

# HRVI August Newsletter

HRVI



YOUR GATEWAY TO THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY

## Hudson River Valley Institute

### Mount Kisco Revolutionary War March

230 years ago, French General Comte de Rochambeau led 5000 soldiers from Rhode Island through Connecticut to what is now Mount Kisco in Westchester County, NY. There, Rochambeau met with General George Washington before pressing onward to meet the Marquis de Lafayette. Together, they would engage Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, VA; the last major and decisive battle of the American Revolution.

This year at Mount Kisco – the site that Rochambeau and Washington met –

people gathered to honor the French soldiers who joined the American cause and helped to defeat the British. The 18- to 24-year-old Marchers of the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps retraced the path of the French troops from Rhode Island all the way to Yorktown. They even rested in tents and ate food of the revolutionary era.

The Marchers' 700 mile march began in June and is to last until October. The journey, broken into two legs, will be made by two groups of Marchers making a 12-17 mile trip each day. Once at White

Plains, NY, a second NCCC group will take over and march on through New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia to a ceremony at Yorktown.

On July 4<sup>th</sup> the first group of Marchers arrived at Mount Kisco, one day earlier than Rochambeau and his troops had 230 years ago. For the first time since 2006, during the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, The Marchers were greeted and celebrated. In addition, French soldiers from more recent wars were also honored as both the American and French

*Continued on page 4*

### Inside this Issue:

Mount Kisco Revolutionary War March	1, 4
Caramoor Jazz Festival	2
New Exhibit at Boscobel	2
New York 15th	3
Our HRVI Partners	3
Around the World in Eight-Teen Days	4
Contact Us/ Staff Listing	5

### Special points of interest:

- Mount Kisco Revolutionary War March
- New Exhibit at Boscobel
- Our HRVI Partners
- Around the World in Eight-Teen Days



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## Caramoor Jazz Festival

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The [Caramoor International Jazz Festival](#) in Westchester County has brought music to many ears since its beginnings almost two decades ago. The festival provides renowned artists and easy listening to any and all jazz fans over a three day period. Caramoor is considered one of the top five jazz festivals in the nation and offers to be another hit this year in Katonah, New York from August 5-7.

Caramoor offers many premiere musicians of all different backgrounds and styles. Many of these musicians have brought their music to the festival before. Renee Rosnes returns this year with her own Quartet and will kick off the festival on Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, in the Spanish Courtyard.

On Saturday, Christian McBride and his Big Band highlight the

concert in the Venetian Theater. Preceding the Big Band are several artists including Juan Carolos Formells's *Johnny's Dream Club*, and James Farm at 3:00 P.M. Several artists fill out the play book until the headlining, Big Band at 8:00 P.M.

Sunday the Jazz Festival closes out with John Scofield and his Quartet at 4:45 P.M. and finally with Jason Moran and The Bandwagon, his trio, at 6:00 P.M. A handful of artists fill out the remaining times during the three-day concert series but all artists and programs are subject to change.

Refreshments will be provided throughout the festival and cost of entry varies on the night and theater. Tickets may be ordered online through

the link provided above. The Annual Caramoor International Jazz Festival seeks to bring enjoyment, fun, and good music back to Katonah and the ears of all fans as it returns once again as one of the New York Metropolitan's premiere events.

Additional information may be found [here](#).

**By: Matt O'Brien**



Boscobel House, courtesy of [www.boscobel.org](http://www.boscobel.org)

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## New Exhibit at Boscobel

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Boscobel House and Gardens is hosting their first ever contemporary art exhibition this summer, *Hudson River Contemporary: Works on Paper*. The display covers all disciplines and styles from photography to abstract art. Artists will be showing the Hudson River Valley at Boscobel from a 21<sup>st</sup> century view-point, inspired by traditional Hudson Valley artists. The paintings and drawings attempt to capture the beauty of the gardens in a moment and reflect what the artist is seeing.

The exhibit, open until September 15<sup>th</sup>, is co-curated by Dr. Katherine

Manthorne and Mr. James McElhinney. More information about the gallery, its hours, tours, and pricing can be found [here](#). For a preview of the art that is on display, they have put together a short [video clip](#) of some of the paintings. The video only shows a small portion of the entries by over thirty contributing contemporary artists.

