

THE SPIRIT OF

# Essex

Spring 2022

## Essex County & Olmsted: Parks for the People



**Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.**  
Essex County Executive  
and the Board of  
County Commissioners



**Daniel K. Salvante**  
Director of Parks, Recreation  
and Cultural Affairs

PAGE 6



PAGE 10



PAGE 13



PAGE 17





## A MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Dear Friend:

If we have learned anything from the pandemic, it was how important our parks and open spaces have been to preserve and promote our physical and mental health. This is not a new revelation, for it is the premise on why our government leaders created the Essex County Parks System in 1895. In this issue, we also commemorate the 200th anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted, the father of landscape architecture and whose influence can be seen in many of our county parks.

During the last two years, we have experienced a surge in how our parks are utilized. Forced into isolation to prevent the spread of the virus, the walking paths, athletic fields, sprawling meadows and vistas became our home away from home and provided a chance to escape the four walls of our homes, burn extra energy, clear our heads and soothe our minds. In the late 1800s, industrialization was at its peak and our county was experiencing widespread development. It was fortuitous that our leaders of the time had the foresight to spare green space from development and create a collection of beautiful open spaces that would become the lungs of our communities and have the distinction of being the first county park system created in the United States.

Springtime literally can be a sight for sore eyes. Emerging from the gray, drab days of winter, the explosion of pink and white petals from the flowering cherry blossom trees can lift our spirits and awaken our souls. Mark your calendar for this year's Essex County Cherry Blossom Festival from April 2 to 10. Blooming season continues in late May/early June at the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens and then in June at the Brookdale Park Rose Garden.

I hope you can make time to experience these beautiful nature wonders of our parks system. Together we will continue *Putting Essex County First*.

*"The enjoyment of scenery employs the mind without fatigue and yet exercises it; tranquilizes it and yet enlivens it; and thus, through the influence of the mind over the body gives the effect of refreshing rest and reinvigoration to the whole system."*

- Frederick Law Olmsted



**Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.**  
*Essex County Executive*



**Daniel K. Salvante**  
*Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs*

### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

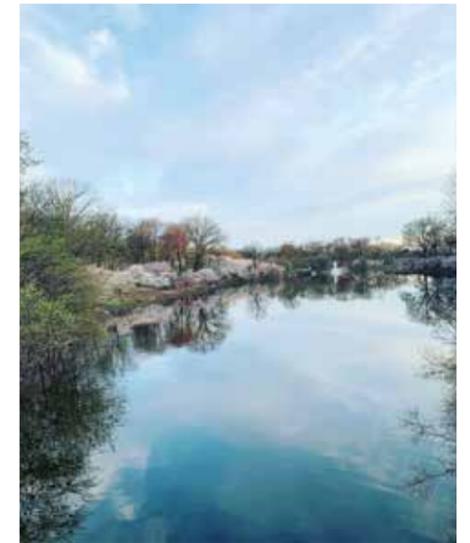
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This program is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. The Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs received an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.



Indicates the facility is handicap accessible. Please contact the facility directly for specific accommodations.



## Frederick Law Olmsted: 200 Years of Parks for the People

**What do Central Park in Manhattan, The Emerald Necklace in Boston, and 17 of the Essex County Parks have in common?**

***They are all part of Frederick Law Olmsted's legacy of landscape design.***

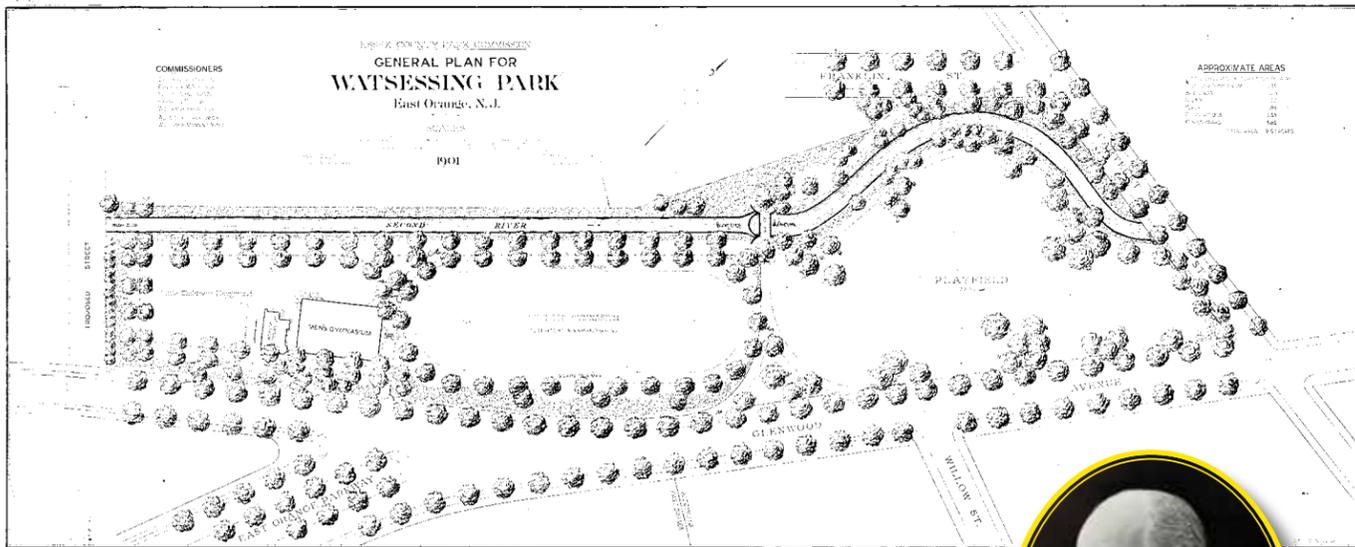
Frederick Law Olmsted was born 200 years ago in Connecticut. After pursuing many different careers (experimental farmer, merchant, journalist), he turned to his true professional love: designing parks and public spaces for the health and enjoyment of the people. Olmsted felt that public parks served an important service to the community. He understood instinctively what scientific studies have

proven: access to natural areas makes people happier and healthier. Parks provide space for individuals to exercise more and relax, improving their physical and mental health. They are also places that serve the social development of children and adolescents as meeting places and spaces to play. Therefore, these "lungs of the city" encourage the development of dynamic communities.

Understanding that a lack of access to nature would negatively affect people, Olmsted and his successors designed public parks and spaces in such a way to best utilize the local geography while still serving the needs of the community. Essex County was an early supporter of this idea, creating the first County Park Commission in the United States

in 1895. With Olmsted's foresight, parks such as Essex County's Branch Brook Park, Brookdale Park, and Eagle Rock Reservation were created.

This year, Essex County Parks are joining other park systems around the country in celebrating the 200th anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted's birth. More than just "grass museums," Olmsted parks serve as bridges to the past and hubs of the community. Parks are being used now more than ever before as people seek areas to recharge and have fun while protecting themselves from illness. This visionary's ideas of public access to open spaces are alive and well in Essex County, growing and developing every day. ■



## Frederick Law Olmsted Trivia Quiz

**Question:** Did Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. design the Essex County Parks?

**Answer:** Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. consulted on the development of Essex County Branch Brook Park when the concept was introduced in 1867. By the time the Essex County Park System was created in 1895, Olmsted had retired, but his firm, run by his sons John C. and Frederick Jr., designed all our early parks. The Olmsted Brothers firm continued Frederick Law Olmsted Sr.'s landscape design philosophies.

**Question:** Did Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. visit Essex County Parks?

**Answer:** He was invited to Newark in 1867 to consult on a location that eventually became Branch Brook Park. He may also have visited the South Mountain Reservation area in 1894.

**Question:** Which design principle did the Olmsteds use in the landscape architecture of parks?

- A. Overall design is more important than individual elements
- B. Parks need to be useful, not just pretty
- C. A succession of scenery as you move through the park
- D. The shape of the land is taken into consideration as the design is being planned
- E. All of the above

**Answer:** E. All of the above

**Question:** Where can I see evidence of Olmsted design in the Essex County Parks?

**Answer:** Each of our early parks, such as Branch Brook, Riverbank, and Yanticaw, retain elements of their Olmsted design. The original plans for the parks are kept in the Parks Archives at 115 Clifton Avenue in Newark.

