

ARTS CONNECT NEIGHBORS

Volume 2



Connect your neighbors by hosting a **FREE** art workshop or performance in your City of Roanoke neighborhood.

**ARTS
CONNECT**
ROANOKE

ARTS CONNECT

Arts Connect Neighbors is a collaborative strategy of the Roanoke Arts Commission, the Roanoke Cultural Endowment, and Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates with funding support from the City of Roanoke and an *Our Town* Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.



The inaugural *Arts Connect Neighbors* catalog, released in January 2024, showcased 49 activities available to City of Roanoke neighborhoods. Read more about its success on page 19.

Volume 2 introduces a fresh collection of activities while also bringing back some favorites from the first edition.



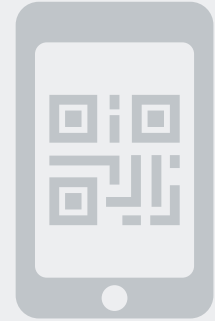
Volume 2

The catalog of FREE art events to help you build community in your City of Roanoke neighborhood!



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This catalog uses QR codes as an easy way to view all activities featured on our website, RoanokeArts.org/Neighbors.

Don't have a smartphone? No problem! You can still visit our website and view or request to book an activity for your neighborhood.

TIP: Search the unique identifier code provided on each activity listing, or any keyword from the description, for faster access.



Illustrations by Isabelle Hill

What do we mean, this is FREE?!

The *Arts Connect Neighbors* program is funded by the City of Roanoke with additional support from an *Our Town* grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. We are using the resources to pay local artists, arts businesses, and nonprofit arts organizations to provide programming to help our neighborhoods achieve their goals.

We believe the arts and humanities can connect us in meaningful ways and set our neighborhoods on a path to becoming healthier, more welcoming, and more enjoyable places to shape our lives. **We believe our neighborhoods are worth investing in.**

While we're paying for the event or performance, YOU will be hosting the event, and that is a significant contribution. Encouraging connections with those who live closest to you is important work. We'll use some L words to describe it. By encouraging others to take part in an event that celebrates your **LOVE** for your neighborhood, you're demonstrating the kind of **LEADERSHIP** that makes our community great.

Already, we've provided nearly 100 activities in more than two dozen neighborhoods. That's a lot of connections created by neighborhood leaders.

Civic Partners: Consider hiring an artist to help your group grow

We know that civic groups, congregations, and businesses all add to the quality of our neighborhoods. If you are interested in an activity, but are not directly connected to a neighborhood, you can fill out the form to see about paying the artist directly, partnering with neighborhood leaders, and perhaps even sharing the cost with the City of Roanoke.

You can make the difference, and we can't wait to see the difference you make.

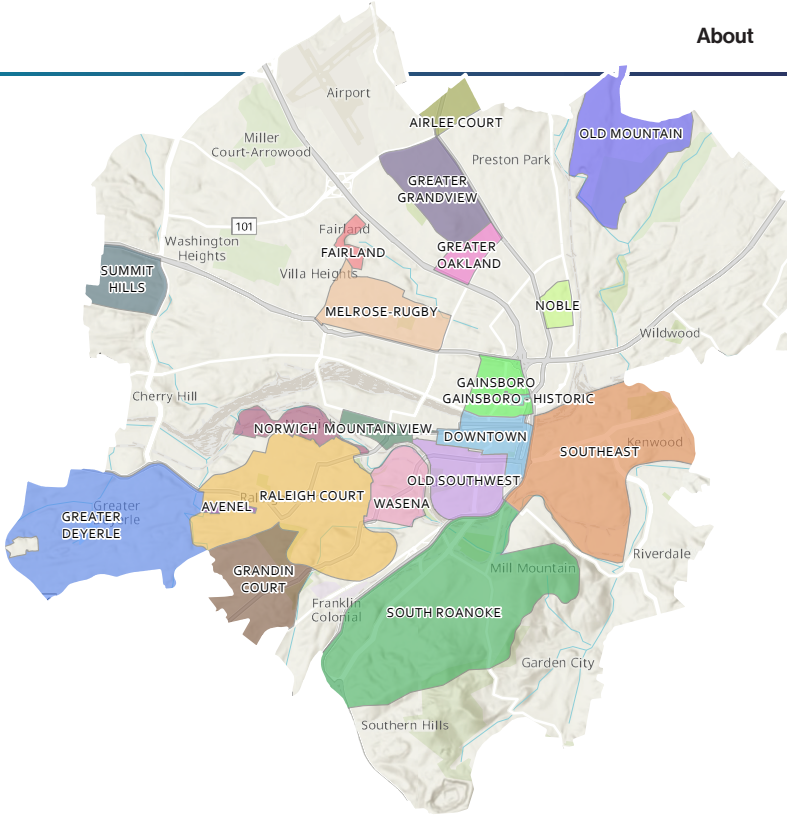
Eligibility

These workshops are available for free to neighbors—those living in proximity to each other within Roanoke City limits.

We expect many of the requests to come from formal neighborhood nonprofit organizations. But requests can also come from neighborhoods that haven't organized yet or from a portion of a neighborhood where a few residents want to help people know each other better.

To be eligible, a neighborhood or group of neighbors requesting a workshop or performance must meet the following conditions:

1. Have the committed participation of at least eight (8) households in the neighborhood.
2. Work with the formal neighborhood organization (if there is one) on the activity. They don't have to drive the activity, but they will have resources and tips to help promote and carry out the event.
3. Have the commitment of a leadership team or leader to:
 - » Meet with an *Arts Connect Neighbors* coach or facilitator to set goals for the event;
 - » Assign a primary contact for the artist(s);
 - » Plan and implement the larger event surrounding the performance or workshop (if there is one);
 - » Ensure the workshop or performance requirements are met (see items listed in the online catalog entry);



City of Roanoke

Highlighted areas represent formally organized neighborhoods. Gathering neighbors can happen anywhere in the city, and your effort might just help us shade in more parts of the map with strong neighborhood efforts.

- » Promote the event and encourage participation of other neighbors;
- » Implement the event and be present on the day of the event; and
- » Debrief the project with neighbors and partners to learn lessons and to start planning the next neighborhood effort!

Additional items to remember about our neighborhoods and neighbors:

Our neighborhoods include apartment buildings.

Our neighborhoods are welcoming communities for all people.

Our neighbors include residents, business owners, and institutional partners.

Our neighbors come in all shapes, sizes, and colors.

Our neighbors have many different abilities and backgrounds.

Our neighbors speak many languages.

Our neighbors rent as well as own apartments or houses.

Our neighbors are recent additions to the community.

Our neighbors have lived in the same house for generations.

You are our neighbor. Thank you for being our neighbor.

Accessibility

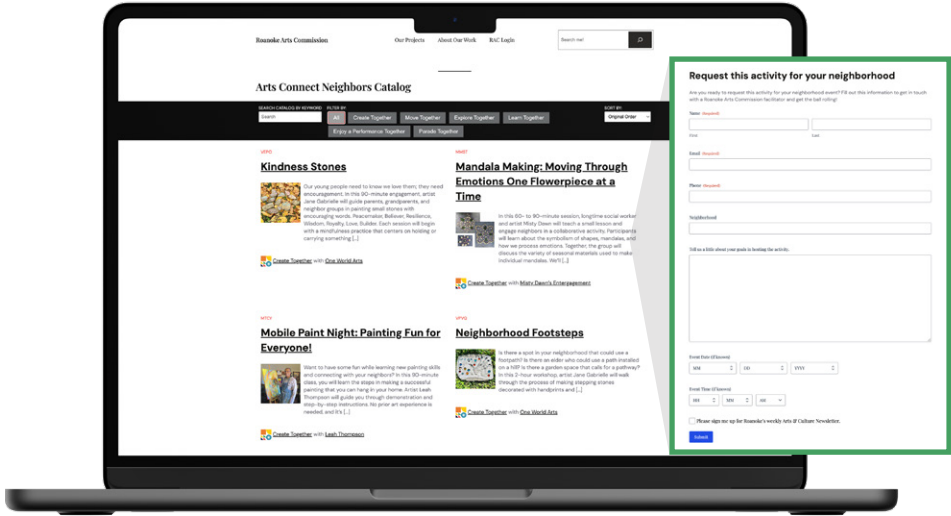
We want everyone in the neighborhood to feel welcome at your neighborhood events. It's a matter of generosity and hospitality. To ensure that happens, we often need to have conversations in advance to help us understand the physical constraints of our neighbors. For instance, sometimes aspects of a location can prevent a neighbor from attending. Think about the steps up to a porch. While the porch might seem a welcoming location for a small event on a spring day, those four steps could prevent a neighbor from participating.

Let's work together to include everyone. That means having the conversations needed to better know our neighbors and to reduce and eliminate those barriers. We ask that you:

- provide locations that are fully accessible for residents with limited mobility,
- ask your neighbors to let you know if they need any accommodations for hearing, sight, or other key aspects of an event,
- let us help provide those accommodations for you,
- learn how to become a more hospitable, welcoming and inclusive community, and
- work together as we continually become just that.

How to Participate

1. Encourage neighbors to **look through the catalog**. You can easily share this link and post it on your social media pages! RoanokeArts.org/Neighbors
2. Give people some time to **look at the activities**.
3. Bring them together to **decide which workshop(s) or performance(s) are a priority for you**.
4. Here are some questions you might want to ask the group. It's also a good idea to send the prompts when you encourage neighbors to look through the activities:
 - Which looks like it will be the most fun to you?
 - Which do you think will attract the most neighbors to participate?
 - Which can you most clearly imagine our neighborhood presenting?
 - Which feels like an authentic fit for our neighborhood?



- Which best advances our current goals? (Note: Not sure what your current goals as a neighborhood are? That's a great conversation to have! You might want to take the time now to step back and have it. Check out the tools on the next page, and invite one of our free facilitators to help you have the conversation!)
5. Request your selection(s) online at **RoanokeArts.org/Neighbors**. You can select more than one activity to take place at a larger event like a block party, or you can request individual workshops or performances that will happen on different days throughout the year.
 6. We'll work hard to fill all requests that we can. Of course, it will depend on artist and funding availability. In some cases, we'll reach out to you with some potential alternatives.
 7. Once we connect you with the artist and our coaching and facilitation staff, you can take the next steps in planning!

The Arts Connect Neighbors Process

Lead Time

We encourage neighbors to **get together early** to make the most of this opportunity. Earlier is better! Remember that our artists may have calendars that fill up quickly, so if you really want an activity, get together with your neighbors and reach out to us soon to get a date set.

At a minimum, please request an activity at least one month in advance. Again, there's no reason not to get on the books early. If you know your annual neighborhood fall festival is the first week in October, lock in that oompah band now. (There's actually no oompah band in the catalog, but we're hoping for one next year! Hear that, tuba players?)

