



Eastern Connecticut **ARTS**

The Definitive Guide to Culture • History • Art • Tourism

Winter 2014

David A. Foster comes
FULL CIRCLE



Connecticut
still revolutionary

Department of Economic and
Community Development
Office of the Arts

CT Office of the Arts and Windham Arts

The CT Office of the Arts (COA) is part of CT's Department of Economic and Community Development. The Office of the Arts partners with Designated Regional Cultural Service Organizations that serve as local field offices to constituents and citizens. This statewide Network plays a key role that is mutually beneficial to the state's citizens and the creative economy, the regional arts and cultural infrastructure and COA's goals, programs and services. These service organizations support Connecticut's economy and provide arts and cultural leadership at a regional level.

Windham Arts was founded in 1999 as an artist collaborative and matured into the organization it is today. In addition to supporting the arts, culture, history, tourism and economic development in Eastern CT, it also provides Eastern CT with Peer Advisors as part of the State's Peer Advisor Network.(PAN)

Valuable peer support can provide that expert, outside perspective you need to help with planning, organizational issues, financial management, technology, programming, marketing, community engagement, evaluation and more. Peer Advisors are committed to maintaining confidentiality of all information shared during a PAN consultancy. Likewise, PAN office staff and COA keep confidential all information related to a Peer Advisor consultancy.

Our Mission:

To **develop and support** the promotion of the **Arts, Cultural Resources, History, Tourism, and Economic Development** of the Northeast Connecticut Region. As the designated regional cultural service organization for Northeast Connecticut we strive to **support** the **state's creative economy** and **provide cultural leadership** to a broad diversity of regional constituents. As the Designated Regional Service Organization of Northeast Connecticut our mission is to **develop and sustain industry and cross sector relationships** and convene constituents to assess need, **provide coordinated marketing, technical assistance, advocacy and other relevant services and programs**; and lastly support specific COA programs and services.

Our Goals:

Comprehensive Representation of the industry

Develop relationships within and between arts, cultural, heritage and tourism organizations, groups, hybrid organizations and individuals (artists) with keen attention on diversity and differing ability.

To learn more about Windham Arts please visit windhamarts.org

Windham Arts would like to express their sincerest gratitude to the following for their support in helping to make Eastern CT ARTS Magazine a possibility:

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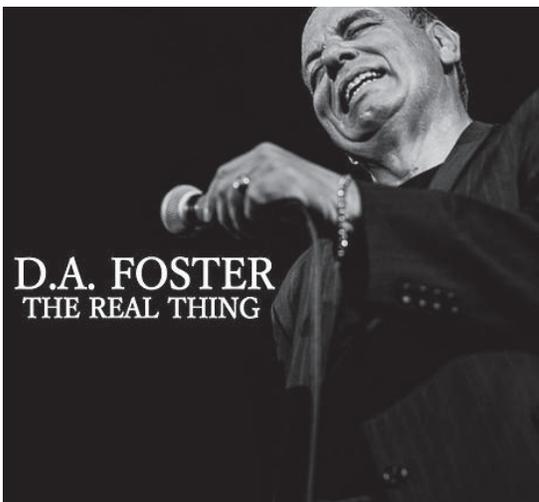
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Tourist In My Own State

Alison Kaufman

It has been a huge treat to become a tourist in my own state of Connecticut over the last few months! Since joining the team at the Windham Arts as Director of Development, I have had the pleasure of discovering a wellspring of creativity and community spirit. People are enthusiastic about the great things happening in Eastern CT and want the rest of the state to know.

The Arts & Eats Stroll in October organized by the Wilimantic Arts & Eats Council was a terrific way to get to know Main Street in Wilimantic. We started at the Windham Textile Museum then followed our knowledgeable leader, Ruth Hartunian-Alumbaugh, through the farmers market and up Main Street while her lovely daughter Rose, peppered the stroll with bits of history, info and lore. At each stop we were greeted by business owners that care about the companies they run and want to share what they are passionate about.



Special Interest

Shop Small Business Saturday was another big step forward for the shop local movement and it was terrific to see people taking the message to heart... and wallet. We have so many incredible choices in Eastern CT at every price point. I found treasures like cashmere wraps in Hazelwoods, a gorgeous gallery setting along Putnam Road in Pomfret, and the White Rabbit in Storrs had a collection of vintage pieces that are far older than Emily, the friendly owner of the eclectic shop.