## ESSEX COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

**Seasonal events sponsored by the Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs**

### ESSEX COUNTY CODEY ARENA

560 Northfield Avenue, West Orange  
973.731.3828 ext. 0  
[www.essexcountynj.org/codeyarena](http://www.essexcountynj.org/codeyarena)

### Learn to Skate in the Spring March 11 to June 15

Classes run on Friday, Saturday or Sunday  
Six, seven and eight week classes

### ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

621-B Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland  
973-228-8776 - [www.essexcountynj.org/environmentalcenter](http://www.essexcountynj.org/environmentalcenter)

### YOUTH GARDEN CLUB

**Tuesdays – April 26, May 10, 24; June 7, 21; July 12, 19; August 2; Sept 6, Sept 20; 4pm to 5pm**  
**For ages 5 and up.** Participants will grow food in the garden plot and learn about everything from soil to seeds along the way. Participants will get hands-on experience with planting, harvesting and cooking. Session themes include soil and composting, seed planting and labeling, thinning, weeding and watering, selective harvest, garden pests, healthy eating and more! This is a drop-off and pick-up class (children only). Advanced registration required. **Fee: \$10/child/session or \$80 for the full series**

### FROG POND CLUB

**Wednesdays – March 9, April 6, May 11, June 8; 4pm to 5pm**  
**For children ages 5 through 9.** Uncover and discover ecosystem interactions at the frog pond. Explore with nets, magnifiers and microscopes to investigate what lives at the pond and learn from a naturalist what can be done to protect and conserve the pond inhabitants. Advance registration, payment and minimum number of participants are required. **Fee: \$10 per child per session**

### FOREST FRIENDS CLUB

**Thursdays – March 10, April 7, May 19, June 16; 4pm to 5pm**  
**For children ages 5 through 10.** Children will explore the forest using nets, binoculars, magnifiers, and microscopes to investigate nature in our wooded wetland habitat. Together we hope to foster an ethic of stewardship and offer an opportunity to take part in hands-on conservation projects. Advance registration, payment and minimum number of participants are required. **Fee: \$10 per child per session**

### SMORES n' MORE NIGHT HIKE

**Tuesday, March 8; 6pm to 7:30pm**  
**For families.** Come out to build a campfire and practice fundamental fire skills in a safe and controlled environment. Once the fire gets burning, we'll roast marshmallows and make s'mores. All ages are welcome. Advance registration and minimum number of participants are required. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child; \$12 per adult**

Essex County Department of Parks and Recreation & Rose Squared Art Shows Present



## Rose Squared Art Show at Essex County Verona Park

Bloomfield Ave and Lakeside Ave, Verona | Saturday, May 21 & Sunday, May 22, 10am-5pm



## Rose Squared Art Show at Essex County Brookdale Park

473 Watchung Ave and Bloomfield Ave, Montclair | Saturday, June 18 & Sunday, June 19, 10am-5pm

For info, directions, a gallery of participating artists and unique artisanal food, visit [rosesquared.com](http://rosesquared.com)



# SPRING FOREST EGG HUNT

**Saturday, April 2; 9:30am to 1pm**

For families with children ages 1 to 6. Celebrate the beginning of spring with a self-guided story walk reading of the "Little White Rabbit" and an egg hunt within the forest grounds of the Environmental Center. Kids should bring their favorite basket to collect eggs and earn surprises! In the spirit of being "green," participants will exchange eggs for small prizes. The eggs are sanitized and reused for future events and programs. A spring craft giveaway is included. Bad weather cancels. Advanced registration is required; limited space available. For more information and/or to schedule a personalized time slot, call the Center at 973.228.8776. Fee: \$15 per child

## FAMILY DINOSAUR DISCOVERY FIELD TRIPS

**Wednesday, March 23; 5:15pm to 7:15pm**

**Wednesday, April 27; 5:15pm to 7:15pm**

**Wednesday, May 25; 5:30pm to 7:30pm**

For families with young children ages 4 and up. Meet at the end of Locust Avenue in Roseland and hike 1 mile total to explore this National Historic Landmark that is home to three-toed Grallator dinosaur tracks from the late Triassic age. Using clay, we'll make and take an impression of an existing track and leave the site undisturbed for future paleontological study. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

## OWL PELLET DISSECTION

**Monday, March 28; 6pm to 7pm**

For children ages 7-12. Learn about our beautiful and mysterious silent hunters of the night. Discover what they're eating as we discuss predators and prey and food chain dynamics. Carefully reconstruct the bones found inside owl pellets! Minimum number of participants required. **Fee: \$10 per child**

## SPRING CAMP

**Tuesday, April 12; Wednesday, April**

**13; Thursday, April 14**

**OR Tuesday, April 19; Wednesday, April 20; Thursday, April 21**

**12:30pm to 4:30pm**

**For children in grades 1 through 5.**

Restore the bond between children and nature. Children will have the opportunity to explore nature right here at the Essex County Environmental Center. Advanced registration and payment are required.

**Fee: \$180 per child for all 3 days OR \$70 per child/per day**

## DIY RECYCLED PAPERMAKING

**Tuesday, April 12; 6pm to 7pm**

**For families or elementary age children.**

Join an environmental center naturalist to learn to turn your household paper waste into beautiful paper right in your own kitchen. Make and take recycled paper. Together we can reduce our waste and take better care of mother earth! **FREE (This program is sponsored by the Essex County Utilities Authority.)**



# EARTH DAY

**Saturday, April 23;  
11am to 3pm**

**All ages. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors** for our annual outdoor Earth festival. On this special day, the Essex County Environmental Center will make extra efforts to share its wonder and appreciation of the natural world with its patrons, partners and friends. Enjoy a day filled with crafts, games, and recreational opportunities, such as canoeing and hiking. Enjoy demonstrations, information, a local eco-vendors' sale, with Environmental Center staff and partner groups on hand to guide you throughout the day. **FREE EVENT (items may be for sale)**

2022 ESSEX COUNTY

# Cherry Blossom Festival

IN BRANCH BROOK PARK



Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.  
Essex County Executive  
and the Board of  
County Commissioners

### Festival Events

<p>Saturday, April 2 ~ 7am-1pm <b>Cherry Blossom Challenge Bike Race</b> Oval, Northern Division</p>	<p>Saturday, April 9 ~ 10am <b>1-Mile Fun Run/Walk</b> Concert Grove, Southern Division</p>	<p>Sunday, April 10 ~ 11am-5pm <b>Bloomfest!</b> Cherry Blossom Welcome Center, Extension</p>
<p>Sunday, April 3 ~ 10am <b>Cherry Blossom 10k Run</b> Cherry Blossom Welcome Center, Extension</p>	<p>Saturday, April 9 ~ 11am-3pm <b>Essex County Family Day</b> Prudential Concert Grove, Southern Division</p>	

*You're Invited to...*

Essex County Branch Brook Park to enjoy the most diverse collection of Cherry Blossom Trees, even larger than the national display in Washington, DC. The blossoming trees create a picturesque setting that transforms the park into a stunning spring fantasyland. We invite you and your family to come out and experience this natural wonder.

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Essex County Executive  
and the Board of  
County Commissioners



## ACCESSIBILITY DURING THE ANNUAL ESSEX COUNTY CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

Hundreds of thousands of visitors flock to Essex County Branch Brook Park every spring to witness the explosion of color when the famous Cherry Blossom trees bloom. Essex County has been hosting its annual festival to celebrate the beauty of the trees since 1976 and makes every effort to ensure events are accessible to all residents.

Many of the festival's events take place near the Cherry Blossom Welcome Center on Branch Brook Drive between Heller Parkway in Newark and Mill Street in Belleville. The Center has a paved parking lot with signposted handicapped parking spaces, no stairs to enter, and accessible restrooms. However, during some festival events, the parking lot will be used for programming and not for parking.

The area around the Welcome Center is paved and there is exterior seating. Seating will also be available on the grass area of the parking lot during the festival for stage viewing. Many paths throughout the Cherry Blossom area are paved with smooth grading.

Festival events also take place at the Prudential Concert Grove, which is a combination of paved and grass surfaces. The concert grove is located on Branch Brook Drive between Park Avenue and Clifton Avenue in Newark.

The Cherry Blossom 10K Run attracts thousands of runners, who enjoy the scenic views of the cherry blossoms while testing their endurance and competing against others. The event also includes a competition for the disabled. A portion of the proceeds from the 10K run support Special Olympics activities in Essex County.

## 'gARTbage' ART CONTEST

**Register by Thursday, April 14, 2022  
Project Drop-Off, Friday, April 22, 2022**

**This g'ART'bage (Art Through Recycling)** contest will challenge youth to be creative in building a sculpture made of garbage. Team and individual projects are welcome. Winning entries will be displayed during the week of Earth Day! All projects will be awarded ribbons, plus 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will

be awarded prizes in two different age categories: Grades K-3 and Grades 4-12+! Pre-register by contacting the Environmental Center or email [tcasella@parks.essexcountynj.org](mailto:tcasella@parks.essexcountynj.org). This contest is sponsored by the County of Essex and the Essex County 4-H Leaders Association.