If art isn't your calling, the Boscobel House and Gardens has plenty more to offer. The historical site located fifty miles north of New York City in Garrison, New York offers breathtaking views of the Hudson Valley. It's open from

April to December for tours. You will see the federal, neoclassical architecture of the building and the beauty of the gardens and natural scenery that surrounds it. This history around the site is just as rich as the environment. The site boasts impressive views over West Point Academy from across the river and Bear Mountain Bridge to the south. Be sure to visit their [website](#) for more information about the exhibition and the other services they provide.

**By: Peter Rottenbacher**

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## Reenactment at Schuyler Flatts

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2011 marks the sesquicentennial (150<sup>th</sup>) anniversary of the Civil War. [Watervliet Historical Society](#) will be recognizing the date by organizing a two-day reenactment at Schuyler Flatts in Menands, New York on August 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. [Schuyler Flatts](#) is a cultural and historical park dedicated in 2002 that played a significant role in the colonial development of our nation. Its importance has shifted as a meeting point for early traders and campers to an educational and leisure site for the public. Later this

summer, however, Schuyler Flatts will re-visit its roots. “In its sixth year, Civil War Heritage Days at Schuyler Flatts is an encampment of Civil War re-enactors, acoustical musical groups, the local Civil War Round Table, several area museums, and an assortment living historians and scholars, as well as various local historical societies, to educate and entertain the public.” Both the event and parking are free. For more information about the event, visit the re-enactors’ [website](#) and check out the schedule [here](#).

The Hudson River Valley Institute celebrated the anniversary in its own way, releasing a second issue of [The Review](#) on the Civil War. Volume 27, No. 2 focuses on the how the Civil War was captured in art within the Hudson River Valley. It contains over thirty color pages of battle flags and paintings from the time period, as well as correspondences home from New York’s own Civil War soldiers.

**By: Peter Rottenbucher**

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## Our HRVI Partners

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Zsuzsanna Szabo is an Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Education Programs of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Marist College. She conducts research involving student learning, assessment, and use of technology in education. Dr. Szabo is an Educational Psychologist who graduated from University of Arizona. Before teaching, she worked for 9 years as Civil engineer. Currently, she is helping the Hudson River Valley Institute work on the National Endowment for Humanities (NEH) grant. The purpose is to help K-12 teachers in their lessons related to the regional and local history and events. She hopes that the lesson plans developed for the grant could spark the curiosity of students and their families in local history. Furthermore, Dr. Szabo views the project with a larger educational pur-

pose to serve the communities of the Hudson Valley. As a relatively recent resident of the Hudson Valley, she too is excited explore the history and sites of the region.

Another partner for the NEH grant is Shaun R. Boyce. Shaun is a social studies teacher at Arlington High School where he teaches a variety of levels and topics. As an adjunct of the history department at Marist College he teaches history and culture classes of the Hudson Valley, Themes in Modern History, and America Since 1945; required classes for any history student. Boyce also teaches a variety of history and social classes at Dutchess County Community College. His enthusiasm for local history stem’s back to his family’s experiences with local governor

turned president, Franklin D. Roosevelt. Having heard stories of having family who attended the same school as the Roosevelts to having served FDR as a Secret Service agent, Boyce became interested in how local history connected to the global picture. He went on to study political science at Binghamton University and went on to receive his M.A. in sociology at SUNY New Paltz. He later received his Certificate of Advanced Study in educational administration in 2005. Shaun hopes that the lesson plans and virtual field trips designed for the NEH grant will be a useful and budget-friendly tool for teachers.

**By: Peter Rottenbucher**

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## Mount Kisco Revolutionary War March, continued

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national anthems were played and speeches were made.



Photo courtesy of [themarchers.org](http://themarchers.org)

The ceremony was meant to cele-

brate how the French influenced early America and helped in the cause against the British. Rochambeau and Washington met in North Castle on July 5, 1781. Later this area was renamed New Castle before finally becoming Mount Kisco. Following their meeting, the combined American and French force camped in Hartsdale, and then crossed the Hudson River before marching to the Marquis de Lafayette and defeating Lord Cornwallis.

The trail that the French forces marched on to meet Washington became a protected route in 2009 by the National Park Service.

