

Local Artists Featured at Wee Faerie Village at Florence Griswold Museum

OLD LYME, CT – The Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme, CT presents Wee Faerie Village in a Steampunk'd Wonderland on the grounds of museum's campus from October 3 through November 2. Twenty-five hand-crafted faerie houses and scenes recount Lewis Carroll's classic tale, "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" in a steampunk setting. Participating in the project were two Amherst artists, Julie Solz and Steven Hansen. The talented husband and wife team has contributed their talents to this project for several years interpreting imaginary landscapes into miniature fairy houses. Julie is the Team Leader of Collection Services at Historic New England and Steve is the Landscape Designer for SRH Landscaping.

This year Julie and Steve skillfully created a "Garden of Talking Flowers" depicting Rose, Tiger-Lily and Daisies through the inventive use of metals and clock faces.

"Imagine a miniature Victorian world viewed through a steam-powered futuristic lens," explains David Rau, the Museum's Director of Education and Outreach. "With guide in hand visitors will travel the Museum's 11 acres to discover Alice's adventures, including, keeping up with the tardy White Rabbit, surviving the Mad Tea Party, and playing croquet with the hot-tempered Queen of Hearts."



"Garden of Talking Flowers" by Julie Solz and Steve Hansen.

This year's Wee Faerie Village is the sixth of the Museum's annual outdoor creative installations. Last year a record-breaking 17,212 people attended the 2013 Wee Faerie Village during its four-week run. The annual event has come to signify an enriching, not to be missed outing for visitors of all ages.

In keeping with the time period of Alice, this year's Wee Faerie Village combines natural materials with vintage found elements to create installations inspired by the popular Steampunk movement. The term "steampunk" was coined in the early 1980s, and refers to a fanciful art and design subculture that combines history, fantasy, and the Victorian era. The term describes an imaginary world where iconic images from our steam-powered past (think cogs, gears, and flywheels) are married to the technologies of today.



An Un-Birthday Party Celebration for Alice. Artist, Lisa Kenyon

Nearly 50 artists and designers have been working since early spring to create their mini masterpieces, which collectively transform the

Museum's eleven acres into Wonderland. Children delight in the fun and whimsical creations while adults marvel at the creatively conceived and handcrafted works of art. Graphic and sculpture artist Bill Vollers of Chester, Connecticut chose the White Knight's encounter with Alice for the basis of his faerie house installation. Vollers used an empty box for his faerie house, which sits on a steampunk inspired assemblage constructed primarily from late 18th century Victorian era wooden and cast iron gears and wheels. "These types of items and other found objects are of special interest to me," explains Vollers. "I appreciate their past and authenticity and have used them to create sculptures and assemblage pieces for years." A keepsake brochure, the Wander Guide, leads visitors through the Museum's campus to each installation while telling the story of Alice's adventures. Visitors to Wee Faerie Village are encouraged to dress up as their favorite faerie or Alice in Wonderland character.

The Museum is located at 96 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT, exit 70 off I-95. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 5pm with extended hours on Sunday from 11am to 5pm. Admission during the exhibition is \$15 for adults, \$14 for seniors, \$13 for students, \$5 for members.

Amherst Town Library Events:

Ansel Adams As An Environmentalist

The Amherst Town Library presents "Ansel Adams as an Environmentalist," on Wednesday, October 29 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. This is the final program of the Into the Wild series of presentations for adults at the Library. Presenter Lance Hidy knew Ansel Adams personally and has designed several books featuring Ansel Adams' photography. The evening includes a slide presentation of photographer Ansel Adams and his long career starting at age 12 in Yosemite with a box camera. Find out about his work with the Sierra Club, The National Park Service, and his work in the environmental movement of the 1960s.

Portland, Oregon native Lance Hidy learned italic handwriting at age 12. Hidy went on to major in art at Yale University from 1964 to 1968 and later studied privately with Leonard Baskin. Hidy was co-founder of David R. Godine, Publisher in 1969, before starting his own design firm in 1973. He switched from books to posters and illustration in 1980, incorporating his love of printmaking with his training in letterforms. He was the Art Director of the Harvard Business Review, and has designed three U.S. postage stamps. In ad-



Ansel Adams Photographing in Yosemite, 1942, by Cedric Wright

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dition to running his design and illustration studio, Hidy has lectured and written on design history, and teaches graphic design and illustration at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill, Massachusetts. The Library is grateful to the Northern Essex Community College's funding support that makes this presentation possible.

This program is free and open to the public. Registration is REQUIRED due to space limitations. You can register for these events by calling 673-2288, emailing library@amherstlibrary.org or by visiting our website at www.amherstlibrary.org and selecting the "Community Services" tab, then click on drop down "Sign-Up for Programs."

Jazz Musicians Laszlo Gardony and John Lockwood to Perform at the Amherst Town Library Anna Boardman Concert Series

The Amherst Town Library will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Boardman Concert Series with a performance by renowned Boston-based jazz pianist/composer, Laszlo Gardony, and veteran bassist John Lockwood. The performance will be held in the Adult Reading Room of the library on Sunday, November 2 at 5:00 PM.

Laszlo Gardony is a critically acclaimed artist who has brought his creative improvisations and uniformly high quality compositions to audiences in 24 countries. Winner of the Great American Jazz Piano Competition, he has received high praise from music critics. Dave Brubeck has called him a "great pianist." Gardony has released ten albums which feature 60 original compositions, appeared at major jazz festivals and jazz clubs, and performed with the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall in Boston and the Utah Symphony in Salt Lake City. A professor at Berklee College of



Laszlo Gardony

Music since the 1980's, this Hungarian born pianist has spent his career collaborating with some of jazz's most talented artists.

John Lockwood is the bass player of the duo that will be performing November 2. For many years a member of the well-known Boston group, The Fringe, Lockwood is well-versed in improvisation. He

has toured the U.S. and Europe with well-known bands and has performed with the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Boston Pops, and MIT Symphony. He is presently an associate professor at Berklee College of Music.

To learn more about Laszlo Gardony and John Lockwood and to hear some clips, visit www.lgjazz.com. Refreshments will be served following the concert. Trustees will be available to showcase the recent renovations and to answer questions. Guests of honor will be Helen Rowe and Don Holden, longtime Trustees who have recently retired.

The concert, an annual event, is named after the late Anna Boardman, a generous benefactor of the library. Tickets, available at the front Circulation Desk, are free. For further information, please call the library at 673-2288 or visit the library home page at www.amherstlibrary.org.

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