## COMPOSTING FOR KIDS

**Monday, April 25, 2022; 6pm to 7pm  
For families or elementary age**

**children.** Join an environmental center naturalist to meet some worms and learn about the wonderful world of compost. Together we can reduce our waste and take better care of mother earth! **FREE (This program is sponsored by the Essex County Utilities Authority.)**

## TODDLER SENSORY HIKE

**Monday, May 2; 10am to 11am  
For children ages 1-5 with caregiver supervision.** Bring your toddlers for a

sensory exploration outside with a naturalist. Visit the forest trails, frog pond, Passaic River and more. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

#### FAMILY WETLANDS

##### DISCOVERY WALK

**Wednesday, May 4; 5:30pm to 7pm**  
**For families.** Explore our trails with a naturalist, identify spring wildflowers, visit the frog pond and uncover and discover ecosystem interactions. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

#### FROG POND ADVENTURE

##### OUTDOOR CLASS

**Tuesday, May 10; 6pm to 7:30pm**  
**For families.** This rribbetting program will take an up-close look at our pond ecosystem. Search for and identify the life found in the pond through magnifying glasses, microscopes and field guides. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

#### PASSAIC RIVER CANOE TRIP

**Saturday, May 14; 9am to 1pm**  
**For adults and children ages 12 and up.** Paddle up the Passaic River from the Environmental Center to Okner Park in Livingston! Pack your own snack to enjoy at the park and then float back down to Garibaldi Hall where we launched. The session includes basic paddling safety and techniques and all equipment. For intermediate and advanced paddlers. Children ages 12 and up may paddle with a parent guardian. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. **Fee: \$30 per person**

#### PASSAIC RIVER CANOE TRIP

**Thursday, May 19; 6pm to 8pm**  
**For adults and children ages 10 and older.** Take a leisurely paddle on the Passaic River! Paddlers will enjoy scenery and peacefulness as they paddle up the river and float downstream. Geared for beginners and children 10 and up accompanied by a parent or guardian. Meet in the Garibaldi Hall parking lot. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. **Fee: \$20 per person**



#### Essex County Fishing Derby

**Tuesday, May 17**  
**Orange Park**

**Wednesday, May 18**  
**Irvington Park**

**Thursday, May 19**  
**Grover Cleveland Park**

**Tuesday, May 24**  
**Weequahic Park**

**Wednesday, May 25**  
**Verona Park**

**Thursday, May 26**  
**South Mountain Reservation**

**Sunday, June 5**  
**Branch Brook Park**

#### SPRING JOURNALING OUTDOOR CLASS

**Monday, May 23; 5:30pm to 7pm**  
**All ages (children under 5 require caregiver supervision).** Discover the joy of phenology, the cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena, especially in relation to climate and plant and animal life. Let us find a special place to write and draw our spring discoveries and appreciate the warmth and change of the season. Maybe partake in some spring birding! We will also hike the grounds to note seasonal changes and beautiful discoveries. We will make our journals here on site. Friends and family are encouraged to join. Advanced registration and minimum number of participants are required. **Fee: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult**

#### ESSEX COUNTY TURTLE BACK ZOO

560 Northfield Avenue, West Orange  
973-731-5800 - [www.essexcountynj.org/turtlebackzoo](http://www.essexcountynj.org/turtlebackzoo)

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

**Select Sundays and Mondays throughout the Spring; 10am and 11:30am**  
TBZ's Early Childhood Programs encourage family learning and foster early environmental awareness. Young children are invited to discover the natural world through gently structured play, art, stories, animal visits and more. Age restrictions apply; pre-registration required; zoo admission not included. **Tots (ages 2&3) and Explorers (ages 4&5) are \$25-\$30 per participant.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/early-childhood-programs/>

#### WONDERS OF THE WILD

**Most Saturdays throughout the Spring; 1pm**  
Turtle Back Zoo is an amazing classroom! Our Wonders of the Wild program is an opportunity to participate in supplementary science and nature-themed programs and projects that facilitate scientific literacy and life-long environmental stewardship. Available to students ages 6-12. The programs include a visit to the South Mountain Reservation, Reservoir, or Zoo as weather permits; it does not include zoo admission for after the program. **\$30/participant.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/wonders-of-the-wild/>

#### SOPHISTICATED SCIENCE SEMINARS

**Select Saturdays throughout the Spring, times vary**  
Sophisticated Science Seminars are conservation programs geared to audiences ages 13 to 103. Seminars run throughout the year and span topics such as animal anatomy, habitats and conservation, animal careers, and more. The programs are perfect for those interested in animals, science, conservation, and nature who want to learn something new in a relaxed atmosphere. **\$30/participant; includes a visit into the zoo, but**



TBZ's Early Childhood Programs encourage family learning and foster early environmental awareness

**not zoo admission for after the program.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/sophisticated-science-seminars/>

#### FAMILY NATURE CLUB: NATURE ADVENTURERS

**Select Sundays throughout the Spring, times vary**  
Nature Play is playing WITH nature, not just IN nature and is a great way to interact with nature no matter your experience level or play style. Run, climb, build, dig, or even just sit and experience the sounds, smells, and sights of the outdoors. Nature Adventurers visits different locations near Essex County Turtle Back Zoo; zoo admission not included. **\$15/participant.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/family-nature-club-nature-adventurers/>

#### UPCOMING MINI-CAMPS

**Spring Break Camp 1: April 12-14; 9am-4pm**  
**Spring Break Camp 2: April 19-21; 9am-4pm**  
Join us at Turtle Back Zoo for some wild fun! To further our mission of conservation, education, and stewardship, campers will be introduced to the extraordinary world of animals, nature, and science. Children will enjoy age-appropriate camp activities that include games, teacher-led lessons, behind-the-scenes tours, up-

close animal encounters, hands-on science demos, and fun crafts. **\$90/participant.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/zoo-camps/>

#### OTHER PROGRAMS AT THE ZOO OR CLOSER TO YOU

**In-person and Virtual Programs, Outreaches, and more**  
**Dates and Times Scheduled at Need**  
Join us for a dynamic and fun educational program that is focused on animals, conservation, and stewardship. We offer a variety of programs that satisfy many scientific benchmarks while also being engaging and informative. Programs can be adapted to age and ability; many can be adapted for outreaches to schools, senior centers, etc. **Fees and restrictions vary per location.** For more information, visit <https://turtlebackzoo.com/discover/education-center-programs/>

#### WORLD TURTLE DAY CELEBRATION

**Sunday, May 22; 11am to 2pm**  
Join us at Essex County Turtle Back Zoo as we celebrate our special namesake animal on World Turtle Day! On May 22nd, visit TBZ to learn all about turtles, tortoises, and terrapins and take away some skills you and your family can use to help all chelonians. **Free event with zoo admission; weather permitting.** ■



# Family Garden Party

**At the Essex County Presby Memorial Iris Gardens**

**Saturday, May 21**  
**11am to 3pm**

**Free Admission**

**474 Upper Mountain Avenue, Montclair**  
**[www.presbyirisgardens.org](http://www.presbyirisgardens.org)**



## FEEDER CONTEST

The Essex County Environmental Center staff would like to thank all those who entered our Forest Friends Feeder Contest. The distinctive, creative, and edible entries provided delicious and special treats for our outdoor wetland critters, who were most appreciative of all the creations! It was truly a delightful sight for all; our visiting families and Center staff witnessed countless winter birds landing from flight to enjoy a winter treat made specially for them.



**1st Place Prize - Adult Professional**  
E.C. West Caldwell Tech – 12th Grade

Ashley Sanchez, Jaidelys Sanchez, Sabrina Fabara & Aryana Jackson  
Instructor Daniel Delche



**2nd Place Prize - Adult Professional**  
E.C. West Caldwell Tech – 11th Grade

Yaira Ramos & Yaritza Gutierrez  
Instructor Daniel Delcher



**3rd Place Prize - Adult Professional**  
E.C. West Caldwell Tech – 9th Grade

Madison Hill, Karen Velasquez & Tanea Joyner,  
Instructor Daniel Delcher



**1st Place Prize - Group Family**  
DeFrank Family



**2nd Place Prize - Group Family**  
4-H Young Gardeners Club



**3rd Place Prize - Group Family**  
The Dat Family



**Individual Child Category Winner**  
Ursa Brondo



**People's Choice Den 4 Cedar Grove Cub Scouts**  
James Hopkins, Leader



**SOPAC**  
SOUTH ORANGE  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



# CELEBRATE MARDI GRAS WITH MARCIA BALL

**SAT, FEB 19 AT 8PM**

Tickets: \$28-\$38



**THE JAMES HUNTER SIX**  
FRI, FEB 18  
AT 8PM  
Tickets: \$36-\$56



**THE BRIT PACK**  
SAT, FEB 26  
AT 8PM  
Tickets: \$25-\$35



**KINDRED THE FAMILY SOUL**  
FRI, MAR 4  
AT 8PM  
Tickets: \$42-\$77



**AN EVENING WITH MARC COHN**  
SAT, MAR 5  
AT 8PM  
Tickets: \$45-\$60



**SON VOLT**  
WED, MAR 9  
AT 7:30PM  
Tickets: \$34-\$44



**RESISTANCE REVIVAL CHORUS**  
THU, MAR 10  
AT 7:30PM  
Tickets: \$29-\$39

**Get Your Tickets Today! [SOPACnow.org](https://www.sopacnow.org) / (973) 313-2787**

Visit [SOPACnow.org/Covid-19](https://www.sopacnow.org/Covid-19)  
for all Covid-19 Precautions & Policies



Made possible by funds from the  
New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner  
agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.