The Marchers hope to spread awareness of an important part of our nation's history and share the experience with communities such as Mount Kisco that are along the route of Rochambeau's march. Throughout the journey, The Marchers camped on properties of those willing to provide quarter to them, such as Bob Columbe whose historic property has now hosted The Marchers twice, in 2011 and in 2006 during the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

More information on The Marchers and their organization may be found [here](#).

**By: Matt O'Brien**

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## Around the World in Eight-Teen Days

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As part of the New York State Teen Summer Reading Program, the Poughkeepsie Library District is featuring the "Around the World in Eight-Teen Days." The program features eight different dates each with unique events and activities throughout the summer. The program is set to the theme "You are Here," denoting places around the world that teens can go to virtually and experience unique locations.

"These programs are designed to help teens 'travel' and learn about their world through literature, crafts, a movie and especially food," explained Angela Panzer, Teen Program Coordinator at the Adriance Memorial Library. "It's a wonderful opportunity to expand kids' world view and whet their appetite for learning about how

other people live."

The program began with Mexico on July 6<sup>th</sup>, followed by a very successful England activity on July 14<sup>th</sup>; by incorporating Harry Potter – with the release of the last entry in the movie series set later that week – the program received much interest and included a Coat of Arms activity that the teens participated in to create their own.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of July the program highlighted the Middle East and showed "You Don't Mess with the Zohan," a movie, Panzer said, that showed how Israelis and Palestinians are at odds but "come together to fight a common foe." Panzer continued, "Though it is a spoof, it is what I wish for between the cultures of that region." The activity in

conjunction with this film will be writing in Hebrew and Cuneiform to further engage the teens and teach them of other cultures.

Two programs being offered in addition to the regularly scheduled events are the "Wizard Rock Poughkeepsie" and "Let's Get Loud with Drumming". Wizard Rock features a Northeast band that has created songs for Harry Potter. Let's Get Loud with Drumming will be held on August 20<sup>th</sup> in the Teen room. Teens will be able to play with various drums and percussion instruments as Drummer Free At Last performs.

Additional information, inquiries and registration can be found at (845) 485-3445 x 3320.

**By: Matt O'Brien**



# Contact Us

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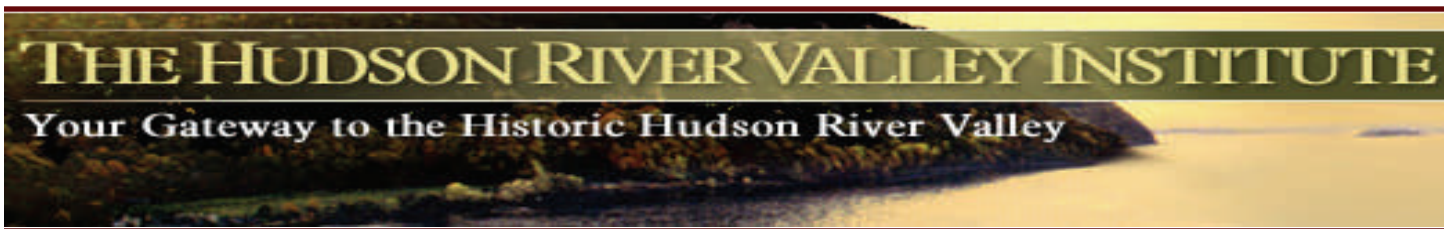
***The Hudson River Valley:  
"The Landscape that Defined America"***

The Hudson River Valley is one of only 49 congressionally designated National Heritage Areas in the United States. As one of the most important regions in the United States, it is the fountainhead of a truly American identity. Recognizing the area's national value, Congress formed the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area in 1996 to recognize, preserve, protect, and interpret the nationally-significant history and resources of the valley for the benefit of the nation.

The Hudson River Valley Institute (HRVI) is the academic arm of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. Its mission is to study and promote the Hudson River Valley and to provide educational resources for heritage tourists, scholars, elementary school educators, environmental organizations, the business community, and the general public. Its many projects include the publication of *The Hudson River Valley Review* and the management of a dynamic digital library and leading regional portal site.

As the center for the study of the Hudson River Valley, the Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College is the central hub for information about the region that Congress called "the Landscape that defined America."

[www.hudsonrivervalley.org](http://www.hudsonrivervalley.org)



## Staff

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