

# ARTS / DATES

Publication of the Ashe County Arts Council

## CHARLOTTE BLAKE ALSTON

### Songs and Stories in the Oral Tradition

September 13th, 7:30pm, Ashe Arts Center

Tickets: \$16 adult & \$5 student

*"Eloquent storytelling..."*  
-The New York Times

Charlotte Blake Alston, storyteller, narrator, librettist, instrumentalist and singer will be visiting Ashe Arts Center to kick-off the On the Same Page Literary Festival with a public performance, "Songs and Stories in the Oral Tradition," featuring selections from her wide repertoire of stories and songs from the African and African American oral traditions. In addition to her public performance, Charlotte will visit several Ashe County public schools for youth educational performances. Audiences can experience the life Charlotte breathes into traditional and contemporary stories from African and African American oral and cultural traditions. Her solo performances are often enhanced with traditional instruments such as djembe, mbira, shekere or the 21-stringed kora.

In 1999, Charlotte began studying the kora and the West African history-telling traditions of Senegal, Mali, Guinea and Guinea Bissau and has performed in venues throughout North America and abroad including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Smithsonian Institution, the Kimmel Center, and the Women of the World Festival in Cape Town.

Charlotte's rich career includes becoming the first storyteller to perform with the Philadelphia Orchestra, hosting "Carnegie Kids", and being a featured artist on the Carnegie Hall Family Concert Series in NY since 1996. She has been featured at The National Storytelling Festival and The National Festival of Black Storytelling. Her collaborations include numerous instrumental ensembles as well as the Opera Company of Philadelphia, Opera North and the Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company. She has been a



featured narrator for several orchestras and conductors including The Philadelphia Orchestra, The Orchestra of St. Luke's, The Cleveland Orchestra, the Saint Louis Symphony, the Orpheus Chamber Ensemble and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Currently, she performs as both pre-concert artist and host of Carnegie Hall's Family and Education Concert Series. Come experience the magic of Charlotte's storytelling and performance this fall!

This project was supported by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.



North  
Carolina  
Arts  
Council  
*Fifty years  
of leadership*

This program was funded in part by a grant from the Ashe County Community Foundation, which is administered by the North Carolina Community Foundation.

## TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Tickets for all events included in ARTS/DATES, are on sale the first month of each issue. For example, this issue covers concerts September through November and you can call NOW to get those favorite seats, 336.846-2787 or visit our website: [www.AsheCountyArts.org](http://www.AsheCountyArts.org) to purchase tickets online.

**ALLISON DE GROOT & TATIANA HARGREAVES**  
**Sept. 30, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center**  
 Tickets: \$7.50 Student | \$18.50 Adult



Allison de Groot & Tatiana Hargreaves create a sound that is adventurous, masterful, and original, as they expand on the eccentricities of old songs, while never losing sight of what makes them endure. Individually they are both leaders in the young generation of roots and bluegrass musicians, de Groot being known for intricate clawhammer banjo work, and Hargreaves bringing powerhouse fiddling to the stage. *This concert is co-presented by Joe Shannon's Mountain Home Music.*

**ZOE & CLOYD**  
**Oct. 15, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center**  
 Tickets: \$7.50 Student | \$18.50 Adult



The innovative original bluegrass and klezmer music of Zoe & Cloyd springs from a confluence of the rich traditions and complementary styles of fiddler/vocalist Natalya Zoe Weinstein and multi-instrumentalist/vocalist John Cloyd Miller. Zoe & Cloyd are joined by IBMA award-winners Bennett Sullivan on banjo/guitar and Kevin Kehrberg on bass. Together, the band delights audiences with soaring harmonies, heartfelt songwriting and dazzling instrumentals, seamlessly combining original bluegrass, klezmer, and folk stylings with sincerity and zeal.

**JEFF LITTLE TRIO**  
**Nov. 5, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center**  
 Tickets: \$7.50 Student | \$20.00 Adult



Jeff Little is an award-winning musician from the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. With few exceptions, the piano does not play a prominent part in Appalachian or Americana music, and is rarely the lead instrument. But Jeff Little is an exception – and a remarkable one. Jeff has not only been recognized as a critically acclaimed musician but also a true music innovator. Little and his trio stay busy traveling the country, performing with an energy and dedication to their music that is evident at every show.

