worst that happens is that people ignore it."

Link to his most popular Flash Fiction: <https://twitter.com/i/moments/990422367036944385>

Four theaters nominated for Helen Hayes Awards

Four Fairfax County theaters received nominations for the 2019 Helen Hayes awards. 1st Stage leads the nominations with 22, and Brave Spirits Theatre, NextStop Theatre and The Hub Theatre each received two nominations. Get tickets now to see 1st Stage's current presentation of "Columbinus" through April 20 and NextStop's production of "Fallen Angels" until April 7.



"Fallen Angels" at NextStop Theatre.

PHOTO COURTESY LOCK AND COMPANY

Brave Spirits' presentation of William Shakespeare's "As You Like It" and The Hub Theatre's "The Burn" both start in April.

Brave Spirits and The Hub Theatre continue to receive audience and critical acclaim despite the challenge of finding a permanent home in Fairfax County.

Shape the County's future

To understand residents' needs and wishes, Fairfax County has launched a Countywide Strategic Plan survey to gather information to develop a plan for 2020 and beyond. The arts play a vital role in Fairfax, and it is critical for decision-makers to know the challenges facing the arts community. Please take time to complete this important survey: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/strategicplan/>

Fairfax County citizens have other opportunities to speak for the arts by attending board of supervisors FY 2020 budget town hall meetings. Now is the time to get involved with your community and support the arts.

March art event highlights

Join the arts community for a variety of events in March. The Fairfax Choral Society presents music of composers, past and present that inspire thoughts about life on March 17, and The Fairfax Symphony presents students from Amit Peled's studio of the Peabody Institute on March 31 both at Providence Presbyterian Church. McLean Project for the Arts is celebrating Youth Art Month by featuring work from students in the Fairfax County Public Schools Langley and McLean pyramids and the Fairfax Choral Society's youngest choirs present "Bugtopia!" at United Methodist Church on March 16. For a great laugh, get your tickets for the Workhouse Arts Center's presentation of "The Explorers Club" showing through March 31.



"The Explorers Club": The Workhouse Arts Center presents a story set in London 1879 about the prestigious Explorers Club crisis: their acting president wants to admit a woman, and their bartender is terrible. True, this female candidate is brilliant, beautiful and has discovered a legendary Lost City, but the decision to let in a woman could shake the very foundation of the British Empire, and how do you make such a decision without a decent drink? Grab your safety goggles for some very mad science involving deadly cobras, irate Irishmen and the occasional airship.

Workhouse Arts Center, Building W-3 (Theatre), 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton.

March 2 - 31, dates and times vary

Tickets:\$20- \$30

For more information, visit <http://www.workhousearts.org/event/the-explorers-club/>

PHOTO COURTESY MATTHEW RANDALL

End the month by celebrating Women's History Month and women in the arts. Join ARTSFAIRFAX President & CEO, Linda Sullivan and Senator Jennifer Boysko at the 4th Annual Women's Choral Festival hosted by Capital Harmonia at the Community of Faith in Herndon on March 31. For more Fairfax events or more about the arts, visit artsfairfax.org.