Another thing I discovered was that even as these businesses strive to thrive, there are many that continue to make time to give back. I found a great example of this on my first visit to Celebrations, which was on a night that they were raising funds to build the Regional Community YMCA. Celebrations has a truly impressive collection of fine art, handmade local and kitschy gifts. Don't miss the incredible Tea that they offer! (You are never too old for a Tea Party) you must see why they have garnered many "Best Of" Awards.

I have come to discover that there are a myriad of fun events, and creative programs throughout Eastern CT. Signing up for our newsletter and checking out our website are good ways of staying in the know. We also want to find out about what you have coming up

and help you get the word out. Through listings here in our magazine, guest spots on our WILI 1400 AM show, "Fun, Festivals and Flair" our newsletter and social media, we want to help you succeed.

Culture, History, Art and Tourism. I am finding it all here in the NOT so quiet corner of Eastern Connecticut. I look forward to crossing paths with many of you as I continue on my adventures to find out how the Windham Arts can best serve the creative community. Learn more about the Windham Arts and the places mentioned on our website: Windhamarts.org



Boutiques



Windowbox Boutique

Tucked among the Main Street business hub in Stafford Springs is a little independent shop called Windowbox Boutique. This quaint shop may appear small, but as you enter through its sunny yellow screen door you are transported to a world of treasures from around the world that even Indiana Jones would covet.



Owner Franleen Munson delights in catering to one-of-a-kind and hard-to-find items that are fanciful and exquisite—from timeless elegance to nostalgic. She carries an eclectic array of gifts that have been curated from the USA, Canada, England, France, Italy, India and Nepal.

Within the walls of this "curiosity" shop you might find one of a kind jewelry, books, European perfume, unique clothing & scarves, paintings, local organic

soaps & lotions- all mixed in with the glory of Vintage and Antique finds!

Windowbox Boutique stresses the beauty of the handmade, old or new, and believes in the elevating experience of shopping local! Next time you're out on a Sunday drive, take the road less traveled and be sure to visit. You won't leave empty handed.



72 Main Street | Stafford Springs, CT 06076
860.987.7421 | windowboxboutique.com

STORE HOURS

Wednesday-Saturday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sundays: 10a.m.-3 p.m.



Boutiques

One favorite stop on Main Street in Niantic is Tumbleweeds, a funky little shop that opened its doors in 1974. Owner Tara Wyatt's father "Pops" started the store and ran it until his untimely death in 2006. Tara's journey changed course as she took up the reins and began to grow what her father had started.

While many still count on Tumbleweed as their "go-to" shop for records, CD's and Tara's vast knowledge



of music, the shop has been steadily evolving into an alternative for customers that want to know that their purchases are eco-friendly and locally made.

Tumbleweeds carries clothing made by companies that use Fair Trade practices. Tara wants her customers to "feel good about the things customers can buy here."



Tumbleweeds: A Funky Little Shop

Tumbleweeds got a big makeover in March when they closed for a few days to overhaul the store. The result has been wonderful. It's easier to navigate and aesthetically pleasing. The front cases carry a large assortment of handmade jewelry for both men and women at prices that fit a broad spectrum of budgets. CD bins are separated by genre and listed alphabetically. The back room is full of albums.

The store also has racks of comfortable natural fiber clothing and outerwear. Locally made artwork and seasonal gifts are available and change all the time. There's always a completely new experience with each visit.



325 Main Street
Niantic, CT 06357
860-739-9018
tumbleweedsct.com

STORE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
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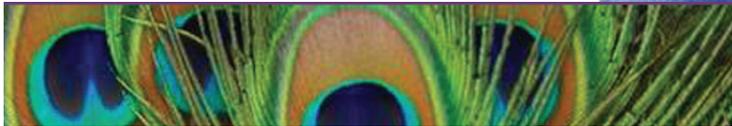


Hours:

Wed-Thurs- 10-5

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Sat & Sun- 11-4

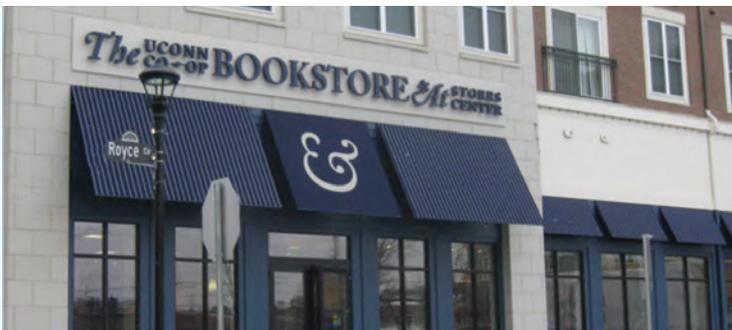


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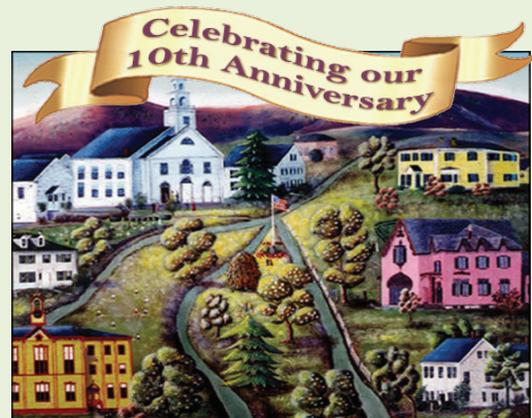
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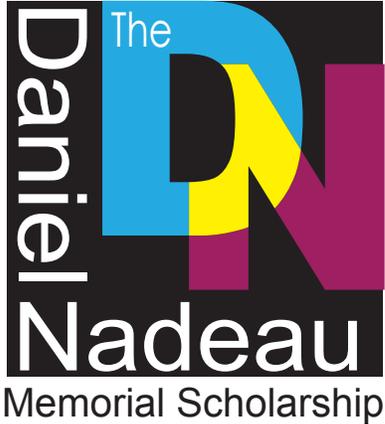


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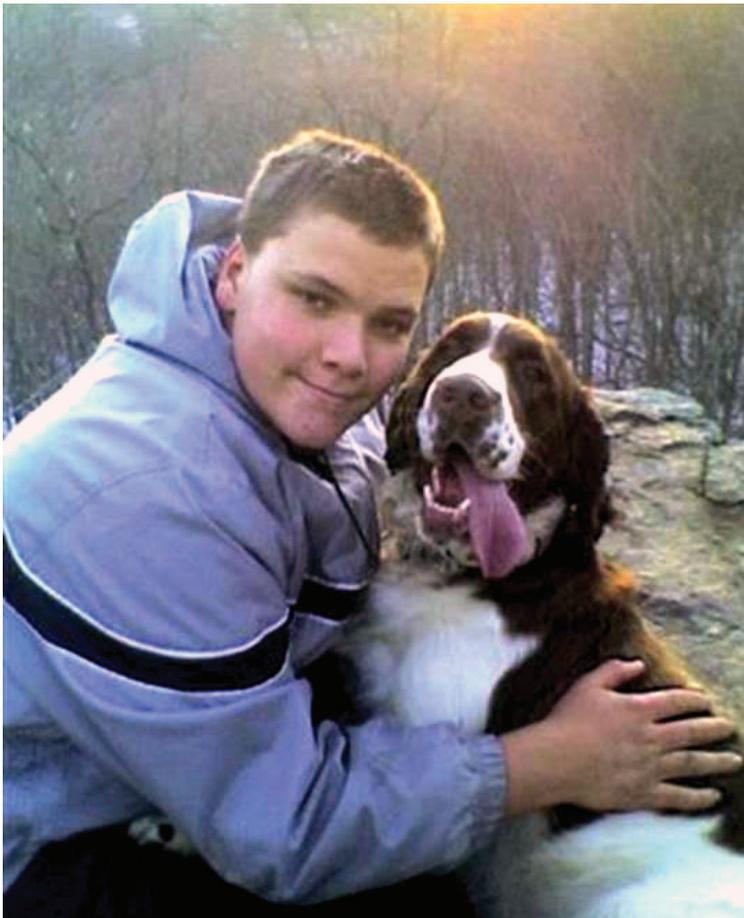
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Daniel Nadeau Memorial Scholarship



The Daniel K. Nadeau Memorial Scholarship was created in 2014 in memory of a young man whose creativity was unending and endearing. He was an avid photographer, with special interest in nature, as well as a painter, sculpture and musician. The scholarship will enable all kids to

grow creatively regardless of their socioeconomic backgrounds. Families can apply for assistance for any creative instructional program in Eastern CT including dance lessons, art lessons, music lessons and performing arts. Support for our young creators can be made by sending your tax deductible donation to Windham Arts, 1010 Main St, Willimantic, CT 06226.