## ESSEX COUNTY CULTURAL EXHIBITIONS

### LISA PALOMBO STUDIOS

55 Mountain Avenue, Caldwell  
973.364.0280  
www.Lisapalombo.com 

Twice a year, Lisa Palombo opens her working art studio and gallery to the public to showcase new original art consisting of impressionistic-style paintings in various sizes and subject matter. This spring, she will debut her newest series "Animalia," "Ode to Monet," "Fields of Joy," "Koi," "Equine" and "Maritime," which all showcase her signature palette and expressive brushstrokes.



Paintings by Lisa Palombo

### MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM

3 South Mountain Avenue, Montclair  
973.746.5555  
www.montclairartmuseum.org 

#### Tenacity & Resilience: The Art of Jerry Pinkney

February 6 to June 26

Tenacity & Resilience: The Art of Jerry Pinkney will feature more than 80 beautiful illustrations and working drawings from nine children's books spanning 1979 to the present by Jerry Pinkney, one of America's most renowned children's book illustrators. These illustrations express powerful messages from the history of the Civil Rights movement in America, honor Black heritage, and inspire with tales of courage and aspiration. They also reflect Pinkney's compassionate nature and his desire to be a "strong role model for my family and other African Americans." Mr. Pinkney passed away on October 20, 2021, three months before the opening of this exhibition. We hope you will join us in celebrating his legacy and enjoying his multifaceted talents as a master watercolorist, draftsman, and storyteller.



Janet B at JSDD

#### By Our Own Hand: Frontline Arts in collaboration with Donna Bassin Through August 14

MAM presents a year-long, site-specific installation in the Laurie Art Stairway, in collaboration with Frontline Arts and Donna Bassin. On view are approximately 800 sheets of handmade paper created from veterans' uniforms

and provided by Frontline Paper, an initiative of Frontline Arts. Inspired by the ancient practice of Tibetan prayer flags hung to mark an important and challenging occasion, BOOH refers to the toll of veteran deaths by their own hand as well as to the resiliency and creativity from transforming military uniforms into handmade paper.

#### The following events are offered for the public's enjoyment by Essex County-based arts and history organizations.

The Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs takes no responsibility for the content, accuracy, dates or times and whether or not non-County sponsored events listed in this magazine are held as scheduled.

#### Transformed: Objects Reimagined by American Artists

Through January 8, 2023

Inspired by the note Jasper Johns wrote to himself in his sketchbook in 1964, this exhibition features more than 60 artworks from 1829 to the present in which artists take objects as their points of departure, transforming them to reflect their varied cultural backgrounds and viewpoints. This exhibition is organized thematically, as indicated on each object label, to represent these diverse perspectives.

#### THE NEWARK MUSEUM OF ART

49 Washington Street, Newark  
973.596.6550  
www.newarkmuseum.org 

#### Carlos Villa: Worlds in Collision Through May 8

Carlos Villa: Worlds in Collision presents the first major museum retrospective dedicated to the work of a Filipino American artist, celebrating the groundbreaking career of Carlos Villa (1936-2013). His paintings, drawings, sculptures, self-portraits, and performance art are filled with imagery inspired by his study of non-Western art and culture, including ethnographic objects he observed in museum collections. Carlos Villa: Worlds in Collision is co-organized by the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco and the San Francisco Art Institute.

#### Endangered!

Through April 24

This immersive exhibition will explore the stories behind some extinct, threatened and lower risk species, as well as how human behaviors affects animals. Visitors will be invited to make a pledge to help save various animals worldwide. Great for families with children of any age.

#### Saya Woolfalk: Field Notes from the Empathic Universe

Through December 31

Saya Woolfalk: Field Notes from the Empathic Universe invites visitors to enter the kaleidoscopic and culturally hybrid worlds created by the artist. The exhibition features an immersive video installation exploring portraiture and a series of new mixed media collages, all accessed through the North Wing



Jessica L at JSDD



Jerry Pinkney at MAM

elevator, which will be transformed by Woolfalk's digitally-collaged murals.

#### WEST ORANGE ARTS CENTER

551 Valley Road, West Orange  
862.500.1918  
www.WOArts.org 

#### The JSDD WAE Center's "Inside Out" Virtual exhibit indefinite

On display is the work of over 20 WAE Center artists and most of the artwork is available for purchase. Self-driven and self-taught, this genre of work is referred

to as "Outsider Art," meaning that the artist is not formally trained yet still create from an organic place of knowledge and experience. The visual representations of each artist's own raw experiences, thoughts, and feelings communicate their perceptions of the world around them, in varied and vibrant form.

A Hybrid Art Experience Online To schedule your visit, please email info@woarts.org or call the center. A virtual exhibit is on the West Orange Arts Council's website. ■

## ESSEX COUNTY SPRING EVENTS

### March, April, May: Essex County Branch Brook Park Volunteer Stewardship.

Join the Branch Brook Park Alliance and Jersey Cares in ongoing volunteer stewardship efforts at Essex County Branch Brook Park. Meet at the Essex County Branch Brook Park Prudential Concert Grove. Various Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 9am to 1pm. Registration required. Free. 973.969.1189. [www.branchbrookpark.org/volunteer](http://www.branchbrookpark.org/volunteer). Please call for ADA accessibility details.

**March-May: Register for ACCA Creates Summer Arts.** See the ACCA (Arts Culture and Community Activism Creates) for information and registration forms. [accacreates.org](http://accacreates.org)

**March 1: Soapmaking.** Learn how to work safely with traditional soap ingredients to create luxurious handcrafted soap imbued with your favorite fragrances or essential oils for family and friends. Be sure to wear old clothing and bring safety goggles and waterproof protective gloves. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm, Fee: \$65. 973.378.7620. [www.somadulthoodschool.org](http://www.somadulthoodschool.org)

**March 1 to April 5: Writing A Life: Memoir Workshop.** There are many ways to write about a life: A book-length project to be shared with children or grandchildren, first-person narratives about pivotal events or experiences, prose poems. In this workshop, we will share our life stories and receive encouragement and critique on them. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9 pm. \$175. 973.378.7620. [www.somadulthoodschool.org](http://www.somadulthoodschool.org)



Kindred The Family Soul at SOPAC

**March 2 to April 6: Pen and Ink Drawing.** Learn the pleasures of pen and ink drawing. Create beautiful drawings of plants, objects, scenes from childhood stories and architectural photographs. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 6:30-8pm. \$96. 973.378.7620. [www.somadulthoodschool.org](http://www.somadulthoodschool.org)

**March 3: Intro to Native Plant Gardening.** Various planting methods, including winter sowing and garden planning with landscaping plugs, will be covered. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm. \$40. 973.378.7620. [www.somadulthoodschool.org](http://www.somadulthoodschool.org)



Volunteer stewardship at Branch Brook Park

**March 3 to April 7: Ukulele: Beginner.** Riding the wave of Indie folk music, the ukulele is enjoying a remarkable revival. With only four strings and an appealing folksy twang, this instrument is easy to play and a joy to share with friends. Learn basic chords, strumming and community play. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8pm. \$125. 973.378.7620. [www.somadulthoodschool.org](http://www.somadulthoodschool.org)

**March 3 to April 7: Acrylic Painting.** Learn different brush stroke techniques as well as how to mix and blend colors. Artists of all levels will enjoy experimenting with different styles including realism, abstract art and painting from observation. South



New Jersey Symphony at NJPAC

Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm. \$118. 973.378.7620. [www.somadulthoodschool.org](http://www.somadulthoodschool.org)

**March 4: Kindred the Family Soul.** Married couple Fatin Dantzer and Aja Graydon are known for music that comes directly from the heart. The duo co-writes relatable and mature R&B songs that are rooted in traditional Soul and Gospel. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$42-\$77. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**March 4: New Jersey Symphony, Ravel's Boléro.** Superb New Jersey Symphony principals step into the spotlight: Bart Feller in a tour de force that lets the flute's shining personalities sing out and Jonathan Spitz in a piece many call the perfect cello concerto. Xian Zhang bookends this beauty with iconic pieces by the master orchestral colorist Maurice Ravel, ending with the slow-build hurricane of Boléro. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. 1:30pm. \$25-\$90. 800.255.3476. <https://www.njsymphony.org/>