Selection

We will work to use our resources to support as many requests as we can, but not every request will be funded. A selection panel will review the requests for:

- *potential impact,*
- *overall diversity of investments, and*
- *likelihood of successful implementation by the neighborhood team.*

Application

The simple online application will start the conversation, asking for information such as:

- *Neighborhood*
- *Neighborhood Organization Name*
- *Names of at least eight neighbors supporting the project (if not led by an active neighborhood organization)*
- *Primary contact name and contact information*
- *Requested art activity: first choice, second choice, and third choice*
- *Aligned event name (if any)*
- *Desired date (if known)*
- *Specific location (if known)*
- *Why you want to do the activity. What neighborhood goals do you hope to meet?*

Geography

It's important that we engage across the entire city. We are building a welcoming and inclusive city to which we all belong.

To reach every part of the city, we'll encourage established and emerging neighborhood organizations by attending regular meetings and by trying to get the information in the hands of as many people as possible.

As artists are matched with neighborhoods and grant dollars are set aside, we may have to put some requests on hold in order to ensure that the investments reach all parts of the city. We'll slow things down to give every neighborhood a chance to experience new connections through the arts.

Our Neighborhood Art Performances and Workshops

Fun choices and great benefits! Many of the workshops and performances can help you meet multiple neighborhood goals.

Here are just some of the many benefits of including the arts and humanities in your neighborhood efforts:

- *Connect a diverse group of neighbors*
- *Build a stronger team*
- *Celebrate the neighborhood*
- *Foster a healthier neighborhood*
- *Improve neighborhood appearance*
- *Strengthen the local economy*
- *Provide lifelong learning opportunities*
- *Engage and empower youth*
- *Create a more just and equitable community*
- *Help us address important community challenges*

Please don't underestimate the benefits of just getting people together. Laughing together has its own power!

We've used the simplest way we can think of to categorize the activities—by what your neighborhood will do in the workshop or performance: **Enjoy a Performance, Learn, Create, Explore, Move,** and **Parade.**

A quick note to remember as you are browsing this catalog:

All activity offerings in this catalog are **FREE** to neighborhoods. The "value" listed for each is the price paid by the City of Roanoke, determined by the artists. This price also gives an idea of how much an activity may cost for hire.

Activity requests for organizations, congregations, businesses and civic clubs with neighborhood connections may still be eligible for funding. Other activities may be eligible for partial funding, or the organizer can directly pay the artist.

We can share an appreciation for the arts and **enjoy a performance together.**



Be wowed, or maybe be part of the show, in these interactive performances!

CommUnity ArtsReach
See page 15 for an activity with this artist.



ID#: UWRP

Afro-Cuban Performance & Mini Dance Workshop: Bring the Beat to Your Backyard!

Jstop Latin Soul | jstoplatinsoul.com

Experience the infectious energy of Afro-Cuban music in an engaging and intimate format. Jstop Latin Soul, performing as a five- or six-piece ensemble, delivers a lively 90-minute set that blends traditional Cuban rhythms with a modern soul-jazz twist. The event begins with a short interactive dance demo—covering salsa and basic rumba, followed by a performance designed to connect people through rhythm and movement.

PARTICIPANTS 30 and up **AGES** All **VALUE** \$1,000

REQUIREMENTS Please provide access to electricity and at least a 10' x 10' covered performance area. A sound person and sound equipment are required and can be provided by the band for an additional charge, if needed.



ID#: CLPW

Neighborhood Open Mic: Connect your Neighbors with Joy!

Joy Tru | joytru.com

In this 90- to 150- minute event, singer/songwriter and songleader Joy Tru brings a fun and friendly open mic night to your neighborhood, where you and your neighbors can listen, watch, and perform (if you want to!) for your community. Anything goes: sing a song, recite a poem, tell a joke, perform a skit, do a little dance, lip sync to your favorite song, or do anything else you can imagine. Here's your opportunity to shine, learn about each other and connect.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 50 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$500

REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor space or sheltered outdoor space with chairs and access to electricity.





ID#: TPIQ

Aerial POPS! (Power of Public Spectacle)

Cirqlution Aerial Arts & Acrobatics | cirqlution.com

Harness the power of public spectacle with Cirqlution Aerial & Acrobatics! Draw curious gazes and activate public spaces in your neighborhood. Cirqlution will bring a portable aerial rig and create interactive performances featuring internationally renowned talent. Each performance is unique, and concepts are developed collaboratively with community partners. In the spirit of placemaking, Cirqlution aims to breathe life into local spaces, transforming them into vibrant hubs of creativity and connection.

PARTICIPANTS 20 to 1,500 audience members **AGES** All
VALUE \$1,500 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide a level, 20-foot-by-20-foot space for a portable aerial rig outdoors or indoors. Minimum indoor ceiling height is 20 feet.
Scan the QR code for additional information.



ID#: HIYQ

Creative Community Story Time: Interactive, Engaging Story Time for All Ages

Misty Dawn's Entertagement
mistydawnsentertagement.square.site

Community storyteller Misty Dawn captures your imagination, engages your funny bone, and revives your spirit through a 90-minute story time engagement. Get to know your neighbors and learn important skills in communicating and community building.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$150
REQUIREMENTS Please provide adequate space, lighting, and seating indoors or outdoors in good weather.



ID#: BPSL

Dr. Burrell and His Amazing Horse, Pillbox: Experience Roanoke History in an Old-Style Crankie Performance

One World Arts/Artists-in-Residence Collaboration
youtube.com/@JaneGabrielle

In this 60-minute engagement, witness the interactive story of Dr. Isaac Burrell, his namesake hospital and the African-American Hospital Movement. Be dazzled by Mike Moran, The Puppet Playing Goatsinger, as he interacts with "Pillbox," Dr. Burrell's amazing horse, who narrates. Learn local history and be invited to tell a story from YOUR neighborhood.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 25 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$300
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor gathering space with a table, chairs and electricity. A community room in a church, library or museum is ideal.



ID#: GQKZ

A Music Performance by CommUnity ArtsReach

CommUnity ArtsReach
facebook.com/CommUnityArtsReach

Are you planning a block party or holiday event? CommUnity ArtsReach stage performers can meet your needs with exciting music by youth and adult members. Delight your neighborhood audiences with a performance by CommUnity ArtsReach singers and musicians directed by Bernadette (BJ) Lark. CommUnity ArtsReach is a nonprofit organization providing instruction and opportunities to young performing artists in Roanoke.

PARTICIPANTS 20 to 200 audience members
AGES All **VALUE** \$700 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide a stage area with sound equipment, electric hook-ups, and a sound board operator. *Scan the QR code for additional information.*





ID#: ODBC

Classic Strings Duo: A Concert and Violin Petting Zoo

Roanoke Symphony Orchestra
rso.com/classic-strings-duo

In this 90-minute program, members of the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra will perform music from around the world as they discuss what makes folk and classical music different and how sounds are produced on stringed instruments. An instrument “petting zoo” with violins of all sizes allows every member of the audience to hold and play the violin!



ID#: EVXH

Y(our) Mental Health: An Educational Dance Production

Mental Health in Motion | mentalhealthinmotion.org

Mental Health in Motion works with you to create a unique dance production for your neighborhood to celebrate local voices, uplift the community, and learn together. Through movement, storytelling, and reflection, audience members not only learn about important mental and social health themes but also witness their complexities played out in a dynamic, immersive performance. This holistic approach fosters self-awareness, empathy, and community bonds. Interactive elements can be included to further engage participants.

PARTICIPANTS Five to 500 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$800
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a protected space indoors or outdoors with sound amplification for larger groups.



PARTICIPANTS 20+ **AGES** All **VALUE** \$750 and up
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a flat, indoor or outdoor, 16' x 20' performance surface and audience seating.



ID#: VBZI

The Neighborhood that Plays Together: Laugh a Lot with Kyle Edgell

Kyle Edgell Caricatures | kyleedgell.com

In the process of watching amazing caricatures being created, participants will learn how to build positive emotions through improvisation, art and laughter. The focus will be on engagement, trust, creativity and laughter. Listening is a must for both the model and the spectators, as is the willingness to support, encourage and cheer each other.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 150 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$375
REQUIREMENTS Please provide three chairs, access to electricity, and a tent if outside.



ID#: FPNK

The Sounds of Elegance and Grace: Music from the Courts of 18th-Century Europe

Roanoke Baroque | roanokebaroque.org

Host an hour-long, narrated musical performance with the artists of the Roanoke Baroque Chamber Orchestra. This engaging encounter will include a string trio or quartet sharing the graceful, lively and soulful music of composers such as J.S.Bach, Handel, Vivaldi, and others, along with stories behind the music, the instruments and the world of the composers. Neighbors will be drawn into this age of elegance and beauty.

PARTICIPANTS 20 to 100 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$1,000
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor setting or an element-protected outdoor space. Four armless chairs and a 12' x 12' space for the musicians are needed.





ID#: IUEM

The Magnificent Lefty: Magician and Professional Freakshow

Busk Roanoke | buskroanoke.org

Let Roanoke's first full-time street performer, Jefferson Rose, a.k.a. The Magnificent Lefty, help you turn a gathering into an event with amazing amusements. Work with the Magnificent Lefty to provide a complete show or mix entertaining elements to keep your neighbors on their toes or in their seats. Bring the block together in a circle as Jefferson does magic, swallows a sword, and escapes from a jacket, or work with Jefferson to deliver important messages to connect your neighbors in creative ways.

PARTICIPANTS 30 and up **AGES** All **VALUE** \$500
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a simple space for the audience to gather around the performer. Stage performances are possible.



ID#: FURU

5-Minute Portrait Booth: Can YOU Sit Still for Five Minutes?

LV5MinutePortraits | [instagram.com/portraits_lv](https://www.instagram.com/portraits_lv)

Welcome artist Laura Vahlberg for a two-hour session of five-minute portraits of your neighbors. The portraits can serve as a time to pose with, and connect to, a dear neighbor—or a new acquaintance. Together they can form the basis of a neighborhood gallery show or celebrate a neighborhood event or milestone. The possibilities are endless! In two hours, expect the artist to make around 22 portraits.

PARTICIPANTS 30 to 1,000 participants **AGES** All
VALUE \$400 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide at least six square feet of flat floor space, either outdoors or indoors. If it's a nighttime event, please provide access to electricity for lighting. *Scan the QR code for additional information.*



ID#: BJHR

Pop-Up Puppet Show and Make-Your-Own Puppet Workshop

Katherine Devine Studios | katherinedevine.com

Connect your neighbors with the timeless magic of puppets in this two-hour interactive puppet show with puppets designed and created by artist Katherine Devine. Enjoy a puppet performance, a short singalong, and then head over to the workshop table and create your own simple puppet (or two!) with materials provided. The neighbors will be sure to laugh together and remember this joyful event!

PARTICIPANTS Six to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$600
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a table and chairs for the puppet workshop and about six square feet for the pop-up cardboard puppet theatre and props.