Windham Arts is the Dedicated Regional Service Organization for Eastern CT.

What does that mean? The State of CT, Office of the Arts, created partners to help them meet their goals. The Designation Regional Service Organizations are their partners and cover every town in the State. Windham Arts covers the region from the MA border down to Norwich and West to Hebron. Our mission is to promote the arts, culture, history and tourism in Eastern CT.

Directory of Creative People & Businesses:

WindhamArts.org has a directory where you can search for any artist, performer or creative business. Links take you directly to their websites and contact information is available for you to contact them.

Weekly newsletter and calendar: Our weekly electronic newsletter where we keep you informed about the arts and tourism industries, grant opportunities or professional development programs. In addition there is a regional community calendar and news about what is going on in our region. Anyone can post their information on the calendar and can have their programs included in the newsletter.

Professional development programs: Programs designed specifically for creative businesses and professionals in the arts and culture industries.

Weekly radio show: Any creative person, organization, business or event planner can come on our weekly show and talk about what they do. This is a unique opportunity to promote yourself or a community event. "Fun, Festivals and Flair" plays each Wednesday on WILL 1400 am at 5:10 pm.

Eastern CT ARTS Magazine: This wonderfully designed magazine is published to promote local artists, businesses and events throughout our region. The magazine contains feature stories, calendar of events and interviews of intriguing people. It is published quarterly and copies are free.

Peer Advisor Network: Windham Arts can match any non-profit or emerging group with business consultants to help them grow and become successful. Working with the State of CT, consultant fees are minimal starting at \$100 and are matched by the State.

For more information on Windham Arts and what we do, please visit us at WindhamArts.org or call 860-423-6389

Winter Festival



For the past twenty-four years, the second weekend in March has transformed the quiet town of Hebron to a bustling center of constant activity. What's the hubbub? It's the Annual Maple Festival! This year will mark the 25th Annual Hebron Maple Festival, March 14-15, 2015, an Eastern CT event not to be missed!

Each year thousands of people come from miles around to enjoy and experience the weekend of maple related events. The goal of the festival is to bring families together and to provide noncommercial, inexpensive enjoyment during a quiet time of year. Choose from activities such as self-guided tours, demonstrations and a variety of maple products at local sugar houses, seeing the "Farmer's Cow", watching Maple Cotton Candy being made, touring a Fire Apparatus, watching Blacksmiths craft hand-forges items in the Village Blacksmith Shop, Woodworking Demonstration, Candle making, face painting and so much more!

Hebron Maple Sugar Festival



The event is coordinated by the Hebron Maple Festival Committee, comprised of representatives from the local sugarhouses, The Chamber of Commerce and Windham Arts. It is a fun, family friendly time for kids of all ages.

A complete listing of events can be found on the website www.hebronmaplefest.com. The event is free to the public. All guests are advised to visit the website for updated information about parking, snow storms, event changes and general information.

Windham Arts will have a maple cookbook available for purchase during the festival. If you are interest in obtaining a copy after festival please contact Windham Arts at info@windhamarts.org or call 860-423-6389.



An Eastern Connecticut Hidden Gem The Slater Memorial Museum

By Vivian F. Zoë

In 1886, William Albert Slater, the son of a wealthy Norwich industrialist, offered to memorialize his father, John Fox Slater, with a new building at the Norwich Free Academy.



Photo by: Geoffrey McLean

He chose Worcester, Massachusetts, architect, Stephen C. Earle, to create a distinctive design in the Romanesque Revival style.

Dedicated in 1888, the Slater Museum has continued to enrich its fine collection through purchases, gifts and bequests. The museum houses over 150 plaster casts of Classical and Renaissance sculpture, as well as Egyptian, Ancient, African, American, European and Asian Art and artifacts.

The Slater Museum remains the definitive cultural resource for the educational community of Norwich Free Academy (NFA), the city of Norwich and surrounding towns. The museum's collection of 19th century American regional artists includes

many works that portray genre scenes, landscapes, people and the built environment, capturing life in Norwich and Southeastern Connecticut.

The Converse Art Gallery, the Slater Museum's changing exhibition space, features the work of contemporary artists from around the U.S. and the world. On view this season will be the 2014 Renaissance in Pastel National Exhibition, and Proof Positive, an exhibition of work by members of the Printmakers' Network of Southern New England.



