MARCH

1-14...“Lyric Light and Color” exhibit, Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center
6... Mark Nizer, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center
7... WSKS’s Old Time and Bluegrass Show featuring Sunfire, “a little after 11am,” Ashe Civic Center
9... Ashe Community Singers rehearsals start, 7pm, WYUMC
10... Ashe County Arts Council meets, 6:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
12... Ashe County Piecemakers Quilt Guild meets, 2pm, ASA
14... Blue Ridge Art Clan meets, 1pm, Florence Thomas Art School
18-31...“Young At Art” exhibit, Ashe Arts Center
28... Artists’ reception for “Young At Art” exhibit, 5-7pm, Ashe Arts Center
29... 6th Annual Florence Flapjack fundraiser, 8:30-11am, Florence School
30... Hayes Chamber Artists in concert, 2pm, Ashe Arts Center
31... Friends of the Library meeting, 11am, Ashe County Library

APRIL

1-27...“Young At Art” exhibit, Ashe Arts Center
4... Spring Fest, 9am - 5pm, West Jefferson Early Learning Center
5... Hayes Chamber Artists in concert, 2pm, Ashe Arts Center
6... Ashe County Little Theatre Quarterly meeting, 5:30, Ashe Civic Center
9... Ashe County Piecemakers Quilt Guild meets, 2pm, ASA
10... Two Faces in the Shadows chamber artists in concert, 5:30, Bethany United Methodist Church, West Jefferson
11... WSKS’s Old Time and Bluegrass Show featuring The Sugarbush Ramblers, “a little after 11am,” Ashe Civic Center
14... Ashe County Arts Council meets, 6:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
16... David Holt & Josh Goforth, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center
17-18... ARTifacts Preview Party and Yard Sale, W.J. Early Learning Center
17-18... ARTifacts Preview Party and Yard Sale, W.J. Early Learning Center
18... Wordpickers Salon, 2-4pm, Ashe Arts Center
19... Five Songwriters in concert, 7:30pm, Ashe Civic Center
19... Ola Belle Reed Song Writer’s Retreat, Ashe Civic Center
20... Wordpickers Salon, 2pm, Ashe Arts Center
20... Blue Ridge Art Clan meets, 9:30 pm, Florence Thomas Art School
23... Night of the Spoken Word, 7:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
23... Friends of the Library meeting, 11am, Ashe County Library

MAY

1-31...“Random” exhibit, Ashe Arts Center
1... Artists’ Reception for “Random” exhibit, Ashe Arts Center
1... Wildflowers – The Women of Country Music with Katie Deal, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center
2... Junior Appalachian Musicians End of Year concert, 6pm, Civic Center
9... Stomp & Brew Festival, noon-4pm, West Jefferson
10... Ashe County Arts Council meets, 6:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
12... Ashe County Piecemakers Quilt Guild meets, 2pm, ASA
16... Marathon Jam, 11am-11pm, Ashe Arts Center
22... Ashe Community Singers Concert, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center
23... Blue Ridge Art Clan meets, 9:30 am, Florence Thomas Art School
23... Night of the Spoken Word, 7:30 pm, Ashe Arts Center
27... Friends of the Library meeting, 11am, Ashe County Library

WILDFLOWERS: THE WOMEN OF COUNTRY MUSIC WITH KATIE DEAL

Katie Deal honors legends such as Loretta Lynn, Patsy Cline, Dolly Parton, Tammy Wynette, Reba McEntire, Crystal Gayle and many more in this evening of country music. Join Katie as she explores the significance of groundbreaking hits like “It Wasn’t God Who Made Honky Tonk Angels,” “Stand By Your Man,” “It’s Not Easy Being Green” and “It’s All Happening Tonight”.

Tickets are $22 for adults and $5 for students. Reserve seats in advance at ashecountyarts.org or call 336-846-2787. This is one you don’t want to miss!