Connecting Neighbors — Building Community

Thank you to the neighborhood leaders, partners, and artists who have helped us deliver more than 100 art activities in two dozen neighborhoods across the Star City with important impacts. *Arts Connect Neighbors* has resulted in pivotal outcomes, including:

Neighborhood Vibrancy

We've filled parks, libraries, church halls, parking lots, city blocks, and front yards with the sounds of connection and the colors of our community.

Local Investment

We've put more than \$190,000 to work connecting us in our neighborhoods. That's money in the tills of local businesses, including our independent artists and arts organizations.

Neighborhood Capacity

Emerging leaders and longstanding organizations are bringing neighbors together in positive ways that are unique to the neighborhood and inspire fun. As neighbors work together, they're building relationships and civic muscle, resources they'll draw on in times of emergency and in caring for one another.

and most importantly, Individual Agency

There are infinite ways to build community in your neighborhood, and no one can do it like you. Let us know how our facilitators and artists can help by selecting an activity or reaching out today.

You can do this; we can do this, together.
Let's get started on your next neighborhood goal.

We unite in our neighborhoods to share knowledge, celebrate differences, and **learn together.**



While residents will learn together in any of these activities, these workshops have a focus on gaining a new skill or information.

The Beat Goes On
See pages 23 and 36 for activities with this artist.



ID#: FHNH

Elevate Your Teamwork: **Cirquation Teambuilding Workshop** **Cirquation** | cirquation.com

Provide your neighborhood team with a dynamic and engaging 60-minute workshop designed to build trust, communication, and collaboration through the art of acrobatics! In this interactive session, participants of all abilities will explore the basics of partner and group acrobatics in a supportive, fun, and inclusive environment.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 30 **AGES** 12+ **VALUE** \$500
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a space indoors or outdoors in good weather.



ID#: ZOXE

A Little Sewing Workshop: **Pillow Making with Neighbors** **Sewing with Rita** | mitchellsherita@gmail.com

In this workshop, participants will get an introduction to sewing and learn how to make pillows! We'll bring the fabric, sewing materials, and everything you need—you bring your curiosity, creativity and willingness to learn alongside neighbors!

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 15 individuals or more with duos working together. **AGES** 12+ **VALUE** \$750
REQUIREMENTS Please provide space indoors with ample electricity and tables. If you have sewing materials, feel free to bring them!





ID#: WGGH

UKESTRA: Join the Musical Fun of the Adult Ukulele Orchestra - All Skill Levels Welcome!

UKESTRA | facebook.com/UKESTRA22

A five-week music course held in your neighborhood, these hour-long classes are designed for adults with limited-to-no musical experience and led by ukulele enthusiast Simone Paterson. UKESTRA provides a stress-free, non-judgmental environment in which members learn to play the ukulele and popular songs while exploring basic music principles. Five loaner ukuleles will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for the term of the classes.

PARTICIPANTS Five to 15 adult participants, provided that at least 10 people have their own ukuleles. **AGES** Adults **VALUE** \$2,000 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide an indoor space with chairs for two hours for each session. *Scan the QR code for additional information.*



ID#: YCJM

Repairing Is Caring: A Sewing Alterations and Mending Workshop
Kreated by Kurrai

In this 90-minute workshop, you will learn hand stitching and machine techniques to mend or alter your own clothing. Participants will repair holes, lengthen or shorten a sleeve, and change a neckline on a garment. Techniques learned can be applied to other garments. And, who knows, you might even decide to set up regular neighborhood clothing repair events.

PARTICIPANTS Six to eight individuals or pairs of people **AGES** 12+ **VALUE** \$600 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide table space, chairs, and electricity for eight sewing machines and a small workspace beside the machines for ironing.



ID#: JOZU

The Puppet Playing Goatsinger: A Family-Based Puppetry Workshop
The Iowa Goatsinger | goatsinger.com

Grab the neighborhood kids, a handful of plushy toys or puppets, or whatever is in easy reach, and meet and work with resident goatsinger Mike Moran. In this 90-minute workshop play session, the neighborhood group will create a series of small, unique, toy-based performances that will incorporate puppetry and music. Small theatre pieces are an effective way to teach young people what it means to follow through and to give them an authentic sense of accomplishment at the close. Nothing feels quite like taking bows after a fun show!

PARTICIPANTS Eight to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$300 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide an indoor gathering space with a few tables. A community room in a church, community center, local business, or library will work well.



ID#: AIXA

Power Through Drumming: Reclaiming Women's History
The Beat Goes On | facebook.com/BGORoanokeValley

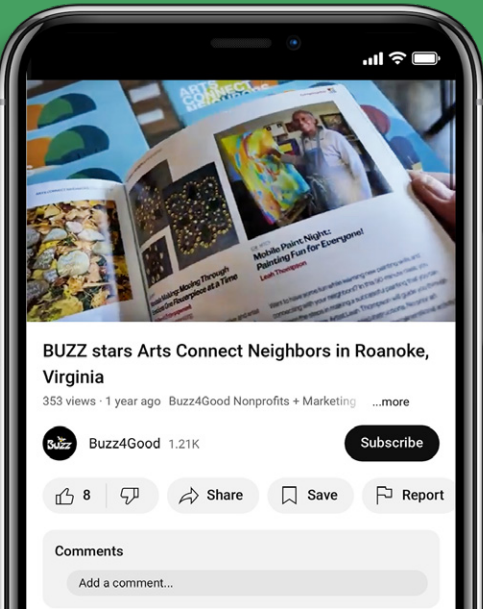
In this 90-minute workshop, percussionist Linda Macchia will share her knowledge of the frame drum. As a drum student of the late Layne Redmond, author of the book *When the Drummers Were Women*, Linda will teach the techniques and history of the pre-Christian era women of the Mediterranean and Western Asia. Frame drum circles, rituals and songs bring women back to their ancestry and spiritual power.

PARTICIPANTS Five to 20 **AGES** 8+ **VALUE** \$200 **REQUIREMENTS** Indoors or outdoors, weather permitting, and chairs set up in a circle.





Scan the QR code to take a look behind the scenes on the development of Arts Connect Neighbors in a special *Buzz4Good* episode.



ID#: MVTD
Star City Circus Society:
Introduction to Juggling
Busk Roanoke | buskroanoke.org

Explore new skills alongside neighbors in this 90-minute workshop with nationally touring magician and circus artist Jefferson Rose. Together, participants will learn the basics of juggling, object manipulation, and other circus skills in a low-pressure, high-energy environment to impress your family, neighbors, and yourself! You may not be quite ready to juggle three objects by the end of this workshop, but you'll be re-inspired by the joy of learning and laughing.

PARTICIPANTS Five to 15 **AGES** 9+ **VALUE** \$300
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a space (outdoors preferred, or indoors with 12' ceilings with no fragile fixtures) with an 8' distance between participants.



ID#: LWNQ
From Snoopy to Spider-Man: Draw Your Own Cartoon Character or Superhero
Katherine Devine Studios | katherinedevine.com

Comics and graphic novels connect us all through our shared visual history and culture. This two-hour workshop is a chance to connect families in your neighborhood as they bring to life superheroes or fun characters of their own. Artist Katherine Devine will lead the workshop in basic drawing tips and techniques to discover your own style to tell your story. She will demonstrate how to use easy-to-find materials that will keep the neighborhood sketching, creating and connecting through graphic imagery.

PARTICIPANTS Six to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$400
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an inside space with tables, chairs, and adequate lighting for a drawing workshop.



ID#: OMDT
Meditate and Create:
Energize the Vision
Radiance Wellbeing at A Touch of Comfort
a-touchofcomfort.com

Would you like to feel more connected to your neighbors and community? What would you like to create in your neighborhood? The Meditate and Create workshop is about the art of slowing down, sitting and breathing, and creating the space to liberate that creative vision from a broader perspective. Learning the simple steps in the art of meditation allows you to access a sense of peace and being a part of the whole, which promotes feelings of belonging and connecting to something bigger than ourselves. Good things happen then.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 20 **AGES** 8+ **VALUE** \$200
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an inside space large enough for participants to walk in a circle and enough chairs for participants. We can also go outside for the walking meditation, in a natural area without traffic.





ID#: OHDF

Music and the Mind

Roanoke Symphony Orchestra | rso.com

In this 60-minute workshop, Roanoke Symphony Orchestra musicians will demonstrate ways to engage the mind through music. Studies have shown that music can have a profound impact on brain development at all ages and help create unity within our homes, families, and neighborhoods. Participants will learn simple techniques that can be replicated at home, including ways to engage in music for the cognitive development of children, stress relief, and memory care. This engagement will include an interactive musical performance and discussion about the skills and activities you can share with loved ones at home. Come and learn ways to experience music at the next level!

PARTICIPANTS 12+ (space dependent) **AGES** All
VALUE \$700 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide a space for performance and three chairs for musicians. The performance can be inside or outside, but inside is preferable. If outside, an indoor back-up plan is needed in case of inclement weather.