**March 5: An Evening with Marc Cohn.** After winning a Grammy for his soulful ballad "Walking in Memphis," Marc Cohn solidified his place as one of this generation's most compelling singer-songwriters, combining the precision of a brilliant tunesmith with the passion of a great Soul man. South Orange Performing Arts Center One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$45-\$60. 973.313.2787. [www.SOPACnow.org](http://www.SOPACnow.org)

**March 6: West Orange Classic Film Festival "Some Like It Hot" (1959), with Stephen Whitty.** Two musicians (Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon) disguise themselves by dressing as women in order to escape gangsters whom they witnessed committing a crime. The film also stars Marilyn Monroe. The film will be followed by a discussion led by a local film scholar/critic. AMC Theatre in Essex Green Shopping Center, Prospect Avenue, West Orange. 2pm. \$14. Tickets must be purchased in advance on Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/the-west-orange-classic-film-festival-39820071883>. Tickets will not be available at the theater box office or through Fandango

**March 6: Jazz in the Loft: Freddie Hendrix Quartet.** Over the past two decades, Freddie Hendrix has become one of the most in demand trumpeters in Jazz and beyond. This accomplished composer, arranger and educator from Teaneck has worked with everyone from the Count Basie Orchestra to Alicia Keys. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7pm. \$20. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**March 8 to April 5: Pet Portraits in Collage.** Create a rich and textured portrait of your pet in collage. Students will work from a photograph of their pet and create a portrait of it using magazines and other papers. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. \$125. 7-9pm. 973.378.7620. [www.somadulthoodschool.org](http://www.somadulthoodschool.org)

**March 8-29: Introduction to Gel Plate Printing.** Learn how to create monoprints using gelatin plates and acrylic paints. No need for a printing press or anything fancy in order to create beautiful and unique art pieces or decorative papers. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm \$125. 973.378.7620. [www.somadulthoodschool.org](http://www.somadulthoodschool.org)

**March 8 to 29: Rewriting Sex and Gender. Female? Male? Trans? Intersex? Cis? Gay? Straight? Bi? Poly? Feminine? Masculine? Queer?** What does any of it mean? Why are those meanings so very important to us? We will utilize the works of queer/gender theorists and artists to explore our own understanding of gender. For each class, there will be a reading/video/visual work and a writing prompt based on that source. Prompts will give each student the opportunity to explore these topics by accessing their creative mind. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. \$115. 973.378.7620. [www.somadulthoodschool.org](http://www.somadulthoodschool.org)

**March 9: Son Volt.** Founded by songwriter and vocalist Jay Farrar, Son Volt is an Americana Rock band that also infuses Folk, Country, Blues and Soul into their sound. Their songs often seek out the ghosts of America's discordant or forgotten past. The group marked their 25th anniversary in 2020, while in lockdown due to the pandemic. They released their 10th studio album, Electro Melodier, in July 2021. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC



Red Baraat at SOPAC

Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$34-\$44. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

**March 9: Beginner Songwriting for Fun (And No Profit Whatsoever!).** All ages/levels/backgrounds are welcome to participate in this super-fun, fast-moving interactive songwriting session. We'll write a catchy, toe-tapping original tune together and then participants will break off and write another song on their own, either alone, in pairs or groups. This is an ideal session to do with a friend. Everyone will leave buoyant and singing a new tune! South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 6:30-9pm. 973.378.7620 \$40. www.somadulthoodschool.org

**March 9 to 30: Tarot for Beginners.** In this intro-level course, students will learn all the foundational knowledge they will need to begin working with the tarot. We'll cover the history of tarot, the elemental and astrological associations within the cards, how the cards "talk" to each other during readings and how to perform a simple reading for yourself and others. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 6:30-8:30pm. \$100. 973.378.7620, www.somadulthoodschool.org

**March 10: Resistance Revival Chorus.** The Resistance Revival Chorus is a collective of more than 60 womxn, as well as non-binary singers,

who join together to breathe joy and song into the resistance and to uplift and center womxn's voices. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$29-\$39. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

**March 10 & 11: Celebrating Women: "Young Harriet Tubman."** A play imagining Harriet as a pre-teen. Performed primarily by children for people of all ages. Performed on zoom. Ivy Hill Vailsburg Center for Arts Culture and Community Activism. 973-371-9782. See website for details and accessibility. www.accaccreates.org

**March 10 & 12: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Artist-in-Residence Daniil Trifonov.** "The most astounding pianist of our age" (The Times) returns for his second week this season with a brand new concerto written for him by a musical polymath—DJ and composer Mason Bates. Xian Zhang specializes in Tchaikovsky's singing line, digging deep into the sorrow and joy that makes her favorite Russian composer's music utterly unique. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. Thursday at 1:30pm. Saturday at 8pm. \$25-\$90. 800.255.3476. https://www.njsymphony.org/

**March 11: Red Baraat Festival of Colors.** Red Baraat Festival of Colors

is an immersive experience celebrating the spirit of the Hindu holiday of Holi through music, dance and visuals. Led by dhol player Sunny Jain, the group has drawn worldwide praise for its merging of North Indian Bhangra with elements of Funk, Go-Go, Rock and raw Punk energy. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$25-\$35. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

**March 12: The Bad Plus.** The Bad Plus is a critically acclaimed, avant-garde jazz quartet that has been called "technically brilliant, beyond versatile" (The New Yorker) and is known for producing "moving, mighty music" (Rolling Stone). South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$28-\$36. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

**March 13: West Orange Classic Film Festival "Buck Privates" (1941) with comics writer/film historian Paul Castiglia.** Jersey boys Bud Abbott (Asbury Park) and Lou Costello (Paterson) were launched into the comedy stratosphere with their roles in their first service comedy based on the peacetime draft of 1940. The Andrews Sisters and Nat Pendelton co-star. AMC Theatre in Essex Green Shopping Center, Prospect Avenue, West Orange. 2pm. \$14. Tickets must be purchased in advance on Eventbrite at https://www.eventbrite.com/o/the-west-orange-classic-film-festival-39820071883. Tickets will not be available at the theater box office or through Fandango.

**March 13: Dee Dee Bridgewater & Bill Charlap.** Renowned Grammy Award winners Dee Dee Bridgewater and Bill Charlap ignite their musical chemistry to generate an incomparable jazz experience. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$40-\$54. 973.313.787. SOPACnow.org

**March 15 to April 5: Meditation: Beyond Mindfulness.** Meditation and mindfulness are excellent ways of relieving stress and staying healthy. This class will help you become more centered and peaceful. Mindfulness is essential; it is used and developed



The Dirty Dozen Brass Band at SOPAC

through meditation. But meditation shows us that mindfulness is just the beginning to discovering lasting inner peace. No prior experience necessary. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. \$64. 973.378.7620. www.somadulthoodschool.org

**March 15: How to Publish a Children's Book.** Students will learn the basics of writing and illustrating a children's story. We will brainstorm story ideas and discuss the eight factors included in selling your story to a publisher. The teacher will review successful art and illustration techniques that will make your story come alive. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. \$35. 973.378.7620. www.somadulthoodschool.org

**March 16: Psychic Reading.** In addition to having your palm read, you will receive an eight-page detailed numerology chart. Based on your name and your birthday, this chart will analyze what motivates you in life, the impression you make on others, the way you express yourself, best careers for you, cycles in your life and your personal horoscope every day for a year. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. \$35. 973.378.7620. www.somadulthoodschool.org



The Machine at SOPAC

Zydeco Cha Chas, celebrates the feel-good sounds of The Big Easy! South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$35-\$48. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org

**March 23: Interrupting Bias and Microaggressions in our Daily Lives.** Our nation is experiencing a great moment of transformation, and the possibilities for change are endless. Central to this movement is the necessity for a serious focus on racial and social justice within every sector of our society. Through a combination of experiential exercises, the introduction of new frameworks and participation in small group discussions, participants will learn and apply new strategies for impacting change in their lives and communities. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm. \$25. 973.378.7620. www.somadulthoodschool.org

**March 24: Sonis Delaunay: A Modern Language of Color.** Sonia Delaunay was an avant-garde artist who spent her life experimenting with the language of color and abstraction. She developed a varied practice, giving equal weight to design and fine art. While remaining faithful to abstract painting, she created innovative designs in typography and textile prints. She crafted handmade garments and ready-to-wear fashion and designed costumes for theater, ballet, and film. She also created tapestries and mosaics as well as cutting edge interior



Los Lobos at SOPAC

designs. Born Sara Stern in a Ukrainian shtetl in 1885, she became a crucial presence in the artistic and intellectual Zeitgeist of 20th Century Paris. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. \$20. 973.378.7620. [www.somadultschool.org](http://www.somadultschool.org).