THE SLATER MEMORIAL MUSEUM

108 Crescent Street | Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 425-5563 | slatermuseum.org

MUSEUM HOURS

Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 1p.m. - 4 p.m.
Closed Mondays and holidays

Palate Pleasers

Dog Lane Café: COME. SIT. STAY.



Before 2013, when you heard the words “Storrs, CT” the first thing that came to mind was UConn. That was then. Today when you hear the words Storrs, CT you think Storrs Center and Dog Lane Café. In 2005 Mansfield Downtown Partnership was formed and discussions for the construction of a large-scale, mixed-use space project began.



Restaurateur Barry Jessurun – who, with his brother, Brian, (partners in Vanilla Bean Café, Pomfret and 85 Main Street, Putnam) saw the potential to fill a need, a restaurant that catered to adults instead of the students. It was then that Dog Lane Café was conceived.

Dog Lane, touted as “European/American,” is open daily for breakfast starting with omelets, egg sandwiches, pancakes and breakfast burritos, and a self-serve coffee bar - where you get to make it the way you like it. Lunch, the busiest service, features

a large selection of sandwiches, paninis, wraps and grilled burgers and hot dogs, all made to order. Want dinner? Nightly dinner specials, like Cabernet-braised short ribs, steak au poivre, sesame garlic glazed salmon and gourmet macaroni and cheese are just a few of the items you will find on the menu. Desserts with gluten-free options are available as well as beer and wine.

Like its highly successful sister store, Vanilla Bean Café, the restaurant’s design accommodates year-round business with comfortable indoor seating and plenty of outdoor patio seating in the warmer months. Live music is also part of the Dog Lane Café experience and it also offers carryout and limited service catering for small or large business and social events.



Whether you’re are in hurry or want to take some time and relax with friends, Dog Lane Café’s style of service lets you set your own pace.



1 Dog Lane,
Storrs, CT 06269
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doglanecafe.com

HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 7 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Friday: 7 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Discover the Slater Museum this Fall



Located on the campus of Norwich Free Academy, the Slater Museum awakens visitors to the richness and diversity of the human experience through art and history. The museum is open to the public and all are welcome.



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Community Interest

Coming Full Circle: A conversation with David A. Foster
by Alison Kaufman

Lucky breaks, lousy breaks, David A. Foster has seen them all. David illustrates the old adage that it's not what life gives you as much as it is what you do with it. This guy has done A LOT!



Being an owner of The Shaboo Inn, David opened it's doors October 22, 1971 and over the next 11 years, came a cavalcade of music legends. Bonnie Raitt, Howlin Wolf, John Lee Hooker, Big Mama Thornton, BB King and Muddy Waters himself, all graced the stage. It wasn't just the blues world that was represented as David has a gift for spotting talent poised to take off. The Police, Cheap Trick, Tom Petty, and Dire Straits were all there too.

David's passion for music is not just about the shows he brought to life here in Eastern CT but an integral part of who he is. A gifted singer since childhood, growing up with supportive parents and musical siblings, laid the foundation for seizing the opportunities ahead.

I had the chance to speak with David as he prepares to release his new album, "The Real Thing" and celebrate by helping the community where it all began with a fund raising performance at his Alma mater Windham High School. Here is some of our conversation.

Ali: The Shaboo Inn was located on the land that is now the Eastbrook Mall, correct?

David: Yes, we liked it here, it's home and being between two universities made it even better so we gave it a go.

Ali: Who played those first shows?

David: My band, which at the time was called Grey Controversy and a band called Liquid Light, the second weekend we had Aerosmith. I found them opening for James Montgomery at Boston University while scouting in September, just before the club opened. They had no record deal or anything yet and were playing mostly Rolling Stone covers, although the weekend we had them they performed "Dream On" for the first time.



Ali: What did it cost to get in?

David: One dollar. One dollar to get in and that came with a drink card for your first drink.

Ali: Even just one of your shows feels like "right place at just the right time" with a bit of magic sprinkled in, but you repeated this over and over for 11 years.

David: We had hundreds of acts like that. It was a time when the record companies were never more vibrant, organized or successful. It was before they all



became corporate so it was very creative, agents cared about buyers and wanted to keep them open, meaning, if you did all the right things as a buyer/promoter, sent in the deposit, signed the contracts, took care of the acts and paid the bill at the end of the night and still fell flat on your face, they would stand by you. Maybe make a reduction or steer a house packing act your way the next week. It is not that way today, it's a much bigger gamble. I always say that if someone gifted me the keys to a beautiful new nightclub and "it's yours", I wouldn't take it, that's how hard it is, it's very difficult to make it happen today.