ID#: PIQE

Poe Mack's Hip Hoponomics

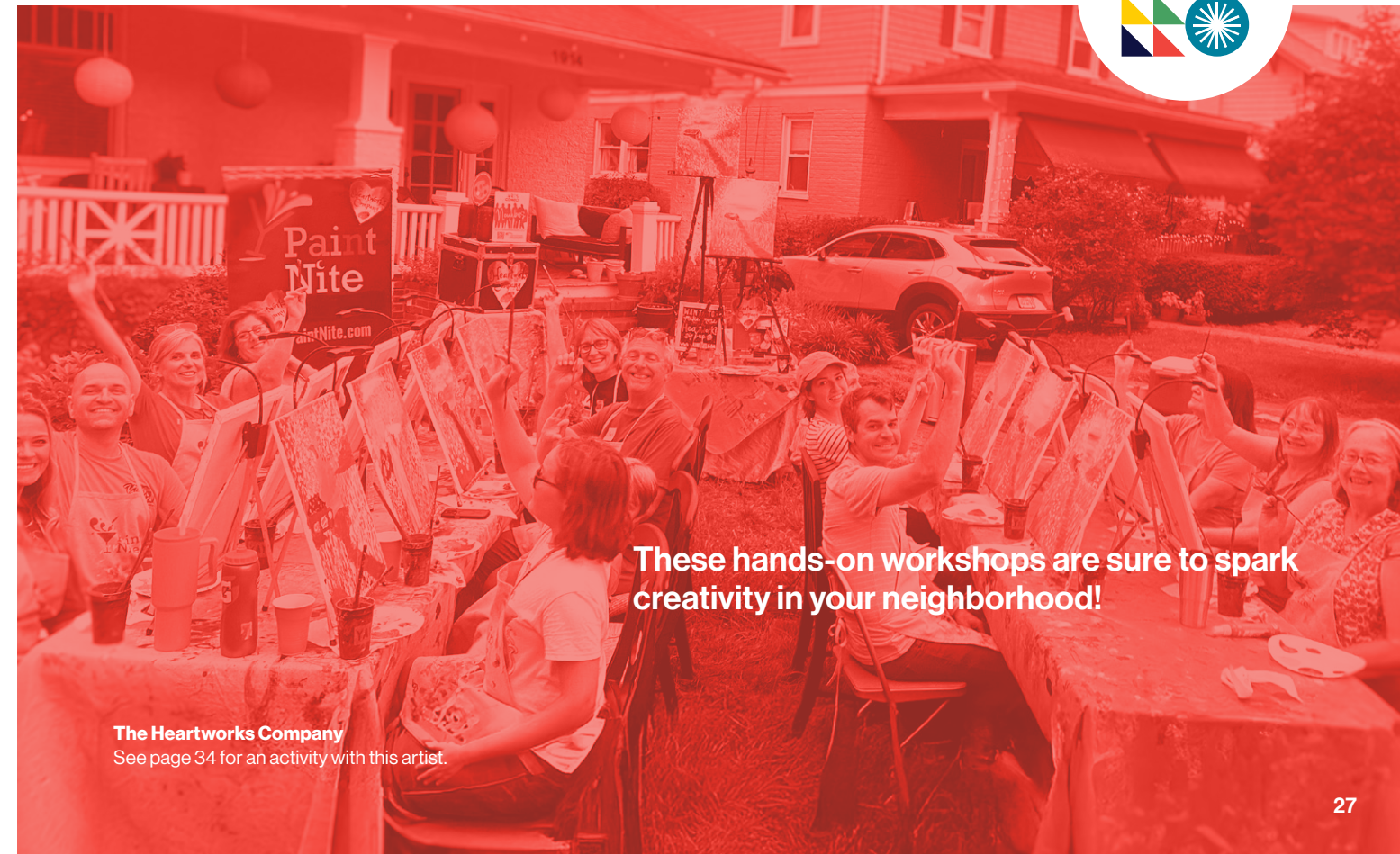
Poe Mack, Flat Five Studio | instagram.com/poemack

Provide your neighborhood with a 2-hour session with Poe Mack! In this educational performance, the artist will instruct on aspects of music production, performance and marketing. Connect your neighbors in this musical exploration of creativity.

PARTICIPANTS 30 to 50 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$600
REQUIREMENTS Please provide electricity and tables in an indoor or covered outdoor space.



We can build a stronger community when we create together.



These hands-on workshops are sure to spark creativity in your neighborhood!

The Heartworks Company
 See page 34 for an activity with this artist.



ID#: VWRC

Sing Out! An Interactive Circlesinging and Body Music Experience

Star City Circlesinging
[youtube.com/@starcitycirclesinging](https://www.youtube.com/@starcitycirclesinging)

Get the neighborhood singing! Through activities that involve movement, voice, body percussion, play, and improvisation, experienced song leaders Joy Truskowski and Katie Trozzo will create space for you to open your voice, spirit, heart, and body. Together, we'll strengthen neighborhood bonds, build confidence, and express your creativity. You don't have to be a "singer" to participate. You only need to be your beautiful living, breathing self. All are welcome in this 60-minute interactive workshop.

PARTICIPANTS Eight to 30 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$300
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an open space that allows for movement and that has chairs available for people when they would like to sit down. We can be inside or outside, depending on the weather.



ID#: VEPO

Kindness Stones: Show Kindness, Share Happiness

One World Arts | [youtube.com/@JaneGabrielle](https://www.youtube.com/@JaneGabrielle)

Studies show that kindness from your neighbor is the best predictor of happiness and satisfaction with your neighborhood. Exercise your neighborhood's kindness muscles with this 2-hour workshop with artist Jane Gabrielle. Participants will be guided in painting small stones with encouraging words. Each session starts with a mindfulness practice that focuses on holding or carrying something from the natural world to feel better connected to the Earth and our ancestors.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$250
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor or shaded outdoor location.



ID#: WRLU

Blue Bird Notes: Papier-Mâché Bird Ornaments for Your Neighborhood

Daisy Art Parade | [StudioArticulo.com](https://www.studioarticulo.com)

In this 90-minute workshop, we'll create small papier-mâché bird ornaments to paint and place around your neighborhood, like eggs in an Easter egg hunt. Each long-lasting bird will be inscribed with a word of positivity or a community-focused message. Your neighborhood can receive regional attention for years by promoting this art-based treasure hunt!

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$500
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a workshop space in your community with tables and a sink, such as a library or church hall.



ID#: BCNK

Colorful Quotables: Inspire and Connect with Artful Words

WordLineStory | [christinanifong.com](https://www.christinanifong.com)

What are your favorite words to live by? What phrases inspire? Writer Christina Nifong will provide a wide range of famous quotes accessible to all ages, from Dr. Seuss to Maya Angelou, Mark Twain, and Glennon Doyle. Or participants can pen their own favorite quotes. After neighbors choose quotes, they can decorate them with markers or colored pencils, then mount each on a mat board, creating a beautiful wall hanging to take home or share with others.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$250
REQUIREMENTS Please provide three tables and eight to 10 chairs inside or outside.





ID#: GRGK

Hair Art Masterclass

Marlee Coles | hairfirmations.com

Gather neighbors for a fun, three-hour event with hair artist Marlee Coles. Explore hair as a creative medium and celebrate the rich hair history of our community. Using hair extensions, braiding hair, and weave bundles in various textures and colors, participants will collaboratively create works of art. Whether experienced in braiding and styling or not, everyone is welcome to join in the fun and express their individual creativity! Wall hangings and freeform sculptures will be made using the hair materials along with other craft supplies. No special skills are required—just imagination! Together we'll celebrate the diverse beauty within our community through this inclusive art experience.

PARTICIPANTS Eight to 20 **AGES** 13+ **VALUE** \$1,000

REQUIREMENTS Please provide an inside venue with plenty of work space and electricity for glue guns.



ID#: VPVQ

Neighborhood Footsteps: Create Your Neighborhood Path

One World Arts | youtube.com/@JaneGabrielle

Is there a spot in your neighborhood that could use a footpath? Is there an elder who could use a path, or a garden space that calls for a pathway? In this 2-hour workshop, artist Jane Gabrielle will walk through the process of making stepping stones decorated with handprints and colored stones. This workshop is a great way to break the ice and start collaboration. Participants will be encouraged to choose with intention the colored stones that represent neighborhood values like kindness, respect, generosity, and more.

PARTICIPANTS Five to 10 to produce 10 stones

AGES All **VALUE** \$750 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide an outdoor space with access to water to mix the concrete and pour the stepping stones. *Scan the QR code for additional information.*



ID#: RQRP

Free Little Art Gallery: Make Art, Leave Art, Take Art!

Art Invasion | instagram.com/skydivingartist

The Free Little Art Gallery (FLAG) is a free miniature art gallery modeled after the Free Little Library. Visitors can bring artwork to leave on display, take artwork that inspires them, or just come enjoy what's on display in the gallery. The FLAG is not only for the display of work, but also for the free exchange of art and creativity, ensuring these things are accessible for all members of your neighborhood.

PARTICIPANTS Unlimited **AGES** All **VALUE** \$800

REQUIREMENTS A leadership group of three to five people is required to get the FLAG started. *Scan the QR code for additional information.*



ID#: BSNA

Neighborhood Paint Class: Create Neighborhood Energy Through Art

Megan Scott Scripps | meganscottscripps.com

Artist Megan Scott Scripps will guide you through a creative paint class that just might be the spark for a larger neighborhood project. Perhaps you'll want to create a chalk mural of one of the final paintings, or hold an auction of work to raise money for the neighborhood goals. Start by getting neighbors together to paint, and see where it goes!

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 20 **AGES** 8 and up **VALUE** \$500

REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor space with tables and access to a sink.





ID#: RHPK
Piecing Together the Neighborhood: Mosaic House Sign Workshop
Willow Pine Studio | willowpinestudio.com

Connect neighbors along your street or in your building by creating unique art that can display unity and a sense of neighborhood pride. In this workshop by Lynn Donihe of Willow Pine Studio, up to 40 households can gather to create their own mosaic wall hangings. These could be house numbers, neighborhood logos, something the family loves about the neighborhood, or even abstract works.

PARTICIPANTS 15 to 40 families **AGES** 8+
VALUE \$1,500 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide tables, chairs, an indoor or shady outdoor space, and the assistance of a small team in preparing materials with the artist before the workshop.



ID#: LLSY
Chalkways to Hope: Magnifying Love of Place
One World Arts | youtube.com/@janegabrielle

Join award-winning neighborhood artist Jane Gabrielle in "chalking up" your neighborhood. This two-hour sidewalk chalk art activity engages all ages using storytelling and neighborhood pride. Participants are encouraged to envision "what gives you hope" and to amplify what is loved about their neighborhood.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 30 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$300
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a shaded or tented outdoor area as part of a larger appropriate event.



ID#: SRPM
Finding the Magic: Introduction to Magic with Household Objects
Busk Roanoke | buskroanoke.org

In this 90-minute, hands-on crafting session, internationally touring magician Jefferson Rose will teach basics of magic, sleight of hand, misdirection, and more with simple, common household items! No expensive magic kit needed! Paper bags, coins, playing cards, rubber bands, etc., can be used to amaze and amuse you and yours for hours! Learn how to make and use the props all in one go!

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 16 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$300
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor space (preferable) or sheltered outdoor space with enough seated table space for everyone to do simple arts and crafts (minor cutting or gluing).



ID#: MTCY
Mobile Paint Night: Painting Fun for Everyone!
Leah Thompson

Want to have some fun while learning new painting skills and connecting with your neighbors? In this 90-minute class, you will learn the steps in making a successful painting that you can hang in your home. Artist Leah Thompson will guide you through demonstration and step-by-step instructions. No prior art experience is needed, and it's a great intergenerational activity for ages 9 and up.

PARTICIPANTS Nine to 17 **AGES** 9+ **VALUE** \$500
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a room with tables, chairs and a sink.



ID#: RGSW

Ignite Your Light: The Candle Pouring Workshop You Never Knew You Needed!

Empressherstudio | [instagram.com/empressherstudio](https://www.instagram.com/empressherstudio)

In this 90-minute workshop, Roanoke creative, licensed mental-health professional, and candle maker Danielle Austin-Johnson will teach the basics of natural soy candle making. Through this interactive course, participants will connect with neighbors, applying the symbolism of mindfulness techniques, cognitive reframing and the importance of positive self-talk. The focus will be on pouring into yourself, affirming and creating a space within yourself to ignite your purpose while creating your own aromatherapy soy candle.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$1,200
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor space with access to water, electricity, and plenty of table space.