THE TANNAHILL WEAVERS

“...an especially eloquent mixture of the old and the new...”
NEW YORK TIMES

Now in their 52nd year, the Tannahill Weavers are one of Scotland’s premier traditional bands. Their diverse repertoire spans the centuries with fire-driven instrumentals, topical songs, and original ballads and lullabies. Their music demonstrates to old and young alike the rich and varied musical heritage of the Celtic people. These versatile musicians have received worldwide accolades consistently over the years for their exuberant and humorous performances and outstanding recording efforts that seemingly can’t get better...yet continue to do just that.

The Ashe County Arts Council is excited to announce The Tannahill Weavers as an additional concert to the 2020 spring lineup. The concert is on Tuesday, April 21 at the Ashe Civic Center at 7:30 pm. Tickets are $22 for adults and $5 for students. Reserved seats are available in advance at ashecountyarts.org or by calling 336-846-2787.

Sponsor for this concert is The Tartan Woolly. Please stop by their store in downtown West Jefferson and thank them for helping bring this group to the Civic Center stage!
MARK NIZER 4D... a new dimension in entertainment

Mark Nizer changes the way people view the world, literally - 4D glasses are worn during this performance for maximum effect! The impossible is possible; the improbable is probable. World champion juggler, award-winning comedian and inventor Mark Nizer brings his live 4D show to the stage; juggling laser beams and just about any new invention he can imagine. Nizer's expertly-crafted entertainment showcase with outrageous comedy will leave you and your family amazed.

Showtime is 7:30 pm at the Ashe Civic Center Friday, March 6. Reserved seating tickets are available at ashecountyarts.org or leave you and your family amazed. Nizer's expertly-crafted entertainment showcase with outrageous comedy will leave you and your family amazed.

ASHE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

The final two chamber music concerts sponsored by the Ashe Chamber Music Society and presented by the Ashe County Arts Council are scheduled for 2pm Sunday, March 22 and Sunday, April 5.

In March the Hayes Faculty Ensemble features pianist Bair Shagdaron, violist Erik Koontz, and clarinetist Soo Goh. They are all members of the faculty of the Hayes School of Music at Appalachian State University.

The April concert will feature cellist Ellie Wee and pianist Barry Salwen. Wee is on the faculty of the Hayes School of Music and Salwen is at UNC Wilmington. They will be playing a program that includes works by Schumann, Bach, and Rachmaninoff.

Tickets are $18 for adults and $5 for students. The Ashe Arts Center is located at 303 School Avenue in West Jefferson. For information, please contact the Arts Council at 336-846-2877.

SCHOOL ARTS PROGRAMMING

The Arts Council’s sponsorship of cultural programs in Ashe County schools continues to enhance students' education through the arts. During March, nine programs will be offered and are sponsored jointly by the Ashe County Arts Council and local schools.

Mark Nizer
Sciencesplosion
March 5 & 6, ACHS
Barter Theatre Players
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
March 5 & 9, ACHS and ACSMS
Fun With Energy With Jeff Boyer
Laws of nature around us
March 9 & 10, at 3 Elementary Schools
ASU Young People’s Theatre Interactive Pinochio
March 19, 24, 26, at 3 Elementary Schools
Watch our young people blossom and grow as they experience the arts! Positive ways to express themselves, creative problem solving, preserving our traditions, and team building life skills are all by-products of active participation in the arts.

ASHE COMMUNITY SINGERS

A springtime community chorus is forming under the sponsorship of the Arts Council. Ashe Community Singers will begin rehearsals on Monday evening, March 9 under the direction of Bob Zahner. Accompanist for the chorus is Sylvia Zahner. Rehearsals are Monday evenings at 7:00 pm at West Jefferson Methodist Church.

Ashe Community Singers is open to everyone who loves choral music and who wants to participate with a large group of singers; auditions are not required. The repertoire will be mix of classical, contemporary, Broadway, and popular music; there will be something for everyone! There is a $25 fee to defray the cost of the music. The concert will be presented at 7:30 pm on Friday, May 22 the Ashe Civic Center and offered free to the public.

The Ashe Community Singers receives support from the Grassroots Arts Program Grant of the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. To reserve your music or for more information, go to ashecountyarts.org or call 336-846-2877.