**CAROLINA BRASS**  
**Nov. 15, 7:30 pm, Ashe Civic Center**  
 Tickets: \$7.50 Student | \$18.50 Adult



Carolina Brass presents “Brass Musings,” an eclectic blend of brass quintet repertoire from various musical periods, styles, and inspirations. The quintet is composed of Alex Wilborn (trumpet), Bill Lawing (trumpet), Byron Jones (horn), John Bartlett (trombone), and Beth Wiese (tuba). The vibrant ensemble was formed by Bill Lawing with members of the Charlotte Symphony in the 1980s and continues to delight audiences as the years go on. This concert is part of the *Ed Perzel Chamber Music Series*.

on the samePage

A Celebration of Reading  
Ashe County's Literary Festival

# Back to Books

SEPTEMBER 13-17, 2022

## ON THE SAME PAGE: ASHE COUNTY'S LITERARY FESTIVAL

Ashe County's 13th annual On the Same Page Literary Festival, back after a two-year pandemic hiatus, promises a clarion call to get "Back to Books," with a stellar lineup of authors. Whether our authors are familiar faces in Ashe County or first-timers, they'll each bring something special for everyone to enjoy.

**PAGE  
TURNERS**

*The Arts Council and Library  
gratefully acknowledge the  
financial contributions from the  
PAGE TURNERS, individuals and*

*businesses committed to supporting ON THE SAME  
PAGE and reading and writing in Ashe County.*

Anonymous	Gerhard Kalmus
Jack Apple	Sharon Kasel
Chris Arvidson & Henry Doss	Nita Langer
Alice Atwood	Lifestore Bank & Insurance
Pete & Judy Benda	Jane Lonon
Jenny Bezingue	John MacConnell
Sarah Bledsoe	Becky Marsten
Karen Bobbitt	McFarland & Co.
Alan Briggs	Tom & Linda McLintock
Gil & Karen Brock	Susan Meredith
Becky Burgess	Belva Miller
Cathy Buttler	Judy & Charles Mitchell
Kathy Chefas	Janet Montgomery
Diana Clarkson	Carol Morris
Joan Croteau	Vaughn & Beth Morrison
Linda Dreyer	Deborah Motto
Dave & Lynn Eastburn	Gay Murrill
Rose Farrington	Nanci Newton
Christine Franklin	Anita Pangle
Max & Kay Fryar	Ellie Perzel
Jerry Gambill	Cathy Pfeil
Eddie & Betsy Gant	Janet Pittard
Evelyn Gerdes	Lewis & Pat Poag
Lucinda Glover	Ray Podd & Linda Stanley
Charles & Elaine Graham	Scot Pope
James & Laura Green	Burt & Sandra Prange
Kyle & Susan Hall	Betty Rembert
Connie Hardison	Diana Renfro
Loftin & Linda Hargrave	Chuck & Ann Rice
Donna Hines	Ridgeline Properties
Libby & Jim Hoffman, <i>in memory of Melinda Hamrick</i>	Chilton Rogers
Glenn & Ann Hood	Barbara Sears
Kathy Howell	Steve Stutts & Karen Hall
David Hoyle/Julie Smith	United Chemi-Con
Jayne Inman	Guyla Vardell
Clint Johnson	Della Vodenicker
Mary Jones	June Weaver
Henry Jordan, <i>in honor of Ruth J. Ashe</i>	Carolyn Weckstrom
	Jay & Hollis Wild
	Page Worthington

## FEATURING

<b>CHRIS ARVISON</b>	<b>STACY MCANULTY</b>
<b>GEORGANN EUBANKS</b>	<b>MARK POWELL</b>
<b>DONNA EVERHART</b>	<b>TERRY ROBERTS</b>
<b>JUDY GOLDMAN</b>	<b>ANNE SHELBY</b>
<b>PAUL JONES</b>	<b>ED SOUTHERN</b>
<b>KELLY KAZAK</b>	<b>JAMIE SOUTHERN</b>
<b>CHARLIE LOVETT</b>	<b>SHEILA TURNAGE</b>

## FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

All Festival events are open to the public. Most are free; some require reservations and/or tickets due to limited seating.

## INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

Full festival schedule of twenty events and registration can be found at [www.OnTheSamePageFestival.org](http://www.OnTheSamePageFestival.org) or by calling the Ashe County Arts Council.

## TYPES OF EVENTS

Participants can attend workshops, author readings, and author panel discussions.

## 2022 FESTIVAL READ

This year's Festival Read is *Ed Southern's Fight Songs: A Story of Love and Sports in a Complicated South*. Ed, a lifelong Wake Forest Demon Deacons fan, explores the connections and contradictions between the teams we root for and the places we plant our roots. Pick up a copy of the book at the Ashe Arts Center and join us for the wrap up discussion on Sept. 13th at 1 pm.

On the Same Page is sponsored by Ashe County Public Library and Ashe County Arts Council. Festival authors' books may be checked out at the library and will be on sale at all events and the Ashe Arts Center.

**Thank you to our 2022 Sponsors:**

**American Library Association  
National Endowment for the Humanities  
Skyline/Skybest • Caddell Phillips Marketing**

## SCHOOL ARTS IN ASHE 2022-2023

The Arts Council's sponsorship of cultural programs in Ashe County Schools continues to enhance students' education through the arts. Concerts, programs and residencies are offered throughout the year in music, dance, theatre, visual arts and literature.

The Junior Appalachian Musicians (JAM) Program offers instruction in guitar, banjo and fiddle to the county's third through sixth grade students. The visual arts are well represented in the Council's annual Young at Art exhibit in The Gallery of the Ashe Arts Center. Spring Fest and A Very Special Arts Festival offer a day-long celebrations of the arts for Ashe County's young people.

The Arts in Education programs are sponsored by the Ashe County Arts Council and local schools with funding support from a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, a North Carolina Arts Council Folklife Grant for the JAM Program, a Grassroots Arts Program Grant. The North Carolina Arts Council is a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

During the 2022-2023 school year students will experience:

- Mask and Mime artist Doug Berky
- Stories and Songs by Roger Day
- Theatre performances by the Atlantic Coast Theatre
- Science is Fun with Zak Morgan
- Missoula Children's Theatre
- Stories and Songs from the Underground Railroad with Reggie Harris
- Residency with artist collective Corn Bread and Tortillas
- Storytelling with Charlotte Blake Alston



### ASHE COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL SPONSORS JAM - JUNIOR APPALACHIAN MUSICIANS!

The JAM program has been sponsored by Ashe County Arts Council since 2002 in support of traditional music in our community and passing along that tradition to the next generation. Classes open to grades 3 - 6 in banjo, fiddle and guitar are held after school at the Ashe Civic Center during the semester.

- Sign ups: September 12 & 13, 4-6pm, Ashe Civic Center
- Classes begin September 19
- Beginning and Intermediate levels available
- \$3 per class fee charged
- Classes end December 9
- Spring Semester to be announced

This program is funded, in part, by a Folklife Initiatives Grant from the North Carolina Arts Council, a state agency, a Wayne Henderson Festival Grant, and is sponsored by the Ashe County Arts Council. For more information about JAM please call 336-846-ARTS or email Rebecca Williams: programs@ashecountyarts.org.

### Missoula Children's Theatre Residency Returns October 17 -22

This is a week-long residency that engages local children in the theatre experience. Auditions will be held for the Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) production of



*The Frog Prince* on Monday, October 17, from 3:30 - 5:30 pm at Ashe Civic Center in the auditorium. Those auditioning should arrive by 3:15 pm and plan to stay the full two hours.

MCT productions are complete with costumes, scenery, and props. MCT Tour Directors will conduct rehearsals throughout the week from 3:30 to 8 pm each day. There is a \$35 fee per cast member to help fund the cost of this learning experience.

Performances will be held Saturday, October 22 at 3:00 and 7:30. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Information is available on the Ashe County Arts Council website.

