



Hello Darlington Community!

What's happening at Darlington this month?

Summer is just around the corner. Get your family ready by registering for our Summer Arts Camp and Summer Classes! Starting the week of June 13th, our Summer Arts Camp will begin with Jurassic Journey. Each week of the summer, there will be a brand new theme and brand new ways to explore all four major art forms. These weekly camps allow your young artist to sample Darlington's programs, while making planning your summer vacation easier! Want something you can participate in all summer long? Register for one of our summer classes! From Drawing & Painting to Adult Hip-Hop, we have it all! Continue your arts education throughout the summer, or sample some of our programming before the academic year.

Do you know a high school student who loves the arts? Darlington is looking for energetic, friendly volunteers for our Summer Arts Camp! Work closely with professional teaching artists, lead games and activities, and inspire children in a fun environment. To apply, email our Program Manager Michael at programs@darlingtonarts.org.

Whether you are new to us, or have an established relationship with our Center, we welcome you. Darlington is always working to provide Every Art for Everyone, regardless of age, ability, or background. That is why we are forming a **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee**, to focus our efforts on devising and executing a DEI action plan. *If you are interested in being a member of this committee, please contact our Executive Director, Eric Thompson at eric@darlingtonarts.org.* For more information on our volunteering opportunities, please click [here](#).

Our vision is to reach beyond, artistically and interpersonally, in an effort to connect with community members, fully utilize our resources, and be open to new opportunities and partnerships. We are all about celebrating individuality within a support and inclusive community. We believe that the arts are fundamental to the growth of oneself. Experience all that Darlington has to offer! Visit our [website](#), give us a call, or even stop by the Center to see what you can do to help us continue to provide Every Art for Everyone.

See you soon!



Teaching Artist Spotlight

Teacher Kate



We are thrilled to feature Darlington Teaching Artist, Kate McGrath, this month!

Teacher Kate is an award-winning thespian with a passion for teaching the dramatic arts. She earned her BA in Dramatic Art at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and obtained a MA in Theatre from Villanova. In addition to teaching drama at Darlington, she teaches with many local arts organizations. Teacher Kate is also a published and produced playwright and she spent years touring the country as an actor and performing with improv groups at a variety of venues.

Teacher Kate facilitates TWO of our on-site drama classes: **Curtain's Up! Acting for**

Kids and Performing Arts Playground.

Curtain's Up!, held on Mondays from 4:00-5:15pm, is open to performers ages 7-12. In this class, students will not only perform in a play, but they will write and direct the play themselves! Parents are welcome to attend the final performance on the last day of class. All skill levels are welcome! Session Two of Curtain's Up! starts on April 4th. Interested in enrolling? Call the Center or enroll online at www.darlingtonarts.org.

Performing Arts Playground, held on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00pm, is open to performers ages 5-10. In this class, students will explore their creativity, build confidence, and learn to collaborate with others. Parents are welcome to attend the final performance on the last day of class. All skill levels are welcome! Session Two of Performing Arts Playground starts on April 5th. Interested in enrolling? Call the Center or enroll online at www.darlingtonarts.org.

Thank you, Kate, for your time, talent, and dedication to providing Every Art for Everyone! Want to nominate a teaching artist for our monthly teaching artist spotlight? Contact Community Engagement Manager, Emily Moylan, at engage@darlingtonarts.org.

Student Spotlight

Jack and Aria

Jack and Aria are long time Darlington students. They are currently enrolled in Drawing and Painting Composition with Teacher Erika, our featured teaching artist from the March Newsletter.

Teacher Erika nominated both Jack and Aria because *“Both Jack and Aria show dedication to their art progress and respect the methods and creative outlet Darlington provides them. They have each participated in Student and Teacher shows and Jack was one of the collaborative student artists that painted the outdoor picnic table for Darlington.”*

When asked what Darlington means to them...

Jack said, *“To me...Darlington is JOY! When I walk through the doors, I let life go for a bit and find my joy in my art and being with likeminded individuals.”*

Aria said, *“Darlington is a place where people of all types can express themselves. Here, I can find out who I am by having room to create art and make friends.”*

We are so lucky to have students like Jack and Aria at the Center! Want to nominate a student for our monthly student spotlight? Contact Community Engagement Manager, Emily Moylan, at engage@darlingtonarts.org.