Ali: You closed up after 11 years. And then after working so hard for the success you had achieved life threw you a curve ball to say the least.

David: Yes, we ran it until 1982 and things had changed. The tax laws for one, being a big factor, people were getting married, having children, had houses with mortgages, it was time. We had sold the club and the land to Eastbrook Mall and 2 days before the closing we had the fire. Some



kids from the Mansfield Volunteer Fire Department broke in the club and turned the valves so that the water could not drop from the tower to the sprinkler system, then set the fire with gasoline so they could come back to put it out. Our scheduled closing was now for a building that was no more. The real kicker here is that just a week before, the insurance company had called informing us that our rate had tripled now that the building had been vacated. We kinda laughed and said that it's been here since 1857, the closing is in a couple of days, thanks but no thanks... sure enough the very next day the building burnt down. It took five months to find out who did it, the kids got rehabilitation, no retribution was paid, and the town was never sued, our parents were adamant about this not being the town's fault. We had worked so hard to pay off that building, it was a difficult time to go through, having it all taken away but one thing is certain...It sure gave me license to sing the blues!!!

Ali: I love that your take away attitude is so positive! Let's fast forward to today and some really exciting things happening as we start 2015. First up, performing with your band, the Shaboo All-Stars, at your alma mater, Windham High School, to raise funds for the Music Department.

David: This is my home town, I've lived here all my life. Whenever

school budgets get cut it seems it's the arts that get hit first, then sports and so on. Being a music lover and caring about this community, I just wanted to do something to help the Music Department in some way. I want them to have the ability to travel as a band or fill whatever need might come up. We also hope to ignite passion in the students. We will be inviting members of the Jazz Band up to play and experience the thrill of jamming.

Ali: The night of the show will also be a celebration of the release of your brand new album, *The Real Thing*. I've had the pleasure of getting to hear it and it's a wonderful collection of 12 songs. Can you tell me a bit about what went into the making of it?

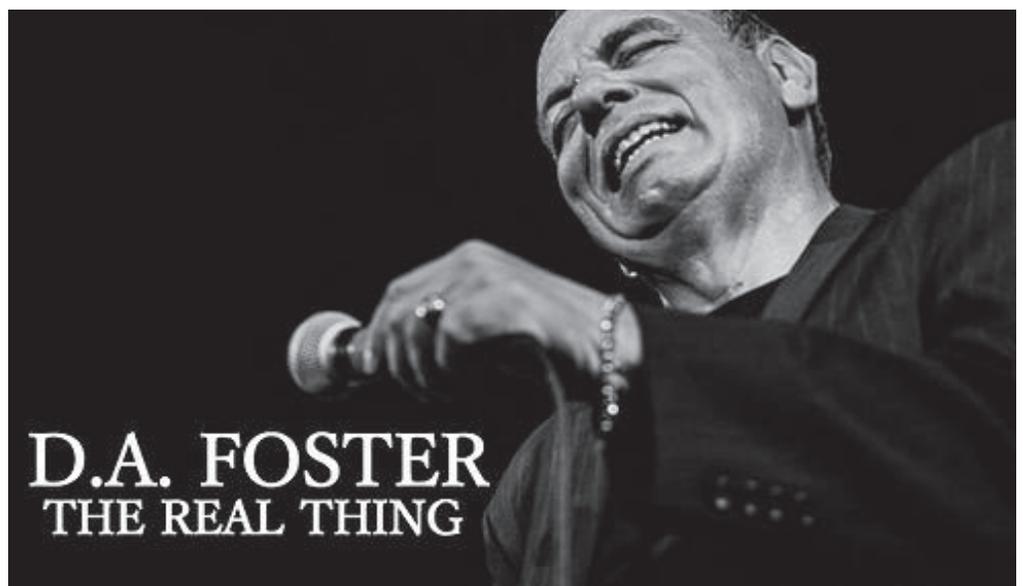
David: I started planting the seed about a year and a half ago, to get the Phantom Blues Band to record with me. My dear friend Mike Finnigan produced it with Tony Braunagel and began sending me music over a year before we started recording, so I had to go through the process of fielding a lot of material to get to a place where I had what I wanted to record. Next came sorting out how I wanted to sing it, how many keys? How will I use my voice? Whether it's crooning or using my deeper side, which

is really my vocal wheelhouse in the lower register, all this had to be figured out. By the end of last January we had started recording, once we had that done we had to wait five months for Ed Cherney to mix it. Ed was working with Bette Midler on her latest release and it was well worth the wait, you can hear and feel the caliber of his work on *The Real Thing*. It turned out great and I am hopeful it will be well received. Look, I know there are so many musicians trying their best, I understand it is like swimming upstream and most radio play is devoted to a young demographic, but we hope to reach a broad audience that will enjoy this new album.