**March 24: The Moth Mainstage.** The Moth is dedicated to the art and craft of storytelling and has presented more than 35,000 stories, told live and without notes, by people from all walks of life to standing room only crowds worldwide. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$50-\$70. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org).

**March 25: A Poetry Slam.** Poems and annotated stories about, for, and celebrating Women of Color. Performed on zoom. Ivy Hill Vailsburg Center for Arts Culture and Community Activism (ACCA). 973.371.9782. [www.accacreates.org](http://www.accacreates.org). Visit the website for accessibility information.

**March 25 & 26: The Machine performs Pink Floyd.** The Machine pays homage to Pink Floyd in two back-to-back nights. Hear the epic rock opera, *The Wall*, in its entirety on Friday and Pink Floyd's greatest hits plus some obscurities on Saturday. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$35-\$48. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org).

**March 31: New Jersey Symphony: French-Canadian wonder Louis Lortie teams up with the New Jersey Symphony to perform Beethoven's Piano Concertos Nos. 1 & 5.** This concert shows Beethoven at the starting line of his career, full of youthful fire, and at his glorious pinnacle." New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. 1:30pm. \$25-\$90. 800.255.3476. <https://www.njsymphony.org/events/detail/beethovens-piano-concertos-nos-1-5>.

**March 30: The Beatles: From Liverpool to Abbey Road.** This lecture will follow in the footsteps of the Beatles as they embark on their historic journey from their early days as a cover band in Liverpool and Hamburg, into the excitement of Beatlemania, through their groundbreaking studio albums to the formation of Apple Corps and finally



to their remarkable final recordings at Abbey Road Studios. Coming full circle, we will explore the highlights of each individual's post-Beatles work. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm. \$30. 973.378.7620. [www.somadultschool.org](http://www.somadultschool.org)

**March 31: Damien Escobar.** Violinist Damien Escobar sits at the intersection of Hip-Hop and Classical music with a sophisticated, edgy style and an unstoppable swagger. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$38-\$58. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**April 1: Marc Broussard.** Marc Broussard's signature "Bayou Soul" style and rich voice are influenced by his Louisiana roots and musical father, a guitarist for the Soul band The Boogie Kings. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$35-\$45. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 & 30: Historic & Horticulture Walking Tours.** Join the Branch Brook Park Alliance for a 45-minute walking tour and learn about the historical significance of Essex County Branch Brook Park and the renowned collection of Japanese Flowering Cherry Blossom Trees. Essex County Branch Brook Park, Prudential Concert Grove. Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays, 11am and 3pm. Registration required. Visit the website for updated fees. 973.969.1189. [www.branchbrookpark.org/tours](http://www.branchbrookpark.org/tours). Please call for ADA accessibility details.

**April 2: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra.** "French-Canadian wonder" Louis Lortie's exploration of Beethoven's Piano Concerto with the New Jersey Symphony continues with Nos. 2, 3 & 4. The "middle set" holds surprisingly tender music, and passages by jaw-dropping virtuosity, from the heaven-storming composer." New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. 8:00pm. \$25-\$90. 800.255.3476. <https://www.njsymphony.org/events/detail/beethovens-piano-concertos-nos-2-3-4>

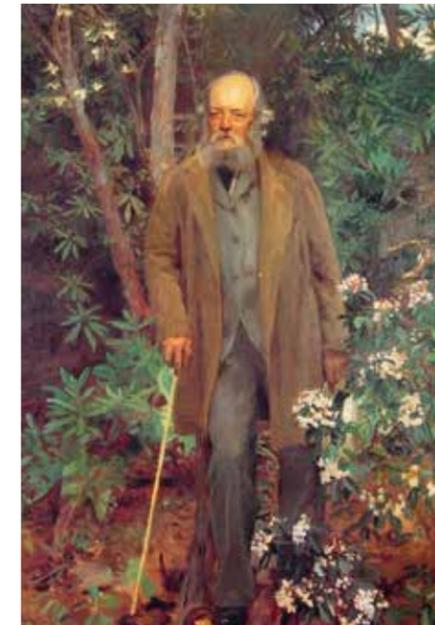
**April 2: DakhaBrakha.** You're in for a sonic feast as well as a visual spectacle. The award-winning, thunderous theatrical quartet DakhaBrakha blends ancient Ukrainian Folk melodies into a subversive musical tapestry that embraces Indie-Rock, Pop, Hip-Hop, the avant-garde and traditional instrumentation from around the world. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$29-\$42. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**April 3: Tab Benoit.** One of the most impressive guitarists to emerge from the rich Bayous of Louisiana, Tab Benoit's guitar tone and his Otis Redding-like voice are iconic. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$35-\$45. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**April 4: Stephen Whitty Presents – the World According to Coens.** Joel and Ethan Coen have a reputation for being a little dark, a little snarky, a little sarcastic. But another look at their films – including *Fargo*, *A Serious Man* and *The Big Lebowski* – reveals a different, far sunnier world: One in which good people search for meaning, holy fools and innocents are protected by providence and the only real sin is thinking you're smarter than everyone else. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7:30-9pm. \$20. 973.378.7620. [www.somadultschool.org](http://www.somadultschool.org)

**April 5 to May 10: Create a Children's Book.** Write and illustrate a short children's book to publish in both print and e-book form. The instructor will guide you as you write your story and illustrate it with colorful pictures. Each student leaves the class with a unique hardcover bound book. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm. \$145. 973.378.7620. [www.somadultschool.org](http://www.somadultschool.org)

**April 6: The Making of Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band.** This lecture will follow the Beatles as they embark on the creation of their 8th studio album – Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. We will explore the genesis of how the songs were written, their influences, recording and production techniques



Frederick Law Olmsted by Sargent

and the iconic cover art. In addition, we will discuss the album's legacy, which not only defined the counterculture of a generation, but which continues to influence contemporary society. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm. \$30. 973.378.7620. [www.somadultschool.org](http://www.somadultschool.org)

**April 7: Olmsted's Imprint on Montclair.** The Olmsted firm designed much more than just parks, as this Zoom slide show illustrates. Its Montclair projects include Essex County parks but also church grounds, a subdivision, private estates, and even a parking lot. April marks the 200th birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted, making it an ideal time to explore how his aesthetic was expressed in Montclair. Presented by Lisanne Renner, historian for Friends of Anderson Park, as part of the Montclair History Center's "History at Home" virtual series on Zoom. 7 pm. Free. The Zoom link is on the Programs tab of [montclairhistory.org](http://montclairhistory.org). [www.friendsofandersonpark.com](http://www.friendsofandersonpark.com)

**April 7: SFJAZZ Collective.** The SFJAZZ Collective is an all-star, award-winning supergroup comprising eight of the finest performers/composers at work in jazz today. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$58-\$78. 973.313-2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**April 8: Shovels & Rope: The Manticore Tour.** Shovels & Rope channel Country, Folk, Bluegrass, Americana and Blues through a nervy Indie Rock prism. Partners musically and in life, this duo composed of Michael Trent and Cary Ann Hearst combine threads from their solo careers in the harmonious music they mix together. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$29-\$39. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**April 8 and 10: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Zhang Conducts Mozart's "Jupiter."** The "Jupiter" Symphony offers inspiration for the sheer miracle and Swiss-watch perfection of its final movement—and heartache because this was Mozart's last symphony. Beloved Principal Bassoon Robert Wagner has served New Jersey Symphony audiences for 42 years; he plays the East Coast premiere of Christopher Rouse's lyrical concerto. And why not play with convention and end with a starter: the rousing "Hi-yo, Silver!" curtain-raiser to Rossini's *Guillaume Tell*. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. Friday at 8pm. Sunday at 3pm. \$25-\$90. 800.255.3476. <https://www.njsymphony.org/>

