

Connect for Good

Help Keep Your Community Vibrant



CELEBRATING ARTS & CULTURE

To continue the vibrant role they play in the community, local arts and culture groups need your help. Often underappreciated, and most certainly underfunded, organizations are struggling to stay afloat in tough recessionary times. Help restore them to life. It's easy. Invest in your community by attending a local show, taking a class, visiting a museum or even volunteering with an organization using art for social change. Fall is the perfect time to get engaged. Gearing up for a colorful season are Petersburg's Friday for the Arts, Richmond's First Fridays ArtWalk, the Richmond Folk Festival, and now open, Richmond's new home to performing arts, CenterStage. Art also serves a greater purpose. Surveys reveal an increasing demand for art activities serving social and educational needs. So enjoy the show, but give back too. Here are some simple ways to do just that.



- **Swift Creek Mill Theatre** seeks cubicles and office space as well as volunteer ushers and greeters for programs. *Contact: Tom Width, 804-748-5203.*
- **Petersburg Area Arts League** needs a couch, stackable chairs, folding tables, arts supplies and volunteers to help with mailings, gallery sitting, newsletter writing and Web content editing. *Contact: Pam Roberts, 804-861-4611.*
- **Virginia for the Arts Foundation** needs a DVD player, book shelf and a folding display for exhibit booths. *Contact: Trish Poupore, 804-644-2787.*
- **Essex County Museum & Historical Society** needs Civil War costumes. *Contact: Kelly LaFollette, 804-443-4690.*
- **White Stone Church of the Nazarene** in the Northern Neck needs props and materials for their Christmas play including a lamp post, spotlights and a baker costume. *Contact: Karen Sciacchitano, 804-435-9886.*
- **Sycamore Rouge** in Petersburg requests a sewing machine, rocking chair, tea lights and holiday decorations for their Santa Land Diaries production, based off popular writer, David Sedaris. *Contact: Tovah Nunez, 804-957-5707 ext. 105.*
- **Appomattox Regional Library System** needs pirate costumes, print-making equipment and puppets. *Contact: Dee Dee Whitman, 458-6329 ext. 1013.*
- **Pathways**, working toward Petersburg's community and economic development, needs volunteers to assist with interior design for turning the building green and artists to assist with a Cobb project. *Contact: Dan Gagnon, 804-862-1104.*
- **Henricus Historical Park** requests help with children's craft events and needs volunteer educators. Also needed are costumes, pieces of leather, jute, feathers, corn husks and other craft items. *Contact: Margaret Carlini, 804-318-8731.*
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters** of the Tri-Cities seeks art and crafts supplies, books and mentors for the school-based program. *Contact: Sarah Gould, 804-541-8208.*
- **Stuff** uses recycled materials to create art. Drop off materials in designated bins around Richmond to be used at Creative Reuse Workshops led by local artists. Stuff also needs shelving and cabinets for storing supplies. *Contact: Sarah Branigan, 804-828-1996.*
- **Richmond Shakespeare** needs costume and prop storage space, fax and copy machines and a scanner. *Contact: Grant Mudge, 804-232-4000.*
- **Richmond Ballet** requests linens, exercise bikes, free weights and other physical therapy and fitness equipment for dancers. *Contact: Caitlyn Powitz, 804-344-0906.*
- **Art on Wheels** brings arts programs to the students. They need cameras, painting and printmaking supplies, storage for materials and a digital projector. Other needs include volunteers for Board of Directors and to serve as instructors. *Contact: 804-726-5119.*
- **The Robinson Theater Community Arts Center** in Church Hill needs 10 (5' round) and 10 (6' rectangular) tables and 50 folding chairs for seating guests at events. *Contact: Betsy Hart, 804-562-9133.*
- **Visual Arts Center of Richmond** requests paints, scissors, easels, aprons, glass cutters sewing machines and ironing boards. *Contact: Maggi Tinsley, 804-353-0094 ext. 214.*
- **Art 180** targets youth in challenging circumstances and gives them a way to positively engage and express themselves through art. Items needed include digital cameras, sewing machines for the fall puppet-making program, aluminum easels and basic gardening tools. *Contact: Marlene Paul, 804-233-4180.*
- **Mary Ball Washington Museum & Library** in the Northern Neck needs a digital camera, laptop computer, 19th century period costumes, picture frames and a portable DVD player. *Contact: Karen Hart, 804-462-7280.*
- **Easter Seals Virginia** requests art supplies, children's costumes and board games. *Contact: Missy Wilder, 804-516-8748.*
- **Firehouse Theatre Project** needs vacuums, a laminating machine and paper shredder. *Contact: Melissa Gropman, 804-355-2001 ext. 8.*
- Guitars and a piano are needed. **Peter Paul Development Center** needs a guitar. *Contact: Rosemary Jones, 804-780-1195.* **Tabernacle Baptist Church** needs a guitar. *Contact: Judy Fiske, 804-355-0134.* **Senior Center** needs a piano. *Contact: Mary Catharine Kolbert, 804-363-1382.*
- **Richmond's CenterStage**
This multi-million dollar project houses three performance venues: a digital arts learning center used to bolster classroom achievement; the Rhythm Hall which features a variety of local artists, and last but not least, the newly renovated Carpenter Center. What does CenterStage need from you? Your presence. Come experience Richmond's performing arts like never before.

YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

ConnectNetwork sites are free and open exchanges. Every day, people and organizations find ideas, information and each other to create opportunities to improve the places they live. By fostering connections within the nonprofit sector as well as business and government, communities create awareness of local concerns, ways to make a difference and open opportunities to all. The Network's power comes from the people who use it for good. To learn more about organizations and needs where you live, visit your local site.

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