David's many accolades and awards are a reflection of David A. Foster's generous spirit. As much as he gets, he always seems to give back more; through his music and community involvement.

Looking forward to 2015 from this full circle moment in David's journey, I wish him continued success and many more fantastic stories ahead!

For more information about Shaboo Productions, The Mohegan Sun Allstars and *The Real Thing* please visit dafostermusic.com



Specialty Shop

Olive Oil and Art?



What do olive oil and art have in common?

On the surface you would say nothing, but below the surface lay a different story. The common element is an appeal to the senses, one to our senses of taste and smell and the other to our senses of (aesthetic) taste and touch. Both have texture, color and a visual component that subconsciously heighten our awareness of these senses.

Sabor 44 an Olive Oil Tap Room and Art Gallery opened in May 2014 with excitement and anticipation. Owner and entrepreneur Luis Valentin, wasn't completely sure how the "mix" would work but he was determined to try. An artist at heart and a "connoisseur" for truly magnificent food Luis stepped out on the limb. Seven months later, Sabor 44 is flourishing and is the topic of conversation among all who have visited and sampled these luxurious oils and visited an art gallery for only those with "refined" taste.

During a recent conversation with Luis he talked about how he enjoyed educating his guests about olive oil. He says, "Olive oil is more than just oil. Different olives give a different body and weight in addition to taste and smell. Pressings of the olives make a difference too. Producing olive oil is a business but creating flavor is an art. He says, "Sabor 44 offers a medley of savory



olive oils and vinegars straight from our fustis, or taps. Before you buy, explore the diversity of the flavors by sampling each one to discover what your favorites are. If you think being exposed to a variety of olive oils and vinegars is culturally exhilarating, then try our selection of organic herbs and spices; they will take you around the world and back."

In addition to their oils, vinegars and spices Sabor 44 also carries a selection of gourmet pastas, chocolates, cheese, beautiful glassware and pottery.

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sabor44.com

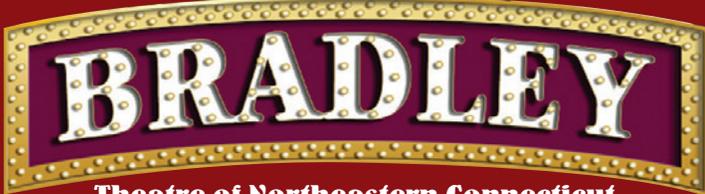
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It was once thought by many that art was painting and sculptures. However, in the 21st century art takes on many forms and uses many and varied mediums. Quilts, once made only for function are one of today's most widely practiced forms of art. Gone are the "squares" of yesteryear sewn together and filled with heavy flannel. Today's quilts take on more vibrant and intercut designs. No one knows this better than Debbie Mackenzie, owner and "head chick" of Stitch Chicks quilt shop in Franklin.

Debbie has been quilting since the 70's and has



watched quilting evolve from its "primitive" form to the artistic form that is today. She says, "rotary cutters and rulers were not around in the 70's. The patterns and tools we have today are so much more advanced and the patterns are more creative."

Debbie always dreamed of opening her own quilt shop and with her strong desire to keep the art of quilting alive she debuted Stitch Chicks Quilt Shop in November 2013 with the hope of passing her experience and knowledge along to the younger generation.

Stitch Chicks is a full service quilt shop, which has everything from class instruction to specialty threads, patterns, batting, thousands of fabric selections, and much, much more. Whether you're a novice or an experienced quilter, Stitch Chicks beginner classes cover basic introduction to quilting including fabric selection, rotary cutting, seam allowance, pressing, and other techniques to make strip quilts, wall hangings, and more. Advanced classes continue with an ongoing introduction to quilting including pattern selection, special tool selection & use, special piecing and other techniques to make advanced quilting projects.

Don't miss a chance to stop by and visit this cozy quilt shop!