FUND DRIVE

Thanks, arts friends! Your support of our 2019-20 Fund Drive has been terrific! If you haven’t already done so, please take this opportunity to contribute to the Ashe COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL in support of school and community arts programming. These contributions are an investment in the arts future of Ashe County. Contributions may be mailed to 303 School Avenue, West Jefferson, North Carolina 28694. Thanks for your support!

Please take this opportunity to contribute to the Ashe County Arts Council.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Payment Enclosed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$50-299</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Amount Pledged

$10-49
$25-299
$50-399
$100-499
$400-599
$600-999
$1000-2499
$2500-4999
$5000-7499
$7500-9999

Send your tax-deductible contribution to 303 School Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694.

ONLINE DONATIONS may be made at www.ashecountyarts.org
**MAY**

**RANDOM**

The May exhibit at the Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center promises to be one of the most creative and diverse this year! Artists were encouraged to “think outside the box” and create works of painting, photos, fibers, and mixed media of any subject – anything goes – it's totally Random!

**RANDOM** opens April 29 and continues through June 6. The opening reception will be held from 5–7 pm on Friday, May 1. Participating artists include Scott Ballard, Irene Bebber, Margaret Blansett, Doug Butler, Marion Claninger, Theresa Early Curd, Evalynn Halsey, Susan Jespersen, Leesa Kessell, Kathy Leahey, Mike Leonard, Patricia Leonard, Monica Linville, Sequoyah Magroski, Katti McGee, Pat Morrison, Lou Nachman, Scot Pope, Adrienne Sherrow, Colette Shomaker, Linda Dease Smith, Ann Spragens, LaMae Strange, Susan Van Wyk, Carolyn Weckstrom, Dawn Wicklow, Roger Williams, and others.

**STUDIO TOUR – Save the Date!**

It’s coming up this summer! Mark your calendars for the Ashe County Studio Tour, August 1-2.

Plan your weekend around the Studio Tour! More details to come in the next issue of Arts/Dates.

**MARATHON JAM 2020**

Calling acoustic musicians! The fifth annual Ashe County Marathon Jam, sponsored by the New River Chapter of the Military Officers Association, will take place on Saturday, May 16th from 11am to 11pm at the Ashe Arts Center in West Jefferson.

Musicians will play or “jam” for 12 hours. Money is pledged to sponsor a musician either on an hourly basis or for the entire event. Every dollar is donated to Fisher Houses at Ft. Bragg and Camp LeJeune. (Fisher Houses are the military equivalent of Ronald McDonald houses for the civilian population.) Additionally, local veterans will be honored individually, their stories told, and then wrapped in patriotic quilts made by the Piecemakers Quilt Guild of Ashe County. Call the Arts Council for more information. Come as a participant or just to listen!

---

**Ashe County Studio Tour**

**March 27-29, 2020**

**ASHE CIVIC CENTER**

**Friday and Saturday - 7:30 pm**

**Sunday - 2:00 pm**

**Tickets available online at**

**ashecountylittletheatre.org**

---

**SPRING FEST 2020**

**Art is Super!**

Spring Fest is here again – and this is the 35th year of celebrating art for Ashe County’s young people! The festive event is scheduled from 9am until 2pm Saturday, April 4 at the Early Learning Center in West Jefferson. The Ashe County Arts Council is the sponsor.

The theme this year is **ART is Super!** Hands on activities will allow the children and youth the opportunity to use their imaginations as they participate in over three dozen art projects including superhero capes, superhero arm bands, web weaving, photo booth, face painting and more! There will be a nominal charge of $5 to silkscreen a T-shirt with the festival logo. All other activities are free.

Exhibits will highlight student artwork, and local artists will provide demonstrations in a variety of art forms. Roving entertainment will be offered throughout the day by the Balloon Lady, Magic by Professor Whizzpop, and the Interactive Theatre of Jeff. The talents of Ashe County’s young people will be highlighted with JAM Students, and the dancing feet from April’s School of Dance, Fleet Feet Cloggers, and Dancin’ Debbie’s.