ID#: LGBZ

Painting 101 for EVERYONE: Creative Bliss Behind the Canvas

The Heartworks Company | theheartworkscompany.com

Tap into group creativity when hosting this painting workshop with Roanoke's original paint party instructor, Kaydee Pickle of The Heartworks Company. Participants will explore foundational painting techniques and color theory, each on their own canvas, during the 90- to 120-minute session. Attendees are guaranteed to gain a painting tip or two in this pARTy! After your neighborhood decides what it wants to paint, you'll enjoy a shared creative experience where leisure, laughter, and positivity are supreme.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$500
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a space with tables and chairs, either indoors or outdoors, such as a shelter in a neighborhood park. Electricity is preferred, but not required.



ID#: TUSR

Off the Cuff: An All-Ages Improv Adventure

Mill Mountain Theatre | millmountain.org

Get ready to laugh, think fast, and say "yes, and..." in this high-energy improv class designed for kids or adults (maybe even both)! Whether you're 8 or 80+, this class is all about creativity, connection, and comedy. No scripts, no pressure — just games, scenes, and spontaneous fun that builds confidence, sharpens minds, and brings people together. Perfect for your neighborhood board!

PARTICIPANTS Six to 20 **AGES** 8 and up **VALUE** \$200
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a space (indoor preferred) for the group to move and perform together.



ID#: DHLM

Raise Your Vibes: Create a Chakra Energy Mobile

Chakra Creativity Club | simonepaterson.com

In just 90 minutes, connect to your creative self and neighbors, crafting a high-vibe chakra mobile. Take a fun, meditative journey through the chakras, exploring their unique energies through color, texture, and meaningful materials. As you assemble your mobile, you'll set intentions and weave in positive energy, making it a personal symbol of balance and harmony. By the end, you'll have a beautiful, handcrafted piece to hang in your space — a daily reminder of your creativity, intuition, and the vibrant energy within you.

PARTICIPANTS Six to 20 **AGES** 12 and up **VALUE** \$500
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor space with tables and chairs.





ID#: OITM

Rhythm Connects and Heals: A Drum Workshop for Everyone!

The Beat Goes On | [facebook.com/BGORoanokeValley](https://www.facebook.com/BGORoanokeValley)

In this 90-minute workshop, percussionist Linda Macchia will teach the basics of drumming to get your neighborhood working in rhythm together. Community drumming is fun, it's inclusive, and it breaks down barriers. In a drum group, everyone is a winner, and everyone contributes to the complete sound.

PARTICIPANTS Six to 15 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$200
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a space for the drum circle. Inside is preferable but outside is also fine, weather permitting. Chairs for each attendee should be set up in a circle.



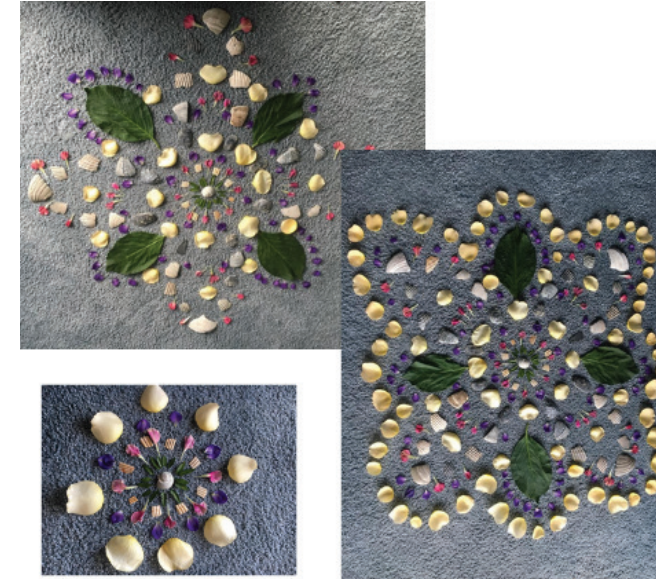
ID#: JRQD

Smash & Craft: Mini Piñata-Making Bash!

Expresionarte by Karina Martinez
[instagram.com/expresionartebykarinamartinez](https://www.instagram.com/expresionartebykarinamartinez)

Get ready to cut, glue, and decorate your way to party perfection! In this hands-on workshop, you'll learn the traditional (and not-so-traditional) art of a mini piñata-making. From shaping your piñata base to adding colorful tissue paper and creative designs, we'll guide you step by step. Whether you're crafting a classic donkey, a funky unicorn, or your favorite emoji, you'll leave with a handmade masterpiece ready to be filled with treats (or just admired for its awesomeness).

PARTICIPANTS Six to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$300
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a table and chairs indoors or outdoors.



ID#: MMST

Mandala Making: Moving Through Emotions One Flowerpiece at a Time

Misty Dawn's Entergagement
mistydawnsentergagement.square.site

In this 60- to 90-minute session, longtime social worker and artist Misty Dawn will teach a small lesson and engage neighbors in a collaborative activity. Participants will learn about the symbolism of shapes, mandalas, and how we process emotions. Together, the group will discuss the variety of seasonal materials used to make individual mandalas. We'll take pictures and join in a large-group, collaborative mandala-making session. Together, neighborhood residents will feel more care and connection and grow collaboration skills through the creative process.

PARTICIPANTS Three to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$200
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor or outdoor space with tables for individual work and enough floor space for the creation of a collaborative nature mandala.



ID#: NGUA

We CAN DRAW!: An Intro to Sketching from Life to Observe the Neighborhood

Polly Branch, Acorn Art | branchingarts.wordpress.com

Local artist and community friend Polly Branch guides this participatory drawing workshop to help your neighborhood see itself. The workshop focuses on making our mark on paper and contemplating how we see from our own points of view. Participants will interpret and record a moment, practicing new drawing skills. The workshop requires no previous experience or skill. Polly will provide basic sketching instruction, exercises, demonstration, and even supplies. Participants can explore alone or in a group conversation.

PARTICIPANTS Four to 20 **AGES** Teens and adults. Parents are welcome to attend with children over seven to help them focus. **VALUE** \$300 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide an outdoor area like a park with picnic benches, or bring chairs to make a circle. *Scan the QR code for additional information.*





ID#: HKVH

Sharing Our Pride: Strengthen Neighborhood Identity with a Branding Workshop

Robyn Mitchell | lovelightdesign.com

Want some swag for your neighborhood? You need Robyn on your team! Together, we'll come up with a neighborhood identity and T-shirt concept...this could be an image, a logo, or just a slogan. Next, we'll team up to print it together, creating up to 25 T-shirts.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 25 **AGES** 12+ **VALUE** \$1,000

REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor space with tables and seating.



ID#: EOPC

Block Printing with a Steamroller: Making a Neighborhood Image for a Steamroller Print Event

Brian Counihan | studioarticulo.com

In this 90-minute workshop, artist and educator Brian Counihan will guide a collaborative woodblock design project that can be printed as a giant banner-sized image using a steamroller as a press. In this workshop we'll collectively develop the visual content, consider how the banner can have a positive effect on the neighborhood, and think about how and where the banner-sized image can be displayed. Every neighborhood has something important to say, and banner-sized prints are loads of fun. They also draw lots of attention, especially when they're printed with a steamroller!

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$600

REQUIREMENTS Please provide a room with lots of table space, ideally with one or two big tables that everyone can gather around. Prepare to reach out to a wide range of voices from across the neighborhood.



ID#: KGBC

Textile Tales: Crafting with Upcycled Fabric

Jasmine Beane

Discover the art of storytelling through texture and color in this hands-on upcycled fabric collage workshop. Using reclaimed textiles, you'll learn creative collage techniques to transform scraps into stunning, one-of-a-kind artwork. No sewing skills needed—just a love for creativity and sustainability! All materials provided, but feel free to bring your own fabric treasures to personalize your piece. Come stitch, snip, and layer your way to eco-friendly art.

PARTICIPANTS Five to 15 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$250

REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor space and treasured fabrics for upcycling (optional).



ID#: WKBK

Unleash Your Inner Artist: Create, Share, Inspire!

Art Invasion | [instagram.com/skydivingartist](https://www.instagram.com/skydivingartist)

Join local artist Caroline Booth for a 90-minute community workshop where creativity knows no bounds! Dive into the world of art, and craft unique pieces to be showcased in local Free Little Art Galleries. This workshop is open to all ages, making it the perfect opportunity for families, friends, and individuals to connect with fellow art enthusiasts, share their talents, and inspire others in the community.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 50 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$400

REQUIREMENTS Please provide a shaded outdoor or indoor location, such as a neighborhood park shelter, library, or church.





ID#: DSFX

Mini Murals: Find Them All and Win a Prize!

Megan Scott Scripps | meganscottscripps.com

Get your neighborhood together for a scavenger hunt to remember. Artist Megan Scott Scripps paints realistically on a small scale, hiding paintings on any flat paintable surface. Those who find all the paintings can win a prize, and Megan will donate a piece of art for the contest. This is a wonderful way to get people engaging in the neighborhood art scene together and beautifying the area at the same time.

PARTICIPANTS 15 to 200 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$1,200

REQUIREMENTS Please provide paintable flat surfaces with property owner permission for the project.



ID#: XOKI

Fairy Fest: Build a Magical Community!

Molly Kernan | instagram.com/_mollymakesart_

Make connections with neighbors and tap into your creativity by building fairy houses. Artist Molly Kernan will guide participants in building unique fairy houses with foraged and recycled materials over the course of a four-hour workshop.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 25 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$350

REQUIREMENTS Please provide a table with space for a little creative mess and access to electricity inside or outside.



ID#: ZJKD

Weaving in Unity: Bringing Neighbors Together

Polly Branch, Acorn Art | branchingarts.wordpress.com

Transform a chain link fence into a work of art while connecting neighbors! Plan a series of days to weave and chat at a neighborhood fence. Polly will help you with the design, placement and weaving. Three hours is the minimum amount of time to get started. You will need to schedule additional time blocks with your participants, which may include 6-9 hours with the artist.

PARTICIPANTS Five to 50 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$600

REQUIREMENTS Provide access to a chain link fence and consider gathering neighborhood fabrics. The fence could be on visible private or public property with permission of the property owner.



ID#: ZVPC

The Neighborhood Scroll: A Crankie Portrait Project for All Ages

Brian Counihan | studioarticulo.com

In this 90-minute workshop, artist and educator Brian Counihan will introduce a storytelling art form rooted in Appalachian tradition. Crankies, or moving panoramas, are drawings or paintings that can be manually scrolled within a boxed “stage.” Participants will develop basic scripts, create imagery, and use their crafting skills to create a portrait of an important place, person, or event in the neighborhood. Future workshops can include making complete performance-ready crankies in a preferred media, such as quilting, collage or watercolors.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$600

REQUIREMENTS Please provide a room with lots of table space, ideally with one or two big tables that everyone can gather around. Prepare to reach out to a wide range of voices from across the neighborhood.