43 Manning RD,
North Franklin, CT 06254
860-642-8099

stitchchicksquiltshop.com

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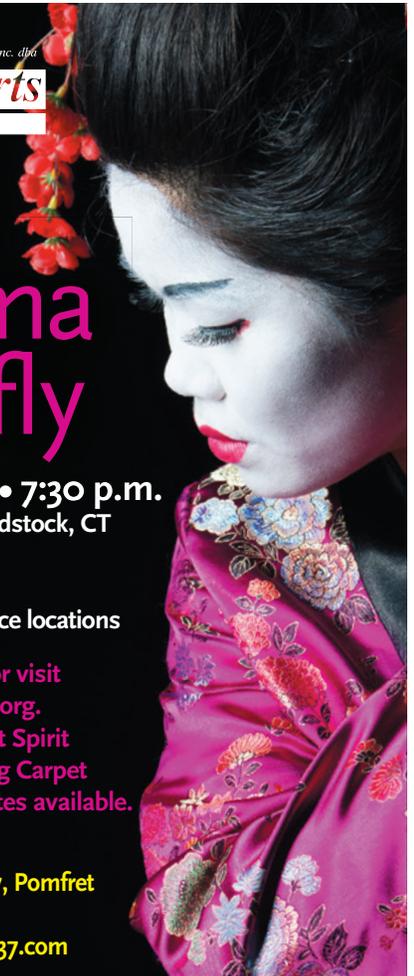
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Theater

Garde Arts Center

By Jeanne Siegel

Founded in 1985, The Garde Arts Center, Inc. is a non-profit professional performing arts center nationally recognized for its unique architecture and multi-faceted programming serving Southeastern Connecticut.

Located in the heart of downtown New London, the Garde owns and operates the historic Garde theatre, one of the few remaining historic movie palaces in Connecticut. Built in 1926 during the golden era of the motion pictures and vaudeville theatres, Moroccan interior of the Garde Theatre, along with the expanded lobbies and function spaces, provide a very audience-friendly theatre venue in a warm and beautiful atmosphere.



As Hollywood films transition to a completely digital format, the Garde Arts Center was determined to ensure that the legacy of 87 years of movie-going at New London's nationally-acclaimed and fully-restored Garde Movie Palace would be able to continue.

The Campaign to Save Movies at the Garde was publicly launched in September 2013 to custom-design and install a Hollywood-certified digital cinema projection and audio system.

With individual, business, school and foundation gifts – ranging from \$5 to \$100,000 – from throughout Connecticut and beyond, the Garde now boasts a new state-of-the-art 4K cinema projection and audio system (designed by the award-winning engineers of Boston Light & Sound) that surpasses the visual and audio quality of 35mm film. The Campaign was also able to save the Garde's 35mm projectors

by connecting them into the new cinema audio system.

Under the new name of Garde Cinema: The Real Movie Palace Experience, the Garde Arts Center will be able to present new and classic movies and other projected programs in almost any format: DCP, Blu-ray, Internet, Video cameras, computers, cable and closed-circuit television, and even 35mm projection. Our live performances, educational programming and musical concerts will continue under the Garde Arts Center name.

The Campaign continues to receive donations to underwrite costs of maintenance, new technological capacities, and expanded Garde Cinema programs year-round. Special Named Opportunities and are offered for qualified donors. Call 860-444-4430 for further information or visit gardearts.org



325 State Street,
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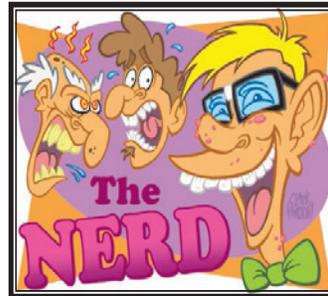
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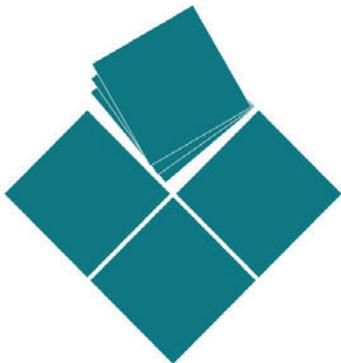


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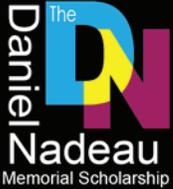
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discoverputnam.com

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Garde Arts Center

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ECSO: Carnivale

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STOMP

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Entertainment

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