



Niagara Arts and Cultural Center
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Niagara Falls, NY 14301
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Mr. Craig Johnson
Law Department
City of Niagara Falls
PO Box 69
Niagara Falls, NY 14302

January 24, 2018

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The following is a list of some of the more important services the Niagara Arts and Cultural Center (NACC) will provide for the City of Niagara Falls for coming year 2018. The NACC has built comprehensive year round events and programs for all ages that add to the quality of life of residents and continues to foster citizen pride in the city.

Events and Programs:

Many of our events are held annually and are looked forward to by city residents. These include: March 9-Art of Beer attended by hundreds of people, July 16- the Annual Gospel Fest sponsored by Councilman Charles Walker, August 18- Gathering of the Drums and October 13- The Wearable Art Runway Fashion Show-a sellout event. Other planned events include an Art Auction and two regional bus trips.

2nd Monday Mixers 6-8 pm

Monday Mixers on the 2nd Monday of every month bring in local writers, artists, businesses and workshops to familiarize the community with all the area has to offer. They are a wonderful way to get to know more about a wide range of topics in a comfortable setting. These are free and open to the public and light refreshments are served. Please see attached schedule.

Theaters:

Our three theaters provide on-going talent shows, musicals, and theater and dance performances. Shows in the Woodbox Theater (the former library) are performed by Western Door Theater Company. This 72-seat theatre draws audience and actors together to create an intimate theatrical experience. Western Door has a dedicated following of local residents. Shows for 2018 include Twelve Angry Men and Serenata in Italy written by Linda Silvestri. Patchwork Theater is innovative and encourages young adults to participate in a variety of ways.

Grand Theater Renovation:

We have begun a \$2 million Capital Campaign for the larger 1000 seat Grand Theater. Renovations are necessary to provide new cultural offerings in Niagara Falls and improve the conditions provided to artists, technicians, and performers working in the space. These changes allow for larger productions and entertainment offerings. Concerts, Theatrical Performances, Opera, Film Showings, Recitals, Symposiums, and more will be able to take place in the renovated theater.

Summer productions or other uses of the theater will be possible with a new heating and ventilation system. The theater will become a larger presence in the Niagara Region, creating **new opportunities for businesses and restaurants** to serve the theater-going public in Niagara Falls and the surrounding areas. **There will also be jobs created during construction and long term jobs created to operate the theater.**

The renovations within the theater will include a historic restoration of the space, enhanced seating and handicapped access, the expansion of the stage, and new technical implements including lighting, sound and rigging. In addition we plan to **renovate restrooms on three floors and enhance the Red Door main entrance.** To accomplish all of this, the NACC is working with Flynn Battaglia Architects and Swiatek Preservation Studio of Buffalo NY. When completed this will be a regional asset and bring large audiences into the center of the city and Pine Avenue. We are members with PARP to help improve the Pine Avenue Business District.

Children and Adult Activities:

Since 2003 classes are held every summer at the NACC during 6 week Summer Camp for ages 7-18. The classes offered include dance, art, theater, gardening, screen play writing and multimedia. There are weekly field trips to historic sites and regional assets. There will be a final performance showcasing all that the students learned that is open and free to the public.

Additionally, classes are held within the NACC by individual teachers in voice, piano, guitar, painting and theater. Educational workshops and classes for adults continue to be held throughout the year. The NACC has developed a NFHS Alumni Center and hosts alumni reunions during the summer months.

Galleries, Open Studios and Open Houses:

The Main Art Gallery is open year round, handicapped accessible and is free and open to the public. The Garden Gallery has regular displays of local artists, art groups and children's work and is open to the public year round and is also free of charge. Gallery exhibits this year include the Artists of Color, the annual Lew-Port Students Show, Beyond the Barrel, The Art of Fashion Exhibit and NACC Artists and Friends.

Tourism:

In 2018 the NACC will continue to build tourist destination products. A major stop on the Discovery Shuttle, the NACC is creating exhibits to encourage people to learn more and stay longer. The Underground Railroad exhibit installed last year has proven to be very successful. Many tourists, residents and bus groups have toured the exhibit. We are developing the Portage Road Exhibit to further explore local history. By focusing on little known history of Niagara Falls, the NACC will not only educate tourists but also the community and region and bring pride to the area. This will also add economic benefits by bringing people into the city core.

Community Benefit:

WJL Radio Station has a studio at the NACC where local programming and call in from residents is featured. The importance of a local radio station cannot be overstated in bringing about understanding of the political, economic and quality of life issues in the community and regionally.

The Honorary Vice Consulate of Italy continues to add translation and other services in the Buffalo/Niagara region

Historic Building Restoration and Maintenance:

Additionally, we maintain the grounds and clean the sidewalks for an entire city block. The grounds are on a very prominent corner in the city and if they were not kept up it would be a major eyesore for residents and visitors. In the summer the grass is cut, hedges trimmed and paper and debris cleaned up. Flowers and shrubs are planted and maintained to beautify the area. In the winter sidewalks are shoveled and snow is removed from the parking lot. People do not have to walk in the streets on Portage or Pine because we keep the sidewalks shoveled.

The 2018 season will be NACC's seventeenth year in operation. It is our intention to continue to provide the city of Niagara Falls residents with quality programs and events for years to come in an adaptively reused landmark and historic building.

Submitted on behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff of the NACC,



Kathie Kudela
Executive Director

It is important to note that city support leads to credibility for the NACC. Other funders want to see that there is municipal support before they feel comfortable giving grants. Some we have received recently--Preservation League of NY, NYSCA, REDC, NFNHA, Community Foundation and others.

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Free and Open to the Public

@the NACC Gallery 716-282-7530

1201 Pine Ave NF NY

www.thenacc.org

Feb 12- UGRR in WNY
Ally Sponger & Chris Bacon

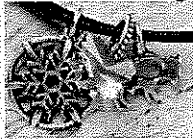
March 12- Lee Simonson
Eight Miracles that saved America



April 9- Theater Mixer
Theater Companies Meet and Greet

May 14
Tour of Historic Buffalo Avenue
Marge Gillies (NFHPS)

June 11 –Christine Wittmann
The Business of Making Jewelry



July 9 The History of Porches
Shelley Glica (NFHPS)



Aug 13
The DIG-at the Cataract Hotel site
Bill Bradberry

Sept 10
An Introduction to Classes given by
Artist tenants at the NACC

Oct 8 Genealogy-Michelle Kratts



Nov 12
Native American History and Language

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