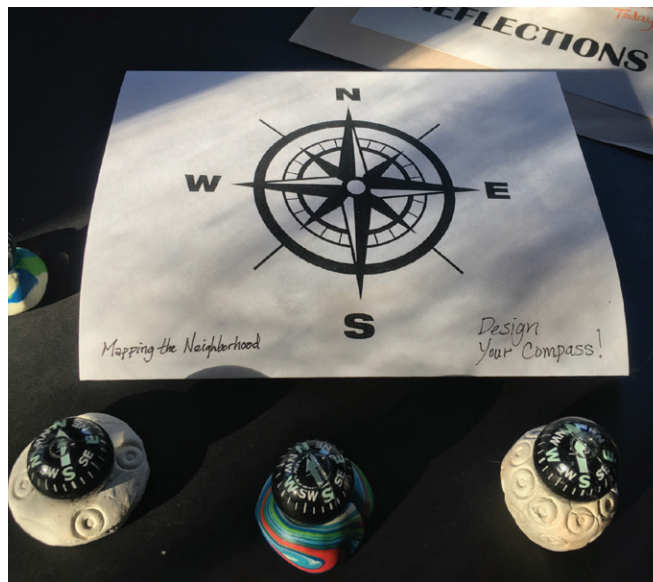


Our neighborhoods create the perfect backdrop for us to explore together.



Get out and explore the places and people around your neighborhood in these innovative projects.

Roanoke Photography Collective
See page 44 for an activity with this artist.



ID#: GOQH

Mapping the Neighborhood with Compasses, Maps and Fun Activities

Polly Branch, Acorn Art | branchingarts.wordpress.com

Bring neighbors together to explore the neighborhood from a new point of view in this two-hour workshop. Roanoke-born artist Polly Branch loves working with neighborhood groups. She'll share different kinds of maps to explore, engage participants in fun conversation prompts about creating maps, and host some activities using a compass that participants can decorate to take home. This is a great start for meeting each other and doing more together as a neighborhood!

PARTICIPANTS Four to 20 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$200
REQUIREMENTS Please provide an indoor space with tables and chairs for beginning and ending the mapping orientation activities. The group will also need an outdoor area to explore with compasses and maps. Supplies will be provided.



ID#: QALI

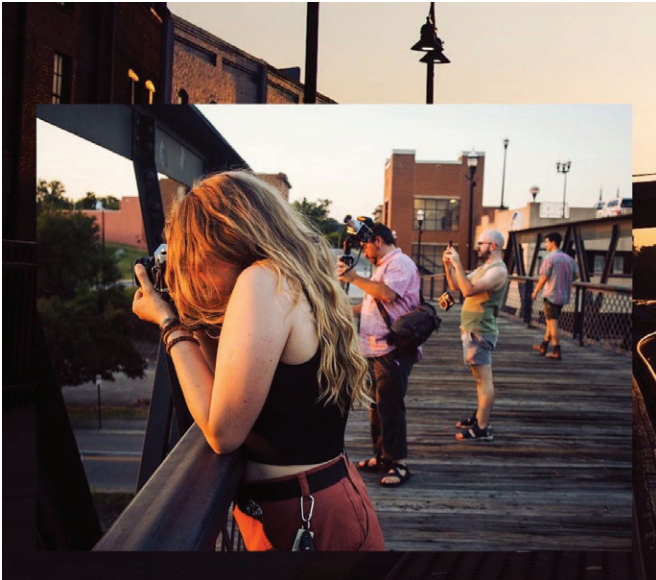
Star City VoiceBox: A Magical Mobile Storytelling Space

Star City VoiceBox

Star City VoiceBox will provide an innovative and interactive way to share and preserve stories from your neighborhood. Using thought-provoking prompts, two people (friends, neighbors, family, total strangers, etc.) will sit together in conversation. The VoiceBox will be a safe space designed to foster connection, empathy, and deep listening. The stories will then be recorded and archived, ultimately resulting in a rich tapestry showcasing the diverse life experiences of our community members.

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 50 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$500
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a quiet, dry, and welcoming space conducive to recording. Electricity will be needed.






ID#: PVQJ
Picture This: An All-Level Photography Workshop & Neighborhood Photo Walk
Roanoke Photography Collective
[instagram.com/roaphotocollective](https://www.instagram.com/roaphotocollective)

In this 90-minute workshop and photo walk, a Roanoke-based group of photographers will lead a 45-minute, all-level photography skill-building session focused on composition, light, and subject. That will be followed by a 45-minute group photo walk around the neighborhood with the group. The photographers will collaborate with the neighbors to develop a photo prompt based in the unique context and culture of the neighborhood. The focus will be on building community and creating connections. You may see your neighbors and neighborhood through a different lens!

PARTICIPANTS Three to 30 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$400

REQUIREMENTS Please provide a space where neighbors can gather and hear the workshop, preferably outside pending warm weather. *Scan the QR code for additional information.*




ID#: MIJY
Embroidered Memories
Roanoke History Museum | [roanokehistory.org](https://www.roanokehistory.org)

In this workshop with the Roanoke History Museum, bring neighbors together to embroider and embellish a photograph. It can be a cherished family photograph or a found photograph—one with no names, locations, or personal meanings. Learn the importance of preserving and labeling photographs while reminiscing and creating new memories in the process. Bring your own photograph to embroider, or use one of ours! The Roanoke History Museum will provide embroidery supplies and found photographs for the project.

PARTICIPANTS Five to 25 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$200

REQUIREMENTS Please provide a room with tables and chairs. All embroidery supplies will be provided by the Roanoke History Museum.

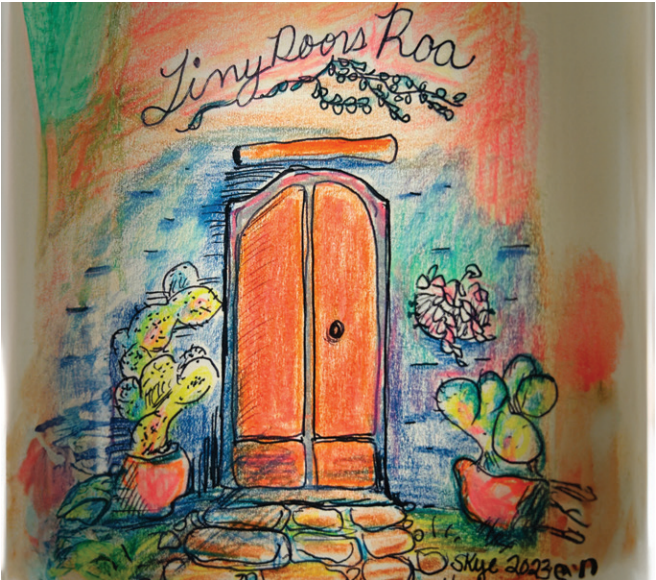



ID#: YULK
Enabling Creativity: A Poetry Workshop for Disabled Writers of All Experience Levels
Michelle Acker | [michelleackerwriter.com](https://www.michelleackerwriter.com)

In this 2-hour writing workshop, Roanoke poet Michelle Acker will guide participants through writing poetry based on their lived experiences of disability and chronic illness. Through a series of mini-lessons and writing exercises, participants will produce an original work of poetry to express how they relate to themselves and the people and spaces around them.

PARTICIPANTS Three to 10 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$300

REQUIREMENTS Please provide a fully accessible indoor space.




ID#: RLRH
Tiny Magic Doors: A Collaboration of Witty Wizards and Cheeky Goblins
Skye Hartwell

In this creative community project, join Skye Hartwell in the installation of five tiny doors in your neighborhood! Help set up these cute magical portals of fantasy. Create a miniature setting on 5 separate sites with a tiny door at each using tools and paints. Neighbors will pick and choose miniature outdoor accents and modify them while listening to each other and engaging together. The neighborhood is invited to dream big, sprinkle that pixie dust, and invite art in your part of town!

PARTICIPANTS Unlimited - with three to 10 adults to serve as the development team. **AGES** All **VALUE** \$500

REQUIREMENTS Please consider potential sites for these tiny doors in your neighborhood, such as retaining walls, on sides of buildings or houses in well-trafficked parts of the neighborhood. *Scan the QR code for additional information.*





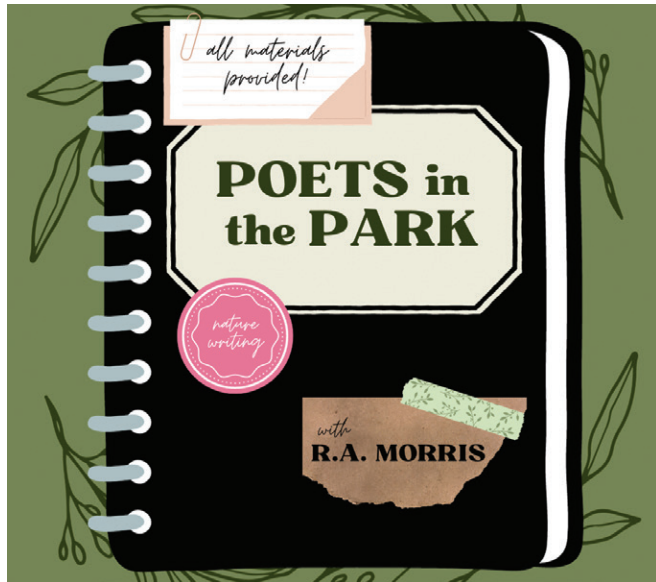
ID#: XYPW

Roanoke Neighborhood Tours

Roanoke History Museum | roanokehistory.org

In partnership with the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation, the Roanoke History Museum invites your neighbors on an architectural history tour of your neighborhood! In this 30- to 60-minute walking or driving tour of Roanoke's earliest neighborhoods, you can take a step back in time and learn the stories behind some of the neighborhood's iconic buildings and storied homes. We'll highlight the architectural styles and the people who lived and worked in the area.

PARTICIPANTS Five to 15 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$500
REQUIREMENTS Please provide guidance as we shape this tour together. For walking tours, participants must be able to walk or roll at least a mile with a group. The tours will be rain or shine.