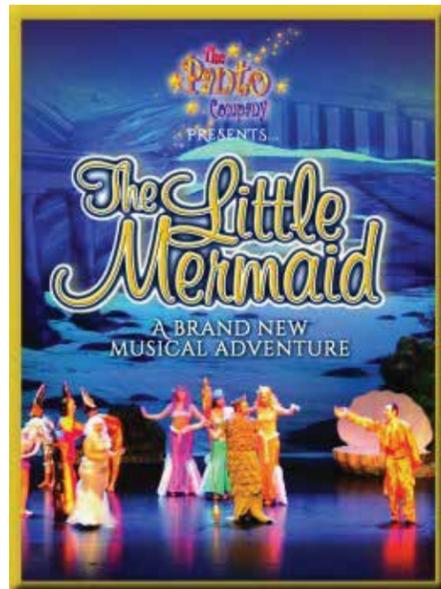
**April 9: The Milk Carton Kids.** The harmonious sound of the twice Grammy Award-nominated Indie-Folk duo has earned them comparisons to Simon & Garfunkel and the Everly Brothers. Their engaging live shows have a touch of comedy with Smothers Brothers-esque banter. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$35-\$45. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**April 10: Jazz in the Loft: Roseanna Vitro.** Grammy-nominated artist Roseanna Vitro is a renowned vocalist specializing in Jazz. She has toured on every continent except Antarctica, representing the USA as a Jazz Ambassador for The US State Department, The Kennedy Center and Lincoln Center. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7pm. \$20. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**April 13: Melvin Seals & JGB.** Embark on a psychedelic musical journey with Melvin Seals & JGB as they perform a blend of Rock, Gospel, Soul and Rhythm and Blues. Seals is most revered for his 18 years with the Jerry Garcia Band playing his powerful, high-spirited, Hammond B-3 organ and keyboards. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$43-\$65. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org 

**April 14: Tommy Emmanuel, CGP.** Tommy Emmanuel, four-time winner of Australia's Best Guitarist Award, has helped bring the art of Rock guitar down under to a higher awareness by bringing a sense of Jazz improvisation into a mix that also includes Blues, Country, Rock, Classical, and Spanish music. He is often regarded as one of the greatest acoustic guitarists of all time. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$49-\$59. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org 

**April 20: Los Lobos.** The trademark of this great American Rock band is its ability to meld styles, including Blues and Mexican Folk. The Grammy Award-



winning group Los Lobos is known for its cover of Ritchie Valens' iconic "La Bamba." South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$59-\$79. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org 

**April 20 to May 11: Juggling: Beginner.** Learn one of the basic requirements to juggle. Participants will

start by learning the basic three-ball cascade and then begin adding new moves such as "tennis." South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. \$65. 973.378.7620. www.somadulthoodschool.org 

**April 21 to May 26: Painting Portraits from Photographs.** This class is designed for students with some experience painting and drawing who want to explore composition and content within a portrait. Students will view and critique work by established artists, learn basic color theory and explore surrealism and symbolism while creating an original portrait of a subject of their choosing. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 6-8pm. \$160. 973.378.7620. www.somadulthoodschool.org 

**April 21: Suzanne Vega: An Evening of New York Songs & Stories.** Suzanne Vega, a Grammy Award-winning artist with a restrained Folk-Pop sound, celebrates her career-spanning live album, An Evening of New York Songs & Stories, in an intimate concert.

South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7:30pm. \$39-\$195. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org 

**April 23: Carolyn Dorfman Dance: Returning to Reconnect.** Carolyn Dorfman Dance returns to SOPAC for a joyous evening that will have audiences dancing in their seats. Carolyn and her 11 multi-ethnic and stunning dancers invite you to celebrate the human experience with new works and repertory favorites. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$25-\$35. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org 

**April 24: Blues in the Loft: Alex Tea.** Alex Tea is a Roots/Reggae songwriter and multi-instrumentalist residing in Jersey City. His current projects include the band Kiwi, the international collaboration Orquestra Raiz, and the Jersey City Roots Orchestra. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 7pm. \$20. 973.313.2787. SOPACnow.org 

**April 26 to May 17: Creative Writing Workshop: An Open-Genre Approach.** Do you have an idea you want to write about but are not sure what container it belongs in? Short fiction or poetry? Memoir or journalistic essay? This workshop is open to writers working in those genres. Come share your work and receive the feedback you need to keep moving forward. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-9pm. \$120. 973.378.7620. www.somadulthoodschool.org 

**April 28 & 30: Birding in New Jersey.** New Jersey is one of the best places in North America for birding. The first class covers the basics of bird migration. The second class takes place in Essex County South Mountain Reservation so that students can witness migrating birds firsthand. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. \$60. 973.378.7620. www.somadulthoodschool.org 

**April 28 & 30: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra.** Conrad Tao Performs Tchaikovsky. Since Conrad Tao's New Jersey Symphony appearance four



Eddie Palmieri at SOPAC

seasons ago, his career has exploded: he's written music for the New York Philharmonic, performed all over the world and earned a huge spread in The New York Times. He plays his own playful Spoonfuls and Tchaikovsky's lighthearted Ninth. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. Thursday at 1:30pm. Saturday at 8pm. \$25-\$90. 800.255.3476. https://www.njsymphony.org/ 

**April 28, 29 & 30: Celebrating and Recognizing the Deaf. Dance: Stepping.** This dance, Stepping, uses rhythmic patterns that can more readily be accessible to those with levels of hearing loss extending to the Profound Deaf, because they can feel and see the rhythmic patterns. Additionally, these dance classes lift up Stepping, a form of African American performance, challenge, and competitive art. Taught on zoom. For people of all ages. Ivy Hill Vailsburg Center for Arts Culture and Community Activism, ACCA Creates. 973-371-9782. Visit www.accacreates.org for accessibility information.

**May 4: Wednesday Night Flight: Taproom Tour @4 City Brewing Co.** The craft brewery offers a large selection of brews, from citrus-forward IPAs to rich, toasty stouts, from crisp cream ales to spicy saisons. Go behind the scenes with a taproom tour, tempt your tastebuds with a flight and have a medium pour of

your favorite brew. Four City Brewing Company, 55 South Essex Avenue, Orange. 7-9pm. \$40. 973.378.7620. www.somadulthoodschool.org 

**May 7: Succeed2gether's Montclair Literary Festival.** The sixth annual Succeed2gether's Montclair Literary Festival. Check our website closer to the date for updated information. Live near the Montclair Public Library's Main Branch & First Congregational Church, Fullerton Avenue and Plymouth Streets, Montclair, and on-line. Free with several paid ticketed events. 973.746.0553. succeed2gether.org/montclair-literary-festival/ 

**May 14: Happy Birthday, Mr. Olmsted!** The 200th anniversary of the landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted will be celebrated in Essex County Anderson Park with live music, an antique bicycle display, children's activities, and a theatrical living-history portrayal of Olmsted by Joseph Smith. Essex County Anderson Park, 274 Bellevue Avenue, Montclair. 1-4 pm. Free. (Rain date: May 15) Sponsored by Friends of Anderson Park. Funding has been made possible in part by the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State, through funds administered by the Essex County Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs. 973.477.7207. A schedule of activities is available at FriendsOfAndersonPark.com 

**MOSAIC**  
Dance Theater Company

**TROY:  
WOMEN  
&  
WAR**

Conceived & Directed by  
Morgiana Celeste Varricchio

Choreography by  
Samara Adell

FREE TO THE PUBLIC  
Reservations Recommended  
www.Eventbrite.com  
Troy: Women & War

Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 5:00 PM  
Sunday, May 22, 2022 at 3:00 PM

First Congregational Church  
40 S. Fullerton Ave., Montclair, NJ 07042

QR code: [QR code]

Discover JERSEY ARTS  
Made possible by funds from the Essex County Division of Cultural Affairs, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.



Art and crafts show by Rose Squared

**May 12 & 19: Marc Chagall: Painting Poetry.** Marc Chagall lived a long and fruitful life, producing paintings, etchings, book illustrations, stained-glass windows, ceramics, tapestries, stage sets and costumes—all infused with poetry. His works have a lyrical, emotional resonance informed by his love of humanity. Chagall does not belong to one art movement or style but incorporates elements of cubism, fauvism, symbolism, surrealism, and futurism into his work. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 7-8:30pm. \$40. 973.378.7620. [www.somadultschool.org](http://www.somadultschool.org)

**May 14: New Jersey Symphony Star Wars: A New Hope in Concert.** Luke Skywalker begins a journey that will change the galaxy, as he leaves his home planet, battles the evil Empire and learns the ways of the Force. Don't miss "Star Wars: A New Hope" in concert, with the New Jersey Symphony performing John Williams' Oscar-winning score live to the complete film. New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark. 8pm. \$55-\$110. 1.800.255.3476. <https://www.njsymphony.org/>

**May 20: ZOSO – The Ultimate Led Zeppelin Experience.** Feel like you traveled back to the '70s when ZOSO, a Led Zeppelin reincarnation, rocks out with favorites like "Stairway to Heaven," "Whole Lotta Love" and "Dazed and Confused." South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$28-\$38. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**May 20: Celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage, Older Americans, and Jewish American Heritage Month.** Around the world, flowers have inspired stories, myths, paintings, theatrical productions, and choreography. We will celebrate Asian, Elder, and Jewish Heritage, through a drawing class, using selected flowers that represent the groups celebrated during the month of May. Taught on zoom. For people of all ages. Ivy Hill Vailsburg Center for Arts Culture and Community Activism, ACCA Creates. 973.371.9782. Visit [www.accacreatives.org](http://www.accacreatives.org) for accessibility information.

