



# Creative Voice

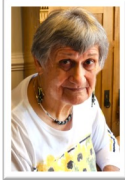
PUBLISHED BY THE ISLE OF WIGHT ARTS LEAGUE

## October 2024



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### Autumn Juried Art Show and Sale

**Saturday & Sunday, October 19 & 20** from 12 to 5 pm both days.


Enjoy a short drive from downtown to scenic SummerWind Winery, located at 71 Eagle Nest Lane, Smithfield to enjoy the fall weather while shopping for unique local art and enjoying award winning wine.

**For information** on participation in the art show please contact [info@smithfieldarts.org](mailto:info@smithfieldarts.org) or call 757.357.7707.

### Sundays at Four

### 2024-2025 Season Lineup

Concerts are held at Christ Episcopal Church in Smithfield.

Performance	Date	Time
The SHS Choraliers	December 6, 2024	7 pm
Get Tickets here → 	December 7, 2024	4 pm & 7 pm
The Music of Ed Bland Urban Classical Jazz / New York Trio	February 23, 2025	4 pm
Solo Youth Recital Mary Reins, Soprano / Eastman School of Music	June 1, 2025	4 pm
Flute Master Class & Recital Kathleen Winters, Flutist	May 3—Master Class May 4—Recital	12 pm 4 pm
Terrific Teen Talent Recital	August 3, 2025	4 pm



**The Arts Center @ 319** is the home of the **Isle of Wight Arts League**, co-located with the Visitor Center, at 319 Main Street in Smithfield.

In addition to the Arts Center, the Arts League also includes three music programs: Smithfield Music, the Summer Concert Series and Sundays at Four.

*The Isle of Wight Arts League extends its gratitude for the financial support of the Arts Center @319 provided in part by these entities and community members who find the arts essential to a thriving community. Support the arts and join the league!*



Hampton Roads Community Foundation  
Inspiring Philanthropy. Changing Lives.



## Local Writer and Artist Collaborate

Dan E. Hobbs, a Smithfield historical fiction novelist, and Kim Holland, also of Smithfield, who is an artist, illustrator, and children's book author, have collaborated over the past six months to produce the cover illustration for a third novel Hobbs is currently writing to complete his "*Cleave America*" series.

Hobbs, a retired Air Force officer and DoD consultant, began his creative writing ten years ago, publishing his first novel, "*Cleave America, Patriot Flames 1774*," in 2022. He chose "cleave" as part of his pre-title because it is the only word in English that is spelled and pronounced the same and has exactly opposite meanings: cleave, as in to divide like a cleaver, and cleave, as in to stick together. He said he selects time periods in American history where we are being torn apart as a society but must cleave together, seeking higher values, to move forward as a society. His second novel, "*Cleave America, The Continental Divide 1802*," is out this month.

Holland is a former IBM program/project manager who dabbled in art as a hobby. Her writing began as a labor of love for her grandchildren that blossomed into a published work for children and grandparents. Her first and current works include "*The Adventures of Joe, Sam, and Dr. Knucklehead: Best in the West*" and "*The Adventures of Joe, Sam, and Dr. Knucklehead: Swinging Safari*." Her final book of this series, titled "The Adventures of Joe, Sam, and Dr. Knucklehead: Rocking with Dinos" is currently in the illustration phase, with plans to print this October. She began her art career 29 years ago, transitioning from watercolor to oil after moving to Smithfield in 2008. Hobbs first met her at the Smithfield Art Center on Main Street.

"I walked into the Art Center's artist studio last winter and Kim's beautiful paintings immediately caught my eye," Hobbs said. He asked who painted them. Kim spoke up, saying that they were her paintings. The collaboration on the cover of Dan's third novel, "*Cleave America, House Divide 1865*," began that day.

Hobbs purchased reprint rights for the cover of his first novel from the Mariner's Museum in Newport News, and the rights for the second novel from the Pittsburgh Gazette. "Just as with my other "*Cleave America*" novels," Hobbs said, "historical paintings inspire me. I could not find a suitable painting for my third novel. Kim's painting is based on two literal side-by-side mid-1800s Methodist churches that are now only foundations and cemeteries. Through many conversations, Ms. Holland drew the painting from my imagination and brought abundant visual inspiration to life."