ID#: GLBA

Poets in the Park: An Introduction to Nature Writing

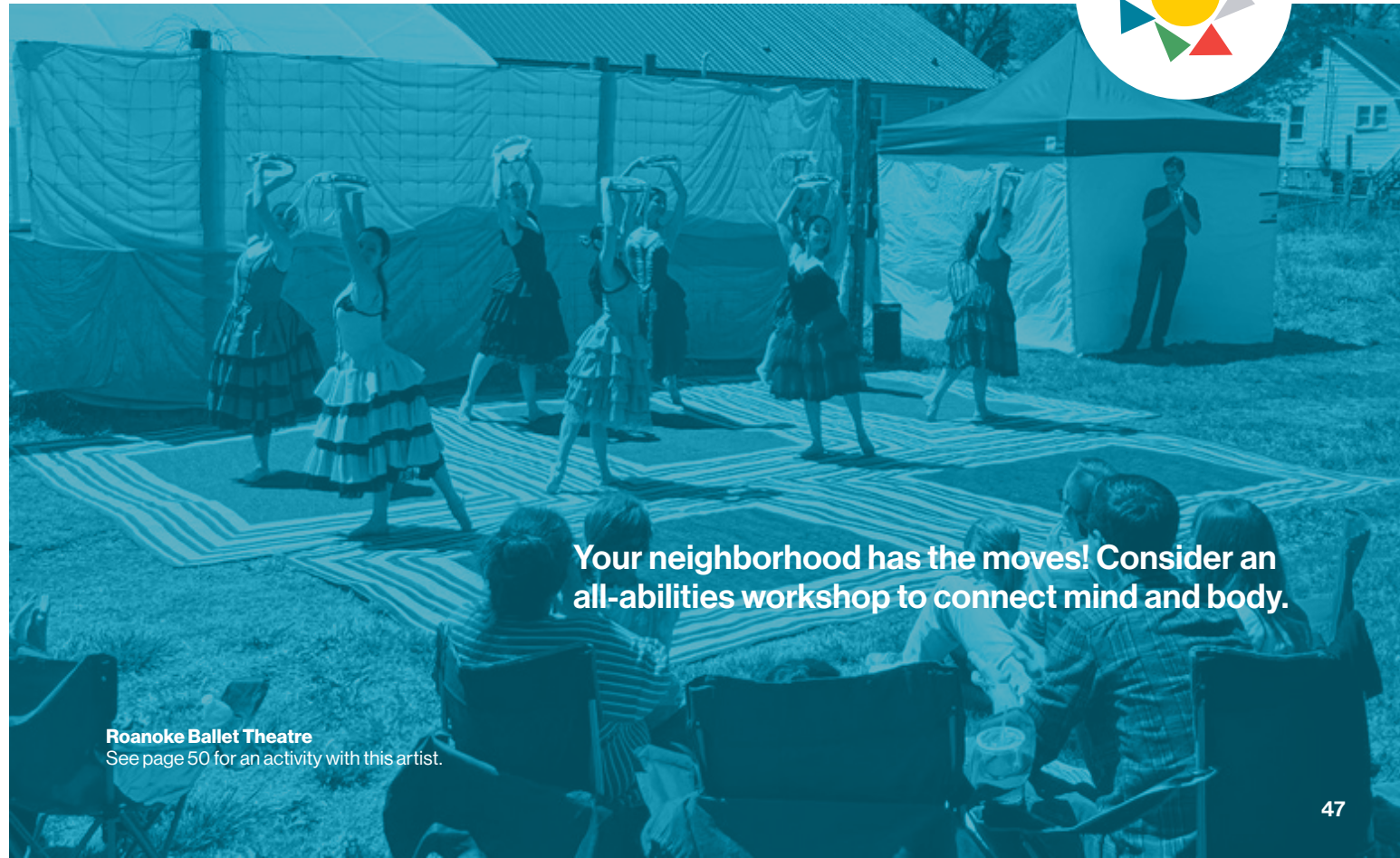
Rachel Anne Morris | [instagram.com/cairnradesign](https://www.instagram.com/cairnradesign)

Beginner and seasoned writers alike will gather in a neighborhood park for an hour of poetry inspired by the natural world of your neighborhood! In this hands-on workshop, local artist and writer R.A. Morris will provide instruction on how to use nature as inspiration for poetry. After a free-writing period, participants will regroup to share their work. Join us as we explore the neighborhood and the creative benefits of observation, meditation, and free-form creation. All that is required for participation is an open mind and a willingness to learn!

PARTICIPANTS Five to 15 adult participants, or 16+ youth
AGES 16+ **VALUE** \$300 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide an outdoor public space such as a neighborhood park along with chairs for participants.



Our collective energy and shared purpose shine when we **move together.**



Your neighborhood has the moves! Consider an all-abilities workshop to connect mind and body.

Roanoke Ballet Theatre
 See page 50 for an activity with this artist.



ID#: PRTQ

Step Into the Rhythm: Experience the Magic of Mexican Folklore Dance

Dream Dance Studio

dreamdancefit.com/quinceaneras/folklor-mexicano

Step together into the vibrant world of Mexican folklore dance in this 90-minute workshop! You'll explore the rich traditions, colorful artistry, and lively rhythms of Mexico's diverse regions. Whether you're a beginner or experienced, this class offers a welcoming space to connect with culture, build confidence, and embrace creativity while fostering teamwork and community. Don't miss this chance to dance, learn, and be part of something truly special in your neighborhood.

PARTICIPANTS 20 to 40 **AGES** 8+ for dancing, all ages as audience **VALUE** From \$750 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide a well-lit, indoor space with a firm floor, a good-quality sound system, water, and chairs for spectators.



ID#: QBOQ

Building Up Our Community: Creating Positive Spaces for Youth Through the Arts

Gwendalynn Payne | facebook.com/gwendalynn.payne

Work with artist Gwendalynn Payne to tailor a one- to two-hour youth event to celebrate and motivate the neighborhood through dance, art, and visioning.

PARTICIPANTS 15 to 20 **AGES** 8+ **VALUE** \$250 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide a space indoors or outdoors in good weather.



ID#: YUGY

You Belong in This Circle: Collective African Dance

Whole Person Haven | instagram.com/abri.d.oshun

This interactive 90-minute workshop with Abri d'Oshun will reflect the communal nature of ancestral West African dance traditions. We hope to welcome all generations to this people-inclusive event in your neighborhood, including diverse states of wellness and mobility, the entire gender spectrum, LGBTQIA+ friends, and every ancestry. Guests will be introduced to the legacy of 'circle' practice, and journey into the marriage of musical sounds and sights of the dance styles. We'll warm our bodies, loosen our spirits, learn traditional dance movements and synergize our creative expressions and enjoy the artful healing experience of collective West African-style dance!

PARTICIPANTS Eight to 45 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$400 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide a flat, low-cut grassy space, outside stage area, or a large community room with wooden floors. We'll need chairs, access to drinking water, and a Bluetooth speaker (or clip-on lapel mic and sound system for larger groups).



Need an Assembly Permit for your event?

If you're planning a block party in a park or street, you will need to apply for a **Public Assembly Permit** to make sure you can safely do it supported by City resources. Learn more and get started by scanning this QR code.





ID#: UYWK

Explore Freedom Together: Ready, Release, Restore

[Explore Freedom](#)

In this 90-minute somatic movement workshop, we will explore various types of movements with the emphasis on the awareness of our bodies. Participants will begin with a warmup and then move into three healing movements that can be done in combination or separately for grounding, calming and finding respite from within. The session will finish our movement exploration with the creation of a fun, uplifting somatic movement dance that can be enjoyed together or alone for years to come! A neighborhood that dances together stays connected forever.

PARTICIPANTS Seven to 25 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$400
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a space for movement. It can be outside, where a dry, short-cut grassy area is best for grounding purposes. *Scan the QR code for additional information.*



ID#: HRAD

Rhythms for Roanoke: A Latin-Infused Ballet Show and Dance Class

[Roanoke Ballet Theatre](#) | [roanokeballet.org](#)

Nothing brings people together like a good beat! In this 90-minute dance experience, Roanoke Ballet Theatre (RBT) will inspire your neighborhood with a petite performance by the professional dancers of RBT. This show will feature dances from Latin countries including Ecuador, Colombia, Cuba and more. After the show, a Salsa expert and RBT dancers will lead the audience in a community dance class to get everyone moving! This Salsa-based lesson will be perfect for beginners of all ages. The dancing and music will continue with a dance party so that you and your neighbors can show off your new moves!

PARTICIPANTS 10 to 40 (space dependent) **AGES** All
VALUE \$2,000 **REQUIREMENTS** Please provide an open space with a smooth, regular surface for dancing and performing. Dancers will need a private space in which to change and keep their belongings. *Scan the QR code for additional information.*

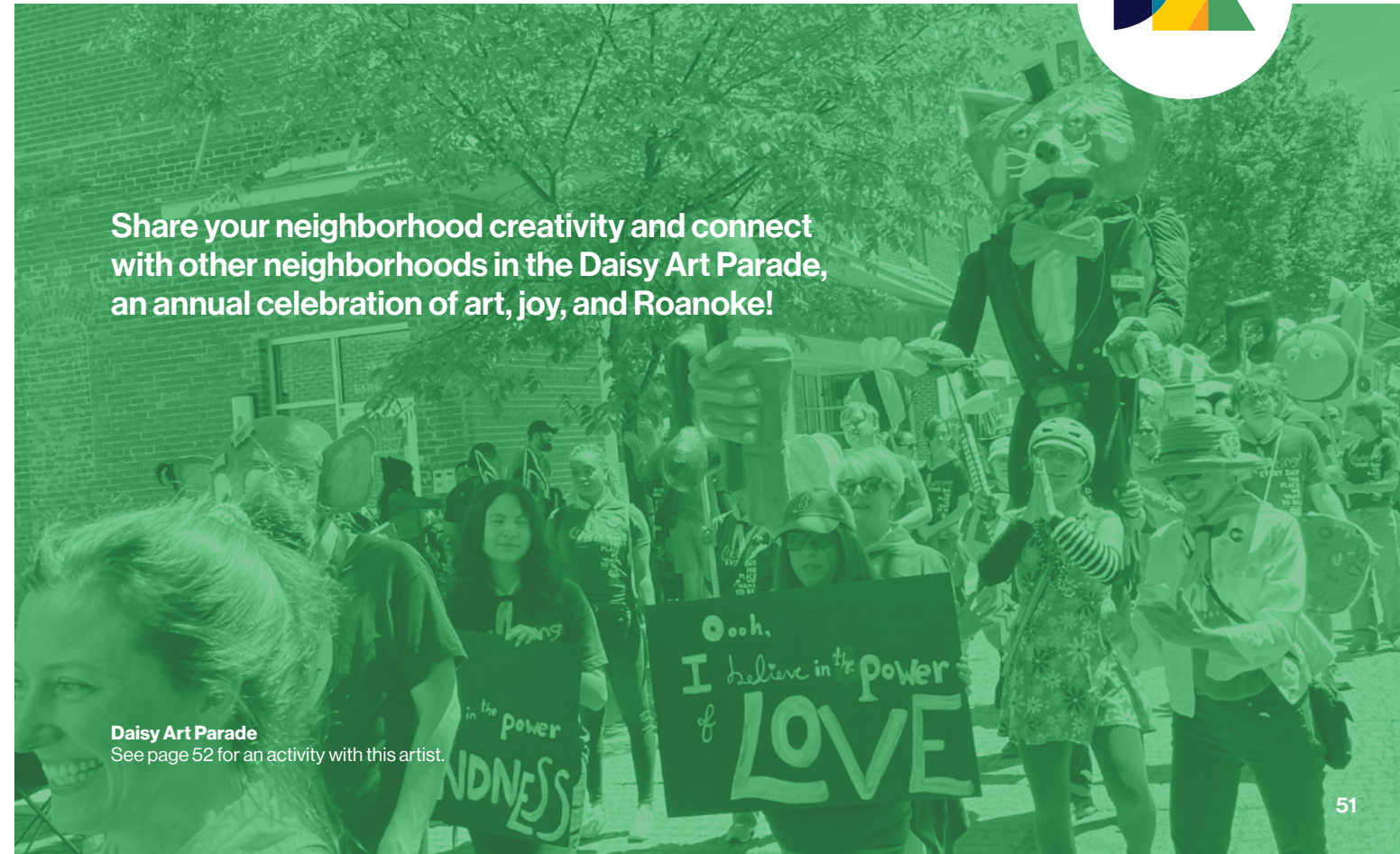


Neighbors forge lasting bonds by being in a parade together.