Pizza, subs, cookies, fruit, and drinks will be available for hungry folks in the lobby. Spring Fest is funded in part by a Grassroots Arts Program Grant from the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, and is sponsored by the Ashe County Arts Council. Spring Fest 2020 promises a fun day of celebrating the arts. It will entertain you and open your eyes with new experiences in the arts. Mark your calendars for a SUPER day of art on April 4.

Special thanks to LifeStore Bank & Insurance for their sponsorship of Spring Fest 2020.

**DAVID HOLT & JOSH GOFORTH**

Four-time Grammy Award winner David Holt and rising acoustic music star and Grammy nominee, Josh Goforth join together to bring to life the joy and spirit of old time mountain music and stories. Between them they combine the virtuosic sounds of guitar, banjo, fiddle, slide guitar, mandolin, and a world of exciting rhythm instruments from tambourine (body slapping) rhythms, to spoons, stump-fiddle, rhythm bones, jaw harp, and even paper bag. It is a program of songs, stories and amazing musicianship that will appeal to all ages.

Concert time is 7:30 pm at the Ashe Civic Center on Thursday, April 16. Ticket prices are $22 for adults and $5 for students. Reserved seating tickets are available at ashecountytours.org or by calling the Arts Council, 336.846-2787.

Thanks to show sponsor 580 WKS The Farm! #wkssthefarm
OLA BELLE REED SONG WRITER’S RETREAT

The Ashe County Arts Council is pleased to present a weekend retreat of songwriting, making music, and celebrating the work of Ola Belle Reed with the Ola Belle Reed Song Writer’s Retreat. The workshops will be held at the Ashe Civic Center Friday, April 17 through Sunday, April 19. The Retreat is open to songwriters of all genres and styles, and all accompaniment instruments are welcomed.

The goals of the Retreat are:

- To honor Ola Belle Reed as a songwriter, storyteller and humanist who used her craft and art to build community and love.
- To connect traditional music and story to contemporary songwriting that builds on that tradition.
- To use Ola Belle’s songs and life as a springboard for teaching songwriting with intention. That means your songwriting not only does something for you, but it does something for others.

Instructors Cathy Fink, Alice Gerrard, Marcy Marxer, Tom Paxton, and Jon Weisberger bring a wealth of experience in performing, teaching, and songwriting. This team will come together for a concert at 7:30 pm Saturday evening, April 18 at the Ashe Civic Center. General admission tickets are $16.

A Sunday afternoon concert that features the songwriting material of the retreat participants will begin at 2:00 pm on Sunday, April 19 also at the Civic Center. Admission to the concert is free.

Workshop space is limited to thirty participants; early registration is encouraged. Fee for the weekend is $300 for adults and $150 for youth participants; a limited number of partial scholarships are available.

Contact the Ashe County Arts Council to reserve your space; credit cards are accepted. Visit ashecountyarts.org or call 336.846-2787 for more information, to register, or for tickets to the concert.

The Ola Belle Reed Song Writer’s Retreat is made possible with support from Come Hear NC, a campaign celebrating North Carolina’s rich musical heritage. Learn more at ComeHearNC.com.

5 Songwriters in Concert Bluegrass Royalty to Grammy Winners Celebrate the Year of Music in North Carolina

Join singer-songwriter-instrumentalists Cathy Fink, Alice Gerrard, Marcy Marxer, Tom Paxton and Jon Weisberger for an incredible evening of music on Saturday, April 18 at the Ashe Civic Center. The instructor team for the Ola Belle Reed Song Writer’s Retreat will come together for a concert in the round beginning at 7:30.

Cathy Fink is the Artistic Director for the Retreat, a Grammy Award winner and internationally known singer-songwriter and instrumentalist; Alice Gerrard toured extensively with Ola Belle Reed and is in the International Bluegrass Music Association Hall of Fame; Marcy Marxer is a Grammy award winner and John Lennon Songwriting Contest Winner; Tom Paxton earned three Lifetime Achievement Awards from the BBC, Recording Academy, and ASCAP; Jon Weisberger is IBMA’s first Songwriter of the Year and an adjunct professor at ETSU.

General admission tickets are $16 for adults, $5 for students and are available at the door or in advance at ashecountyarts.org or by calling the Arts Council at 336.846-2787.