With more than a year of research, the construction of the novel's framework, and Holland's inspirational painting, Hobbs has begun to write the third "*Cleave America*" novel. He hopes to have a complete manuscript within a year. "It takes longer to write a novel than read one," Hobbs quipped. "However, I relish every minute that I can devote to creative writing," he added.

When he is not writing, Hobbs enjoys giving book talks centered around his novels at wide-ranging venues such as Annapolis, Maryland, Wheeling, West Virginia and in the local area. You can catch one of his talks at the historic 1750 Isle of Wight Courthouse on Main Street this September. You can often find Holland painting as a resident artist of the Arts Center @319 in Smithfield or providing a "children's adventure with books" at the Smithfield Farmers Market on Saturday mornings.



The **Williamsburg Classic Swing Orchestra** will be at the Smithfield Center for a Big Band Christmas concert on **December 20**. Tickets are on sale at Eventbrite or scan the QR code! →



# Arts Center @319

## EXHIBITS

OCTOBER 3 through 28, 2024

### FANTASTIC FUN FAKES

Local artists have recreated their favorite art.

Stop by to see the amazing works in this unique exhibit.

NOVEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2024

### HANDMADE HOLIDAY

Check out the Paintings, Pottery, Decorations and Wearables in this annual favorite exhibit. Perfect for gifting or putting on your wish list!

## Beginner/Intermediate Painting with Acrylics

October 23, 24 and 25, 2024

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday  
1 to 3 p.m.

Instructor: Athena A. Rhodes

Learn to paint with acrylics on canvas with three consecutive 2-hour sessions.

No Experience Necessary! You will learn basic techniques of color mixing, brushwork and more, all suited to the featured painting for October: Cotton Field. Learn the basics of acrylic painting or continue to build your skills.

**This class is for students 16 years old and over.**

**Class Fee** is \$75 for Members, \$85 for Non-members, plus a materials fee of \$25. All paint, canvas and brushes supplied by instructor.

Instructor will provide a color photo reference for students to paint from in class.

**Please register by** October 21.

**For more information** call 757.357.7707 or stop by the Arts Center at 319 Main Street in Smithfield.



**SUPPORT  
THE ARTS  
TODAY.**

Support the Arts! Join the Arts League for only \$45 a year— get discounts on classes and gift shop items!

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES RECAP- 2024

As Fall descends upon us, I look back and say, “What a great summer it has been!”

A special thank you goes out to the many die-hard fans that come out each and every Friday evening! You are the reason the Summer Concert Series continues. John and Anne Edwards would be proud to know that you all keep the legacy going. We are so proud to serve you!

The Summer Concert Series has been well attended this year. We had a few hiccups with rain and heat advisories, but you guys still came out in full force on other days. We had approximately three thousand (3,000) attendees over the course of the series. Thank you!

We scheduled sixteen (16) shows this year and only had to cancel three (3) due to weather conditions. We have had every genre we could think of over the years from bluegrass and country to big band music, gospel and soul, jazz and blues. The past two (2) years we have been able to bring you a big indoor concert at The Smithfield Center, a Motown Revue that showcased sounds and songs from that era.

The Summer Concert Series has people coming to attend from as far away as Mechanicsville, Va. A gentleman called me and wanted to verify a group that would be playing. I was surprised at how far away he lived. He stated he and his wife love our little town. “It’s our little getaway. She loves the little shops on Main Street. We get a bite to eat at one of your really nice restaurants and then take in a concert!” Good job tourism!

Thank you to the Board Members of IWAL for hosting the concerts, the Town of Smithfield for the use of their venues and The Smithfield Times (Steve Stewart) for hosting, booking the Navy Fleet, advertising, marketing and promoting. It couldn’t be done without every one of you.

Elaine Dairo, Director – Summer Concert Series