Share your neighborhood creativity and connect with other neighborhoods in the Daisy Art Parade, an annual celebration of art, joy, and Roanoke!

Daisy Art Parade
See page 52 for an activity with this artist.





ID#: KFRY

Be Part of the Daisy Art Parade

Daisy Art Parade | [instagram.com/daisyartparade](https://www.instagram.com/daisyartparade)

Daisy Art Parade is held on the Saturday closest to World Art Day each year. This non-motorized parade enlivens Roanoke with hand-crafted puppets, costumes, and spectacles. The real joy and connections are created over the months leading to the parade across neighborhoods, schools, clubs, churches and organizations as teams develop themes and create their entries. Consider asking a creative neighborhood resident or a local artist to help you lead the way in your neighborhood. Sign up for the parade by scanning the QR code below.

PARTICIPANTS Unlimited **AGES** All **VALUE** Priceless
REQUIREMENTS Provide a spirited group with an art entry on Parade Day.



ID#: ENNM

Daisy Art Parade Preparation Workshops

Daisy Art Parade | [instagram.com/daisyartparade](https://www.instagram.com/daisyartparade)

Work with a local artist to prepare a lively group of neighbors in representing your neighborhood in the annual Daisy Art Parade. In a series of work sessions, an artist will help you conceptualize and implement a fun, arts-based entry for the parade. A small leadership team of three people can convene and lead a much larger group to participate in creating and parading!

PARTICIPANTS Six to 50 **AGES** All **VALUE** \$700
REQUIREMENTS Please provide a neighborhood workspace. With the artist, you'll identify what you need to bring your vision to life, and you'll find the resources you need right there in your neighborhood! *Scan the QR code for additional information.*



A BONUS LOOK AT WHAT'S AHEAD Daisy Art Activations

With support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the City of Roanoke, we're using the Daisy Art Parade and our *Arts Connect Neighbors* strategy to help us reinvest in emerging neighborhood centers.

Through this upcoming effort, we will work with artists and neighbors in at least four neighborhood centers to explore how we can foster new businesses, gathering spaces, and community activity in these key areas.

We are working to support leadership teams in each of the neighborhoods to help in establishing and advancing them through small art projects, and helping neighbors learn together.

We can reinvest in our neighborhoods to benefit those who live there. We can do it together by building relationships and celebrating each other. We see the arts as a big piece of this strategy, and the Daisy Art Parade is a celebration and culmination of this spirit.

Are you interested in getting involved? Let us know at **[RoanokeArts.org/Contact](https://www.RoanokeArts.org/Contact)**

Emerging Neighborhood Centers:

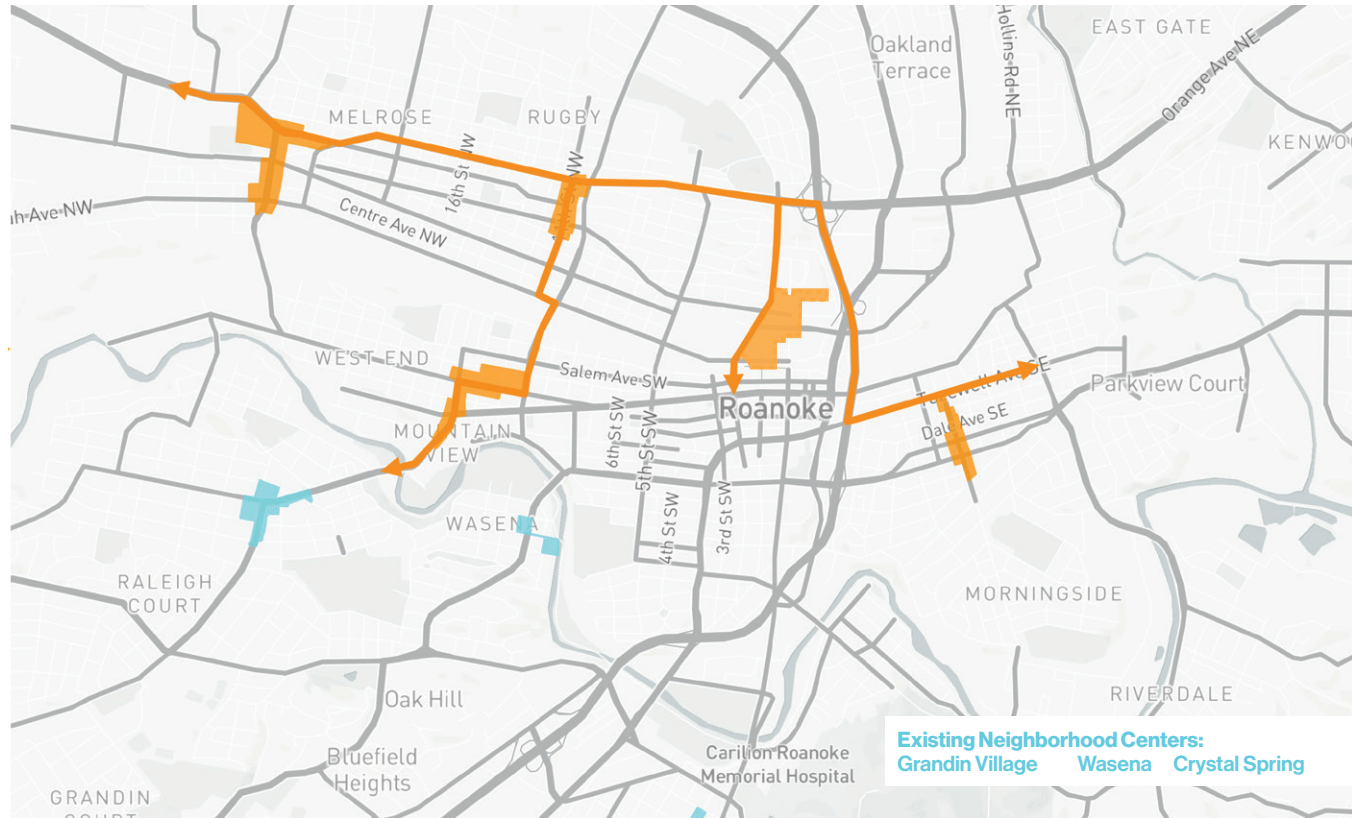
Melrose at 24th

11th Street NW

West End

Gainsboro

9th Street SE



Existing Neighborhood Centers:
Grandin Village **Wasena** **Crystal Spring**



City Leadership
City Council

Mayor Joseph L. Cobb
Vice Mayor S. Terry McGuire
Nicolas S. Hagen
Phazhon T. Nash
Evelyn W. Powers
Vivian Sanchez-Jones
Peter J. Volosin

City Managers

Valmarie H. Turner, *City Manager*
Angie O'Brien, *Deputy City Manager*
Sam Roman, *Deputy City Manager*



Roanoke Arts
Commission

The Roanoke Arts Commission is a 15-member public body appointed by City Council. Since 1983, volunteers have worked to increase the collective impact of arts and culture in the community through projects like this, specifically by:

- **Advocating for arts and cultural initiatives and investment,**
- **Developing and implementing the City's Public Art Plan,**
- **Advancing the City's Arts and Cultural Plan, and**
- **Guiding City investments in arts and culture.**

William Penn, *Chair*
Donna Davis, *Vice-Chair*
John Hitchins, Jr., *Treasurer*
Ben Bazak, *Placemaking Chair*
John Black
Aila Boyd
Becky Carr
John Cornthwait, *Planning Chair*
Dr. Elizabeth "e" Dulemba
Charlene Graves
Demetrius Johnson
Catherine Koebel Stromberg, *Funding Chair*
Mary Jean Levin
Amya Matthews
Meighan Sharp
Douglas Jackson, *Arts and Culture Coordinator*
Melissa Murray, *Recording Secretary and Administrative Staff*



Roanoke Cultural
Endowment

Roanoke Cultural Endowment (RCE) is a nonprofit that aims to keep Roanoke's vibrant arts and cultural community financially sustainable for generations to come. RCE is building a \$20 million endowment through both public and private contributions to fund more than two dozen arts and cultural nonprofits in the City of Roanoke in perpetuity.

David Wine, *Chair*
Katherine Fralin, *Secretary*
Lucas Thornton, *Treasurer*
Sarah Tune Doherty
William D. Elliot
Nancy O. Gray
Sherman P. Lea, Jr.
Katherine F. Strickland
Victoria Thornton
David Trinkle

Staff:
Shaleen Powell, *Executive Director*
Isabelle Hill, *Office Assistant*



Roanoke Neighborhood
Advocates

The Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates (RNA) is a nine-member committee created by City Council and representing the interests of the neighborhood organizations, the private sector, nonprofit service organizations, local government, and interested citizens. The RNA is charged with advising City Council and City administration on public policies affecting the vitality of neighborhoods, informing neighborhoods of existing and proposed policies and activities, advising and counseling neighborhood associations, overseeing the Neighborhood Grant Program, and collaborating with the Neighborhood Services Coordinator in outreach and facilitating the Neighborhood Partnership Awards.

Amazetta Anderson
Cameron Chase
Alicha Grubb
Rachel Hale
Mark Kary
Jessica Mahuron
David Parr
Tony Williams
Nadirah Wright



The Arts Connect
Neighbors Team

Douglas Jackson
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540-853-5652

Molly Hunter
Neighborhood Services Coordinator,
City of Roanoke
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540-853-6006

Shaleen Powell
Executive Director,
Roanoke Cultural Endowment
shaleen@roanokeculturalendowment.org

Facilitators
Ryan Balbach
Isabelle Hill
Karina Martinez
Joy Truskowski



It's right here in your Roanoke neighborhood, right where you're sitting, right now, that we are building something special, together.

We invite you to shape your own creative dream — it might be a business, a career, or a neighborhood project. You name it. We think your goals and contributions help us create a more just and healthy community, a more welcoming community, a community that works for all of us. We believe that we can all create a rewarding life with meaning, here in Roanoke.

Start right here in the Arts Connect Neighbors catalog, and help shape the Star City as the place you want it to be. It can start with simply bringing neighbors together; it can start with fun; it can start with you.

We're glad you're here in Roanoke, creating this with us.
It's here!

RoanokeArts.org/Neighbors

