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Theatre Returns to the Highland Center in April

John Hardy, who gave the Second Saturday @ Seven audience a much appreciated Christmas gift in 2021 with his one-person Christmas Carol, will return on April 15 with a special performance of RATTLESNAKE.

In the course of the evening Hardy challenges the concept of the one-character. The typical one-actor play is either a series of monologues or a story being told by one character. RATTLESNAKE goes far beyond those traditional boundaries of theatrical protocol. The characters in his performance exchange banter; they battle back and forth; they engage and compel each other. The result is a story of epic reach.

Sean O'Sullivan, theatre columnist for *A! Magazine For the Arts*, called RATTLESNAKE "Brilliant writing in the most original script I know...the first classic of the new century." He noted of John Hardy's performance, "You have never seen anything like it... sixteen characters, a small cavalcade, come to life before our eyes, distinctly and convincingly. . . The performance is remarkable in its creative use of simplicity. John needs no props to convince you of the reality of his world. His world is in his imagination. And what an imagination it is."

Hardy has played many of the great roles including HAMLET, MACBETH, Tom Wingfield in THE GLASS MENAGERIE, Oberon in A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, Teach in AMERICAN BUFFALO and many others. John has recently returned from a national tour, playing George in OF MICE AND MEN. As a playwright he has had over forty productions of fifteen plays produced across the country and overseas. John recently received the Sara Spencer Award, for lifetime achievement, from the Southeastern Theatre Conference.

Due to the Easter holiday, this month's performance is on April 15th, the third Saturday at 7 pm in the Auditorium at the Highland Center. Admission is \$10 for adults, children 12 and under are free.

Take note

Our email:
HighlandCoArts@gmail.com

Highland Arts Academy Begins its 4th Season

The 2023 Highland Arts Academy Workshops are open for registration! Barn quilt painting, basketry, broom making, ecoprinting, photography, pottery, and stained glass are all scheduled for this season due to their popularity in past years. In addition, felting and painting have been added to the selection and new experiences are included in those offered before. We are very fortunate to have such talented instructors available for these workshops and excited about the opportunities to experience a new skill or simply practice your favorite in the company of other artists.

Registration opened April 1 and workshops are expected to fill up fast. For complete information on the workshops, instructors, and dates, visit www.highlandartsacademy.com.



3RD SPACE OPENED FOR THE MAPLE FESTIVAL

A new business that supports art education is coming to town. You may have noticed the 3rd Space on Main Street in Monterey during the Maple Festival as you were making your way through the crowded streets. Tate Dunn purchased the building that previously housed the Blanchard Gallery, and renovation has been ongoing throughout the winter. Workers were chased out and a pop-up gallery was set up in time for the first weekend with seven local artists exhibiting their creations. Now that the festival is over, work will resume again but the art space will return when it is completed.

The name, 3rd Space, is a term borrowed from art and from architecture. When a person begins to appreciate a work of art, a 3rd space is created between the person and the art. In planning for towns, consideration is given to where people will live, where they will work, and where they will congregate – the 3rd space. It is the goal of the new business to be a place where people will experience art and also have a place to meet to learn and enjoy art. A gallery space, workshops, and studios are part of the plan, so watch this space for further news!



Coming in May...

Linda and Robin Williams

7 pm on Saturday, May 13
at the Highland Center



Save the Date

Highland County Artists' Weekend

June 23-25, 2023

Youth Programs

Educational programs are in full swing for this spring with a focus on theater arts. Our classes have been taught by The Wayne Theater and our community children have walked away from each one with a variety of skills in makeup arts, stage presence and improvisation. These classes have been well attended, and all have been offered for free so anyone can attend. Please join us as we continue on!

Our upcoming classes include:

Theater Movement and Stage Presence
April 22

Stage Combat Choreography
May 20



For more information, or
to register for these
classes, please email
britchambers@gmail.com



THEATER WORKSHOP!

LEARN STAGE MOVEMENT
& VOICE PROJECTION FROM
EXPERTS AT THE WAYNE
THEATER

APRIL 22, 2023

1-3PM

THE HIGHLAND CENTER

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
britchambers@gmail.com

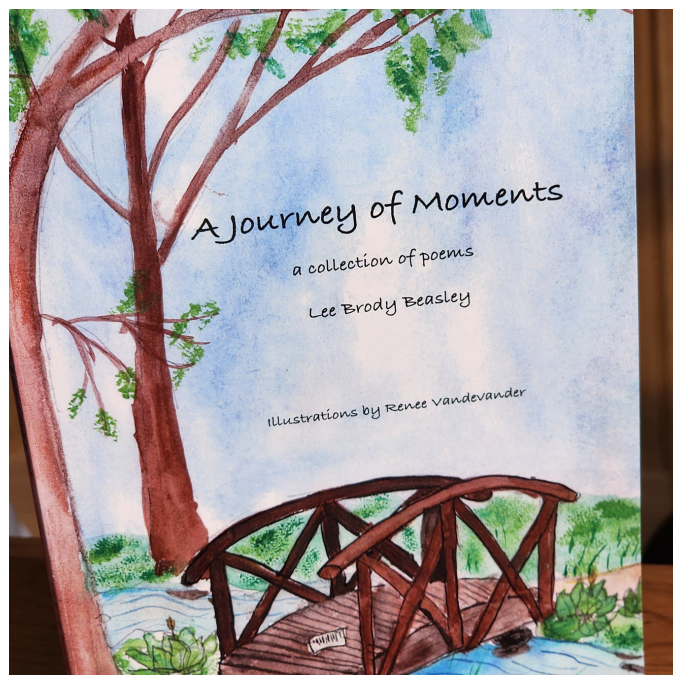
JOIN
US!

THIS WORKSHOP IS
OFFERED FREE OF CHARGE
THROUGH THE HIGHLAND
COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL



Creativity Corner

Lee Brody Beasley



Try squeezing your feelings about anything important into a one-liner, three stanzas, rhymed, or free verse forms to get those feelings across. It's easy when you, yourself, are the only recipient of the poem.

However, teaching poetry, as I did for over twenty years, and more recently getting a lifetime collection of poems published, meant I would have others be the recipients of my work. Although I gave many of my poems away in the early days without making copies, "A Journey of Moments" is the first collection I'm sharing publicly. It chronicles many journeys of love, travel, Nature, and the Spirit World. These are my journeys, but my hope is that those who do read my poems will remember their own.

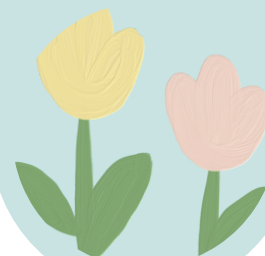
Poetry is an amazing form to work with and, ultimately, to share. It's like I give a little piece of myself to someone who is special in my world. I'm reminded of one of my favorite poets, Emily Dickinson, who just wrote her thoughts, feelings, and daily observations on little scraps of paper, never intending to share. It was only after her death that her family had those many scraps published, making her one of the greatest American poets.

With plans to continue writing and sharing, retirement has given me the time to focus on more scraps. The following poem is not from "A Journey of Moments", but one that befits the season:

Happy Spring

It's a cacophony – the discords of which are magical, lyrical, soothing.
These sounds harmonize and calm my busy mind of troubling thoughts.
I intend to emerge from the winter slog and cherish hearing the first frog.

There is need now for me, for us, to break the frozen sod.
Now to trod on warmer softer Mother Earth. She lets us ground ourselves in her gifts.
My heart sings – my soul lifts...



THANK YOU

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
for the **ARTS**
arts.gov

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

