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VIRGINIA CENTER FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS

JULY 2018



Thanks to volunteer and master gardener Sue Piepho, as well as VCCA staff, the perennial garden along the path to the Langhorne Residence is blooming with zinnia, daisies, vervain, and more.

VIEW FROM THE HILL

Dear friends of VCCA,

Since my introduction to VCCA over two years ago, I have been trying to put my finger on the elements that contribute to its special magic. One is certainly the year-round beauty of place – the sweeping Blue Ridge views and boxwood-lined paths in Amherst, the Garonne River and ancient stone houses on the pilgrimage trail in Auvillar. Another is the devoted, passionate staff in both places who are committed to providing “creative space” and support to artists.

The other, and perhaps most powerful, is the community of welcome and shared focus that shapes each Fellow’s experience on site and that they take with them out into the “real world.” Mentorship, collaboration, and lasting friendships spring from the un-choreographed, random assembly of gifted people devoted to creative work. New Fellows who arrive without preconceptions mix with returning artists who transmit knowledge, memory, and, I have come to believe, a strong and pervading culture of artistic freedom and mutual support.

Recent Fellow Alec Hershman says it well,

of heightened aesthetic engagement and existential ease."

We hold up this community, more important than ever in our rapidly-changing world, as a hallmark of VCCA.

You are part of a very special group and a very special place that holds up the value of art, the power of creativity, and the importance of community. Sending warm greetings to you wherever this finds you,



Joy Peterson Heyrman
Executive Director

NEWS



NEW BOARD LEADERSHIP

The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA) announces the election of two new members to its Board of Directors. Matthew McLendon and Steven Petrow were recently elected to serve as members of the Board beginning June 2018. Matthew McLendon, Ph.D., an art historian and curator of modern and contemporary art, is the J. Sanford Miller Family Director of The Fralin Museum of Art at the University of Virginia. Steven Petrow is a VCCA Fellow and an award-winning journalist and author. He is currently a columnist for *USA Today* as well a contributing writer to *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times*.

In addition, Quinn Feldmann Graeff was named President-Elect and will succeed President Margaret B. Ingraham in June 2019.

[[READ MORE](#)]

RECENT GRANTS

VCCA is grateful to these foundations for their support:

The Bama Works Fund of Dave Matthews Band in the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation

\$5,000 towards the purchase of a "gently used" passenger van to transport VCCA Fellows for the

The Leslie and Mary Tyler Creek Fund for Virginia of the National Trust for Historic Preservation

\$5,000 for Facility Assessment Survey and Energy Analysis. This report will guide VCCA staff and board in identifying priorities for maintenance and capital investment.

Joseph and Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation

\$10,000 to begin a phased process to redesign and further develop the VCCA website.

ARTIST SERVICES



ALONZO DAVIS and STEVEN PETROW FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

This summer three Fellows will be in residence at VCCA through two fully-funded Fellowships. Helina Metaferia and Natasha Oladokun are recipients of the [Alonzo Davis Fellowship](#) which celebrates outstanding American artists of African or Latinx descent. Metaferia, of Silver Spring, Maryland, is an interdisciplinary artist whose work investigates the role of the body as both subject and object in art, as well as transnational identity and cultural hybridity within the context of her Ethiopian-American heritage. Poet and essayist Oladokun is a resident of Roanoke, Virginia, Assistant Poetry Editor at *storySouth*, and a Visiting Assistant Professor of English at Hollins University. Both Metaferia and Oladokun will be in residence in July.

Writer and cartoonist Lydia Conklin has been awarded the second annual [Steven Petrow LGBTQ Fellowship](#) and will be in residence in August. Conklin has been published in *Tin House*, *The Southern Review*, and *Narrative Magazine*. Her serial comic strip *Lesbian Cattle Dogs* appears in *Lenny Letter*. She holds an MFA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

ETCHINGS FESTIVAL

Beginning June 30th, the Etchings Festival for Contemporary Music will again come to the village of Auvillar. In its tenth year, this festival is a collaboration between [VCCA](#) and [ECCE](#) and hosts world-renowned master composers and participant composers to develop new contemporary music.