**May 21: Eddie Palmieri Latin Jazz Band.** The iconic 10-time Grammy Award winner and NEA Jazz Master Eddie Palmieri skillfully fuses his Puerto Rican heritage with the complexity of his influences: Thelonious Monk, Herbie Hancock and McCoy Tyner as well as his older brother, Charlie Palmieri. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 8pm. \$45-\$59. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**May 21 & 22: Fine Art and Crafts Show.** 165 juried fine artists, sculptors, photographers and craft artisans display and sell their hand-crafted work. Ethnic and specialty food vendors also will be on hand. Essex County Verona Park, Bloomfield Avenue and Lakeside Avenue, Verona. 10am to 5pm. Free. [www.rosesquared.com](http://www.rosesquared.com)

**May 22: Kids 'N Family Series: The Little Mermaid.** This award-winning adaptation of Hans Christian Anderson's beloved tale follows the dreams of a young girl who believes there is a better life waiting for her above the surface of the ocean. With stunning scenery and costumes, original songs and chart-topping hits, this show is an adventurous and delightful musical theatre experience. South Orange Performing Arts Center, One SOPAC Way, South Orange. 1pm. \$20. 973.313.2787. [SOPACnow.org](http://SOPACnow.org)

**May 22: Guided Eco-Cruise through the "Jewel of the Meadowlands."** Travel aboard the Hackensack Riverkeeper's specially rigged 30-foot pontoon boat for a guided cruise to the lower tidal reaches of the Hackensack River and its wildlife-rich estuary, the Meadowlands. The shallow draft of the boat enables it to reach numerous wetlands including the Mill Creek Marsh, Kingsland Creek and the Berry's Creek Canal. The highlight of every Meadowlands Eco-Cruise is a trip through the Sawmill Creek Wildlife Management Area – the "Jewel of the Meadowlands." The Sawmill WMA is home to a staggering amount of wildlife including shorebirds, waterfowl, herons, raptors, muskrats and terrapins. South Orange-Maplewood Adult School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood. 3-5:30pm. \$60. 973.378.7620. [www.somadultschool.org](http://www.somadultschool.org)



ZOSO at SOPAC

## ESSEX COUNTY ONGOING PROGRAMS

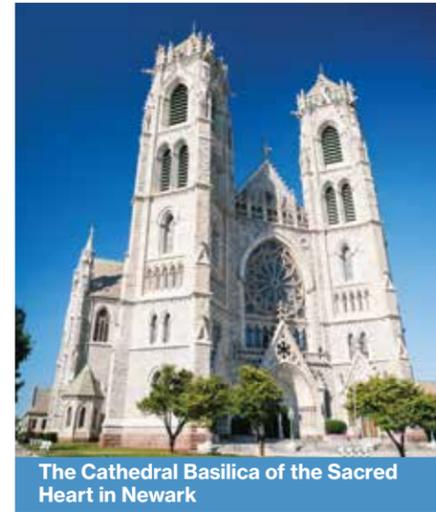
**THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART**  
89 Ridge Street, Newark  
973.484.2400  
[www.cathedralbasilica.org](http://www.cathedralbasilica.org)  
ADA compliant with a handicap ramp at the Ridge Street entrance to the cathedral.

**Wednesdays at Noon**  
A 30-minute recital. A brief tour of the cathedral will immediately follow the recital. Free will offering.

- April 27:** Verona High School Concert Band
- May 4:** Music For Voice: Elizabeth Perryman, soprano; Klará Zíková-English, mezzo-soprano; Theodore Chletsos, tenor, and Jorge Ocasio, bass-baritone.
- May 11:** Organ and Flute Recital: John A. Romeri and John A. Romeri II.
- May 18:** Organ Recital: Chung A. Hong

**Concert Series**  
**March 20:** NJ Wind Symphony. 3pm. Free-will offering.  
**April 15:** Choral Meditations on the Stations of the Cross with the Cathedral Choir. The cathedral's tradition presenting meditations within the Stations of the Cross continues. This a cappella program will feature works of Clausen, Lotti, Allegri, and Casals. 8pm. Free-will offering.  
**April 22:** Archdiocesan Choral Festival – Music of Ludwig van Beethoven – Mass in C Major. This is a combined event with the Newark Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians featuring a massed choir of singers from parishes of the Archdiocese, Cathedral Choir and soloists accompanied by the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. No admission charge, no tickets required. 8pm. Doors open at 7pm.

**ESSEX PHOTO CLUB**  
All meetings are at 7:30pm via Zoom and the public can access them by calling Chris Mauro at 973.986.4002.



The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark

- March 3:** "Cell Phone Photography" presented by Paul Michael Kane
- March 17:** Club Competition of nature and pictorial projected images judged by Dave Mills
- April 7:** Member Workshops presented by club members
- April 21:** Club Competition of nature and pictorial projected images judged by Becky Witt
- May 5:** Ridgewood International Photo Contest Winners presentation
- May 19:** Club Competition: Best Images of the Year judged by Susan Candelario, Claire Gentile and Al Brown

**LIVINGSTON CAMERA CLUB**  
Livingston Community Senior Center  
204 Hillside Avenue, Livingston  
<https://lcc-nj.org>

Currently, due to COVID, meetings are held virtually at 7:30pm on two Mondays a month. Members will be informed of the details. Founded in 1971, the Livingston Camera Club promotes photography as an enjoyable amateur recreational endeavor. Members learn to improve their photography through educational programs and competitions. It typically has two meetings each month. One meeting is when an award-winning photographer educates members on a unique topic. The second meeting is a competition in which a judge, usually a top photographer in the area, critiques members' photos. New members of all levels are welcome to join. Annual dues are \$20 for students, \$55 for individuals and \$65 for families. The full schedule is available at <https://lcc-nj.org/calendar>.

**MAPLEWOOD LIBRARY**  
129 Boyden Avenue, Maplewood  
973.762.1688 / <http://www.maplewoodlibrary.org>

**March 7:** Remember the (First) Ladies. This program will touch on all the first ladies of the United States from Martha Washington to Melania Trump. Each dealt in her own way with the inherent tension between the public nature of the role and the discomfort of society with women in public positions. Presented by the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts and Maplewood Library. Virtual. 7pm. Free. 973.762.1688. <http://www.maplewoodlibrary.org>

**April 18-29:** Maplewood Ideas Festival. Celebrating the talent and creativity of the community. Now in its ninth year, the festival will feature author Ibi Zoboi, WNYC's Nancy Solomon, Dr. Joshua Sharfstein of John's Hopkins, and global tech pioneer Tim Hwang, as well as prominent acting, sports and culinary figures. Locations may vary. Free. 973.762.1688. <http://www.maplewoodlibrary.org>

**MASTER GARDENERS OF ESSEX COUNTY**  
621A Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland  
973.228.2210 / [mgsex.org](http://mgsex.org)

**April 29 & 30:** Master Gardeners of Essex County Plant Sale. Perennials, shrubs and woodies along with Master Gardener grown tomato and pepper plants, basil and herbs along with local honey and honey products will be for sale. Spring planting advice from trained volunteers is available. Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, 474 Upper Mountain Avenue, Upper Montclair. Friday from 10am to 4pm; Saturday from 9am to 3pm.

**May 7:** Master Gardeners of Essex County Plant Sale. Perennials, shrubs and woodies along with Master Gardener grown tomato and pepper plants, basil and herbs along with local honey and honey products will be for sale. Spring planting advice from trained volunteers is available. Essex County Environmental Center, Garibaldi Hall, 621A Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland. Saturday from 9am to 3pm.



**Department of Parks,  
Recreation & Cultural Affairs**

115 Clifton Avenue  
Newark, NJ 07104

[www.essexcountynj.org](http://www.essexcountynj.org)

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**THE SPIRIT OF ESSEX**

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Marketing Coordinator, at 201.341.5786  
or e-mail

[essexarts@parks.essexcountynj.org](mailto:essexarts@parks.essexcountynj.org)

The Essex County Division of  
Cultural and Historic Affairs

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**Upcoming concerts  
at NJPAC in Newark:**

**Beethoven's Piano Concertos Nos. 1 & 5**  
March 31

**Beethoven's Piano Concertos Nos. 2, 3 & 4**  
April 2

**Zhang Conducts Mozart's 'Jupiter'**  
April 8 & 10

**Conrad Tao Plays Tchaikovsky**  
April 28 & 30

**Star Wars: A New Hope in Concert**  
May 14

**Mozart & Mendelssohn**  
June 2

**Season Finale: An American Rhapsody**  
June 12

**GET TICKETS!**

1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476) | [njsymphony.org](http://njsymphony.org)

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