**BEST OF THE BLUE RIDGE**

Painters from Ashe and surrounding counties are invited to submit works for **BEST OF THE BLUE RIDGE, a juried fine art competition and exhibition.** Visual artists residing in Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga, Wilkes, Grayson and Johnson Counties are eligible to submit original work that has been executed within the last three years. Paintings, drawings, hand pulled prints and mixed media works will be accepted. There is a non-refundable entry fee and delivery dates are October 8 & 10 at the Ashe Arts Center. A Prospectus for the show is available from the Arts Council.



Juror for the Best of the Blue Ridge is Addren Doss, an award winning North Carolina artist who works in oil and pastel. She has been painting professionally over 30 years and teaching for 15 years. Her representational and abstract works are filled with bold strokes of color, texture, light, and movement. Addren is a Master Member of Women Artists of the West, Associate Member of American Women Artists, and Associate Member of the Pastel Society of America. The awards for the show are provided by corporate sponsor, Cheap Joe's Art Stuff.



The exhibit is open October 12 - November 17. The public is invited to the opening reception for the artists and awards ceremony during the Gallery Crawl on October 14 from 5 - 7 pm.

**KEEPING UP WITH HAPPENINGS IN THE ARTS**  
Are you receiving the weekly Arts Council emails? Do you want an easy way to keep up with what's going on in the arts? While our quarterly newsletter is a great overview of programs being presented, weekly emails alert you to any changes, updates, and new information about upcoming programs. Give us a call or email us to have your information added to our growing list of contacts. Follow the Ashe County Arts Council on Facebook for quick updates.

**GALLERY EXHIBITS**

Visit Ashe Arts Center to see monthly exhibits featuring regional artists! Interested in exhibiting? Contact us to find out more!

**AGRICULTURE**

September 6 - October 10  
*Works highlighting Ashe County farms and farm products.*

**BEST OF THE BLUE RIDGE**

October 12 - November 17  
*Our annual juried exhibit featuring High Country artists that create paintings, hand pulled prints, and drawings.*

**TREE FEST AND MINIATURES**

November 21 - December 31  
*Decorated trees, ornaments, and miniature paintings and photography. Perfect gifts!*

**GALLERY CRAWL****PROMOTING WEST JEFFERSON'S ARTS DISTRICT!**

*Music • Refreshments • Maps • Free!*  
*5pm - 7 pm • Downtown West Jefferson*

GALLERY CRAWL continues on the second Friday of the month! Mark your calendar for September 9, October 14, and a special Holiday Crawl on December 2 for opportunities to see new, creative, innovative works by Ashe County's leading artists. Extended gallery hours are from 5-7 pm at galleries, studios and craft shops in downtown West Jefferson.

**PARTICIPATING GALLERIES**

*Ashe Arts Center  
Ashe Custom Framing & Gallery  
Catch Light Gallery  
Florence Thomas Art School  
Great Southern Gothic  
Originals Only Gallery  
WSL Originals*

## NEWS & UPDATES



*Fiddlers Convention Photos Courtesy of Martin Seelig*

### **Thanks to All who Made the 2022 Ashe County Bluegrass and Old Time Fiddlers Convention a Success!**

The Ashe County Bluegrass and Old Time Fiddlers Convention returned to Ashe Park for the first time since 2019 with a kick-off night on Friday featuring regional bands in concert followed by a hot but gorgeous July summer day full of youth and adult competitors from around the region. WKSK started Saturday with a live radio show program broadcasted right from Ashe County Park. With over 80 competitors and \$4,000 in cash prizes, enthusiasm was strong as the competitors warmed up behind the stage. Local luthiers showed off their beautifully crafted instruments and invited attendees to sit down and try them out.

Ashe County Arts Council heartily thanks all those who helped make this 50 year tradition a success including the 2022 Sponsors, Scott Harris Guitar Shop for sponsoring the stage, our donors, volunteers, the Fiddlers Convention Committee, the Ashe Post & Times, Heather Barker and the Ashe County Park Staff, Andrew Cole, GLAD, John Maddocks, Tim Varner, and 580 WKSK The Farm.