Community Corner

Opportunities and Initiatives within our Community!



In Person Auditions for the Athena Scholarship Award

On **Saturday April 30th at 1pm**, Darlington Arts Center will be hosting open auditions for our Athena Scholarship Award. Any dedicated musician in rising grades 5-12 in the Delaware Valley and beyond are eligible to audition. This award, funded through individual donations given in memory of former Darlington director, Athena Sophocles, shall be used for private music lessons at the Center for the Academic Year, beginning in September 2022.

The 2022-2023 Athena Scholarship Awards are open to all serious music students in the Delaware Valley and nearby areas studying piano, voice, strings, brass, winds, guitar and percussion. The scholarships will be awarded on the basis of ability and talent alone. Financial need will not be a consideration. All competitors will receive written critiques from the adjudicators.

There are two levels of scholarship: Students rising into grades 5-9 will be eligible for the Junior Level Scholarship of \$500, and students rising into grades 10-12 will audition for the Senior Level Scholarship of \$750.

Competition applications are available on our website starting March 1st, or by emailing your interest to **register@darlingtonarts.org** (you will then be sent a link to the competition registration to fill out the form and pay the fee). A **\$20 non-refundable registration fee** must accompany each application.

OUR APPLICATION DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED! Applications need to be received **by April 8, 2022**. Should you have any questions, please call 610-358-3632 or email Madeleine Turley at **register@darlingtonarts.org**.

Come One, Come All to our April and May Coffee House Concerts

Local artist and Darlington favorite, **Kat Lemon**, is gracing our stage on **Saturday April 9th**. Back in 2019, Kat's talent and presence on stage enthralled our Coffee House audience. Now, she's back and better than ever! Kat will be singing all your favorite standards, showtunes, and pop hits. You don't want to miss this one! *Seating is limited. Doors open at 7:15pm; Show starts at 8pm.*

Our final Coffee House Concert of the 2021-2022 Season will be the best one yet! Join us in celebrating local New Orleans Jazz Style duo, **Drum & Keys**. Drum & Keys feature drummer and vocalist Paul Downie and vocalist Rev Chris. They will play original music and some covers we all know and love. *Seating is limited. Doors open at 7:15pm; Show starts at 8pm.*

Darlington's Coffee House Concerts are held once a month throughout the year. Tickets are \$20 for non-members and \$10 for members. Are you a Coffee House Concert regular? Consider purchasing a 4-pack of tickets at only \$40. Light refreshments

provided, and it's BYOB! To purchase tickets, please call 610-358-3632. Join us in supporting local artists!

Join Us for our Annual 4 Arts Festival in May and June!



Darlington's 4 Arts Festival is our annual, month-long celebration of student work. From music and dance recitals to concerts and galleries, we want to showcase the talents of our amazing community and commend them on all of the hard work they have done throughout the academic year.

Last year, our 4 Art Festival events were held entirely online. This year, we are back in-person and better than ever! While we will still have streaming options for our supporters-from-afar, we are thrilled to be able to invite audiences back into the Center.

We kick off the festival with Student Music Recitals on Saturday May 14th at 1:30pm. That evening, we will be hosting a gallery opening reception, featuring our teaching artists and members, and our final Coffee House Concert of the season, featuring Drum & Keys – a local New Orleans Jazz duo. Seating for these events are limited! RSVP to the Gallery or Coffee House Concert by calling the Center at 610-358-3632.

But wait, there's more! We will be holding more Student Music Recitals on Sunday May 15th, Saturday May 21st, and Sunday May 22nd. On Saturday June 4th, we will be cheering on our dance students in Darlington's Dance Recital, hosted off-site at Cab Calloway School for the Arts in Wilmington.

Finally, on Sunday June 5th at 1pm, we will hold our Honors Recital. Recommended by their teachers, the students featured in our Honors Recital demonstrate exceptional talent, dedication, and passion for their craft. What better way to wrap up our 2022 4 Arts Festival!

If you are interested in supporting Darlington with a sponsorship of the 4 Arts Festival, contact Executive Director, Eric Thompson, at eric@darlingtonarts.org or follow this [link](#) to the 4 Arts Festival page on our website. With the help of our amazing community, we can make this year's 4 Arts Festival a huge success!



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