Dana Jones, Assistant Director of Artists' Services, will be in Auvillar working in support of the Etchings Festival and will share her perspective throughout her visit. [Check our blog](#) or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for an insider's view of this unique festival.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

The next residency application deadline is fast approaching. In addition to the standard application, VCCA is also accepting applications for the following sponsored fellowships:

VCCA ABROAD

The application deadline is approaching for international opportunities at our location in Auvillar, France, and with our partners at four international arts

[Collateral Reparations Fellowship](#) for military veteran artists, writers or composers, and the [Wachtmeister Award](#), which will be awarded this year to a composer and/or sound artist.

Details on each of these fellowships are available on the website. [Application deadline is](#) September 15.

writers, visual artists, and composers who previously have been in residence at VCCA.

For more information on this year's offerings, visit the VCCA website. **Applications are due September 1, 2018.**

APPLY TODAY

GIVING NEWS

Thank you to everyone who gave back to VCCA in 2018! Your gifts made possible nearly 500 Fellowships, increased and enhanced communication via our newsletter and social media, and creative engagement with more than 1,000 individuals in Central Virginia and southwestern France.

Every year, VCCA must raise over \$500,000 to maintain our facilities, support residencies, and advance the arts. Your contribution to the Annual Fund is critical in sustaining the creative spaces of Mt. San Angelo and the Moulin à Nef.

Your support in 2019 will allow us to continue our work to provide creative space and improve our facilities. Look for improved internet connectivity, a new van for Fellow runs, and website development in Fiscal Year 2019. Your contributions make it happen!

The Boxwood Collective is a budget-friendly way to give back. [Join today!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

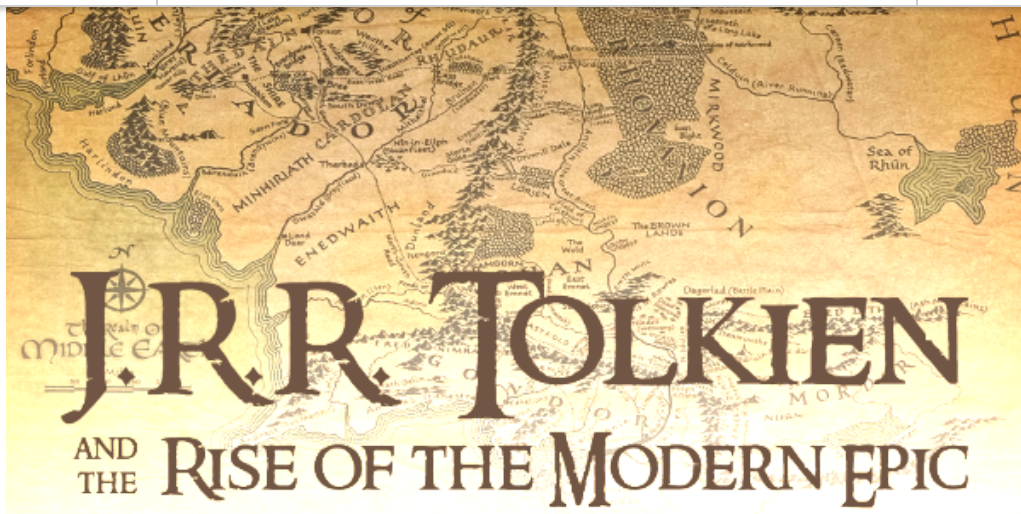
OPEN STUDIOS

Saturday, July 14, 2018 • 3 – 6 p.m.

In the area? Come back for a visit!
Meet the current artists in residence and enjoy a tasting by Amherst's oldest brewery, Loose Shoe Brewing Company.



[\[more about this event\]](#)



Thursday, July 26 at 7:30 p.m.
Riverviews Artspace in Lynchburg

Presented by VCCA Fellow Brian Culhane

[\[more about this event\]](#)

**FELLOWS
& FRIENDS
GATHERING**

SAVE THE DATE

Fellows and Friends Gathering

Thursday, September 13, 2018

New York, NY

Join VCCA to raise a glass to creativity and connect with Fellows and friends. Watch your email for more details.



The VCCA e-newsletter is sent every other month to friends and Fellows as a way to keep you up-to-date on happenings at Mt. San Angelo and Moulin à Nef. [We welcome your feedback.](#)



THE CHARLES JACOB FOUNDATION



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