### **The Summer Contemporary Dance Festival Facilitated by Makayla Rosenberger Delights Audiences and Participants Alike**

2022 Jane Lonon Legacy Grant recipient Makayla Rosenberger treated Ashe County dancers of all ages to two weeks of free contemporary dance workshops and performance experience. The Dance Festival culminated with a free public performance at the Ashe Civic Center which showcased local dance groups in performance as well as professional contemporary dancers. Local youth participants auditioned to learn and perform contemporary dance piece, *Across the Blue Ridge Mountains*, which was choreographed by Makayla and highlighted the culture and landscapes of Ashe County.

### **IT'S FUND DRIVE TIME FOR THE ARTS!**

September is always a banner month for the Arts Council, as we announce the new programming season and celebrate our 43rd year as an organization serving the arts needs of Ashe County. We'll kick off our annual fund drive in September to raise funds for the arts.

As we begin another year of community concerts at the Ashe Civic Center and Ashe Arts Center, gallery exhibits, school arts assembly programs, the Junior Appalachian Musicians Project (JAM), downtown murals, the Gallery Crawl, Spring Fest, On The Same Page Literary Festival, the Fiddlers Convention, and the Studio Tours we realize that you who have shared in the Arts Council's vision all these years play a dual role in its success. You provide both intangible gifts of time, energy and enthusiasm and the financial support we need to continue our mission of promoting the arts in all forms in Ashe County.

*Information about the 2022-2023 Fund Drive and schedules for the year will be in the mail soon. The Arts Council expresses its gratitude for the past contributions and thanks you in advance for your future support. Contributions may be mailed to 303 School Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694 or made online at [www.ashecountyarts.org](http://www.ashecountyarts.org).*



**ART**  
on the  
**MOUNTAIN**

FINE ART, COOL CRAFTS

Unique Art for Sale &  
Artist Demonstrations

## Ashe County Arts Council is excited to announce **ART ON THE MOUNTAIN** featuring fine art and crafts **Saturday, September 24th!**

It's a day filled with an array of arts and crafts from some of the best artists in the region. Join in the fun from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM on Saturday, September 24 on the grounds of the Ashe Arts Center. The street and adjacent parking lots will be filled with vendors including potters, painters, writers, wood workers, quilters, rug hookers, fiber artists, jewelers, basket makers, and more.

If you're looking for something handmade this is the perfect time to support local artisans. Get holiday shopping done early and enjoy some live music in scenic downtown West Jefferson!

You can find more information on our website:

[www.ashecounartyarts.org](http://www.ashecounartyarts.org) or call the Ashe Arts Center: 336-846-2787.



Wordkeepers

Wordkeepers Salon returns to the Ashe Arts Center on October 15 beginning at 4pm with writers sharing their latest prose and poetry works in five-minute open microphone time slots.

Wordkeepers is free and open to the public; refreshments are provided. Writers interested in reading from their work should email Scot Pope at [scotpope@hotmail.com](mailto:scotpope@hotmail.com) to secure their first-come, first-served spot on the bill, and to receive guidelines for reading.



**TRAVEL.  
CULTURE.  
FOOD.**

If you like North Carolina,  
you'll love *Our State*.

Visit [ourstate.com](http://ourstate.com) or call  
(800) 948-1409 to subscribe.

**Our State**  
CELEBRATING NORTH CAROLINA

## ARTIST SUPPORT PROJECT GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR ARTISTS IN ANY DISCIPLINE

This program, funded by the N.C. Arts Council, provides the opportunity for regional consortia of local arts councils to award project grants to artists in their regions. These grants support professional artists in any discipline and at any stage in their careers to pursue projects that further their artistic and professional development. Types of fundable projects include: creation of new work, purchase of equipment and materials, professional development workshops, and more. Grant amounts vary; most grants are between \$500 and \$2,000. Application deadline for the 2022-2023 award cycle is September 9, 2022. Application and guidelines may be obtained by calling 336.846-2787 or at [www.ashecounartyarts.org](http://www.ashecounartyarts.org).