



**Maple Queen Pageant
After Party**
February 22, 9 p.m.
featuring the Judy Chops



The Arts Council is excited to welcome the Judy Chops back to the Highland Center on Saturday, February 22 at 9 p.m. The Judy Chops are an incredibly lively six-piece band of talented musicians who perform a wide range of musical styles. The band features electric guitars and horns—they rock, swing, and have even promised a slow dance for the Maple Court. The 9 p.m. show will start a little later than the Art Council’s usual monthly series, it is scheduled to follow the Maple Queen Pageant so folks can make it to both events.

This party is brought to you through a proud partnership between the Highland County Arts Council and the Highland Recreation Commission. With this event, we hope to honor the tradition of celebrating our Maple Court - with fond memories of Maple Queen Balls of the past and an updated format - and warm your spirit with a little entertainment in this cold, dark month. Come on out for light refreshments, live music, and to boogie down as we celebrate the illustrious 2025 Maple Court.

We invite you or your organization to be a part of this new take on an old tradition this February by becoming an event sponsor to help offset event costs. There are many ways individuals, families, and businesses can show your support! Visit our website or email highlandcoarts@gmail.com for information on how you can sponsor this wonderful event!

Strategic Planning Meeting Review



The Highland County Arts Council Board of Directors held our annual strategic planning meeting on Saturday, January 11, 2025. This time together was held instead of our standard monthly meeting as we reviewed the past year and discussed the goals and objectives for the Arts Council in 2025. The annual budget to support the various programs and projects was approved. This all-volunteer board is a working board with a variety of responsibilities in addition to the positions held by the officers. An election was held to identify officers and chairs of committees.

The 2025 officers are:

President – Gretta Sandberg
Vice President – Donna Bedwell
Secretary – Cindy Maerz
Treasurer – Nancy Mohlmann

The duties of these officers will be supported by the following committee chairs:

Performance – Kate MacKenzie
Fundraising and Membership– Wendy Jaccard
Education – Wade Meyers
Grants and Contracts – Cristin Dorgelo

A continued focus of the 2025 season as we work to promote Highland County as an arts destination will be the performing arts. Performance and performing arts education have been major components of the Arts Council, and support of a local summer performing arts camp will continue. Partnerships with community organizations and businesses will continue to be nurtured, and we will work to grow our membership and donors.

We value the input and support of our members as we prepare for 2025 to be another great year. Whether you choose to volunteer on one of the above-mentioned committees, attend one of our performances or workshops, or simply continue your support through membership, you are a valued part of the Arts Council team.

Stay up to date on
Arts Council
events at
highlandcountyartscouncil.org

Our email address is
[highlandcoarts@
gmail.com](mailto:highlandcoarts@gmail.com)

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Creativity Corner

Teresa Munn

Teresa Munn started weaving and macrame as therapy after shoulder surgery in January 2024. In searching for inspiration pictures online, she was fascinated by felted landscapes. She was inspired by the impressionist painting quality of felted scenes, and taught herself from internet tutorials.

Teresa said “Felting is my passion now! I enjoy the feel of the wool, and the ability to mix colors (almost like painting). I also enjoy the speed with which I can create something I love, and appreciate that the art is so portable, no large looms or equipment needed. Plus, If I don't like something, I can pull off the wool and undo it. It's very forgiving.”

Her work is inspired mainly by her beautiful locale, she enjoys creating mountain landscapes.

You can see Teresa's wonderful felted landscapes on exhibit in the Mountain View Room in the Highland County Public Library in February. The pieces in the exhibit, titled “Flowers For My Valentine,” are spring-themed, featuring long-range landscapes with fields of flowers.



Without the support of the following organizations, the Highland County Arts Council would not be able to provide the programming that is its hallmark.



The Virginia Commission for the Arts The National Endowment for the Arts
The Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge
The Little Swiss Fund The Charles Pinckney Jones Foundation



THANK YOU