

Young at Art Returns with Demonstrations, Scholarships Free Family-Friendly Event Showcases Creative Learning

By Sean King, LVACA Managing Director

Allentown, PA - The Lehigh Valley Arts & Cultural Alliance announces the 5th annual Young at Art expo of creative learning. Young at Art is a celebration of the Lehigh Valley's many arts education programs for children, teens and families. The event takes place on Saturday, March 11, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Penn State Lehigh Valley. Admission is free and open to the public.

Young at Art is a one-stop shop for families to connect with creative experiences and arts programming in the Lehigh Valley. Children and teens will find inspiration by trying out new forms of creative expression and witnessing performances by their peers. Parents and caregivers can meet creative education providers and gather information about summer camps, classes and lessons. This year, four \$100 scholarships funded by LVACA will be awarded to randomly-selected Young at Art attendees. The scholarships can be used towards programs offered by any of the presenting organizations.

The event features more than 20 exhibitors offering demonstrations, hands-on activities and performances. Young at Art represents a range of creative disciplines including visual arts, music, dance, theater, martial arts and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) education. Young at Art exhibitors for 2023 include The Baum School of Art, Da Vinci Science Center, Community Music School, Puertorrican Culture Preservation Association, Pennsylvania Youth Theatre, National Museum of Industrial History, ArtsQuest, Lehigh Valley Martial Arts and many more.

The Lehigh Valley Arts & Cultural Alliance has prioritized accessibility for all at the event. Young at Art is held at a venue fully accessible to individuals with mobility access needs. American Sign Language interpreters will be working throughout the event to provide ASL interpretation for announcements and performances. A sensory room with calm, quiet activities is available for attendees who need a break from the action.

Young at Art is supported in part by the Dexter F. and Dorothy H. Baker Foundation and the Harry C. Trexler Trust. For more information about the event, including a full list of exhibitors and opportunities to advertise or volunteer at the event, visit www.lvaca.org/young-at-art or email YoungAtArt@lvaca.org.

The Lehigh Valley Arts & Cultural Alliance is a nonprofit organization formed by a 2022 merger of the Lehigh Valley Arts Council and the Cultural Coalition of Allentown. LVACA carries forth the legacy of both organizations by serving the array of artists and arts organizations integral to the cultural life and vitality of our community.

Greater Lehigh Valley Writers' Group To Hold Annual Conference

By Sarah Karnish

LEHIGH VALLEY - New York Times-bestselling author Maria V. Snyder will serve as keynote speaker for the Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group (GLVWG)'s 2023 Write Stuff Conference, one of the premier events for writers in the greater Lehigh Valley. The event is scheduled for March 23-25, 2023, at the Best Western Lehigh Valley Hotel, 300 Gateway Drive, Bethlehem, PA. The Write Stuff will be a live, in-person event with recorded options available for individuals who are unable to attend. The Write Stuff is sponsored in part by the MFA Program in Creative Writing and Publishing at DeSales University.

Snyder switched careers from meteorology to novelist with the launch of her Study series (Poison Study, Magic Study, Fire Study, Shadow Study, Night Study, and Dawn Study) about a young woman who becomes a poison taster. She has written several other fantasy series and Storm Watcher, a standalone novel. In addition to her keynote presentation, Snyder will offer two half-day workshops, "Creating Believable Villains" on Thursday, March 23, and "Can You Hear Me Now? Audiobooks 101" on Friday, March 24. Snyder earned a degree in meteorology from Penn State and a Master of Arts degree in fiction writing from Seton Hill University. Visit mariavsnnyder.com to learn more.

The 3-day event will include four half-day programs, a Friday night reception, 14 breakout sessions, a book fair, critique opportunities, a flash fiction contest, and plenty of networking. The Write Stuff's presenters are Kathryn Craft, Jon Gibbs, Michelle Lazurek, Dianna Sinovic, Michael Ventrella, and Curtis Smith. Virtual rates are \$45 for Thursday, \$45 for Friday, \$90 for Saturday, or \$160 for all three days.

For a complete list of event pricing, speaker bios, registration and program information, visit <https://greaterlehighvalleywritersgroup.wildapricot.org>.

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